HPS Form 10.800
(3-82)

VLR- 6/19/84 NRHP- 11/1/84

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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LISTED ON:

VLR 06/19/1984
NRHP 11/-1/1984

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

1. Name

historic BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT (VHLC File No, 176-3)

and or common N/A

2. Location

street & number N/A N/A not for publication

city, town Bridgewater ___ vicinity of N/A

state Virginia code 51 county Rockingham code 165

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number N/A

city, town Bridgewater ___ vicinity of N/A state Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Rockingham County Court Bouse

street & number Court Square

city, town Harrisonburg state Virginia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey (File No, 176-3) has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes x no

date February 1984; August 1976 ___ federal x state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

city, town 221 Governor Street, Richmond state Virginia 23219

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Located seven miles southwest of Harrisonburg where the Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike crosses the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, Bridgewater has always been one of the largest, most prosperous towns in Rockingham County and is still the largest incorporated town in the county today. The architectural fabric clearly reveals the growth and prosperity of this community, with the district boundaries chosen to highlight the development of the town by the turn of the century. Like many turnpike towns, the first settlement occurred along the main road between North River and present day College Street. By 1852, Bridgewater had enlarged its boundaries to include "New Town," a stretch of the turnpike from College Street to the old Mt. Crawford Road. In spite of the extensive growth of the town in the mid twentieth century, this older stretch of the turnpike has been altered relatively little. Much of Main Street remains residential, lined with predominantly nineteenth-century brick, log, and frame dwellings, often embellished with late nineteenth-century ornamentation. A handful of churches and a Neocolonial consolidated school remain scattered along the pike. A cluster of turn-of-the-century brick commercial buildings defines Bridgewater's business district at the intersection of Main and College Streets. The district also includes several side streets laid out in the 1880s and 1890s and developed with decorated vernacular as well as more stylish residences typical of the popular eclectic styles of this period. Rounding out the district is the oldest portion of the Bridgewater College campus, comprising five fine brick collegiate buildings constructed before 1911. The district includes 156 major structures of which 29 are considered non-contributing.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

Bridgewater is located in southwestern Rockingham County near the Augusta County line. The town developed at the junction of two travel arteries, the Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike and North River near its confluence with Dry River, Mossy Creek, and Long Glade.[1] The town occupies the stretch of the turnpike north of the river. Initial settlement occurred by the river along the turnpike and near the Falls; it gradually spread northward along the turnpike and then to each side of the pike in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Bridgewater's geographic setting contributed to its development and growth in the nineteenth century. The rich surrounding farmlands in the North River basin attracted numerous settlers to the region, thus creating a demand for a commercial center. The "Natural Falls" of North River, located west of the turnpike crossing, provided an ideal site for industrial opportunities with its excellent water power potential. By the 1880s, Bridgewater boasted a cluster of manufacturing enterprises at Natural Falls, becoming one of the leading manufacturing towns in the central Valley.

The district boundaries include that part of Bridgewater largely developed by 1910. Roads that had been opened by this date but had only scattered development have been omitted. Gray's 1877 map of Bridgewater reveals that most of the nineteenth-century building occurred on Main Street from North River to Mt. Crawford Avenue. By

(see Continuation Sheet #1)

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 19th & 20th centuries **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bridgewater is one of the largest and best preserved of a string of turnpike towns located along the Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike in the west central Valley of Virginia. Situated where the turnpike crosses the North Fork of the Shenandoah River, the community was first known as McGill's Ford or Bridgeport, recognizing its early use as a river port for neighboring farmers to send their goods downstream to Port Republic. Although the Dinkle family had established a sawmill, gristmill, and tavern along the river by 1820, it was not until the turnpike was begun in the late 1820s that John and Jacob Dinkle laid out lots for the present town. In 1835, soon after the completion of the turnpike, the Virginia General Assembly established the Town of Bridgewater, giving it its present name. Bridgewater's rapid growth in the antebellum years led to the construction of a number of fine brick residences, which still stand, and the extension of its boundaries to include approximately twenty more acres along the turnpike in 1852. New turnpikes connecting Bridgewater to other neighboring communities, the construction of the Chesapeake and Western Railroad and the proposals for many others, and the improvement of the Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike through town attracted many businesses and industries to the town in the late nineteenth century. With its improved transportation network, Bridgewater became a major commercial center for the surrounding northern Augusta County and southern Rockingham County area. The establishment of Bridgewater College in 1882 provided a further catalyst for local growth in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Because of its continued prominence and prosperity since its settlement, Bridgewater retains one of the largest and finest collections of vernacular architecture in Rockingham County and the central Valley. The district focuses primarily on Main Street, with its rows of closely packed mid nineteenth-century dwellings, but it includes several of the earliest cross streets and the original, pre-1910 portion of the Bridgewater College campus. Many of the earlier as well as late nineteenth-century buildings have been cloaked with rich Victorian decoration typical of the Valley's turnpike towns. With few major intrusions in this older part of town, Bridgewater Historic District exhibits the charm and character of the town at the turn of the century.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

On April 27, 1779, the Rockingham County Court requested that a road be opened between Daniel Harrison's House, north of the present village of Dayton, to the ford across North River at James McGill's plantation, located at the site of present-day Bridgewater. The resulting road, which became the Main Street through Bridgewater, was actually part of a major thoroughfare leading from Harrisonburg to Miller's Iron Works at Mossy Creek in Augusta County. The growth of the iron works and an increased demand for iron during the Revolutionary War period sparked the opening and improving

(see Continuation Sheet #38)

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Bridgewater Bicentennial Tour." Bridgewater, May 1976. (Mimeographed)
Bridgewater Woman's Club, "Notes on Places of Historical Interest." Bridgewater, 1976. (Mimeographed)

(See Continuation Sheet #45)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 68 acres

Quadrangle name Bridgewater, VA — Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References (See Continuation Sheet #46)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	677280	4250390
B	17	677080	4250050
C	17	677050	4249990
D	17	677280	4249640
E	17	677300	4249470
F	17	677260	4249420
G	17	676820	4249610
H	17	676760	4249650

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point at the Se corner of the rear property line (rpl) of 426 N. Main St.; thence SW approx. 1300' along N side of Liberty St. following rpls of 426-306 N. Main St.; thence Se approx. 400'; thence

(See Continuation Sheet #46)

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION STAFF

organization VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION date 1984

street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144

city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature H. Bryan Mitchell

H. Bryan Mitchell, Executive Director

title VIRGINIA HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION date June 19, 1984

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

1910, residential neighborhoods had begun to spread out along several newly opened cross streets. One of the earliest of these cross streets, College Street, was the primary east-west road through town. East College Street, which ran from Main Street to the College, has been included, taking in both sides of College Street to the College campus (Third Street) and the older, pre-1910 campus on the south side of College Street. The district extends along West College Street from Main Street to 112 West College on the north side and to Dice Street on the south. Two other early residential streets on the west side of Main Street have been included, one block of West High Street from Main to an unnamed gravel lane and the north side of West Bank Street, from Main to Dice Street. Wyant Place, a short "U"-shaped road created off East College Street, has been included as well, since it contains one of the oldest and best preserved houses in town, the home of town founder John Dinkle. The boundaries also skirt around two town properties off North Main Street, the mid nineteenth-century town cemetery at Grove and Green Streets, and the 1911 Bridgewater School at Dinkle and Liberty.

The act of establishing the town of Bridgewater lists Main Street as the major thoroughfare with Grove Street behind the West Main Street lots, Liberty behind the East Main Street lots, and Centre Alley.[2] The stretch of Main Street included within the original town boundaries extended from the river to present-day Green Street. According to C. E. May, the first series of lots were platted between the river and present-day College Street.[3] This stretch still contains some of the oldest and finest residential and commercial buildings in the town of Bridgewater. The Jacob Dinkle House is one of the oldest houses in Bridgewater, having been built by one of the founders of the town. Six South Main Street houses date to the mid nineteenth century, including three brick examples--the St. Claire Kyle House (116), the J. G. Brown House (111), Dr. T. H. B. Brown House (115)--and three frame houses--the Hite House (211), Childress House (214), and Whitmore House (117). Only a few of the residential structures date to the late nineteenth century, with two of the more stylish examples, the O. W. Miller House (200) and Dr. Strickler House (202) built after an 1880 fire destroyed this block.

Scattered amongst these houses is a number of mid nineteenth-century commercial and religious buildings. Perhaps the finest, early commercial building in the district is the Masonic Lodge (221), ca 1867-69, a three-story brick building with elaborate wooden false front. The two one-story, narrow brick buildings north of the lodge also date to the mid 19th century and were probably used for small shops or businesses. The two churches were also built on this end of Main Street in the mid nineteenth century--the 1841 Methodist Church (109) and the Baptist Church (119), built in 1855 but heavily remodeled in 1883.

When originally laid out in the early 1880s, College Street was called Commerce or Commercial Street, because its intersection with Main Street marked the commercial

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

district of the town at that time. Tremendous growth in Bridgewater in the early 1880s led to the construction of a number of fine brick commercial buildings on this corner and on the few blocks to the south. The Carpenter Building (205) and Farmer's Bank (201) were built on South Main Street ca 1882-83. The Berlin Building (101), a three-unit brick commercial building also built in 1883, and the Geary Building (1887), a two-story brick store, were constructed at the junction of College and Main. By 1909, Planters Bank (100-102) had built a large brick bank at this intersection, and D. S. Thomas commissioned a large, new brick buggy shop, automobile dealership, and garage (108) south of the new bank. The only major contemporary intrusion in this southern portion of South Main Street is the 1977 McMullen Funeral Home (206/208), a large brick-veneered building out of scale and out of character with its older neighbors.

The stretch of Main Street north of College Street was largely residential in the late nineteenth century, with a few small shops on the first block north of College. The first two blocks, from College to Green, were part of the original town, while the next two blocks, from Green to Mt. Crawford Avenue, were part of the "New Town" addition, annexed in 1854.

The first block north of College has changed more than any block in the historic district. Old photographs and oral history sources reveal that rows of largely two-story, frame dwellings once lined this block. However, in the mid twentieth century this became the business district of Bridgewater, and most of the older buildings were torn down and replaced by modern commercial buildings. The only surviving nineteenth-century buildings are the Frank Arey House (106/108), a late nineteenth-century Queen Anne design, and the Dr. F.G. Minor House (112), an 1854 brick I-house. The Dr. Foster Office Building (114/116) is the least obtrusive in scale or materials of these nine modern buildings. Most are either out of scale, such as the Planters Bank (111) or Dickson's Food & Drug Lane (128), or they rely heavily on modern materials, such as Carr's Tire Service (121) or Fisher Auto Parts (118).

The blocks north of this 100 block have been much better preserved, displaying rows of mid to late nineteenth-century residences. Several of the older houses are of brick construction, often with central-passage plans, including the Raum House (317), Hite House (400), or Barbee House (1840). A few are constructed of logs, but the majority are of frame construction. These wooden houses follow fairly straightforward vernacular designs--usually either hall-parlor, central-passage plans, or side-passage plans. Although many are decorated with some applied wooden ornament, such as gable screens or a bracketed cornice, added either with the construction or at the turn of the century, many display very little embellishment. A handful of the more stylish turn-of-the-century houses appear inspired by Queen Anne designs, both in plan and decoration, including the Bertie White House (314), Shipman House (201), Methodist Parsonage (308), and J. O. T. Sellers House (215). Two of the late nineteenth-century brick houses suggest Gothic influence, the Riddle House (401) and No. 405. The Williams House (316) is the only dwelling that dates after 1920 in these three blocks.

(See Continuation Sheet #3)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

Since this section has remained residential, few commercial buildings were constructed here except for a beauty salon (206), the fire station (304), and a 1930s gas station at the corner of Mt. Crawford Avenue (426). Two churches were also built here, the Gothic Revival Methodist Church (219), built in 1855 and remodeled in 1902 and 1925; and the Lutheran Church (204), built in 1881, but now remodeled into a home. A few houses now contain smaller stores or commercial establishments, but these have not been heavily altered on the exterior to compromise their residential character.

Two town properties are located on lots off Main Street on the roads behind this central thoroughfare. The town purchased land for a town cemetery at the corner of Grove Street and Green Street in 1852. Divided into two parts for the white and black citizens of this community, the cemetery remains in use to the present. Bridgewater built a large brick consolidated school in 1911 at Main Street and Dinkle Avenue. One of the first of its kind in Rockingham County, the Colonial Revival design reveals the town's interest in educational improvement.

As the town grew by the 1880s and townspeople recognized the need for additional lots, several cross streets were laid out. The first was West Commerce Street where some of the more prominent citizens, such as J. S. Loose and J. W. F. Allemong, built their homes. By 1885, eight houses had been built, and seven of these remain, all of which were two-story frame houses.[4] Several of these proved to be among the most stylish in town at this time, particularly the Loose (112), Kyle (111), and Allemong (123) houses. Derived straight from a pattern book design, Loose's Gothic Revival cottage is clearly the gem of late nineteenth-century architecture in the historic district. Since 1900, only a few buildings have been constructed on West College Street--two 1950s Cape Cod designs, one ranch house, Beacon Press, and a post office. With its tree-lined street and some of the old brick sidewalks, West College Street remains as one of the most attractive late nineteenth-century residential neighborhoods in the district.

In April of 1883, the trustees of Bridgewater College marked off East Commerce Street. This ran through a new subdivision proposed by Mary A. Brown to the property that the trustees had purchased from Mrs. Brown for their campus. The 1885 map shows the plat of Mrs. Brown's subdivision, but no houses had yet been built.[5] East College Street has remained largely residential with the exception of Gordon's Garage (101) between Main and Liberty and Dr. Shull's Office (102) and the Presbyterian Church (110), a frame Gothic design on the first block. Like West College Street, East College Street was settled by more prominent townspeople and also college professors around the turn of the century. Out of twenty-nine houses on these three blocks, twenty-two were built before 1920, two in the 1920s, three in the 1930s, and two in the 1950s. The turn-of-the-century houses display a variety of plans, from the familiar central-passage plan to more irregular forms, often embellished with some trim reflective of the Queen Anne designs. A cluster of larger, more stylish houses remains at the corner

(See Continuation Sheet #4)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

of College and Second Streets, including the W. H. Sipe House (210) and the Cyrus Berry House (300). The five 1920-40 houses are all fine local examples of the bungalow style.

The college campus is located on College Street east of Third Street. The trustees purchased a ten-acre tract from Mrs. Mary A. Brown in 1883 and built the first building by 1884.

This three-story brick building, the site of present Wardo Hall, housed classrooms, a chapel, kitchen, dining hall, and sleeping quarters for both men and women.[6] This building burned in 1889 and was replaced around 1900 by Wardo Hall I and Stanley Hall, both two-story frame buildings. The college built four new brick buildings between 1900-10--Founders Hall (1903), Yount Hall (1905-06), The Gymnasium (1908), and Wardo Hall II (1910)--reflecting the growth of the College during these years. In 1828, Stanley Hall was moved back in line with these other four buildings and finished with a brick veneer, creating a row of brick college buildings that clearly define the older part of the campus.

Another of the early cross streets was Grace Street, now called West Bank Street, opened up between Main and present-day Dice Street in 1882. In 1892, this road was extended to the manufacturing enterprises at Natural Falls, replacing the older road along the river.[7] The north side of the block, from Main to Dice Street, has been included in the district. All three of the houses on Bank Street shown on an 1885 map were on the north side and still remain. The three pre-1885 houses and three turn-of-the-century houses are all two-story, frame houses with either central-passage or more irregular plans, usually highlighted by flat, sawn gable screens. A fine 1920s bungalow, clearly the best local example of this style, and two 1950s houses have since been built on this side of Bank Street.

The remaining cross street included in the historic district is one block of West High Street, from Main to an unnamed gravel lane. Although this street is shown on the 1885 map and some lots have been laid out, town records indicate that it was not officially opened until March of 1892.[8] Only one of the two houses shown on the 1885 map, the Sellers House, is still standing. The highlight of this block is the Snow House (209), built ca 1910, a picturesque Queen Anne design. While five of the seven buildings were built by 1920, a 1954 doctor's office and 1962 ranch house remain as non-contributing elements.

Although not a cross street off Main, Wyant Place is still in one of the oldest neighborhoods of Bridgewater. Located south of East College Street at its intersection with First Street, Wyant Place is a "U"-shaped drive with a town park created in the middle alongside a stream. The John Dinkle House (108), a brick I-house which is one of the oldest houses in town, is located at the southeastern end of Wyant. The

(See Continuation Sheet #5)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

remaining lots came off the Dinkle property, still shown as being associated with this house, then belonging to Mary Brown, in 1885. The Bryan House is the next oldest on this street, followed by a 1920s bungalow (114). The ranch houses are the most recent additions.

Residential buildings comprise over 80 percent of the standing structures in the district. The two oldest are the Dinkle Houses, built by brothers John and Jacob Dinkle, the founders of the town around 1820. Both were brick I-houses, a more pretentious form assuming popularity among wealthy Valley residents in the early nineteenth century. The John Dinkle House is the best preserved of these two houses, retaining its architectural integrity both inside and outside. The Jacob Dinkle House was altered in the late nineteenth century. Due to some structural damage, the east facade and south wall were rebuilt and the interior remodeled.

The mid nineteenth-century houses scattered along Main Street reflect the vernacular designs of their day. Center-passage and hall-parlor plans proved most common. The more pretentious examples from this period are of brick construction, usually with either single-pile or double-pile central-passage plans. Parapeted brick chimneys are found on several of the larger houses, and a two-story Greek portico highlights the Dr. Brown House. Greek Revival finish still decorates the interior of many of these houses. Most houses from this period are of wooden, and predominantly frame, construction, although a handful of log buildings also remain. Many of these wooden houses have been remodeled in the late nineteenth or twentieth centuries and thus reveal a blend of stylistic features. The most common changes were the removal of the door from the front to the side with the widening of Main Street, the replacement of the front porch, and the application of late nineteenth-century ornamentation.

The familiar vernacular house forms continued into the late nineteenth century. Central passage plans of frame construction, with the exterior chimneys replaced by interior chimneys, became the most common of these vernacular plans. However, new ideas began to enter into the local building repertoire as well. Perhaps the most notable example is the J. S. Loose House, copied straight out of a pattern book entitled Victorian Architecture. The Loose House was one of the first and most correct local examples of the Gothic Revival Style in this part of Rockingham County, where pattern book designs are only rarely found. The Kyle House across the street from the Loose House also reveals the strong influence of the pattern book styles, although any possible direct inspiration has not yet been uncovered. These new building ideas came as the town began to experience a major boom in the 1880s. J. S. Loose was the cashier of the new Farmer's Bank established in this economic upswing, and soon other more prominent residents would choose to display their wealth in a similar fashion.

As residential building spread out into the new cross streets being developed in the 1880s and 1890s, the new houses reflected the influence of the eclectic styles of

(See Continuation Sheet #6)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

that period, both in form and decoration. Many houses exhibited much more irregular massing, often highlighted by bay windows or turrets such as the Snow House (209 West High), Cyrus Berry House (300 East College), Sipe House (210 East College), or Frank Arey House (106/108 North Main). A few types of irregular plans became particularly common but still drew on the more familiar forms as well. The first was a "T"-shaped three-room, central-passage plan characterized by a single-pile, side-passage plan main block with a double-pile file of rooms with a gabled facade on the opposite side of the passage. A second variation, particularly popular on East College Street, was a gabled central front block butted against a longitudinal rectangular block, again creating a "T" form. When I-houses were built at the turn of the century, these were often modified with a slightly projecting entrance bay to respond in part to this desire for more complex massing.

The application of rich ornamentation could update an older, more box-like house or highlight these more irregular turn-of-the-century designs. Sawn, carved, and turned decoration usually focuses on front porches and gable screens, often found on the sides as well. A number of Bridgewater houses display rather flat, sawn gable screens, particularly on West Bank and East College Streets, and pierced verge boards with quatrefoil or other designs. Since these latter two types of ornament were found primarily in Bridgewater, they may well have been the work of Bridgewater craftsmen. The large number of houses either built or remodeled between 1880-1910 attest to the growth and prosperity of Bridgewater during these years.

By the late 1910s, the bungalow style entered into the local vocabulary, and in the 1920s and 1930s, it had become quite popular. Previously vacant lots, particularly on East College Street, were now improved by bungalows. These were most often of frame construction and occasionally brick, and cloaked in some decorative shingle pattern either on the garret or in some cases the entire house. By far the best local example of this style is the Jack Thuma House (217 West Bank), a brick example which spreads out horizontally with a variety of overhanging roof eves with shingled gables and exposed purlins.

The twenty-four commercial structures comprise the next most common building type in the district. While photographic and oral history sources reveal that many of the nineteenth-century examples were frame, only brick commercial buildings survive from the nineteenth century. The Masonic Lodge (221 South Main) and the two, smaller brick buildings north of the Lodge (217, 219 South Main) are the only surviving buildings that predate the 1877 Bridgewater map. Most of the extant late nineteenth-century commercial buildings hinted at popular architectural styles, perhaps with elaborate rounded brick window arches or decorative false fronts, but few were heavily embellished. Commercial structures generally followed the familiar narrow, rectangular form with a gable end entry and second-floor apartment. The Berlin Building (101 South Main), with a row of three shop fronts, and the original Planter's Bank

(See Continuation Sheet #7)

7. DESCRIPTION - Architectural Analysis

building (100/102 South Main) with an almost square design with Romanesque inclinations are perhaps the most noted exceptions.

The district contains five church buildings. All began with the typical rectangular block form with gable-end entrance. The first Methodist Church (109 South Main), built in 1841, is the oldest and smallest of these churches and retains the traditional form, but it was decorated in the late nineteenth century. Three of these churches were built or remodeled in the 1880s. Both the Baptist Church and Lutheran Church had tall Gothic spires highlighting an otherwise simple, box-like design, but in both cases the spires have been removed. Clearly the most stylish of these 1880s churches is the Presbyterian Church cloaked in Gothic Revival decoration. The present Methodist Church, built in 1855, was substantially remodeled at the turn of the century, again inspired by the Gothic Revival. Thuma and Dovel, prominent Bridgewater contractors, were responsible for this design.

Only three industrial buildings are located in the present district. Most of the town's nineteenth-century manufacturing companies were located at Natural Falls, west of the district. Early and mid twentieth-century industrial development occurred north of the district boundaries near the railroad depot. Only small, more commercial-scale industries occurred within the district, such as D. S. Thomas' 1917-18 buggy manufacturing shop (108 South Main) and Beacon Press (108 West College).

The district also contains six school buildings, the 1911 Bridgewater School and five early Bridgewater College buildings, all fine examples of early twentieth-century education buildings.

For a district of this size, there are few contemporary intrusions. The rebuilding on the 100 block of North Main Street is clearly the most major intrusion, yet the stretches of Main Street to each side of this block appear amazingly consistent in their display of nineteenth-century architecture. There has been relatively little new domestic building within the district boundaries since the 1930s, and that building has occurred primarily on the cross streets, filling in previously vacant lots. The Cape Cod design proved most common in the 1940s and 1950s; although these are non-contributing elements, they do not appear visually disruptive in these turn-of-the-century residential neighborhoods. Only a few examples of the more recent ranch style have been built.

AMcC

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[1] C. E. May. Life Under Four Flags of Virginia (Verona: McClure Press, 1976), p. 318.

7. DESCRIPTION - Footnotes (continued)

[2] Virginia Session Laws (1883-84), Chapter 19, p. 22.

[3] C. E. May, "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," MS.

[4] D. J. Lake, Historical Atlas of Rockingham County (1885).

[5] May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 526; Lake, Historical Atlas.

[6] May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 509.

[7] Ibid., p. 525.

[8] Ibid., p. 526; Lake, Historical Atlas.

(INVENTORY BEGINS ON CONTINUATION SHEET #9)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

176-0003-

West Bank Street

-1 203 (Frank Irving House; Bowman House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1883. Frame (German); two stories; hipped roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with round columns and wooden lattice. The Irving House is one of a string of two-story wooden houses, with decorative sawn gable screens, built on West Bank Street in the 1880s and 1890s.

-2 *205 (Marshall Whitmore House): Detached dwelling. Ranch. 1950. Brick veneer; one story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; two-bay recessed porch. One of only two post-World War II houses on this side of Bank Street, the Whitmore House does not contribute to the character of the historic district because of its recent date.

-3 207 (Wine House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. 1890s. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with matchboard balustrade. This frame I-house is one of a row of two-story wooden houses on this street. Although following a standard local plan for the late 19th century, the Wine House has been embellished with pierced barge boards on the end and front cross gable, a heavily bracketed cornice, and carved wooden window cornices.

-4 209 (Jack Thuma House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. Ca 1895. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay porch with sawn cornice brackets and decorative balustrade. The Thuma House displays a slightly irregular "L"-shaped form embellished with sawn gable screens and its original porch. The house has been enlarged by a frame addition which keeps with the character of the house.

-5 211 (David Hooks House; White-Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1883. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with square wooden posts. This "T"-shaped frame dwelling is one of a string of two-story frame houses built on West Bank Street in the 1880s and 1890s. Although now quite plain with a modern porch and lancet arch garret windows providing the only decoration, it had once been cloaked with the late 19th-century gingerbread trim that characterizes many of the Bank Street houses.

-6 *213 (Cooper House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1952. Brick veneer; one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); two-bay facade; one-bay side porch with tapered wooden posts on brick piers. This is one of only two recent houses, both in the early 1950s, built on this block of Bank Street. Due to its recent construction, this house does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

(See Continuation Sheet #10)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

West Bank Street (continued)

-7 215 (Brookins House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1890s. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay porch with spindle frieze and balusters. The Brookins House is one of several three-room "T"-shaped frame houses built on West Bank Street in the 1880s and 1890s. The elaborate front porch is original and suggests that there may have been sawn gable screens at one time.

-8 217 (J. Thuma House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. Early 1920s. Brick veneer; one story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with brick piers and original wood lattice. The Thuma House is one of the best preserved and most stylish bungalows in the Bridgewater Historic District. The exterior has been altered very little, retaining its original porch and lattice screens, shingled gables, and decorative wooden purlins exposed in the gable ends. Jack Thuma owned a large manufacturing company in the 20th century, but he had been a contractor at the turn of the century and built some of the most stylish dwellings and churches in both Dayton and Bridgewater.

-9 219 (John W. Dillon House; Orville Nelson House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1884. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch. The Dillon House is one of several two-story frame I-houses built on the north side of Bank Street by 1885.

East College Street

-10 *101 (Gordon's Garage; Virginia Rebuilders Inc.): Industrial Vernacular. 1940. Brick and concrete block; one story; gable roof (metal); four-bay facade with two central entrances, a garage door and a door. This large building suggests an industrial use, since there is little decoration to this otherwise plain, rectangular block.

-11 *102 (Dr. Dwight Shull Office): Commercial (dental office). Vernacular/International Style. 1948-49. Brick (stretcher); two stories; flat roof; symmetrical three-bay facade. The almost square, box-like quality of this 1940s office building reflects the International Style popular at this time. Because of its more recent date, this building does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

-12 104 (Robert Wright House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Eclectic. 1890s. Frame (aluminum); two-and-one-half stories; mansard roof (shingle) with three round-arched dormers; three-bay facade; two-bay porch with sawn

(See Continuation Sheet #11)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

brackets and balustrade. One of the oldest houses on this block of East College Street, the Wright House displays the three-room, central-passage plan commonly found in Bridgewater at the turn of the century, embellished with a bracketed window cornice, metal roof cresting, and bay windows.

105 (W. L. Rosenberger House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1934. Brick veneer;
-13 one story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch wraps around east side. The sweeping front porch and exposed ridge boards to the porch and front gable reflect the influence of the bungalow style on this otherwise long, narrow dwelling.

106 (D. S. Thomas House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1928. Brick; one-and-one-half stories; gable (composition); one dormer; symmetrical three-bay facade;
-14 three-bay wooden porch on brick piers. The Thomas House is one of several bungalows built in this neighborhood in the 1920s. Thomas, who owned the first car dealership in town, also built a contemporary, bungalow-style garage to match his house.

107 (Harman Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. Ca 1900-05. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable (slate); three-bay facade; two-bay
-15 wooden porch with spindle frieze wraps around east end. This is one of several two-story frame houses built with three-room, central-passage plans on East College Street at the turn of the century. The projecting west gabled block displays a bay window, and both front and side gables have been embellished with sawn gable screens.

109 (G. R. Berlin House): Detached dwelling. Victorian/Vernacular. Ca 1910. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gabled and hipped roof (metal); three-bay
-16 facade; three-bay wooden porch with Ionic columns and lattice screens. One of the largest and most pretentious houses on this block of East College Street, this house displays an irregular design characterized by a complex roof massing and a blend of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival detailing. J. S. Dovel, a reputable Bridgewater contractor, built this house.

110 (Bridgewater Presbyterian Church): Church. Gothic Revival. 1889. Frame (aluminum); one story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade. This
-17 frame Gothic Revival church is one of the most stylish late 19th-century churches surviving in Bridgewater. A fully projecting, square front tower, with wooden finials and a bracketed wooden cornice, highlights the design. Rather bulky wooden buttresses at the corners of the facade and the front tower add to the bold character of this design.

(See Continuation Sheet #12)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

-18 111 (Mrs. Dove Brower House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1921-22. Frame (shingle); one-and-one-half story; gable roof (composition); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with matchboard balustrade. One of several bungalows on this block of East College Street, this house hints at the craftsman styles, with its exposed ridge boards at the gable end and porch rafters.

-19 112 (Myers House; C. E. Shull House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1891. Frame (vinyl); two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch. One of many two-story frame houses on this block, the Shull House displays a "T"-shaped design, embellished with sawn and turned fan-shaped gable screens and elaborate wooden window cornices.

-20 113 (Nelson Huffman House): Detached dwelling. Modern Tudor Cottage. 1938. Brick veneer; two stories; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; no porch. This modern cottage does not contribute to the character of the historic district, although it blends well in scale and materials.

-21 N.A. (Wyant Place Park): Park. The town has created a small park with slide, swingset, jungle gym and picnic table in this picturesque, creek-side setting enclosed by Wyant Place.

-22 200 (Ben Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1905-06. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with sawn balustrade and brackets. This house suggests the familiar I-house form on the exterior, but the central interior chimney indicates a two-room plan. The house has rather sparse decoration, being restricted to the pierced barge boards at the gable ends and its original porch.

-23 202 (Hughes House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1900. Frame (aluminum); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with round Doric columns. This is one of several two-story "T"-shaped houses built on East College Street at the turn of the century. The house retains some sparse decoration, being restricted to the shingled patterns on the front and side gables.

-24 203 (Otho Arey House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. Ca 1920. Frame (shingle); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); one shed dormer; four-bay facade; three-bay front porch with shingled posts and balustrade. This bungalow is one of several examples of this style built in this East College Street neighborhood. The entire dwelling has been covered with the same

(See Continuation Sheet #13)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

decorative shingle pattern as at other bungalows on College Street, but here the porch posts and balustrade have also been covered.

204 (Thrasher House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1890s. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with sawn balustrade and brackets. This frame I-house with interior gable end chimneys is one of the oldest houses on East College Street, but it may have been moved here from a location on Main Street.

-25

205 (Yount House; C. D. Smith House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1910-20. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with Ionic columns and narrow vertical board balustrade. This three-room "T" plan, a popular design on East College Street, has been embellished with Colonial Revival detailing--Ionic porch columns and fanlights in the shingled gables.

-26

*206 (Herbert Sipe House; Hutchinson House): Detached dwelling. Tudor Revival. 1950s. Brick veneer; one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); one gabled dormer; three-bay facade. This modern, Tudor-style cottage is one of the more recent buildings on East College Street and does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

-27

207 (Harm Wise House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1910-20. Textured concrete block; two-and-one-half stories; gabled and hipped roof (composition); one hipped roof dormer; three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with paired round columns and turned balustrade, wraps around east side. One of the few textured concrete block houses in the district, this example displays a rather massive appearance. Besides the front cross gable, the hipped roof dormers, and the porch, there is little decoration.

-28

209 (George Miller House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. Late 1930s. Brick veneer; one-and-one-half stories; three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with Doric columns. One of the more recent bungalows along East College Street, this house features a long shed roof dormer, end bay windows, and a Colonial Revival porch.

-29

210 (W. H. Sipe House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne. 1890s. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with shingled balustrade. This is one of the most stylish of a string of two-story frame houses built around the turn of the century on this street. A variety of shingled cross gables, with sawn and turned fan gable screens;

-30

(See Continuation Sheet #14)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

a bracketed cornice; shingled two-story front bay window; and wraparound porch highlight this design. This house was built for W. H. Sipe, a prominent local merchant and civic leader.

300 (Cyrus Berry House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne/Vernacular. 1890-1910. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate and metal); five-bay facade; five-bay wooden porch with spindle frieze and carved brackets. This is one of two large, stylish frame houses inspired by the popular Queen Anne designs at the corner of East College and Second Streets. The facade is highlighted by a shingled three-story turret on the east side and a shingled cross gable with sawn gable screen and bracketed cornice.

.31

301 (Dr. John S. Flory House): Detached dwelling. Victorian/Vernacular. Ca 1900. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (wood shingle); four-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with turned spindle frieze. This is one of the fairly large frame houses at the corner of East College and Second Streets. The somewhat irregular plan has been highlighted with a shingled front gable with fan-design gable screen; a bay window on the east end; and decorative wooden window cornices.

.32

302 (Wayland House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. Ca 1890. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch. This is one of the more plain, three-room, central-passage plan frame houses built on this end of East College Street in the last decade of the 19th century. Local historian John Wayland moved here in 1893 to attend Bridgewater College.

.33

303 (Dr. Flory House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1890-1910. Frame (masonite); two stories; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with carved brackets and turned posts and balustrade. This is one of many two-story frame houses built with three-room central-passage plans on East College Street at the turn of the century. This example retains its original porch and elaborate gable treatment with a shingled pattern, a bracketed cornice, and an egg-and-dart molding band.

.34

304 (Baker House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Ca 1905-10. Frame (asbestos shingle); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch wraps around east side. One of several two-story frame houses on this street, the Baker House displays an unusual roof variation, with a hipped roof over the two east facade bays and over a projecting room off the east end. Original decoration may have been removed when the present siding was added.

.35

(See Continuation Sheet #15)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

305 (Lottie Garber House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1890s. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with turned posts and spindle frieze and sawn and turned brackets. This three-room, central-passage plan house contains some of the more ornate gable screens and front porch on this end of East College Street. Decorative features include an elaborate front sawn and turned gable screen, gable end bay window, and pierced barge boards on each gable end. -36

306 (George B. Holsinger House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Ca 1890. Frame (bricktex); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with round posts. This is one of several two-story frame houses on East College Street with an irregular central-passage plan. Decorative features include sawn attic vents, sawn cornice brackets, pierced barge boards on the facade gable, and a one-story bay window. George Holsinger, a noted musician and contributor to the Singing School movement, was living here by 1893. -37

307 (Charles Wright House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. 1890s. Frame (German); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay center porch with sawn brackets and turned balustrade. This frame I-house retains much of its original decoration, creating a richly embellished exterior, with shingled front and end gables trimmed with sawn and carved gable screens. Other features include a heavily bracketed cornice, carved window lintels, and an unusual and more variegated version of German siding. -38

308 (Wright House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1910s. Frame (weatherboard); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); one shed dormer; three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with shingled square posts and balustrade and lattice screens. This house displays the overhanging porch roof, shed dormer, and shingle siding so commonly found on examples of the bungalow style in Bridgewater. -39

*309 (Andy Wright House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1942. Brick veneer; one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); two gabled dormers; symmetrical three-bay facade. One of the most recent houses on the east end of East College Street, the Wright House does not contribute to the district because of its recent date. -40

311 (Walter Myers House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1893. Frame (bricktex); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with sawn brackets and balustrade. One of several -41

(See Continuation Sheet #16)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

I-houses on the east end of East College Street, the Myers House retains its original three-bay porch, pointed arch gable end windows, and decorative sawn attic vent in the front cross gable.

313 (Rodeffer House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1890s. Frame
-42 (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with carved brackets. This I-house displays a projecting central bay with entry, topped by a shingled cross gable.

N.A. (Bridgewater College Gymnasium): Gymnasium. Collegiate Vernacular. 1908. Brick (six-course American); one story; hipped roof (slate); one hipped dor-
-43 mer; three-bay College Street facade. Typical of college buildings from the turn of the century, this gymnasium features tall windows along all sides and a monitor top roof for additional lighting. The interior retains much of its older finish, including a matchboard balustrade around the second-floor gallery. The gym was built after much controversy as to whether to include intercollegiate sports in a Church of the Brethren school.

N.A. (Ward-Hall II): Educational. Educational/Romanesque. 1910. Brick
-44 (stretcher); three stories; hipped roof (composition); seven-bay facade; recessed entrance through central arch in projecting front tower. One of four major brick buildings constructed during the Yount presidency, this hall is similar in design to neighboring Founders Hall. Although built as a men's residence, it is currently being remodeled for office space.

N.A. (Founder's Hall): Educational. Educational/Romanesque. 1903-04. Brick (stretcher); three stories; hipped roof (slate); nine-bay facade; recessed
-45 central entrance in front tower. This large collegiate design retains its original tower, rounded arch windows and front entrance, incised wooden window cornices, and brick corner quoins. Built as office and classroom space, this building is currently being remodeled.

N.A. (Stanley Hall; Memorial Hall): Educational. Colonial Revival. 1890, re-modeled 1928. Wood frame (stretcher brick veneer); two stories; gable roof
-46 (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay wooden porch with square brick posts and wooden roof. Stanley Hall is currently the oldest building on the Bridgewater College campus. Although of frame construction, the building was brick veneered in 1928 when it was moved back 30 feet to be in line with the other buildings on the south side of East College Street. Much of the Colonial Revival detailing was added at that time. Memorial Hall was used primarily for the music and art department for many years, but now it contains mainly classrooms and offices.

(See Continuation Sheet #17)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

East College Street (continued)

N.A. (Yount Hall): Educational. Educational Vernacular. 1905. Brick (six-course American bond); three stories; hipped roof (composition); seven bay facade. Yount Hall is one of the least pretentious of the row of brick college buildings built on the south side of East College Street in the first decade of the 20th century. The rectangular block has been decorated with a central cross gable and one-bay entrance frame with Doric columns, hinting at the Colonial styles. The brick corner quoins, rounded window arches, and incised wooden lintels match the other buildings from this period. Eutsler Brothers of Grottoes, a prominent local construction firm, were the contractors for this building, originally used as a girl's dormitory.

-47

West College Street

*100 (U. S. Post Office): Post Office. International Style. 1960. Brick veneer; one story; flat roof; one-bay facade; one-bay recessed porch in west bay with metal columns. This fairly simple brick-veneered post office is typical of many rural post office buildings built in the central Valley in the 1960s.

-48

*102 (Hensel Wine House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1950s. Frame (asbestos shingle); one-and-one-half story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; no porch. This Cape Cod design is one of the more recent buildings on College Street and does not contribute to the fabric of the historic district, although in scale and materials it is not obtrusive.

-49

104 (B. M. Rice House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Georgian. 1878-85. Frame (masonite); two stories, gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; two-story three-bay modern porch with square wooden columns. This large, square frame house was extensively remodeled after a fire in the early 1960s. Although it has lost much of its original character, it still blends with the neighboring houses both in scale and materials.

-50

105 (E. B. Simpson House; MacMasters House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1878-85. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; hipped roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with round columns and square balustrade. This frame I-house is one of several houses built on West College Street in the 1870s and 1880s. Its original owner, Col. E. B. Simpson, was mayor of Bridgewater when this house was built.

-51

107 (Luther Myers House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1870-85. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; hipped roof (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with round columns wraps around east side. The Luther Myers House is one of several two-story frame houses built on College Street in the 1870s and 1880s.

-52

(See Continuation Sheet #18)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

West College Street (continued)

108 (Beacon Press; Bridgewater Beacon Printing Company): Industrial. Commercial Vernacular. 1947. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade; one-bay wooden portico with gable roof. The long, narrow form with gable end entry of this building suggests a commercial/industrial use and distinguishes this building from the otherwise residential structures along West College Street. Although of more recent date, the company building blends with the other houses here in materials and scale.

-53

*109 (James Puffenbarger House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1953. Frame (asbestos shingle); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); two gabled dormers; symmetrical three-bay facade; one-bay wooden porch. One of two Cape Cod designs built on this block of East College Street in the 1950s, the Puffenbarger House does not contribute to the character of the historic district because of its more recent date.

-54

111 (Mrs. H. Kyle House; Roche House): Detached dwelling. Eclectic/Gothic Revival. 1880. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with round wooden columns. The Kyle House is one of two eclectic Gothic Revival designs built on West College Street around 1880 and one of the two most stylish late 19th-century houses in the district. The irregular design features a three-story entrance tower, wrap-around front porch and elaborate wooden decoration reflective of the popular pattern book styles.

-55

112 (J. S. Loose House; Minor Miller House): Detached dwelling. Gothic Revival. 1882-83. Frame (German); two-and-one-half stories; gable roof (wood); three-bay facade; one-bay center recessed porch with carved Gothic Revival decoration and second-floor sawn balustrade. The J. S. Loose House is clearly one of the finest and best preserved late 19th-century houses in Bridgewater. Derived from Victorian Architecture by A. F. Beckwith (1878), the Loose House is an excellent example of pattern book architecture and retains much of its original form and decoration both inside and outside. J. S. Loose was a local banker, German Reformed minister, and superintendent of the county schools.

(176-09)

115 (Lutheran Parsonage): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1882-83. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; one-bay center porch with square wooden columns and metal balustrade. The Lutheran Parsonage is one of many two-story frame houses built along West College Street in the 1870s and 1880s. This example follows a fairly standard I-house plan with its central projecting bay with cross gable and fairly plain gable screens, hinting at the popular eclectic styles of the day.

-56

(See Continuation Sheet #19)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

West College Street (continued)

*117 (Heitzelman House): Detached dwelling. Ranch. Late 1960s. Brick veneer; one-story; gable roof (composition); four-bay facade. This modern ranch house
.57 is one of the most recent houses on West College Street included in the district. Because of its recent date, the Heitzelman House does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

123 (J. W. F. Allemong House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Queen Anne. Ca 1884. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); four-bay facade; two-bay
.58 wooden porch. The Allemong House is one of the more stylish of a string of two-story frame houses built along West College Street in the 1870s and 1880s. The "T"-shaped main block with a central projecting room displays a multi-gabled design with three front gables and two end gables, all embellished with sawn gable screens. The foliage designs on the gable screens are reminiscent of those on several houses on West Bank Street. Allemong was an influential, successful local entrepreneur who operated a large general store and was involved with civic activities in Bridgewater. He also proved influential in developing several of the potential railroad attempts through Bridgewater.

North Grove Street

N.A. (Quiet Repose Cemetery; Greenwood Cemetery): Cemetery. 1852 to present. The
.59 only cemetery currently within the district boundaries, Greenwood Cemetery is composed of two sections--a white cemetery to the north, enclosed within the elaborate iron fence, and a black cemetery to the south. The oldest stone dates to 1851, with the majority from the late 19th and 20th centuries.

South Grove Street

N.A. (Daggett House): Detached dwelling (originally a stable). Vernacular. Remodeled mid 20th century. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof
.60 (metal); three-bay facade. Around 1949, this two-story frame stable was remodeled into a house which, with its three-bay facade, matches the familiar I-house designs found on many of the streets in this neighborhood. A smaller, gable-entry structure presently fronting on Grove Street had originally been a livery stable office.

(See Continuation Sheet #20)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

West High Street

*200 (Dr. Riddle's Office; Drs. Rufus C. Huffman and J. Douglas Smith, Family Practice): Commercial. Commercial/International Style. 1954. Brick veneer; two stories; shed roof; four-bay facade. This rather austere brick office building retains the familiar commercial form--a long rectangular building with apartment above. Due to its recent construction date, this building does not contribute to the character of the historic district. -61

201 (T. Sellers House; Hatch House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. 1880-85. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (slate); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with square posts. The Sellers House, the oldest house on West High Street, is reminiscent in its design to 1880s and 1890s frame houses on West Bank Street, particularly with its elaborate sawn gable screens. -62

*203 (F. Wise Driver House): Detached dwelling. Ranch. 1962. Brick veneer; one-story; gable roof (composition); four-bay facade; two-bay metal porch. One of the most recent buildings on this block of West High Street, the Driver House does not contribute to the character of the historic district. -63

204 (Daisy Carpenter House): Detached dwelling. Four-Square. 1920-21. Brick (stretcher bond); two stories; hipped roof (metal); four-bay facade; four-bay wooden porch with round columns and elaborate lattice screens. This commodious brick dwelling suggests the four-square design popular in Bridgewater in the early 20th century. Exterior decoration is restrained, with round brick arches over the windows and dormer windows on the facade and west walls. -64

205 (Whitmer House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/Bungalow. Ca 1900. Frame (German); one-and-one-half story, gable (wood shingle); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with shingled balustrade wraps around east side. This small frame bungalow displays the lingering influence of the Queen Anne style. The house is characterized by a variety of gables and projecting gabled blocks, decorated with fan-design sawn and turned gable screens. -65

206 (Lynch House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. Late 1880s or 1890s. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay porch enclosed with screen. This dwelling is typical of Bridgewater's building in the 1890s, particularly on West Bank Street. The form follows the familiar I-house design, with a central projecting entrance bay topped by a cross gable, and it has been embellished with sawn gable screens. -66

(See Continuation Sheet #21)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

West High Street (continued)

*208 (Vada Glick House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1940s. Frame (asbestos shingle); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); one shed dormer; three-bay facade; one-bay central wooden porch. One of the most recent houses on this block of High Street, the Glick House does not contribute to the character of the historic district because of its more recent date.

209 (Snow House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne. Ca 1910. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate); four-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with turned columns and balusters and spindle trim wraps around the west side. One of the more stylish, Queen Anne-inspired designs in Bridgewater, the Snow House features a three-story octagonal tower in the east corner of the facade, a projecting bay window block in the west facade bay, and an additional projecting block in the west wall. Exterior decoration appears very eclectic, from the sawn gable screens with shingled gables and an egg-and-dart cornice band to the wraparound porch.

210 (Bailey House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Ca 1900-10. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch. This rather plain, two-story frame dwelling is composed of a front gable entry block with side hall and room and a second gable block running perpendicular to the front portion. Unlike other contemporary houses on this street, the Bailey House currently lacks any exterior decoration.

North Main Street

100/102 (Geary Building; Sipe's Store): Commercial. Commercial Vernacular. 1860s/1887/1900. Brick (stretcher); two stories; gable roof (metal); six-bay facade with two shop fronts. Sipe's Store is one of the oldest commercial buildings at the town's old business center at the corner of College and Main Streets. Above the original shop fronts, the second-floor facade displays round arched windows in slightly recessed brick arcades with a decorative brick false front.

*101 (Lowman's Store Site; Woody's Restaurant): Restaurant. Modern Commercial. 1965-70. Concrete block (brick veneer, vertical board siding); two stories; mansard roof; four-bay facade. Woody's is one of the most recent buildings in a group of 1950 to 1980 commercial buildings on the 100 block of North Main Street. This building replaces an earlier two-story commercial building which burned in the mid 20th century.

(See Continuation Sheet #22)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

*104 (Hearthstone Realty): Commercial. Modern. 1960s. Concrete block with brick veneer; one story; flat roof; two-bay facade. This long, narrow office building was built recently and was squeezed onto a similarly shaped lot.

*105 (Dr. Row's Office; J. D. McCurdy Nationwide Insurance): Commercial. Commercial/International Style. 1950s. Brick veneer; two stories; flat roof; five-bay facade. This is one of several similar brick veneer medical office buildings built in the late 1940s and 1950s in Bridgewater.

106/108 (Frank Arey House; Marion Dickson House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne. Ca 1900. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (slate); four-bay facade; three-bay porch with spindle trim, bracketed cornice, and turned balusters. The Arey House is one of only two houses remaining on the 100 block of North Main Street and the only one to continue in use as a dwelling. This house displays the irregular design, with a variety of bay window projections and shingled trim, that characterizes the Queen Anne style.

*110/110½ (Huffman's Jewelers; Sunset Flower Shop): Commercial. Modern. 1966. Brick veneer; two stories; flat roof; six-bay first-floor facade. This rather plain, blocky commercial building contains two stores, with a double store front, and apartments above. Due to its recent date, it does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

*111 (First Virginia Bank Planters): Bank. Neo-Colonial. 1974. Brick veneer; two story; hipped roof (composition); five-bay facade; two-story, five-bay brick arcaded porch. Due to its very recent date and its large scale, this building does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

112 (Dr. J. G. Minor House; Municipal Building): Detached dwelling (now used as office space). Vernacular/I-house. 1856. Brick (five- to seven-course American); two stories; gable (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; older three-bay porch removed. This is the oldest of only two houses still standing on the 100 block of North Main Street. Although altered both inside and outside when remodeled into office space in 1962, some Greek Revival detailing survives.

*114/116 (Dr. Foster's Office; State Water Control Board and Suter's Barber Shop): Commercial. Modern. Early 1940s. Brick; two stories; flat roof; five-bay facade. This is one of the first of many office buildings built on this block of North Main Street in the mid 20th century. Although fairly simple in design, this building uses tan-colored brick in contrast to the red brick

(See Continuation Sheet #23)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

walls for window lintels and as a decorative band between first- and second-floor windows. Although matching local designs in scale, the style and materials and recent date of this building make it a non-contributing member to the historic district.

*118 (Fisher Auto Parts): Commercial. Modern. Late 1960s. Brick veneer; one-
-79 story; gable roof (corrugated metal); five-bay facade. One of several commercial buildings constructed on North Main Street in the 1960s to 1970s, this building does not contribute to the character of the historic district in scale, materials, or age.

*121 (Carr's Tire Service): Gas Station. Modern. 1960s. Brick veneer; one story;
-80 mansard roof; five-bay facade. Due to its recent date, this building does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

*128 (Dickson's Food and Drug Lane): Commercial. Modern. 1970. Concrete block
-81 with brick veneer; one story; flat roof; nine-bay facade. This large supermarket does not match with the surrounding buildings in scale and materials, and it is a non-contributing member because of its recent date.

200 (Arey House; Dr. Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid
-82 19th century. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate); symmetrical three-bay facade; one-bay modern metal porch. This is one of the oldest of a group of mid 19th-century frame buildings on this block of North Main Street. The house was remodeled at the turn of the century and retains decorative sawn and turned gable screens and metal roof cresting. Several doctors have lived here in the late 19th and early 20th century and built an adjoining office at 202 North Main Street.

201 (Shipman House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. Late 19th
-83 century. Frame (masonite); two stories; gable roof (composition); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with square posts, arched braces and sawn cornice and brackets. The Shipman House is one of the most elaborately decorated frame I-houses on this block of North Main Street with its shingled cross gable, heavily bracketed cornice, sawn gable screens, and front central bay window with spindle frieze.

202 (Dr. Warren's Office; Dr. Miller's Office and Drug Store): Commercial. Commer-
-84 cial Vernacular. Ca 1890s. Frame (German); one story; gable roof (slate); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with one round column. Built at the north gable end of 200 North Main Street, this office displays metal roof cresting, pierced barge board trim, sawn and carved gable screens, and large front display windows with diamond-paned transoms.

(See Continuation Sheet #24)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

203 (Sellers House; Bridgewater Drapery Shop): Detached dwelling (now used as com-
-85 mercial space). Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Brick (six-course American); two stories; gable roof (metal); currently two-bay facade, originally three bays; one-story wooden porch on south gable end. One of the few early brick houses on this block of Main Street, the Sellers House was remodeled in the early 20th century with the removal of the central entrance and the further ell additions.

204 (Bridgewater Lutheran Church; Edwinia Furry House): Church (now used as a
-86 detached dwelling. Gothic/Vernacular. 1881. Frame (weatherboard); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay center modern wooden portico. When this frame church was remodeled into a dwelling in 1957, the basic form was left unaltered, but the steeple was removed, the windows changed, and the interior divided into rooms.

*205 (Nan's New Look Beauty Salon): Commercial. Modern. 1960s. Brick veneer;
-87 one story; gable roof (composition); four-bay facade. This small, modern commercial building is the most recent structure on this block. Because of its small scale, it is not too obtrusive, but it still remains as a non-contributing structure due to its recent date.

206 (George Dinkle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1850-70. Frame
-88 (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch wraps around south end. One of several two-story frame houses along North Main Street, this example suggests a hall-parlor plan with its single end chimney and smaller scale.

208 (Ken Dinkle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1890s. Frame
-89 (German); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay central porch with carved brackets and sawn balustrade. This three-bay house has been cloaked with decoration typical of the 1890s in Bridgewater--a front cross gable with sawn screen, pierced verge boards with quatrefoil motifs on all gables, a heavily carved bracketed cornice, carved window cornices, and pointed arch gable windows.

209 (J. D. Halstead House; Hallie Dinkle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/
-90 I-house. 1850-70. Frame (aluminum); two stories; gable (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with Doric columns and wooden lattice. This frame I-house displays the exterior brick chimneys usually associated with mid to late 19th-century local architecture. The house was remodeled at the turn of the century with a bracketed cornice, shingled cross gable, and present front porch.

(See Continuation Sheet #25)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

211 (J. W. Crawford House; Bradburn House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Wooden (Log?) (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (slate); seven-bay facade; five-bay 20th-century wooden porch. This long rectangular house form was often found in early turnpike towns in the Valley, but the Crawford House is the only extant example in Bridgewater.
-91

215 (J. O. T. Sellers House): Detached dwelling. Decorated Vernacular/I-house. 1900-05. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (slate); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with spindle trim and turned balustrade. The Sellers House is one of the most elaborately decorated two-story wooden houses on this block of North Main Street. The front cross gable and end gables are shingled, trimmed with elaborate turned and sawn gable screens, and pierced with decorative round wooden vents.
-92

217 (Click House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1910s (remodeled?). Frame (weatherboard, shingle); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (pressed tin); two-bay facade; one-bay side porch with tapered wooden columns on brick piers. This frame bungalow exhibits a style popular in Bridgewater in the 1910s and 1920s.
-93

N.A. (Bridgewater School): Educational. Colonial Revival. 1911. Brick; two stories; hipped roof (composition); three-bay facade; one-bay two-story central portico with Ionic and Doric columns and wooden modillion cornice. The Bridgewater Elementary School is one of the oldest and most stylish consolidated schools built in Rockingham County. This had been the site of the Valley Normal School and later the Bridgewater public school in the late 19th century.
-94

219 (Bridgewater United Methodist Church): Church. Gothic Revival. 1855/1902/1925. Brick (stretcher); two stories; gable roof (pressed tin); seven-bay facade; one-story, three-bay recessed porch under brick arcade in the north portion of the facade. One of the most stylish of Bridgewater's turn-of-the-century churches, the Bridgewater United Methodist Church displays the popular Gothic Revival styles as interpreted by some of Bridgewater's finest local builders--the Shrum brothers, brick masons; and Thuma and Dovel, contractors.
-95

302 (Pool House; Simpson House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Log (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay porch with bracketed cornice and sawn balustrade. The Simpson House appears to be one of the oldest of a string of two-story wooden houses on this 300 block of North Main Street. This three-bay design retains an original exterior brick chimney on the north end and a later brick flue to the south.
-96

(See Continuation Sheet #26)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

*304 (Bridgewater Volunteer Fire Co., Inc.): Fire Station. Commercial Vernacular.
-97 1950s. Brick (stretcher); one story; shed roof; presently four-bay facade. This is the only building on this block built for commercial use, although several houses have been adapted for this purpose. The stepped back brick facade reflects popular designs of the 1940s and 1950s. Because of its recent date, this design does not contribute to the historic district, although it is not out of character in scale or materials.

305 (Joe Dinkle House; Bob-a-Rea's Pizza): Detached dwelling (now a restaurant).
-98 Frame (German); two stories; gable (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade before modern addition; had gingerbread porch, now removed. This frame I-house with interior passage wall chimneys was typical of Bridgewater domestic building at the turn of the century and is one of several such designs on the north end of Main Street. This particular example has been heavily altered recently with the enclosure of a one-story, three-bay gingerbread porch and an addition to the north end.

306 (J. A. Wise House; Lindsey Funeral Home): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Mid
-99 19th century. Frame with brick nogging (weatherboards, horizontal flush boards under porch); two stories; gable roof (slate); four-bay facade; four-bay porch with square wooden columns and second-floor Chippendale balustrade. This is one of the few frame houses on this block located off the road with the gable end facing the road. The central chimney suggests a two-room plan. The Lindseys have added a brick addition for their funeral home to the north.

307 (Branum House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Late 19th century.
-100 Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with Doric columns wraps around north end. The exterior decoration of this house is quite restrained, being limited to oval vents in the central cross and end gables, a south end bay window, and the wraparound porch.

308 (Methodist Parsonage): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Eclectic. Ca 1900.
-101 Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with spindle frieze and bracketed cornice wraps around both sides. One of the more stylish, late 19th-century houses on this block, the Methodist Parsonage features an irregular design with a prominent projecting gable block highlighted by a shingled front gable and elaborate front gable screen, reflecting a blend of the Stick Style and Eastlake Style.

309 (Burke Sellers House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Log
-102 and frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade

(See Continuation Sheet #27)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

(remodeled); one-story wooden porch on north gable end. The Sellers House, which was heavily altered in the late 19th century, began as a three-bay rectangular front block with a two-story, one-room plan ell, all of log construction.

310 (George Hulvey House; Gabriel Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/
-103 I-house. 1890s. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (corrugated metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay porch with carved wooden brackets. This three-bay I-house is one of a string of two-story wooden houses along the north end of Main Street.

311 (Lawrence Kibler House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1870-85. Frame
-104 (weatherboard) and brick; two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade; one-bay side porch with wooden posts. The Kibler House is a single-pile, two-story frame block with side-passage plan and a lower, two-story, one-room brick ell. The brick portion may well be the original part.

312 (Annie Early House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Side-passage Plan. Ca 1900.
-105 Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay first-floor facade; two-bay wooden porch with spindle and carved cornice, sawn balustrade, turned columns. One of a string of two-story wooden houses along Main Street, the Early House displays a side-passage plan with the familiar two-story, two-room plan ell. A bracketed wooden cornice and original porch still embellish the facade.

313 (Horn House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Ca 1900. Frame (German); two
-106 stories; gable roof (metal); six-bay facade; six-bay wooden porch with square columns. This two-story frame house features a one-story frame addition, which may have served a commercial use, to the north gable end of the original block.

314 (Bertie White House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne Cottage. Ca 1900-10.
-107 Frame (weatherboard); one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (metal); one gabled dormer; three-bay facade; elaborate three-bay wooden porch with turned posts, carved brackets, spindle trim, turned balustrade. This picturesque cottage design is one of the more stylish houses located on this block of North Main Street. The front porch, decorative front gable, inglenook dormer, and south gable end bay window create a rather irregular design. This house appears similar to the work of Thuma and Dovel, Bridgewater contractors who built many stylish houses in town at the turn of the century.

(See Continuation Sheet #28)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

*316 (Williams House): Detached dwelling. Cape Cod. 1940s-50s. Brick veneer; one-and-one-half stories; gable roof (composition); two gabled dormers; symmetrical three-bay facade. This brick-veneer design is the most recent building on this block of North Main Street, and because of its date, it does not contribute to the historic district.
-108

317 (Raum House; Candlelight Inn): Detached dwelling (now a restaurant). Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Brick (staggered Flemish facade); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch. The Raum House is one of the oldest houses on this block of North Main Street and the only older brick house. The three-bay I-house design with parapeted end chimneys became popular in the Valley in the 1840s and 1850s.
-109

318 (Charlie Richcreek House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Late 19th century. Stucco; two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; one-bay center porch with square columned portico. This I-house is one of the few stuccoed houses on this end of Main Street.
-110

400 (Hite House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Brick (seven-course American); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-story, one-bay wooden porch with square columns. The Hite House is one of the oldest houses on this north end of Main Street and one of only a few of brick construction. The I-house design was still commonly found in brick in the mid 19th century; here it was decorated with a wooden cornice, brick jack arches, and a transom-lighted entrance.
-111

401 (Riddle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Victorian. 1885-95. Brick (six- to seven-course American with Flemish variant); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade (remodeled); two-story, two-bay wooden porch with second-floor turned blaustrade. One of a pair of brick houses built on the 400 block of North Main Street in the late 19th century, this irregular design currently displays little decoration except for the corbeled brick cornice, front porch, and second-floor south side porch with sawn balustrade.
-112

403 (Barbee House; Knott House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Ca 1840. Brick (five-course American and Flemish facade); two stories; gable roof (metal); four-bay facade; four-bay, two-story porch with large stuccoed columns and second-floor sawn balustrade. The Barbee House is one of the oldest and most imposing houses on the north end of Main Street in the "New Town" addition; it illustrates the style of architecture popular in the 1840s in the central Valley. The house was enlarged several times by the late 19th century, when Col. Gabriel Barbee ran an inn called the Barbee House.
(176-2)

(See Continuation Sheet #29)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

404 (D. Danner House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Frame
-113 (masonite); two stories; gable (metal); originally three-bay facade, enlarged by one bay; four-bay wooden porch wraps around south gable end. One of a row of 19th-century frame houses along this end of Main Street, the Danner House began as a three-bay, side-passage plan later enlarged into an I-house.

405 (Hair Designs; Antique Sales): Detached dwelling (now used as a store).
-114 Vernacular/Gothic Revival. 1885-95. Brick (staggered Flemish facade, seven- to eight-course American with Flemish variant); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade. One of two late 19th-century brick houses built on the north end of Main Street, this house is built on the front of an older, brick room, possibly a part of the house that was here in 1877. The three-room, central-passage plan displays projecting brick pilasters on the front and side walls and a double-paned window creating a pointed arch motif in the second floor of the projecting gabled block.

405D Garage. Vernacular. Early 20th century. Brick (stretcher); one story;
-115 hipped roof (metal); one-bay facade. This rather large garage features a shingled cross gable.

406 (Furry House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Side-Passage. Mid 19th century.
-116 Frame (German); two stories; gable (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with sawn brackets and balustrade. One of a row of mid to late 19th-century frame houses on the north end of Main Street, the Furry House displays little decoration besides the decorative, round attic vents and front porch. The brick end chimney has been replaced with a cinderblock flue.

407 (J. H. Lindsey House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1870s. Frame
-117 (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with round Doric columns. This frame I-house is one of several examples of this type on the north end of Main Street.

409 (Miller House): Detached dwelling. I-house. 1910s. Textured concrete block;
-118 two stories; hipped roof (slate); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with round columns and lattice work. This is one of the most recent houses within the historic district boundaries on the north end of Main Street. Built with textured concrete block, a material used in the 1910s and 1920s, this house still follows the familiar I-house model, here with a projecting central entrance bay.

(See Continuation Sheet #30)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

North Main Street (continued)

410 (Weekley House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Hall-Parlor. Mid 19th century. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay center porch with pedimented roof and modillion and bracketed cornice. The three-bay fenestration, single end chimney and rather small scale of the Weekley House suggests a hall-parlor, two-room plan, a design commonly found in this area in the mid 19th century. -119

412 (Riddleberger House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1865-77. Frame (aluminum?); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay central metal porch. This three-bay frame I-house is one of a row of two-story frame houses built on the north end of Main Street in the mid to late 19th century. -120

416 (Brookins House): Detached dwelling (formerly a store?). Commercial Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Frame (weatherboard); one story; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade; two-bay wooden porch with pent roof and weatherboard balustrade. The gable end facade and simple rectangular form of this building suggest an original commercial use, perhaps as a small shop. This has served as a dwelling at least since the early 20th century. -121

418 (Frank Boyers House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. 1870s. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with turned posts and wooden lattice. This is one of the more plain of a string of mid 19th-century frame houses on the north end of Main Street. The small scale of this three-bay design suggests a hall-parlor, or two-room, plan, but the chimneys have been removed. -122

420 (Sam Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. 1870s. Frame (weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; one-bay central porch with square wooden posts and sawn brackets. This frame I-house displays some Gothic decoration--a cross gable with sawn gable screen and pointed arch gable windows--on a more vernacular form. Some scalloped trim remains along the barge boards as well. -123

426 (Ward's Grocery and Service): Gas station. Colonial. 1930s. Stucco; one story; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay recessed porch on front and sides with round fluted columns. One of the oldest and best preserved gas stations in Bridgewater, this one-story stuccoed building suggests the Colonial Revival styles popular during the 1920s and 1930s. -124

(See Continuation Sheet #31)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

South Main Street

100/102 (Planters Bank of Bridgewater; Bridgewater Professional Building): Commercial (Bank). Vernacular/Romanesque. 1909. Brick (stretcher); two-and-one-half stories; hipped roof (slate) with three pedimented dormers; three-bay Main Street facade; one-bay recessed porch in corner, remodeled. Planter's Bank built this in the town's commercial hub at the turn of the century, the intersection of College and Main Streets. Although the first-floor Main Street facade has been remodeled, the rest of the building has been altered very little, retaining its round-arched windows with brick hoods, square-topped windows with granite lintels, and a heavy modillion cornice.

-125

101 (Berlin Building): Commercial. Commercial Vernacular. 1883. Brick (staggered Flemish facade, stretcher bond sides); two stories; shed roof (metal); ten-bay first-floor facade, eight bays on second floor; no porch currently. The Berlin Building is one of the oldest commercial buildings in a cluster of buildings that defined Bridgewater's late 19th-century business district at the corners of College and Main Streets. This long, two-story brick building contains three shops on the first floor and apartments above. A tall, bracketed false front still highlights the design.

-126

108 (D. S. Thomas Company; Berbes Trailer Co.): Industrial Vernacular. 1917-18. Brick (stretcher facade); two stories; hipped roof (metal); ten-bay facade. This long, brick building was built to house a buggy shop, garage, and car dealership. Several additions have been made to the rear and, with their large windows, suggest an industrial use.

-127

109 (Bridgewater Methodist Church; Old Town Hall): Vernacular. 1841. Frame (weatherboard); one story; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade. The oldest church building in the historic district, this has been remodeled and enlarged several times in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The rectangular, gable-entry church plan proved most popular in the 19th century, but here it has been embellished with a late 19th-century bracketed front cornice and shingled facade gable.

-128

111 (J. G. Brown House; Riddleberger House): Detached dwelling. 1849. Brick (Flemish facade; five-course American); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; two-story, one-bay portico with plastered Doric columns, sawn balustrade on first floor and second-floor Chippendale design. With its massive two-story portico and deep double-pile, central-passage plan, the Brown House is one of the largest, most pretentious mid 19th-century houses on this block. The paired parapet gable end walls were popular features of mid 19th-century brick houses in this region. The interior preserves most of its original Greek Revival woodwork.

(176-1)

(See Continuation Sheet #32)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

South Main Street (continued)

114 (Myers House; Dr. Thompson's Dental Office): Detached dwelling (now an office). Second Empire/Vernacular. 1885-95. Frame (vinyl); two stories; mansard (composition); one-bay modern wooden porch with bracketed cornice and sawn balustrade. One of a handful of late 19th-century houses on this block of South Main Street, the Myers House boasts one of the few mansard roofs in town. The rounded arch, second-floor windows break the roofline, creating round, wooden hood arches. Behind this more pretentious facade is actually a familiar, double-pile, central-passage plan.

(176-09) -129

115 (Dr. T. H. B. Brown House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Brick (Flemish facade; seven-course American); two stories; gable (metal); symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay, early 20th-century porch with turned balustrade and round columns. This three-bay brick I-house is one of several mid 19th-century brick houses built on South Main Street. Although several changes were made in the early 20th century such as the present porch, windows, and some interior alterations in plan and decoration, the house still preserves its 19th-century character.

(176-10)

116 (St. Claire Kyle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Brick (seven-course American); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade (altered); porch removed. This is one of several mid 19th-century houses located along South Main Street, and one of the few to sit back from the road. The exterior alterations, including the modern door frame and first-floor facade window, were made in the mid 20th century.

(176-6)

117 (Whitmore House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Frame (modern siding); two stories; gable roof; three-bay facade (altered); porch removed, now only one-story side porch. The Whitmore House, with its exterior brick chimneys, is one of the oldest frame houses on the south end of Main Street. When the road was widened, the central door and portico were removed, and several changes were made to the interior.

-130

119 (Bridgewater Baptist Church): Church. Vernacular. 1855, remodeled 1882. Frame (weatherboard); one story; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; modern wooden porch with square columns and metal balustrade. The Baptists purchased an older meeting house on this lot and considerably remodeled and enlarged it, adding a tall Gothic spire (now removed). The sanctuary has since been enlarged twice, and modern renovations have removed much of its 1880s decoration.

-131

(See Continuation Sheet #33)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

South Main Street (continued)

200 (O. W. Miller House; Blosser House): Detached dwelling. Queen Anne/Vernacular. Ca 1900. Frame (German); two stories; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade; two-
-132 bay wooden porch with turned balustrade and columns and spindle trim wraps around south side. This elaborately decorated late 19th-century house is one of the more recent houses along South Main Street, built after a fire in 1882. A slightly projecting south block and the rich decoration combining both Stick Style and Eastlake Styles lends a picturesque character to this design.

201 (Farmer's Bank; Shear Creations Hairstyling): Commercial. Vernacular/Renaissance Revival. 1882-83. Brick (six-course American with Flemish variant); two
-133 stories; gable (metal); five-bay facade; modern two-story porch with square wooden columns and square balustrade. The Farmer's Bank is one of the most stylish late 19th-century commercial buildings on South Main Street. The first floor contains a store front with central entrance and flanking windows to the south and a door with entrance to the second floor to the north. The second-floor windows have been framed by round, layered brick arches, connected to low, projecting brick piers to create an arcade effect.

202 (Dr. Strickler's House and Dental Office): Detached dwelling with attached office. Decorated Vernacular/Georgian. 1890s. Frame (German); two stories;
-134 pyramidal roof (metal); one gabled dormer; three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with Doric columns. One of several late 19th-century frame houses built on South Main Street, this house hints at the Gothic Revival styles with the steep front and side cross gables, pierced by lancet arch windows and trimmed with pierced barge boards. The facade suggests a central-passage, double-pile plan with interior axial chimneys.

205 (Carpenter Building; Second-Hand City): Commercial. Commercial Vernacular. 1882. Brick (stretcher); two stories; gable roof (metal); four-bay facade;
-135 enclosed display windows replace front porch. The Carpenter Building is one of several, fine late 19th-century commercial buildings remaining on South Main Street. This design is highlighted by a tall brick false front and projecting brick pilasters articulating the facade with round-arched windows. This building was constructed for an agricultural implement warehouse and store.

*206/208 (Site of W. L. Rosenberger Funeral Home and Byrd House; McMullen Funeral Home): Commercial. Modern. 1977. Brick (stretcher facade); one story;
-136 flat roof; seven bays. The modern funeral home appears out of scale and character with this older, residential and commercial neighborhood on South Main Street. Because of its recent date, it does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

(See Continuation Sheet #34)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

South Main Street (continued)

209 (Second-Hand City): Commercial. Commercial/Vernacular. Ca 1900. Brick (staggered Flemish facade); two stories; shed roof (metal); two-bay second-floor facade, first floor altered; original porch enclosed into glass display windows. This two-story brick addition was made to the south end of 205 South Main Street. The exterior displays an elaborate brick cornice of turn-of-the-century commercial buildings. -137

211 (Virginia Hite House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Frame (beaded weatherboard); two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; two-story portico roof remains, although posts and balustrade were removed when sidewalk added. One of the oldest frame houses on this block, the Hite House, with its exterior brick chimneys, suggests the familiar I-house design. The house originally included a one-and-one-half story, one-room-plan ell, which was later extended to two rooms in length. -138

214 (Childress House; Ernest Byrd House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Mid 19th century. Stucco; two stories; gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with square columns and balustrade. This is one of the few mid 19th-century buildings remaining on the east side of this block of South College Street. The central entrance and exterior brick chimneys suggest the familiar I-house plan. A long, frame blacksmith shop remains behind the house. -139

215 (Jacob Dinkle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Early 19th century, 1809-20. Brick (six-course American and Flemish bond); two stories; steep gable roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch with square columns. The Dinkle House is one of the oldest houses in Bridgewater, although it was remodeled in the late 19th century when part of the house collapsed. The north end appears original, along with the one-story brick ell. Jacob Dinkle was one of the founders of Bridgewater, laying out the lots with his brother John, and operated an inn at his house by 1820. (176-12)

217 (J. L. Heatwole Shop): Commercial. Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Brick (American with Flemish variant); one story; gable roof (metal); two-bay facade. One of two small brick buildings on the south end of Main Street, this is a narrow, double-pile design with two exterior chimneys. Its small scale suggests a small shop or commercial venture, but its original use is unknown. -140

219 Commercial? Vernacular. 1867-69. Brick (American); one story; low-pitched gable (metal); two-bay facade. This small, two-bay brick building is a miniature version of the three-story Masonic Lodge at 221 South Main Street. -141

(See Continuation Sheet #35)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

South Main Street (continued)

The elaborate wooden false front and slightly projecting brick piers at the corners are identical to the Lodge. Like the shop at 217, its original use is unknown, although it undoubtedly served as a small shop or commercial establishment.

220 (Gordon House): Commercial? Vernacular. Mid 19th century. Brick (five-
-142 course American); two stories; gable (metal); three-bay facade. The gable-entry form of this brick structure suggests a commercial use, although its original function is unknown. The large windows appear original, but the first-floor facade has been altered and shingle decoration has been added on the gables. The building has been enlarged by a frame north addition and a frame ell, which has recently been removed. It has housed a cigar factory, tin shop, opera house, tombstone display shop, dwelling, and most recently apartments.

220 (North Addition - Gordon House): Commercial. Vernacular. Ca 1900. Frame
-143 (German and horizontal board siding); two stories; shed roof (metal); three-bay facade; modern wooden, one-bay porch. This wooden addition was made to the north of the original brick building at 220 South Main Street. The exterior was remodeled when the building was converted into apartments, but it retains its bracketed cornice.

221 (Masonic Lodge): Commercial/Social-Cultural. Commercial Vernacular. 1867-69.
Brick (staggered Flemish facade; six-course American sides); three stories;
-144 flat roof; four-bay facade, remodeled on first floor; four-bay modern wooden porch. This three-story brick commercial building housed a store on the first floor and the Masonic Lodge on the third floor. Its design was one of the largest and most stylish buildings when built in 1867. An elaborate, bracketed wooden cornice and false front highlights the design, with corners and side bays being articulated by slightly projecting brick pilasters. The building has recently been remodeled into apartments on the first two floors.

301 (Mildred Byrd House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Four-Square. 1930s.
Frame (weatherboard); two stories; hipped roof (metal); three-bay facade;
-145 three-bay wooden porch with square posts. This is one of two very similar four-square designs built at the south end of Main Street in the 1930s.

303 (Clark Rosenberger House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Four-Square. 1930s.
Stucco; two stories; hipped roof (metal); three-bay facade; three-bay wooden
-146 porch with square posts. One of two similar four-square designs built along the river in the 1930s, the Rosenberger House features a double-pile square plan; hipped roof; and an attic dormer.

(See Continuation Sheet #36)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

Riverside Drive

*100 (Harshberger Townhouse Apartments): Apartment house. Modern. Late 1970s. Frame (brick and wood veneer); two stories; gable roof (composition); two-bay facade on Main Street. The west bay of this modern townhouse block, which fronts on Riverside Drive, faces Main Street. Because of their recent construction date, these townhouses do not contribute to the character of the historic district.
-147

Wyant Place

108 (John Dinkle House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/I-house. Ca 1810-30. Brick (Flemish facade); two stories; gable roof (metal); symmetrical five-bay facade; one-story, three-bay 20th-century wooden porch with Doric columns and second-floor balustrade. One of the two oldest houses in Bridgewater, the John Dinkle House was built by one of the town founders. The house has been altered less than the Jacob Dinkle House and retains its original facade with transom-lighted entrance and brick jack arches. The bracketed cornice is a later addition. The interior preserves much of its original woodwork.
(176-3)

114 (Charles Leonard House): Detached dwelling. Bungalow. 1922. Frame (weatherboard and shingles); one-and-one-half story; gable roof (composition); one shed dormer; symmetrical three-bay facade; three-bay wooden porch enclosed with glass. This frame bungalow has been embellished with shingled gable ends and a shed-roof dormer, also covered with shingles. The Leonard House is one of several 1920s bungalows in this neighborhood.
-148

205 (Cecil Miller House): Detached dwelling. Vernacular/Eclectic. Ca 1900. Frame (German); two stories; intersecting gable roofs (metal); four-bay facade; four-bay porch with turned columns and sawn balusters and brackets. This large frame dwelling was the second house built on this street after the property associated with the John Dinkle House was subdivided. This house features a plan composed of two intersecting gabled blocks, decorated with shingled gable ends and Stick Style brackets.
-149

*207 (Loren Bryan House): Detached dwelling. Ranch. 1960. Frame (vinyl and permastone); one story; gable roof (metal). This dwelling began as a small, frame cabin, which was moved here from Pure Village, a 1920s motor inn. The cabin has been enlarged with several additions and, because of its fairly haphazard form, this house does not contribute to the historic district.
-150

(See Continuation Sheet #37)

7. DESCRIPTION - Inventory (continued)

Wyant Place (continued)

*209 (Clayton Towers House): Detached dwelling. Ranch. 1956-58. Brick veneer; one story; gable roof (composition); three-bay facade. One of the more recent houses on Wyant Place, the Towers House does not contribute to the character of the historic district.

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8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

of this new road. In 1781, the County appointed James McGill overseer of the stretch of the road between Harrisonburg and the Augusta-Rockingham County line. The crossing at North River was commonly called McGill's Ford at this time, since the McGills owned the land on both sides of the river. John McGill had settled on a 300-acre tract at the site of the present-day town by 1749, and his brother William had located on the south side of the river.[1] However, this community soon became known as more than a river crossing; it became a shipping port as well. With its location at the head of navigation on North River near its confluence with Dry River, Mossy Creek, and Long Glade, local farmers and Miller's Iron Works began to use this port to raft their products to Port Republic, where they were sent to Harper's Ferry and eventually to Alexandria via the Potomac.[2]

It was not until the Dinkle family acquired the property at McGill's Ford that efforts were made to establish a town at this location. Daniel Dinkle first appears in the tax rolls here around 1799-1810. At his death in 1821, his sons Jacob, John, and Frederick had inherited parcels from the Dinkle tract. Jacob and John proved most active in developing this river-front property. By 1810, John Dinkle had established a gristmill, sawmill, and carding machine past the crossing, just above the upstream end of the large island.[3] His brother Jacob also received permission from the County to establish a mill along the river in 1820. Jacob built an inn on the main road, receiving his tavern license in 1820; and the following year, on June 6, he built a bridge over the river at the location of the older crossing.[4] From this point on, the community assumed a new name, being called Dinkle's Bridge, Dinkle Town, or most commonly Bridgeport, recognizing its significance as a bridge crossing and river port.

With the possibility of improving the road into the Harrisonburg-Warm Springs Turnpike in the late 1820s, the Dinkles began to sell lots at Bridgeport, subdividing land on both sides of Route 42 between North River and present-day College Street.[5] An 1828 sale of two lots to Michael Wise states that the property was in a "New Town or rather a New Town laid off and intended for a town, on the north side of the North River, near where the public free bridge crosses the same." Wise purchased two lots, an unimproved lot and a second lot containing "the old buildings formerly occupied by the said John Dinkle as his residence..."[6] The fact that both lots were numbered reveals that the Dinkles had created a town plat by this date. The Dinkles sold several lots in the early 1830s, although the largest number of sales occurred after 1835. Both Dinkles became involved with the turnpike company which was authorized by the Virginia Assembly in 1830. In 1832, they bought stock in the turnpike, and in 1835 they sold land to the Company.[7]

Soon after the completion of the turnpike in 1833, the Virginia Assembly established the town, changing its name to Bridgewater. Passed on February 7, this act included "not more than twenty acres laying on the turnpike road, the property of Jacob and John Dinkle," at a place formerly known as the village of Bridgeport. The

(See Continuation Sheet #39)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

Act acknowledged that some lots, streets, and alleys had already been laid off. North River was listed as the south boundary and a line crossing the turnpike between present-day Dinkle and Green Avenues as the north boundary, making Main Street approximately three-quarter acres long. The Act specified three streets: Liberty Street "to be laid off" and created 20 feet wide; Main Street to be 55 feet wide; and Grove Street to be 20 feet wide, while Center Alley (at the location of present-day College Street) was only to be 12 feet wide. C. E. May lists Water Street as another early street and alleys as Butcher, Cap, and Van Buren. The first five trustees of the town included its originators, John and Jacob Dinkle and Michael Wise, Jesse Hoover, and John Dunmore, all of German descent.[8] By the early nineteenth century, Germans had begun to settle in the central Valley in increasing numbers, particularly in this area.

The Dinkles' sales of lots increased after the formal establishment of the town, continuing through the 1830s and 1840s. As local historian Clarence May argues, the new town was "strategically situated to become a trading center for citizens of southern Rockingham and northern Augusta County."[9] In 1838, the government established a post office in the town, and in 1849, Dinkle's Tavern became a voting place. By 1850, Bridgewater had:

> 2 to 3 gristmills, 2 sawmills, 2 cabinet shops, 2 carpenters, 3 brick-masons, a gunsmith, tailor, shoemaker, harness maker, chairmaker, 2 doctors, a dental surgeon, several general stores, a tavern, the Lantz Hotel, justice of the peace, and two notaries.[10]

The town made several improvements in the 1850s, including adding sidewalks along Main Street and macademizing Main Street in 1855. In 1852, Bridgewater purchased a half-acre lot from Jacob Dinkle at the north end of the town for a town cemetery.[11]

Perhaps the most major change in the 1850s came with the substantial enlargement of the town. Bridgewater annexed "New Town," a stretch of not more than twenty acres on the turnpike north of the original town limits. Officially annexed February 1854, "New Town" stretched from present Green Street to the old North River Road. This addition more than doubled the size of the community and reveals its substantial growth only twenty years after its establishment as a town. To serve this growing community, the town purchased the old Methodist Church in 1855 for use as a new town hall.[12]

Although many of the Civil War battles were fought in the Shenandoah Valley and much destruction was wrought throughout the area, Bridgewater escaped with little major damage. In early October 1864, a small skirmish occurred within the Bridgewater area, but no major battles occurred here.

Like many central Valley towns, Bridgewater grew and prospered after the Civil War. Local historian John Wayland states that Bridgewater, like Harrisonburg, "made so many steps upward" and was experiencing a "moderate boom" as early as 1868.[13] Several

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8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

improved transportation schemes, putting Bridgewater at the heart of both turnpike and railroad routes, were proposed during the 1870s. In 1871, the General Assembly approved charters for two new turnpikes, one from Bridgewater east to the Mt. Crawford Road at the depot on the Valley Railroad and one west to Rawley Springs, but neither was completed. Similarly, four railroads were projected through Bridgewater in the 1870s: the Washington, Cincinnati, and St. Louis Railroad chartered in 1872; the North River Railroad, from Bridgewater to Port Republic, in 1874; The Shenandoah Valley Railroad and Ohio Railroad Company, from Bridgewater to St. Louis, in 1873; and the Harrisonburg, Bridgewater, and West Augusta Railroad, from McGaheysville south through Bridgewater to the C & O, in 1872. Of these four lines, none was completed. However, the WC & SL Railroad did grade its track to Bridgewater, and this was later used for another railroad in 1895.[14] As part of these transportation-related improvements, Bridgewater had two new bridges constructed across North River. In 1870, John W. Woods, a well-known bridge builder from Shenandoah, built a new wooden bridge. Washed away by a flood of 1877, this bridge was replaced by a 240-foot-long covered wood bridge, one of the longest of this type in the Valley.[15]

Bridgewater attracted a large number of commercial and industrial enterprises in the late nineteenth century. The town boasted numerous general merchandise stores, thirteen small craft shops, two livery stables, and two hotels between 1865 and 1880. However, it was its industrial potential that attracted the most attention. Reports in the Rockingham Register in 1882 and 1883 claim that Bridgewater was "establishing quite a reputation as a manufacturing town," with North River supplying water power "sufficient to run a world of machinery." By the late 1870s, Bridgewater boasted several thriving factories located at Natural Falls, upstream from the North River Bridge. The Bridgewater Woolen Mill, organized in 1872, led "all of the towns in the Valley in the manufacture of cloths, cassimeres, satinets, and blankets" by 1878. Bridgewater Manufacturing Company, a foundry and machine shop founded in 1877, produced fertilizers, agricultural implements, and casters, but specialized in steam engine repair. A large buggy and carriage company and Natural Falls Milling Co., which produced one hundred barrels of flour per day, were also flourishing at their location along the Falls. Other major local manufacturing firms included T. P. Humphries Furniture Manufactory, established in 1876, employing twenty-eight men and operating machinery run by a thirty-horsepower engine. With all of these manufacturing plants being opened in the 1870s, the Rockingham Register predicted in 1878, "we have no doubt that she (Bridgewater) is destined to become the great manufacturing town of this Valley."[16] With this business activity, Bridgewater recognized the need for a bank. By 1878 local citizens organized Farmer's Bank and built a bank building ca 1882-83.[17]

The 1880s and 1890s brought more smaller industries to this community, and the larger 1870s companies continued to flourish. Two window sash, door, blind and building outfit companies, two stave and heading mills, and several furniture makers and builders participated in the economic prosperity of these years. Many of these manufacturing enterprises continued well into the twentieth century.[18]

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8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

The discovery of a number of mineral deposits in the Bridgewater vicinity led to a flurry of speculative activity in the 1890s. Coal, gold, silver, iron, lead, and manganese were all found in the hills around Bridgewater.[19] Interest in the potential exploitation of these minerals led to six more attempts to put the railroad through this area, but only one succeeded. The Chesapeake and Western Railroad completed its tracks from Harrisonburg to Bridgewater by 1895 on the grading by the WC and SL Railroad bed.[20] By 1896, the tracks had been completed to Elkton, linking the line to the Norfolk & Western's north-south line through the Valley.

Certainly another key factor in the town's growth in the late nineteenth century was the agricultural prosperity experienced in the surrounding countryside. The North River basin provided excellent farmland, and with improvements in agriculture, local farmers prospered during these years. As early as 1873, thirty-three flouring mills were located within a five-mile radius of Bridgewater.[21] Agricultural products were processed at Miller's Cannery in Bridgewater, which, established in 1888, was one of the first of its kind in the area. In 1874, Bridgewater area farmers organized a Grange Club, a nationwide organization of clubs for farmers and their families.[22] Since the Grange was not particularly active in the Valley, the presence of a club in Bridgewater reveals the more progressive spirit of this local farming community. This community also led the way in organizing the Farmer's Alliance in Virginia, a popular farmers' organization in the 1880s throughout the country. Bridgewater's Col. G. T. Barbee served as the first state president of this organization.

Bridgewater's prosperity in the late nineteenth century led to the expansion of the town's boundaries and the opening of several new streets. An 1877 map reveals that most of the town lots ran along both sides of Main Street, from the river to the old Mt. Crawford road, with only a few houses scattered along Water Street, which ran along the north bank of the river. Although the map shows a number of alleys off Main Street, these had not yet been developed into cross streets. Lake's 1885 map of the town reveals the substantial growth that occurred in the early 1880s. In 1883-84, in a new act of incorporation, Bridgewater extended the town limits to "embrace 100 acres of territory on the southeast side of the town."[23] These new boundaries are shown on the 1885 map. The town council realized the need to spread out beyond the present Main Street settlement. The Rockingham Register of May 25, 1882 reports:

> It is contemplated to spread Bridgewater out by opening several new streets at right angles with Main Street. This will open up many valuable building lots and give the town an impetus such as it has not had for many years. We are constantly hearing of persons who are desirous of coming to Bridgewater to live, but owing to limited available building sites, they have been debared from doing so.

Between 1882 and 1901, the town opened and improved Grace, now Bank Street; East College Street; Cemetery, now Green Street; High Street; Broad, now First Street; and Dinkle Avenue. In addition, Main Street was improved and macademized and sidewalks were constructed on the west side of Main Street, from North River to the old Mt. Crawford Road.[24]

(See Continuation Sheet #42)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

Bridgewater boasted many social and cultural activities during these years, accompanying its economic growth. Several weekly newspapers and monthly magazines were published in town during the late nineteenth century. With the popularity of fraternal organizations in the nineteenth century, town residents had established an Oddfellows Lodge by 1877 (Gray's Atlas) and a Masonic Lodge by the 1860s.[25] In 1900 Bridgewater also had an opera house, baseball team, brass band and numerous other cultural activities.

Educationally, Bridgewater was also a step ahead of the neighboring towns. Besides its public free school, Bridgewater had five private schools operating between 1866 and 1872, and one additional private school was planned but never opened. The Valley Normal School, which opened in 1874, proved to be a pioneer in coeducational education and in teacher training programs in Virginia. The Normal School combined a regular primary and graded school, along with teacher training programs and summer institutes, and assumed a state-wide reputation.[26] Closing in the late 1880s, Valley Normal School was also recognized for its fine classical education.

Certainly the largest and most prominent of these private schools in the late nineteenth century proved to be Bridgewater College. Associated with the Church of the Brethren, Bridgewater College remains a small, private liberal arts college still in operation today. The college had its beginnings in the village of Spring Creek, located several miles southwest of Bridgewater. Here Daniel Flory, a member of the Church of the Brethren, founded Spring Creek Normal School and Collegiate Institute in 1880. By 1882, with the backing of the second Virginia Church District of the Tunker Church, Flory was looking for a more central location for his school. Since Bridgewater had been quite pleased with the Valley Normal School, which brought considerable attention and business to the town, they were anxious to have Flory's new school locate in their community. The school purchased a ten-acre tract from the Mary Brown farm in April 1883 and erected a three-story brick building which they opened early in 1884. The school expanded its curricula to include business, classical, scientific, and normal courses. When the state chartered the school as a four-year liberal arts college in 1889, the name was changed to Bridgewater College. A second building, Stanley Hall, was constructed the following year. After a shaky early period, blighted by a scandal involving its early administrator, the school flourished during the Yount presidency in the first decade of the twentieth century, when five college buildings were constructed.[27] With this solid foundation, Bridgewater College has continued to grow, developing another sizable tract of land on the north side of East College Street in the twentieth century. Still affiliated with the Church of the Brethren, Bridgewater College reflects the German Baptist heritage of many of the town and community's earliest citizens.

The growth of the college and the arrival of the railroad further stimulated Bridgewater's growth at the turn of the century. Between 1900 and 1910, Bridgewater's population grew from 390 to 859 and in 1912 Wayland recorded it at nearly 1,000.[28]

(See Continuation Sheet #43)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Historical Background

Another factor in this increase was Bridgewater's annexation of surrounding land in 1901. The town boundaries were extended to include one hundred acres on the southeast, one hundred acres on the southwest, and one hundred acres on the northeast.[29] Town improvements followed a similar pattern for other Valley towns in the early twentieth century. As early as 1878 a private company piped water from Healing Springs on the south side of North River into town. In 1902, Bridgewater citizens organized a private company to pipe water from Warm Springs to the town hall. The North River Electric Company began supplying Bridgewater College and the town with electric power in late 1904 from a dynamo located at the Bridgewater Roller Mills property in Berlinton. As early as 1881 Bridgewater had oil street lamps, with both Main and Commerce Streets being fully lighted by the following year. Telephone service began in the 1890s, and by 1899 consolidation of several smaller telephone companies permitted calls all over Rockingham County. In 1908 the town was authorized to issue bonds, borrow to establish water works, improve the streets, and establish a sewer. Four years later, Bridgewater passed a major reform law providing for improvements such as sewer, water works, gas, telephone, electric lights, road grading, and a fire department. Even before these measures, Bridgewater had begun to work on its own solutions to these improvements. Meanwhile, the town was making substantial improvements in roads, due to the increased popularity of the automobile, and in the fire protection.[30]

Whereas many of the Valley's rural towns have yielded much of their commercial activity to larger cities, Bridgewater has continued to grow throughout the twentieth century and is currently the largest town in Rockingham County. This current status can be attributed to several factors: the continued popularity of Bridgewater College, the location of small industries and manufacturing plants, substantial residential developments, and a quite progressive community spirit. As the town limits were filled in with residential subdivisions during the mid twentieth century, Bridgewater annexed additional land in the 1960s and is currently eyeing another annexation. The population statistics reveal its continued growth, from 993 residents in 1940; 1,537 in 1950; 1,815 in 1960; and 2,827 in 1970.[31] Much of the more recent development has occurred on the north end of the Main Road beyond the historic district, with several residential developments to the east and west of Main Street. Thankfully, although there have been a few more modern commercial intrusions on Main Street, this older core retains much of its original character. A drive through Bridgewater still clearly highlights its early beginnings, with the turn-of-the-century residential neighborhoods on the cross streets off Main Street providing a buffer between the old portions of Bridgewater and the more modern twentieth-century development.

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(See Continuation Sheet #44)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Footnotes

[1]C. E. May, Life Under Four Flags of Virginia (Verona: McClure Press, 1976), p. 318; "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," pp. 1-3.

[2]May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 318.

[3]John Wayland, A History of Rockingham County (Harrisonburg: C. J. Carrier and Sons, 1972), p. 199; May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 318.

[4]May, "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," p. 3.

[5]Ibid, p. 5.

[6]Rockingham County Deed Book 11, p. 142.

[7]May, "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," pp. 3-4.

[8]_____, Life Under Four Flags, pp. 317-318; Virginia Session Laws 1834-1835, Chapter 190, p. 25, February 7, 1835.

[9]May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 318; Rockingham County Deed Books, 1835-1850.

[10]May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 326.

[11]Ibid, p. 327.

[12]Ibid, p. 323; Virginia Session Laws 1834-1835, Chapter 190, p. 25, February 7, 1835.

[13]Wayland, p. 159.

[14]May, Life Under Four Flags, pp. 461-468.

[15]Wayland, p. 177.

[16]Rockingham Register, 2 May 1878; 16 May 1878; 26 January 1882; 7 June 1883.

[17]Wayland, p. 388.

[18]May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 505.

[19]Ibid, pp. 517-519.

[20]Ibid, pp. 519, 523.

(See Continuation Sheet #45)

8. SIGNIFICANCE - Footnotes (continued)

[21]Wayland, p. 200.

[22]Ibid, p. 373.

[23]Virginia Session Laws 1883-1884, Chapter 19, p. 22.

[24]May, Life Under Four Flags, pp. 525-526.

[25]Ibid, p. 498.

[26]Ibid, pp. 489-495.

[27]Ibid, pp. 508-517; 566-578.

[28]May, "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," p. 8; Wayland, p. 200.

[29]May, Life Under Four Flags, p. 532; Virginia Session Laws 1901, Chapter 265, pp. 297-302.

[30]May, Life Under Four Flags, pp. 594-596, 527.

[31]May, "Historical Sketch of Bridgewater," p. 8.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA -- Verbal Boundary Description & Boundary Justification

SW approx. 200'; thence NW approx. 500' to include Bridgewater Elementary School; thence SW approx. 700' along N side of Liberty St. following rpls of 208-112 N. Main St.; thence Se approx. 1600' following rpls of 102-308 E. College St.; thence SW approx. 200' on 3rd St. to W side of E. College St.; thence Se approx. 700' on W side of E. College St.; thence SW approx. 250'; thence NW approx. 700' to include Yount Hall, Memorial Hall, Founder's Hall, Wards Hall, and Gym, all of Bridgewater College; thence continuing NW approx. 800' following rpls along W side of E. College St. to include 313-205 E. College St.; thence SE approx. 300' following rpls of 114-108 on E side of Wymant Place; thence NW approx. 300'; thence NE approx. 200' crossing E. Bank St.; thence NW approx. 150' along E side of E. Bank St.; thence NE approx. 250' along rpls of 209-205 Wyant Place; thence NW approx. 300' along rpls of 107-105 E. College St. to W side of Liberty Alley; thence SW approx. 800' along said side of Liberty Alley following rpls of 108-220 S. Main St.; thence NW approx. 200' along W side of property line of 220 S. Main St. to a point in S side of S. Main St.; thence SW approx. 200' to E side of North River; thence NW approx. 250' following E river bank to rpl of 303 S. Main St.; thence E approx. 750' on S side of Grove St. following rpls of 303-201 S. Main St.; thence crossing W. Bank St. to E side of said street; thence NW approx. 800' along E side of W. Bank St. to intersection with Dice St.; thence NE approx. 400' following S side of said street to intersection with W. College St.; thence SE approx. 400' following W side of W. College St.; thence NE approx. 200' along W pl of 112 W. College St.; thence SE approx. 50' following rpls of 112-108 W. College St.; thence NE approx. 900' along E side of Gravel Lane following W pls of 210 and 209 W. High St. and extending to NW corner of Town Cemetery; thence SE approx. 500' along W side of Green St., crossing Grove St.; thence NE approx. 900' along E side of Grove St. following rpls of 305-409 N. Main St.; thence SE approx. 150' to N side of N. Main St.; thence NE approx. 300' along N side of N. Main St. to intersection with Mt. Crawford Ave.; thence SE approx. 200' crossing N. Main St. and following E pl of 426 N. Main St. to point of origin.

Boundary Justification: The bounds have been drawn to include that part of Bridgewater largely developed by 1910.

UTM REFERENCES:

I)	17/676580/4249670	J)	17/676500/4249630
K)	17/676440/4249690	L)	17/676380/4250010
M)	17/676440/4250100	N)	17/676790/4250300
O)	17/677150/4250430	P)	17/677240/4250420

USGS 7.5' quadrangle
Bridgewater, VA

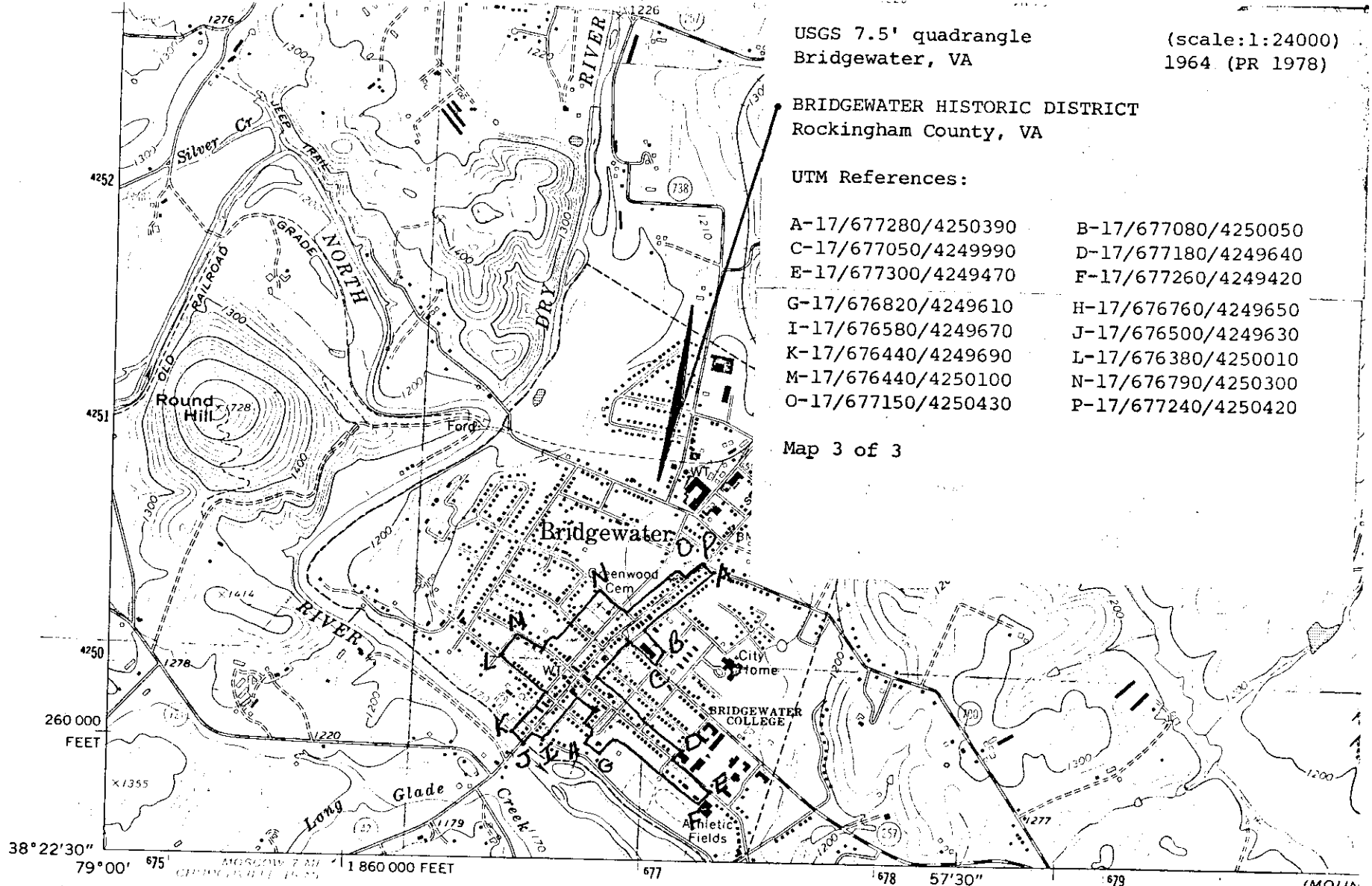
(scale:1:24000)
1964 (PR 1978)

BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Rockingham County, VA

UTM References:

A-17/677280/4250390	B-17/677080/4250050
C-17/677050/4249990	D-17/677180/4249640
E-17/677300/4249470	F-17/677260/4249420
G-17/676820/4249610	H-17/676760/4249650
I-17/676580/4249670	J-17/676500/4249630
K-17/676440/4249690	L-17/676380/4250010
M-17/676440/4250100	N-17/676790/4250300
O-17/677150/4250430	P-17/677240/4250420

Map 3 of 3



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1964

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Virginia coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Comm[illegible] ealth

(PARNASSUS) 5160 I SE

MN GN
6° 107 MILS
1°17' 23 MILS

UTM GRID AND 1978 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

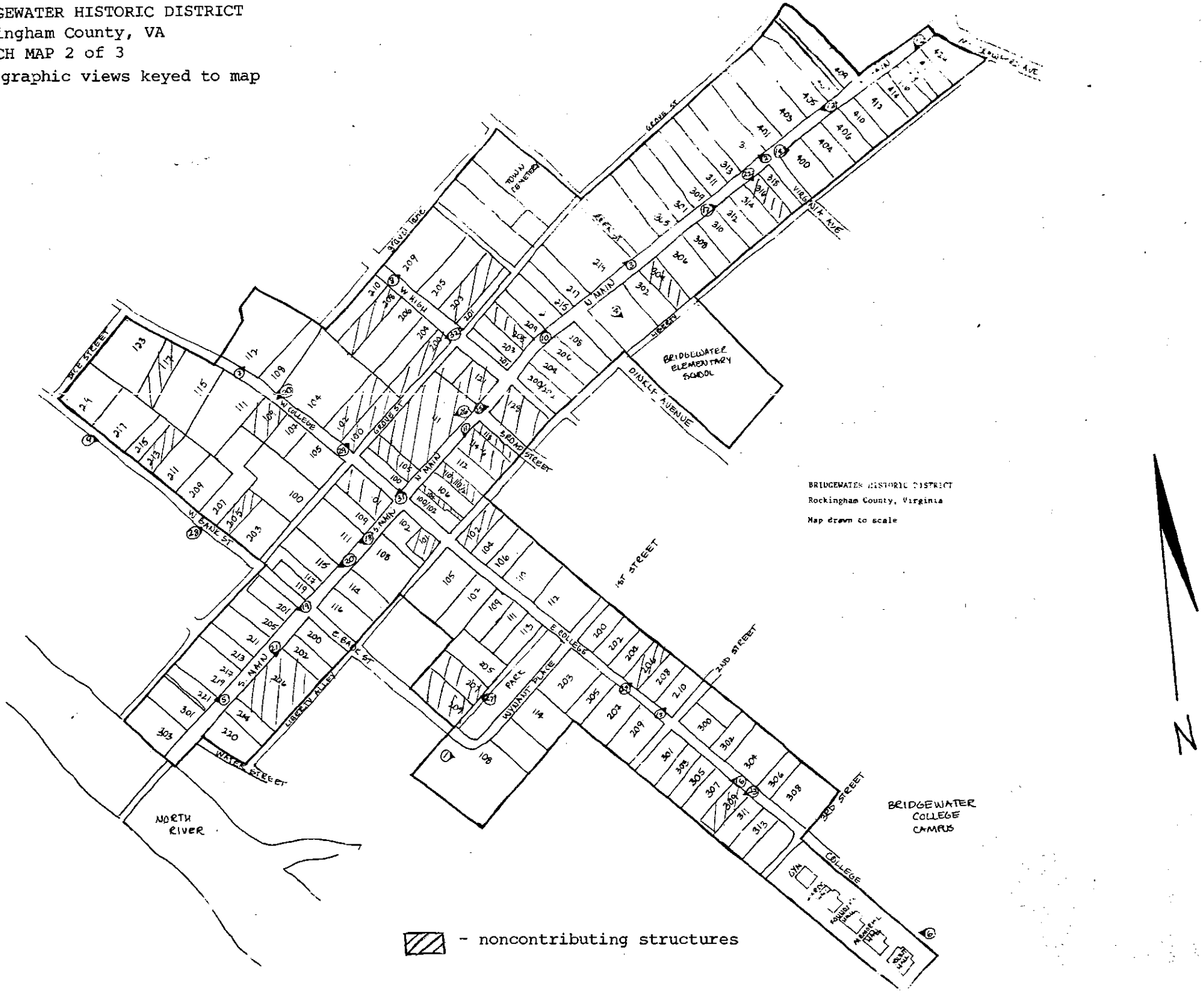
SCALE

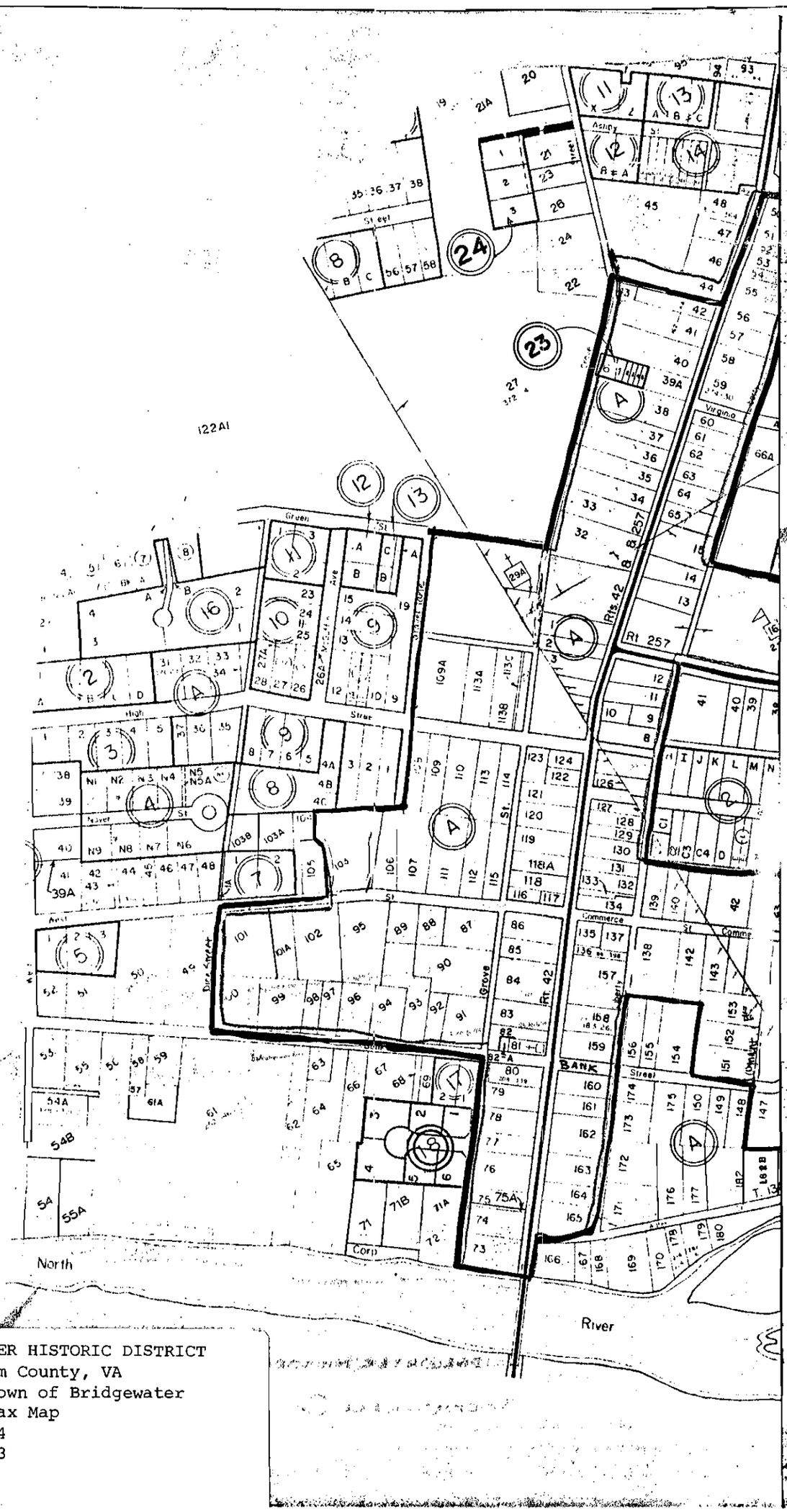
1000 0 1000 2000

CONTOUR IN
DOTTED LINES REPRE
NATIONAL GEODETIC

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NA
F[illegible]CALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICA
AND VIRGI[illegible]IVISION OF MINERAL RE
A FOLDER [illegible]SCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC M[illegible]

BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Rockingham County, VA
SKETCH MAP 2 of 3
Photographic views keyed to map





BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT
Rockingham County, VA
Source: Town of Bridgewater
Tax Map
Date: 1984
Map 1 of 3

BRIDGEWATER HISTORIC DISTRICT

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY