HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURE RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY REPORT

ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

DRAFT

prepared by
FRAZIER ASSOCIATES

for
ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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COUNTY OVERVIEW

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Settlement began in Roanoke County in the mid-18th century, with the first immigration into the Great Valley of Virginia. The earliest settlers were Scots-Irish who came south along the Great Wagon Road, through the Shenandoah Valley and into the Roanoke River Valley. The earliest settlements naturally occurred in the northern areas, including Catawba and the Botetourt Springs/Hollins area. Germans began to settle in Roanoke County in increasing numbers, particularly in the last two decades of the 18th century.

By 1838, Roanoke County was established, with the growing town of Salem as its county seat. Roanoke County had its roots as an agrarian economy, dominated by wheat and later tobacco cultivation and their related industries, milling and tobacco processing. In 1852, the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad completed tracks through Salem and, two years later, to Bristol improving access to eastern markets. By the 1880s, Roanoke had become a major transportation hub for several railroads, particularly when Norfolk and Western Railroad established Roanoke as the major office of its Virginia operations. Between 1880 and 1900, the county and the cities of Roanoke and Salem experienced rapid growth and urbanization. In the twentieth century, the agricultural base has declined with the increased urban growth of Roanoke and Salem, particularly since 1950. Today, the city of Roanoke is the regional center for industry and commerce in southwest Virginia.

PHYSICAL SETTING

Roanoke County is located in the Ridge and Valley province of western Virginia, between what is often called the Valley of Virginia, or the Shenandoah Valley, and southwest Virginia. It is bounded by Botetourt and Craig Counties on the north, Franklin and Bedford Counties on the east, Floyd and Franklin Counties on the south, and Montgomery County on the west. The county contains 248 square miles.

Two mountain ranges flank Roanoke County — the Blue Ridge Mountains to the southeast and the Allegheny Front to the west. The county contains numerous mountains, including Fort Lewis Mountain, 11 miles west of Salem; Poor and Bent Mountains, in the southwest part of the county; and Twelve O'Clock Mountain, near Salem. Green Ridge, Smith Ridge, and Tinker Mountain surround Carvin's Cove, Roanoke City's major source of water.

The Roanoke River, sometimes called the Staunton River, flows eastward across the county into northern North Carolina and the Atlantic Ocean. Tinker Creek is the county's major tributary; others include Mason Creek, Back Creek, and Glade Creek. The county has several smaller creeks, such as Carvin, Cravan, Mud Lick, Wolf, and Peters Creeks.

CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Roanoke County contains two cities within its bounds — Salem and Roanoke. The first major town to develop in Roanoke County was Salem, which was located along the Great Road, a major transportation artery which brought settlers in from the northeast. In June 1802, James Simpson laid out the town's first lots on his newly acquired tract of 31 acres. By 1804, Simpson had sold 38 lots. Two years later, Salem was established as a town, which continued to grow with new lots and increased settlement in the 1810s and 1820s. Martin's Gazetteer of 1834 described the town as containing 70 houses, six stores, three taverns, schools, churches, and a variety of craft shops, including a large saw, carding, and grist mill. Salem was incorporated as a town in 1838, when it became the county seat, and was recognized as the center for business, commerce, and religion in the county. Salem continued to grow with the railroad, becoming the site of many industries in the 20th century. In 1968, Salem became an incorporated city. 1

Roanoke began as a smaller settlement, but boomed with the railroad in the 1880s.

Roanoke had its beginnings in the 1760s as a small agricultural settlement at the Big Lick, so-called for the salt deposits in the vicinity. In 1834, the 68 acre tract owned by William Rowland was subdivided into lots, and soon renamed Gainesborough, after a major investor in the property. Big Lick remained a small agricultural settlement through the mid-19th century, with only 20 dwellings, three churches, several businesses, and a harness manufacture by 1860. The Virginia and Tennessee Railroad completed its tracks through the village of Roanoke in 1852, establishing a depot called Big Lick. During this decade of the 1850s, the town became a center of the tobacco trade, containing three tobacco warehouses which employed 68 men. The town began to grow more quickly, becoming incorporated as the town of Big Lick in 1874.  

The major impetus to Roanoke's growth occurred in 1882, when the Norfolk and Western railroad began its operations to Roanoke and set up their regional headquarters and railroad shops in the town, making this the hub of Virginia's transportation system. Within two years, the population had grown to 5,000 residents, and the number of buildings increased from 119 to 747. Roanoke incorporated as a city in 1884, combining the communities of Old Lick and Big Lick. By 1900, Roanoke had a population of around 22,000. Today, Roanoke is the largest city in southwest Virginia and the business center for the southwest Virginia.

Roanoke County contains several smaller towns, villages, and agricultural settlements that have played an important part in its history. The earliest settlement in the present county area occurred in the Catawba Valley, located in the northwestern part of the county. A "Road up Catawba" was noted as a road or trace by 1750, and was one of the earliest routes from the James to the New River Valley. Permanent settlement of the Catawba Valley occurred largely after the French and Indian War in the 1760s. Catawba became a prosperous agricultural community during the antebellum period. Farmers transported their goods by wagon to Buchanan, where they were sent down the James River. By the 1830s, the town of Springfield had been laid out on the southern end of Catawba Valley. The Roanoke Red Sulphur Springs resort was established by Salem entrepreneurs in 1857. Catawba continued to prosper during the late 19th century, with its popular springs resort and various mining operations. In the early twentieth century, the state purchased the former springs resort and converted the building into the state's first sanitorium. Catawba retains one of the best collections of 19th century buildings in Roanoke County.

The community of Bonsack was settled along one of the first major east-west routes through Roanoke County in the northwestern part of the county. This road, now U.S. Route 460, was first established by the Augusta County Court in 1740 and called the Traders Path. The trail led from Lynchburg to the Big Lick area, bringing people from the Piedmont into the Roanoke Valley. The first people settling in the Bonsack area came in the 1750s, followed by a large group of German Baptists after the Revolutionary War. This community had several names, including Glade Creek and later Stoner's Store, but it acquired the name of Bonsack with the coming of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The Bonsack family, which first acquired land here in 1818, donated the land for the depot, which was constructed in 1852. The Bonsacks established a prosperous woolen mill (1822), flour mill, and later a Cigarette-Rolling Machine Company (1882), where James Bonsack created the Bonsack Cigarette Machine, patented in 1883.

The community of Cave Spring was settled in the early 19th century southwest of Roanoke, off U.S. Route 221. The name came from its large spring, which made this location a popular camping place for Indians and later for farmers hauling goods from Bent Mountain and Franklin and Floyd Counties. By the 1850s, with three stores and a blacksmith shop, Cave Spring had become an important local trading center. After the Civil War, the Richardson

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2Kagey, pp. 60, 111-2.


family ran a productive flour mill here and assembled grain cradles. By 1885, Cave Hill boasted three stores, three grist mills, and two saw mills. The agrarian character of this community disappeared between 1960 and 1980, when Cave Hill became a suburban development of Roanoke.  

The Hollins community, known in the 19th century as Botetourt Springs, was a prosperous agricultural area during the late 18th and early 19th century. Often called the North County, this area is located in the northeast part of the county, between the major north-south travel route (now U.S. Route 11) and the east-west Traders Road (now U.S. Route 460). Some of the first settlements in the county occurred here, due to its strategic location along these early travel arteries. Settlement began in the late 18th century, with the largest landowner being Robert Breckenridge from Augusta County. German settlers soon came along in the early 19th century. About 1820, Charles Johnston began to promote visitation to Botetourt Springs to experience their curing powers. Johnson established a resort, including a hotel and cottages, on the site of present-day Hollins College. Several owners tried to keep the resort business going after his death in 1833, but the property was finally sold in 1839. That same year, Charles' nephew, Edward Johnson, established the Roanoke Female Seminary on this site. 

In 1871, Botetourt Springs boasted two stores, a grist mill, cooper, physician, and four small craft shops. The 1884 Gazateer listed a coach and wagon builder, distiller, florist, and saw mill, along with the flour mill. Its female seminary was renamed Hollins College in the late 19th century after Lynchburg donors, and continued to grow. Hollins College still operates as a successful women's college. The accessibility of the Hollins community to modern transportation routes has continued its development into a major commercial strip in the late 20th century. 

Starkey is a small village located along a major east-west road, now U.S. Route 220, heading southwest out of Roanoke. In the early 19th century, Lewis Harvey built an iron furnace on the bank of Back Creek and mined brown hematite ore. The small village was not named until the Roanoke and Southern Railroad came through in the early 1890s, connecting to the Norfolk and Western Railroad. A railroad station was built and named after Taswell Starkey, who owned most of the property in this area. A store, stationmaster's house, and several residences were constructed at that time. Starkey became an important and very busy local shipping center for area farmers from Back Creek, Cafe Spring, and Bent Mountain in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Farmers brought their fruit to a barrel factory near the depot, where it was packed and sent to nearby markets and to Winston-Salem and other southern locations. Starkey declined with the paving of the public roads and improved market access to Roanoke. 

The town of Vinton had its beginnings as the Gish's Mill. David Gish, one of many Germans settling in Roanoke County after the Revolutionary War, settled on Glade Creek, east of Roanoke in 1795 and built two mills. The hamlet that developed around these mills was called Gish's Mill. Gish opened a general store after the tracks of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad were laid through the area and the depot was established in 1852. By 1870, Gish's Mill also had a boot and shoe maker and a harness maker. The 1884 Gazateer reported the presence of three stores; three flour mills, two of which had saw mills; two tanners; and a stove and tinware manufacturer. Gish's Mill boomed with the railroad, which ran through its southern bounds. The population grew from 96 in 1880 to 584 in 1884, with many of these residents being workers employed by the Norfolk and Western Shops and the Crozier Furnace. In 1884, the town incorporated as Vinton. Roanoke's growth prompted speculation in Vinton, which by 1890 was linked with Roanoke by the steam railroad. 

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5Kagey, pp. 307-310.
6Kagey, pp. 333-342.
7Kagey, pp. 231-6.
8Kagey, pp. 155-167.
9Kagey, pp. 310-1.
10Kagey, pp. 365-271.
The village of Kingstown was established in the 1870s by several former slaves who bought land in the North County area along present day Thirland Road, just outside the northern boundary of Roanoke City. This black community was named after Joe King, who bought the largest tract of land, consisting of 19 acres. The settlement remained small in the 1870s and 1880s, with a few houses, one church, a school and a store. The first church congregation had separated from Enon Baptist Church, located near Hollins College, in 1869 to start a church near their homes. The original church building, known as the Tabernacle, burned in 1909 and was replaced that same year by a new building and renamed the Ebenezer Baptist Church. The one-room schoolhouse, built in 1885 and in use until 1940, still stands. A number of late 19th century dwellings survive, interspersed with early 20th century dwellings. Several of the original families still have descendants living in the community.

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11Kagey, pp. 375-6.
12Kagey, p. 378.
SURVEY METHODOLOGY

BACKGROUND TO SURVEY

Roanoke County residents have long been interested in the history of their community. In the 1980s, two new histories were written about the county and its architecture. In 1982, W. L. Whitwell, Associate Professor of Art at Hollins College, and Lee W. Winborne, a resident of Roanoke, prepared one of the first architectural studies of Roanoke county. Titled The Architectural Heritage of the Roanoke Valley, this book surveys the architecture of the county and the cities of Roanoke and Salem, ranging from agricultural buildings to city storefronts. With the county's 150 year celebration of its founding, the Roanoke County Sesquicentennial Committee commissioned Deedie Kagey to write a history of Roanoke County, from its first settlement to the future. This volume, entitled When Past is Prologue: A History of Roanoke County, published in 1988, provided a valuable and complete history of the county. This effort was underwritten and marketed by the Sesquicentennial Committee.

Roanoke County's historic preservation efforts were boosted by the establishment of two important organizations in Roanoke. In February 1989, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) located its first regional preservation office in Roanoke, staffed by a director, architectural historian, and archaeologist. The goal of the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office (RRPO) is to provide preservation services to a ten-county region in southwest Virginia, an area located far from the Richmond VDHR office.

In March of 1988, local residents organized the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation to encourage local preservation efforts within the Valley. Throughout its history, this organization has worked closely with the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office. This organization has participated in a variety of preservation activities in Roanoke city, including helping to purchase four historic commercial buildings on Campbell Avenue, to compile information for a National Register nomination for Roanoke First Baptist Church and to administer a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to fund a Viewshed Analysis in the Bellmont-Monterey Rural Historic District. This project led to a long-range plan of the historic Tinker Creek corridor which will identify recreational and tourism opportunities.

In May 1990, the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office and the RVPF proposed that Roanoke County consider an architectural survey of its historic properties. In their letter to the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors, these organizations listed their reasons for the survey:

1. Roanoke County had Only 76 properties recorded in the VDHR's survey;
2. An architectural survey of Roanoke County would be a useful planning tool, leading to objective evaluation of the significance of the county properties and providing preservation priorities to update the comprehensive plan.
3. The survey would promote civic pride and heritage education.

The County Board of Supervisors approved the expenditure of up to $20,000 in cash and in-kind services to be used to match grant funds by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The Board recognized that the survey information would identify important properties and provide guidance in planning for their best use and protection. In late 1990, the VDHR provided a $20,000 Survey and Protection Award to match Roanoke County's commitment to fund an architectural survey.

The Roanoke County Department of Planning and Zoning administered the survey grant. Jonathan Hartley, planner, served as the project director. In January 1991, Roanoke County contracted with Frazier Associates of Staunton, Virginia to conduct the survey of Roanoke County. Hartley organized a group of local citizens who were interested in and knowledgable about the county's historic resources to serve on a Historic Preservation Advisory Committee to provide direction and oversight throughout the survey.
SURVEY OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the grant project was to complete the survey of Roanoke County, excluding the Catawba Valley, which had been recently surveyed by the RRFO. The survey area did not include the present cities of Roanoke and Salem or the town of Vinton. These two urban areas were once part of the county and do contain numerous significant resources for Roanoke County history.

The objectives of the Roanoke County survey were to:

1. Complete individual survey reports for:
   a. All pre-Civil War buildings and structures.
   b. Outstanding examples of cultural resources built after 1861, to include buildings, structures, site and landscapes each of which should be related to one or more of the DHR historic themes.

2. Complete intensive survey forms and documentation of a representative range of domestic interiors, to include floor plans, on the DHR Intensive Survey Forms.

3. To provide photographic coverage and an intensive survey form for villages or potential historic districts.

4. To include U.S.G.S. map locations for all sites.

5. (OPTIONAL) To identify all pre-1940 buildings on U.S.G.S. maps through map code data.

At the commencement of the survey, the VDHR had ten identified ten historic themes around which the historic contexts and survey would be organized -- domestic, agriculture, government/law/political, education, military, religion, social, transportation/communication, industry/processing/extraction, and commerce/trade. During the course of the Roanoke County survey, the VDHR added eight additional themes -- health care/medicine, recreation/arts, landscape, funerary, ethnicity/immigration, settlement patterns, architecture/landscape architecture/community planning, and technology/engineering.

SURVEY METHODS AND RESEARCH DESIGN

Frazier Associates began the research phase of the survey project by talking with members of the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee to gather appropriate research materials. Deedie Kagey's new book on Roanoke County history provided the basis for much of the historical context. Additional research was conducted at the Roanoke County and City libraries, the Virginia State Library, University of Virginia Library, and the county courthouse in Salem. The completed historical context discusses the history of Roanoke County organized by the eighteen historic themes outlined by VDHR.

Prior to beginning the survey, Frazier Associates reviewed all the previous survey reports compiled for Roanoke County. These files included those compiled by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, housed in its Richmond office and early survey forms and reports prepared by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in the 1930s.

At the time, Roanoke County had only two properties on the National Register, the Hollins College Quadrangle and the Old Tombstone (Denton Monument). By 1991, two additional areas had been determined National Register eligible -- the Catawba Rural Historic District and the Crystal Creek Drive Historic District. Frazier Associates reviewed both of the Preliminary Information Requests filed by the Roanoke Regional Preservation office for these areas. Within the past year, the Harshbarger House has also been determined eligible for the National Register.

During the field work phase, Frazier Associates' surveyors traveled throughout the survey area, along every accessible highway, road, and private driveway, to review and identify all structures specified in the survey objectives. This involved the United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) quadrangle maps of Bent Mountain, Catawba, Roanoke, Check, Stewartsville, Garden City, Hardy, Elliston, Glenvar, and Salem.
The surveyors recorded every structure that met the established criteria on a VHDR-provided survey form according to the reconnaissance survey methodology recorded in the VDHR Survey Guide. Since the new computerized Integrated Preservation Software (IPS) form had not been completed, Frazier Associates utilized a five-page draft architectural survey form provided by the VDHR. The intentions to computerize the survey at the start did not materialize due to the lag time in software development and refinement. The surveyors took two sets of photographs of each structure, with one set for Roanoke County and one set for the VDHR. All surveyed properties were mapped according to VDHR standards. Frazier Associates surveyed 410 properties at the reconnaissance level.

When the reconnaissance survey had been completed, Frazier Associates met with the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee to determine which properties should be surveyed at an intensive level. The meeting participants identified 311 properties. The intensive survey of these properties included an interior inspection and photographs and more complete architectural description and analysis of the property.

In the course of the survey, Frazier Associates updated the VDHL survey for several properties, primarily those that had been recorded through the Historic American Buildings Survey in the late 1950s. The survey data from many of these files was sketchy and out-dated. Frazier Associates took new photographs and completed survey forms for many of these properties. Several were later selected for intensive survey, and have received more thorough evaluation. Some of these HABS-recorded properties are no longer standing.

Frazier Associates identified other more recent vernacular residences, up to ca. 1940, on the U.S.G.S. quadrangle maps, as suggested by the Roanoke County Planning Office. This mapping process recorded 384 early-twentieth-century properties, such as Bungalows, American Foursquares, and other more recent vernacular residences for future survey potential.
SUMMARY OF SURVEY FINDINGS

The Roanoke County survey recorded a total of 410 structures. Of these, 379 historic sites were surveyed at the reconnaissance level and 31 at the intensive level. Both types of survey utilized the same draft form, an interim survey form provided by the VDHR. The following summary and analysis is limited to sites involved in this survey, and excludes sites already on the National Register of Historic Places and those determined to be eligible, including the Catawba Valley.

The most common building type documented in the survey area is the single-family dwelling (82%). Roanoke County's domestic architecture is predominantly rural and vernacular, reflecting its traditional agrarian culture character. All other resource types are less than 5% or less of the total surveyed structures, including churches (5%), schools (3%), Hollins campus structures (3%), stores (2%), and multi-dwellings (1%). The "Other" category on the buildings types table refers largely to bridges and cemeteries, comprising 4% of the survey data.

The county survey did not identify any resources dating to the 18th century. Many of the homes built by the first generations of settlers in this area would have been small, not very substantial wooden dwellings, and would have been replaced by better houses as soon as possible. Even in the earlier settled area of the Catawba Valley, no 18th century structures have yet been found.

The first wave of more permanent building activity occurred during the early 19th century, from which a small group of larger, more pretentious dwellings survive in the survey area. The survey recorded fifteen brick dwellings with Federal style detailing, built by some of the more wealthy landowners in Roanoke County. Only a small number of log hall-parlor houses survive from this period, unlike the Catawba Valley, where the majority of antebellum dwellings are of this type.

More structures survive from the mid-19th century, including 12% of the surveyed resources. This period witnessed a prospering agricultural economy and the initial construction of the railroad through the county. The majority of the surviving buildings are brick central-passage dwellings built by more affluent farmers, including a four stylish Greek Revival farmhouses. Smaller houses begin to survive in greater number, reflecting the traditional hall-parlor plan still largely built of logs.

The majority of the surveyed buildings date to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, totalling 23% and 61% respectively. This period witnessed a greater variety in house plans and styles, from vernacular forms through popular designs. The most common plans remained the I-house and the two-room plan. By this period, the I-house usually had a rear ell, from one to two rooms, and often added decoration, such as a front gable, more elaborate porch, and sometimes other stylistic detail. Two-room hall-parlor plans provided a smaller house type, still constructed with logs but increasingly of the frame construction. Another plan type surviving from the mid-19th century was the central passage/double pile houses, sometimes decorated in the Greek Revival style.

The railroad boom of the turn-of-the-century stimulated the construction of more stylish houses, particularly in the cities of Salem and Roanoke. Six examples of the Queen Anne and 15 of the Colonial Revival style were built in the county. The influence of popular styles on county architecture can be found more in the decoration of vernacular forms, particularly I-houses and a variety of small frame cottages. Of the decorated I-houses surveyed, 38 had a central gable and 12 had other types of applied decoration. The survey recorded 13 small "Victorian" cottages. The three-room "L" shaped plan and the four-room "T" plan, popular during the first few decades of the 20th century, reflected the increased interest in more irregular massing.

From the early 20th century, Roanoke County has a substantial heritage of Bungalows and Foursquare houses. The survey recorded a sample of twelve of each of these building
types, selected because of their unusual location, material, or size. Roanoke County retains a significant group of early 20th century rustic cabins, built as weekend or vacation homes, and, occasionally, as permanent country residences. These are most often of log construction, sometimes stone, and reflect a nostalgia for the 18th and 19th century vernacular forms.

Overall, the county's forms remain quite vernacular. By far the most common plan surveyed in the county is the central passage/single pile house, or I-house, which comprise 131 dwellings or 32% of the surveyed resources.

Frame construction was the most common building technology documented in the survey, associated with 62% of the structures. Of the surveyed examples, most were covered with historic cladding materials, including weatherboarding (30%), German siding (10%) or, to a lesser extent, board and batten (2%). Many frame buildings have been covered with recent siding materials, including artificial siding (12%), asphalt shingles, (4%) or asbestos (4%) shingles. The next most popular building construction technique is log construction, with 18% of the surveyed structures. The majority of the log structures are the early 20th century weekend homes, with a smaller number being 19th century vernacular buildings. Masonry structures comprise 18% of the surveyed buildings, including 14% brick and 2% stone. The brick houses date largely to the 19th century, but many of the stone dwellings include the rural weekend cabins built early in the 20th century.

Most of Roanoke County's structures (59%) have had minor exterior changes which do not drastically alter the appearance of the building. These changes include rear additions and enclosed, remodeled, or replaced porches. A smaller number (29%) of the buildings retain their original form. Of the surveyed structures, 15% have experienced major alterations, including heavily altered facades or large additions to the front or the side. This last category includes several older houses that were later incorporated into a larger dwelling.

Many of the county's houses were built within a farm complex. With increasing development pressures and the decline in agricultural productivity, few of these farm properties are still be used for their original purposes. Consequently, many farm buildings and outbuildings have deteriorated or have been razed. Good, intact collections of farm outbuildings in Roanoke County are now rare. Of the surviving farm buildings, barns are most common, with 113 still standing. Other building types remaining on county farms include garages (73), spring houses (30), smokehouses (16), pump houses (13), and corncribs (13). Outbuildings that survive in smaller numbers include tenant houses, machinery buildings, detached kitchens, and a few buildings speculated to have been slave houses.

Most of the historic structures (48%) remain in a rural setting. This includes numerous rustic weekend and vacation homes that built in scenic rural areas, situated on wooded lots in picturesque hollows and along creek and river beds. In recent years, new development, such as widened highways, modern subdivisions, or commercial development, has surrounded some of the county's historic properties. Sometimes, the farmland associated with an older farm house has been sold for development, either residential or commercial. Three percent of the historic structures are now situated in modern commercial districts. Twenty percent of the other surveyed structures are in rural neighborhoods consisting of small lots, surrounded by similarly sized buildings. About 14% of the structures are in suburban neighborhoods. The survey recorded 16 structures in the Hollins College neighborhood, since there has been interest in expanding the Hollins College Historic District.
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HISTORIC CONTEXT AND ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

ETHNICITY/IMMIGRATION

Historic Context

At the time of European settlement, Native Americans used the Roanoke Valley, and the Great Valley of Virginia, primarily as a hunting ground. Archaeological sites have been documented in Roanoke County from the entire span of human occupation in this Virginia "subregion," from Paleoindian times through Archaic and into the Woodland periods. Native Americans would have been attracted by the salt licks in the region, as well as by the fertile land and the presence of deer and buffalo. 13

The first permanent Indian settlement in the Roanoke County area occurred during the late Woodland Period (800 to 1650 AD), when horticulture became an important part of Native American culture. The Native Americans in this region began to grow maize, beans, squash, and other vegetables and to establish semi-permanent villages of between 50 and 500 people. A number of late Woodland sites have been recorded in Roanoke County, the most significant being the Buzzard Rock site, along the Roanoke River in Roanoke, and the Thomas/Sawyers site, along the Dan River. Early historical explorations report encountering "Totero Town," a settlement established by the Tutelo Indians, in a presently-unidentified area near Roanoke, possibly near Radford or in Patrick County. Clearings within the present day Roanoke area suggest the presence of Native Americans, probably providing forage for their herds.14

The first European exploration into the Roanoke County area occurred in 1671. Governor Berkley asked Colonel Abraham Wood, at Fort Henry, to explore the western lands, marking the beginning of explorations into western Virginia. In 1672, Colonel Wood sent Thomas Batts, Robert Fallam, and Thomas Wood from Fort Henry to explore to the south and west. After five days, they reached "the falls of the Roanoke at the junctions of the Dan and the Staunton." 15 Evidence at the Graham-White archaeological site in south Salem uncovered numerous European trade goods, ca. 1650-1670, suggesting that European traders may have been through prior to 1671. 16

The first permanent settlers in western Virginia began to arrive in the 1720s, reaching the Roanoke County area in the 1740s. Settlers arrived by trails, usually those used by the Indians in their travel through western Virginia, or sometimes along waterways, including the Catawba Creek and the Roanoke River. 17 Two major trails led into the Roanoke area. The first led southwest from Pennsylvania to the Yadkin Valley of North Carolina, known as the Carolina Trail; this route follows approximately the location of Routes 11 and 200. The second trail, running east-west, was called the Great Road or the Traders Path, parallel to present Route 460.18

The earliest settlers to come to Roanoke County were the Scots-Irish, or Ulster-Scots as they were known in the 18th century.19 They left Ireland, primarily the province of Ulster, beginning in 1707, looking for greater economic, political and religious freedoms in America. The availability of free lands lured these Ulster-Scots, who could only lease, but not buy, land in their native Ireland. Approximately 250,000 Scots-Irish came to America during the 18th century. 20

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13 Michael Barber, and Mattern and Craig, In, "Cultural Resources Survey for Proposed Widening and Realignment to 2nd Street/Gainsboro road and Wells Avenue, City of Roanoke, Virginia," p. 9.
The Scots-Irish came first to Philadelphia, settling inland in the southeastern region of Pennsylvania. As land became less available and more expensive, the Scots-Irish moved further westward, coming down into the Great Valley of Virginia. William Beverly encouraged many Scots-Irish to settle in now-Augusta County after he acquired his large land grant in 1736. As land became available in Roanoke County, beginning with the 1739 "Roanoke Grant" along the James and Roanoke Rivers, settlers began to move into present-day Roanoke County.

One of the purposes of these land grants, from the perspective of the Virginia government, was to create a barrier between the French and Indians and the Tidewater settlements. Consequently, land grants often carried restrictions that the owners of each grant cultivate three or more acres within three years of receiving the tract. Another type of land patent gave up to four hundred acres to a settler who would build a cabin on the land and grow any type of grain. Some of the earliest land grants in Roanoke County included 300 acres in Catawba to James McAfee in 1740, 150 acres along Carvin Creek to William Carvin in 1746, and 400 acres in present day Salem to Flinloc (or Finla) McClure in 1746. The Scots-Irish who settled in the Roanoke County area during these early years cleared the densely forested land and established small farms.

As more settlers moved into the area, a number of Scotch-Irish sold their farmlands to Germans and moved further west.

German immigration to America began in greater numbers during the 18th century. These immigrants came largely from the Rhineland-Palatinate region of Germany, which, in the 18th century, included parts of Hesse, the Alsace, and German-speaking Switzerland. The Germans emigrants suffered from poor economic conditions in the Palatinate, due to continued wars and a depressed agricultural economy. Many sought religious freedom as well. German immigrants came in through the port of Philadelphia, settling first in southeastern Pennsylvania. Like the Scots-Irish, they too began to move further west as farm land became less available and more expensive, traveling into the Great Valley of Virginia.

The first German settlements in the Great Valley of Virginia occurred in the northern, or upper part of the Valley, in Frederick, Page, and Shenandoah Counties. Germans moved into western Virginia in greater numbers after the Revolutionary War, often taking over lands first settled by Irish immigrants who were now moving further west. Germans often settled in tight communities, where they spoke their native language until well into the 19th century. The Germans were often considered excellent farmers, taking advantage of the region's rich farmlands.

English settlers from Tidewater Virginia began to move into the Roanoke Valley after the Revolutionary War. Many of these "gentlemen" farmers acquired large tracts of land, including John Howard and Fleming James in the Bonsack area, Edward Watts in northern Roanoke County, George Tayloe in the southeast part of present Roanoke city, and Nathaniel Burwell in the present day city of Salem.

The Tidewater English gentry brought black slaves with them to Roanoke County to cultivate their new properties. George Tayloe, a fifth generation Tidewater Virginian, had settled in Roanoke County in the 1820s to run the iron furnace his family owned at Cloverdale. By 1830, he owned 136 slaves who worked at the iron furnace. In the 1850s, Tayloe had sixty slaves to farm his rich bottom land

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22Kagey, p. 39.
24Kagey, p. 21.
SLAVE HOUSE

PLEASANT GROVE
(80-25)
4377 W. Main Street
along the Roanoke River. His ten slave families lived in four slave houses in 1860.\textsuperscript{25}

In 1838, Roanoke County's population was approximately 5,000 people, of which 1,500 were black. By 1860, the county had 2,643 slaves, comprising 33% of the county's total population. The 155 freed blacks in the county in 1860 worked primarily as tenant farmers or field or mill laborers.\textsuperscript{26} After the Civil War and with the arrival of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, many blacks moved into the city of Roanoke for better paying jobs. Some stayed in the rural areas, establishing small black communities such as that at Kingstown.

Surveyed Resources

The vernacular architecture of western Virginia displays a variety of ethnic building forms and technologies associated with the early settlers to the region. These ethnic influences are strongest in the earlier settled areas, particularly the northern Shenandoah Valley.

The architecture of Roanoke County displays Scots-Irish and German cultural influences. The Scots-Irish traditions appear in the plan and form of domestic buildings, particularly the two-room, hall-parlor plan. No German or continental European house plans were indentified in the survey area. However, many settlers, well into the 19th century, built with log construction popular in continental Europe. Other building forms attributed to German-speaking peoples found in the county are the rectangular outbuilding with the projecting roofs and the double-pen log bank barn.

Since very little 18th century architecture survives, it is difficult to document the strength of these ethnic traditions in the first generations of settlement. The surveyed examples reveal which characteristics and building forms remained in the local vernacular building vocabulary during the 19th century.

SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

Historical Context

The earliest settlements in the region occurred along the major travel routes through in the area. Since many settlers traveled south from the Shenandoah Valley in the Roanoke Valley, the northern part of the county was settled first. The earliest settlements occurred in the Hollins/Botetourt Springs area, along the Carolina Road, and Catawba, along the road to the New River Valley. The Catawba Valley still retains the best collection of antebellum buildings within the County. The majority of the land owners in the Roanoke Valley in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries owned tracts of two to three hundred acres.\textsuperscript{27} As settlement spread southward in the late 18th and early 19th century, small crossroads communities, such as Bonsack and Cave Spring evolved along the major roads to provide services to the growing population.

Antebellum crossroads communities typically grew around mills or stores, often incorporating churches, taverns, and a variety of crafts shops such as blacksmiths, tinsmiths, and cabinetmakers. The largest of these settlements was Salem, which became incorporated as a town and was recognized as the county seat in 1838. Roanoke County's predominantly rural settlement pattern, with small crossroads communities, continued through the antebellum period.

After the Civil War, small rural black communities developed throughout western Virginia. In Roanoke County, the community of Kingstown was established by former slaves who purchased small amounts of land. These communities usually featured a church and school and sometimes small merchantile operations or craft shops.

The opening of the Norfolk and Western Railroad in 1882 accelerated urbanization in


\textsuperscript{26}"Our Colored People," \textit{WPA Historical Inventory, Federal Writers' Project}, (Roanoke, Va.: Stone Printing Company, 1941), p. 256.

\textsuperscript{27}Kagey, p. 21.
Roanoke County. The railroad created more jobs, some directly related to the railroad and others due to increased accessibility to the Roanoke region. In 1840, Roanoke had a population of 5,499 residents, of whom 1,553 were slaves. By 1900, the county's population had grown to 15,837.

Several of the county's towns grew rapidly due to the railroad, particularly Roanoke where Norfolk and Western established its headquarters and regional shops in 1882. Salem's population grew from 612 in 1860 to 3,279 by 1890, but even this growth paled in comparison to Roanoke city's boom. The crossroads community of Gish's Mill, located along the railroad, grew from 96 in 1880 to 1,057 ten years later. Other settlements like Starkey benefited from the improved transportation links provided by the railroad, developing a prosperous business in marketing orchard products to larger cities and urban communities.

With its improved transportation networks, Roanoke County continued to prosper throughout the twentieth century. Agricultural production remained a major source of income for many, but this production declined as valuable farmland was consumed by urban and suburban development. After the Civil War, in 1870, Roanoke farmers cultivated 74,788 acres of improved farmlands. The amount of cultivated land grew to 100,000 by 1950, and then began to decline. By 1969, the farm acreage had decreased to 47,236 acres, only 24% of the county's land. Roanoke County's 69% decline in the amount of farm land between 1950 and 1969 reflects a state-wide trend of 73% during that same period. In 1985, the most productive agricultural areas in the county were the Catawba Valley, devoted to cattle and dairy farming; the Bent Mountain area, with poultry, orchards, and truck farming; and the Poage's Mill area along Back Creek, with cattle, hay, dairying and poultry.

Much of this loss of agricultural land has been attributed to the growth of Roanoke and Salem, which increased 68% between 1950 and 1969, from 133,407 to 195,147 people. These cities have annexed and developed land in the central portion of the Roanoke Valley, where a significant portion of the farmland was once located.

Surveyed Resources

The earliest buildings recorded in the survey area were generally located within the northern part of the county and along the early travel routes through the county. The majority of these buildings were tied in with the agricultural economy of the region throughout the 19th century. The survey includes largely farm complexes - houses, barns, and outbuildings - located near rivers and creeks and on good farmland. In many cases, since these complexes are no longer being used for agriculture, the outbuildings and barns have either been removed or have fallen into disuse. Dwellings are discussed under the category of Residential/Domestic and the farm buildings and outbuildings under the Agriculture theme.

The survey documented many buildings within the small county villages and communities. The majority of the buildings surviving in these communities are dwellings dating to the 19th and 20th century. These rural communities have now lost many of their commerce and trade functions to the towns and cities, so the buildings associated with these activities have either been removed altered, or razed. The most actively used public buildings within these villages are churches, discussed under the Religion theme. Although many of these towns boomed with the railroad, no railroad depots were found in the survey area.

RESIDENTIAL AND DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE

Historical Context

The majority of the domestic buildings in Roanoke County were situated on farms or in

28Kagey, p. 297.
29Kagey, pp. 746-7.
30County of Roanoke, "Roanoke County Agricultural and Rural Community Analysis," (June, 1985), pp. 17-8.
31"Roanoke County Agricultural and Rural Community Analysis," p. 4.
small country villages. The early settlers drew upon their familiar cultural heritage of building forms and technology, establishing vernacular forms which lasted, in some cases, through the early 20th century.

As with other areas in western Virginia, the earliest houses in Roanoke County were relatively simple, one- or two-room houses, reminiscent of those found in Ireland and England. Of these, the most common was a rectangular plan, one or one-and-a-half-stories high, with an end chimney and central front door. Vernacular architecture students often associate this plan with the Scots-Irish, who had been building houses with similar plans in 17th and 18th century Ulster. Unlike the stone or turf construction found in Ireland, Scots-Irish settlers adopted the log construction brought to America and western Virginia by their neighbors, German-speaking people from central Europe. The resulting house becomes in many ways a blend of old world traditions, both British and German.

This form could be adapted into one and two room plans. The two room version resembled the hall-parlor plan found in Britain, with the front door leading into the larger, heated "hall," or family living area. A door from the hall led into the smaller "parlor," usually used as a sleeping area for the parents. The interior of the houses was entirely whitewashed, creating an appearance similar to dwellings found in both Ireland and Germany. A boxed in staircase, usually in the corner, led to the loft, which contained a storage area and sleeping space for the children. This plan is so common in the Appalachian region that that folklorist Henry Glassie has called this the "typical Southern mountain cabin."32

Roanoke County contains many examples of this building type. In the county, these are typically built of V-notched log construction, with stone foundations and chimney, and usually one- and-one-half stories high. Most local examples were covered with siding, which was typical in western Virginia. Many had interior sheathing covering the log walls.33 Roanoke County examples range in size from 10 feet by 15 feet to 21 feet by 28 feet.34 In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, this plan continued to be popular for small homes, but these were increasingly built of frame construction. As family needs changed, residents enlarged these houses through ells, lean-tos, and front porches.35

By the middle of the nineteenth century, a new form had become popular in Roanoke County – the I-house. This plan type was so named by geographer Fred Kniffen in the 1930s because he first found the plan commonly in states whose names began with I, such as Indiana, Iowa, and Illinois.36 An "I-house" is a single pile, two-story building, rectangular in shape, typically with chimneys on each end or later with chimneys on the inside walls. Its most distinctive, and revolutionary, characteristic was a central passage, which provided more formal access to the rooms on each side. Many of the earliest surviving I-houses are built of masonry or log, but by the late 19th and early 20th century, most county I-houses were built of frame construction. This I-house plan proved to be the most common plan in the survey area, with 131 examples recorded.

As the 19th century progressed, some prosperous county residents built farmhouses with a full-Georgian plan, a double-pile central passage plan with two rooms on each side. Most county examples were two stories high. One of the best examples of this plan in Roanoke County is Buena Vista, built by George Tayloe, a wealthy farmer and owner of the Cloverdale furnace, in 1859. Twenty-two examples of this double-pile, central-passage plan were surveyed in the study area.

The I-house, and later the double-pile central-passage plan, provided a basic form to which

34Kagey, p. 50.
35Whitwell and Winborne, p. 15.
the residents could add a variety of popular features and stylistic detail. Additions were often made in the form of an "ell," either one or two rooms long, built off the back wall of the house. The exterior of the I-house could be adorned with a variety of stylistic features, from Greek Revival porches to Gothic style millwork. Pattern books showing the Greek Revival style, readily available in rural areas of Roanoke County after the Civil War, guided the work of many local joiners, such as Gustavus Sedon. Sedon's work on such properties as Speedwell has been well-documented through recent local research.37

Roanoke County prosperity during the late 19th century, with the construction of the Norfolk and Western Railroad and the establishment of a flourishing agricultural economy, can be seen in its architectural heritage. The county's domestic architecture, and that of Salem and Roanoke, began to show the fruits of this prosperity with a flurry of larger, more stylish houses. Many of these illustrated the Queen Ann style, with turrets, bays, Palladian and leaded glass windows, wrap-around porches, and complex roof forms.

The most stylish houses were built in the cities, with rural builders adopting various elements of popular styles, particularly in the form of applied decoration. As the century progressed, some residents began to decorate their I-houses with Victorian features, such as central gables or millwork under the eaves and along the porch cornices. Still, the majority of the county's domestic buildings remained relatively conservative, often decorated in the Greek Revival style, for both exterior and interior detailing, throughout the 19th century.

A variety of other architectural styles can be found during the building boom of the early 20th century. The Colonial Revival style became popular in the early 20th century in the cities of Salem and Roanoke, where elaborate examples of this style can still be found. This style remained popular among more modest-sized dwellings throughout the 20th century. Bungalows and American foursquare houses became common throughout the city and the county in the early 20th century. A few examples of more unusual styles were built in the 1920s, including the Tudor Revival and Spanish Colonial.

Surveyed Resources: Antebellum Period

The oldest dwellings that survive in the survey area are a group of brick houses from the early 19th century. These are generally the more substantial houses of their day, reflecting the area's increasing agricultural prosperity by the early 19th century.

Two-Room Plans: The earliest examples, dating ca. 1820 through 1840, feature the traditional two-room, hall-parlor plan. The majority are two-story houses with Federal detailing. Examples of this two-story form are the Acres House (80-402) at 6621 Peters Creek Road and the Green Richardson House (80-386) at 3250 Randall Drive. Both retain a substantial amount of interior woodwork, including good examples of local Federal period mantles.

Several dwellings from this period illustrate other variations on the two-room plan. The house at Mountain View Farm (80-556) at 4800 W. Main Street, ca. 1820-1840, provides an unusual one-story example of the hall-parlor plan. Although this house has been considerably remodeled in the Colonial Revival style during the 1920s, it still maintains its original Federal mantels. The Old Homeplace (80-12) at 6100 Plantation Road features a side-passage plan within a two-story brick shell, here with only two front piercings, a door and a window. This dwelling retains good examples of Federal mantels and detailing, little altered with the later additions to the house.

In western Virginia, the two-room plan was more commonly built of log construction in the early 19th century. Many examples of this two room plan have been surveyed in the this survey, as well as the Catawba Valley survey. Two well-preserved examples were recorded through intensive survey. The McCray House (80-301) on 7184 Mill Road began as a two-room, hall-parlor plan house constructed ca. 1820-40.

37Kagey, p. 142.
TWO-ROOM PLANS

Top Photograph:
ACRES HOUSE
(80-402)
6621 Peters Creek Road

Bottom Photograph:
MOUNTAIN VIEW FARM
(80-556)
4800 W. Main Street
McCRA Y HOUSE
(80-301)
7184 Mill Road

Original rectangular two-room plan shown in darkened lines.
HARRIS HOUSE
(80-294)
5403 Bent Mountain Road

Original rectangular two-room plan shown in darkened lines.
This two story structure features board sheathing on the first floor and exposed log walls on the second floor. The house survives remarkably intact, with an excellent late Federal/Greek Revival mantel. This log structures is now the ell to a Victorian addition. The second example is the Harris House (80-294), ca. 1830 - 1850, at 5403 Bent Mountain Road, a rectangular two-story house with an exterior brick chimney. In this case, the door is off center in the two-bay facade, leading into the smaller room, which contains the stairwell. This house retains an excellent Federal mantel, with free-standing pilasters supporting projecting end blocks. In the late 19th century, this, too, was enlarged with a two-story ell, added to the side of the house.

In some cases, these older log houses have been enclosed by extensive additions, as at the Tate House (80-471) at 3104 Harborwood Road. This began as a two-story rectangular log house, with a stone end chimney, but was later enlarged into an "I-house" design in the late 19th century. Extensive interior alterations disguise the original plan of the log portion, which may have been either one or two rooms.

The survey recorded a few antebellum frame examples of the two-room plan. The house at 7759 Poage Valley Road extension (80-289) is a two-story, hall-parlor plan, with a three bay facade and brick end chimney. The interior of the first floor has now been opened up into one room, but several original features remain, including beaded board walls and ceiling and Greek Revival door and window trim. This house also retains some painted woodgraining on the doors and the second floor mantel.

I-Houses (Central Passage/Single Pile): By the 1830s, the I-house had entered into the local building vocabulary. The earliest surviving examples in Roanoke County are five-bay brick dwellings, with gable roofs, exterior end chimneys, and often the molded brick cornice so popular in western Virginia during the early 19th century. Most of the interior and exterior detailing for these early I-houses is in the Federal style. Speedwell (80-27) at 6135 Merriman Road is one of the best preserved early examples of this plan, significant for its well-preserved interior featuring Federal mantels, stairwell, and other trim. Cedar Bluff (80-8) at 5408 Poor Mountain Road also retains much of its original interior detailing, although the walls of the house have been studded out. Some local examples, such as the Cook Residence (80-451) at 4496 Bonsack Road, ca. 1846, illustrate the basic Federal I-house design, but have been heavily altered in the interior over the course of their history.

By the 1850s, the I-house had become more popular, but was now decorated in the Greek Revival style. Domestic exteriors began to change, now often with stretcher bond brickwork, hipped roofs, three-bay facades, larger window openings, and sometimes a large, decorative second-story window over the front entrance. Chimneys moved inside to either the exterior wall or along the passage walls. The Huff House (80-15) at 5621 Plantation Road provides an excellent local example of the Greek Revival I-house. This dwelling, ca. 1855, features an intact sampling of eclectic Greek Revival trim, from the mantels to the eared door and window moldings, reflecting the rural and often creative interpretations of the popular styles. Dr. Gale's House (80-10) at 4909 Cave Spring Lane, ca. 1860-80, is another well-preserved example, retaining most of its original Greek Revival trim. The Gray-Flora House (80-24), at 6113 Plantation Road, a third example of this house design, features an original two-room rear ell. Many of the antebellum I-houses from the Shenandoah Valley incorporated such ells into the plan at the time of construction, providing a front dining room and rear kitchen and work area.

Double Pile/Central Passage Plan: By the mid-19th century, the more full-scale version of the I-house, the full double-pile central passage plan, was built in Roanoke County. The survey recorded several variations of this double-pile, central passage plan. These were considered some of the larger houses of their time, and were often built of brick construction. One of the oldest examples of this plan, Belle Grove (80-408), at 7223 Old Mountain Road, ca. 1854, was reportedly built as a hotel. This is a five-bay brick dwelling with exterior end chimneys. Much of its exterior detailing, including the molded brick cornice, jack arches over the windows, and transom-lighted entrance reflect the Federal style. The interior has been
TWO-ROOM PLAN

(80-289)
7759 Poage Valley Road extension
I-HOUSE
(CENTRAL PASSAGE/SINGLE PILE PLAN)

SPEEDWELL
(80-27)
6135 Merriman Road
I-HOUSE
GREEK REVIVAL

GRAY-FLORA HOUSE
(80-24)
6113 Plantation Road
DOUBLE-PILE
CENTRAL PASSAGE
PLAN

PLEASANT GROVE
(80-25)
4377 W. Main Street
remodeled, but two mantels and some door and window trim and original hardware remain.

Two other mid-19th century examples of the double-pile plan, also of brick, illustrate local variations on the plan and Greek Revival decoration. Pleasant Grove (80-25) at 4377 W. Main Street, ca. 1853, incorporates large pocket doors between the rooms on one side of the hallway, which open up the space between these two rooms. The carpentry and joinery work, including an original portico and all of the surviving interior mantels and trim, were made by Gustavus Sedon, a local joiner and carpenter whose work can be found throughout Roanoke County. Sedon drew much of his inspiration from popular pattern books, and his work has been recognized through recent scholarship as some of the more stylish in the county. A third local example of this double-pile plan from the mid-19th century, the Ninninger House (80-34) at 6113 Plantation Road, dates ca. 1863. This dwelling features a wide central hallway which is divided into an entrance hall to the front and a room to the back. The facade of the Ninninger House, like others of its period, focuses on the central bay, with an elaborate portico and three-part second story window.

Surveyed Resources: Late 19th and Early 20th Century

The late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed the continued popularity of the more traditional local plans -- the I-house and the two-room, rectangular house plan. As this period progressed, more buildings reflecting popular styles begin to appear throughout the countryside, particularly in the small villages.

I-houses: Frame I-houses were built in increased numbers and with greater variation during the late 19th century. The majority of examples from this period have three-bay facades and gable roofs. The oldest examples usually feature exterior brick chimneys on each gable end, but by the turn-of-the-century chimneys moved to the inside passage walls. Many of the I-houses were built with original ells, usually two-room plans with a front dining room and rear kitchen. One of the oldest and best preserved frame I-houses from this period, built ca. 1865-70, is the Gross House (80-429). This dwelling still has good integrity, retaining all original interior moldings in the local Greek Revival style and its original exterior brick end chimneys. A later example, ca. 1890, at 5320 Spencer Road (80-295), provides a well-preserved turn-of-the-century example of the plain I-house design, still with exterior gable end chimneys.

During the turn-of-the-20th century, many I-houses were decorated with popular stylistic features, the most common being a central front gable and larger, more elaborate porches. The survey recorded 38 examples with front gables. Two good examples of this design include 4529 Bonsack Road (80-454), ca. 1890 - 1920, and at 3727 Challenger Avenue (80-419), ca. 1890-1910, which retains a high degree of integrity. Porches become more ornate, ranging in style from the Victorian to the Colonial Revival, and increasingly wrap around the front and sides of the house.

Applied decoration adorns twelve of the turn-of-the-century I-houses. The house at 11082 Mountain Top Drive (80-495) features sawn decoration in the front gable and the end gables as well as a more unusual projecting bay window in the center of the facade, over the front porch. A central dormer window highlights the I-house at 5470 Crumbpacker Drive (80-427), with three-part windows in each gable end.

In the early 20th century, I-houses continued to be one of the most popular house types. Some remained quite simple, such as the house at 8210 Martins Creek Road (80-303), ca. 1900-20; others featured a gable as the only decoration, as at 1602 W. Ruritan Road (80-425), ca. 1900. Applied millwork decoration becomes less common by this time, but some references to style are occasionally found. At 6434 Plantation Road (80-414), constructed ca. 1900 - 1920, the entire central bay projects from the facade, with the familiar front gable at the top.

Rectangular two-room plans: Many rectangular log houses of varying sizes and heights survive from the late 19th century. These are generally three-bay structures, of V-notched hewn logs, with an exterior end chimney of brick or stone. A few examples, such as 80-374, have a two-
I-HOUSES

Top Photograph:
Gross House
(80-429)
2177 Mountain View Drive

Middle Photograph:
Front Gable
(80-454)
4529 Bonsack Road

Bottom Photograph:
(80-495)
11082 Mountain Top Road
bay facade, eliminating the facade window on the "parlor" end. The surveyed examples illustrate three different variations in height. Some, like 7819 Hemlock Avenue (80-346), are one story in elevation, with a finished loft. Others have a low second story created by extending the logs walls from two to six logs into the second level, such as 5512 Yellow Mountain Road (80-606) or 5250 Old Virginia Spring Road (80-374). Often, these houses feature low second floor windows, or if not, full-windows on the gable ends of the second floor. The third variation contains a full second story, illustrated by 4860 Glade Creek Road (80-462) or 8149 Starlight Lane (80-344).

The size of the house plan varies. Some examples, such as 80-346, are very small, and may have originally had only one room. One-room houses of this type were still being constructed in the county in the late 19th and early 20th century. Other houses, particularly the two-story examples, exhibit proportions and height more typical of other contemporary dwellings, such as I-houses.

By the late 19th and early 20th century, this rectangular two-room plan was often translated into wood frame construction, creating a relatively common and modest local house type. Like the log examples, the rectangular frame dwellings vary in size and in height. Most are three-bay structures covered with gable roofs, often with a front porch extending the length of the facade. The frame examples include a few one-story houses, but more commonly, story-and-a-half dwellings.

Another variation of the two-room plan, found in Roanoke County as well as western Virginia, is the rectangular two-room house plan, with two-front doors. In most cases, as in Roanoke County, these are a full two stories in elevation, usually built of frame construction, and date from 1870 through 1920. Most have an original one-room kitchen ell. The chimney position varies with the age of the house. The example at 3713 Whispering Lane (80-371), ca. 1870 - 80, with a single exterior end chimney, bears a clear resemblance in floor plan to the smaller hall-parlor houses with one heated and one unheated room. Two later examples, ca. 1890 -1910, feature an interior brick flue on the central partition wall, including 6624 Franklin Road (80-380) and 5413 Indian Grave Road (80-360). The decoration also varies, with the house on Indian Grave Road boasting the front gable found on many contemporary I-houses and the Franklin Road house featuring a three-bay Victorian porch.

Queen Anne: As the Roanoke area prospered in the late 19th century, more stylish homes were often built. Most of these were constructed in the cities of Salem and Roanoke and the town
RECTANGULAR
TWO-ROOM PLANS
Log Construction

Top Photograph:
(80-606)
5512 Yellow Mountain Road

Middle Photograph:
(80-344)
8149 Starlight Lane

Bottom Photograph:
(80-374)
5250 Old Virginia Spring Road
RECTANGULAR TWO-ROOM PLAN
Frame Construction

Top Photograph:
(80-441)
5581 Bradshaw Road

Bottom Photograph
(80-536)
3731 Bradshaw Road
RECTANGULAR TWO-ROOM PLANS

Top photograph:
(80-382)
5654 Bandy Road
With rear ell addition

Bottom photograph:
(80-371)
3173 Whispering Lane
Plan with two front doors
of Vinton, but six were surveyed in the county. Windmere, at 5415 Plantation Road (80-417), located near the east boundary of Roanoke City, is one of the most stylish Queen Anne dwellings surveyed. Sawtooth bargeboards, scrolled brackets, pointed and rounded arched window hoods with keystones, and tall narrow windows adorn this stylish brick shell. Built ca. 1880-1900, Windmere retains an outstanding interior, with most of its original trim and plan intact.

A more vernacular interpretation of the Queen Anne style can be found at 5235 Poor Mountain Road (80-481), a frame house built in Wabun ca. 1890-1910. This house features an "L" shaped plan with the main entrance in a projecting two-story tower, topped with a pyramidal roof. Other decoration includes stained glass windows, a wrap-around porch, and a scrolled arch over the front bay window.

In small villages such as Hollins and throughout the countryside, smaller one-story cottages illustrating elements of popular styles were built during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some examples mirrored the popular styles, but with a simpler form and more subtle decoration. The house at 5866 Poor Mountain Road resembles the Gothic cottages popularized in the mid-19th century, with its rectangular plan, central front gable, steeply pitched roof, and board and batten siding. A more vernacular version of this plan is the cottage at 4539 Bonsack Road (80-619). This slightly later example retains the front gable and porch, but the house is covered with weatherboarding. In many ways, this house can also be interpreted as a one-story version of the familiar I-house plan, with a three-bay facade and chimneys moved to the interior walls, as was popular during this time. The one-story frame cottage at 6307 Pinetree Lane (80-416) is a small-scale example example of the Queen Anne style, with an irregular plan, front bay window, tower over the front entry, and a wrap-around porch. A small house (80-174) on the Hollins Campus appears as a vernacular interpretation of the bungalow cottage. Its three-bay facade is sheltered by a projecting front porch and a shed dormer.

**Irregular Vernacular Plans:** By the late 19th and early 20th century, several more irregular plans had entered the local building vocabulary. Although probably inspired by popular styles, these plans are also similar to the familiar I-house plan. One common form from the early 20th century is a "T" shape plan that is closely related to the I-house with two-room ell. Instead of a flush facade, the file of rooms containing the ell projects out in front, creating an "L" plan from the front. A porch, usually in a Victorian or Colonial Revival style, extends across the front of the hall and side room, usually flush with the projecting "L" part of the house on the facade. Most of these are two-story frame houses, with interior brick stove flues. Roanoke County examples include 7920 Franklin Road (80-365), ca. 1900-20; 8177 Wood Haven Road (80-431), ca. 1900-20; and 5071 Cove Road (80-430), ca. 1890-1910. Most of these examples are quite simple, with a few occasional decorative touches, such as the low, pointed arches over the front windows at 4738 Glade Creek Road (80-464). The guest house at Hollins College (80-477) illustrates a one-and-one-half story version of this plan.

One feature found on several late 19th and early 20th century houses is a two-story gallery porch. These porches most often appear along the facade, but sometimes, when the main entrance is reoriented, as at 7429 Moonlight Lane (80-302), they are now on side walls. Two good examples of late 19th century gallery porches include the Harris House (80-294) and Bellvue Farm (80-292) at 5648 Roselawn Road. Such porches continue into the 20th century, such as the bungalow style porch added to 6973 Bent Mountain Road (80-298) or the Colonial Revival porch added to 6981 Bent Mountain Road (80-297) around 1930-1950.

**Surveyed Resources: Twentieth Century**

By the 1920s, a variety of other more popular house designs were becoming common in Roanoke County. Many of these had been popular in cities, but gradually moved into the surrounding countryside. Bungalows and Foursquare houses became very common, with a scattering of other revival styles.

**Foursquare:** Foursquare houses are typically defined by a square-shape, two-story...
QUEEN ANNE HOUSES

Top Photograph: WINDMERE (80-417) 5415 Plantation Road

Bottom Photograph: (80-416) 6307 Pinetree Lane
"L" AND "T" SHAPED HOUSES

Top Photograph: (80-365) 7920 Franklin Road

Bottom Photograph: (80-430) 5071 Cove Road
FOURSQUARE HOUSES

Top Photograph:  
(80-388)  
3371 Randall Drive

Bottom Photograph:  
(80-335)  
7112 Dawnwood Road
elevation, and a hipped or pyramidal roof. One of the more classic examples of the Foursquare house in the county is 3371 Randall Drive (80-388), built ca. 1920 to 1940. The hipped dormer and wide front porch with attached porte cochere are familiar features to this design. Another excellent example is 4143 West Main Street (80-212), ca. 1928, a frame house with a Colonial Revival wraparound porch. Other Roanoke County examples are more vernacular in character, such as 7112 Dawnwood Road (80-335), which appears more as a frame double-pile, central passage plan with front gable and pyramidal roof.

Two of these Foursquare houses, the Gray House and the Pines, reflect elements of the Craftsman style. Constructed around 1891, the Gray House at 6615 Peters Creek Road (80-401) is a large American foursquare plan with Craftsman style detailing. Both the exterior and the interior survive with few alterations, retaining much of their original integrity. The interior is particularly significant and well-preserved, retaining ornate fireplaces and stairwells. The Pines at 3280 Bradshaw Road (80-533), built in the 1920s, features shingled siding, exposed rafters, and its original front porch. The interior features include a coffered ceiling with cross beams and a segmental arched alcove. The house is situated in a rustic, wooded setting with shingled outbuildings and stone entry gates.

**Bungalows:** The bungalow plan proved popular for smaller, more modest houses in the early 20th century. Bungalows, typically one-and-one-half stories high, were relatively inexpensive to build but still incorporated the open planning and modern conveniences of the early 20th century home. Bungalows feature a variety of building materials, often using stone or brick for decorative features and elements, including porch columns. One of the most distinctive features of the Bungalow style may be a roof which projects beyond the main block out of the house to encompass a front porch. Dormer windows, either gabled, hipped, or sometimes shed dormers, project through the front roof to provide light for the second level.

Roanoke County bungalows illustrate various features and combinations of building materials associated with the classic bungalow designs. Several local examples are constructed primarily of brick, including 5812 Viewpoint Avenue (80-555), 4002 Alleghany Drive (80-546), and 3977 Old Catawba Road (80-592). The bungalow at 3324 Bennett Springs Road (80-531) features stone construction, with a wide shed dormer. Log construction distinguishes the unusually large bungalow at 8031 Williamson Road (80-190), which includes an exterior stone chimney, two large front gable dormers, and simple eave brackets. Several good examples of 1920s frame bungalows can be found at 4484 Yellow Mountain Road (80-608) and at 1909 Mountain View Road (80-596). Both are well-preserved and have been altered very little.

A few county houses reflect characteristics of the bungalow style without the more typical form. For example, the small wooden house at 3608 Old Catawba Road (80-535), ca. 1900-20, features a gambrel-roofed front gable above a full porch. In scale, this house is similar to other local bungalows, although it does not have the more typical gable roof.

**Colonial Revival:** Large Colonial Revival houses are unusual in the county, possibly due to the annexation of county property to Roanoke City and the expansion of Salem and Vinton. South Roanoke City has a large collection of Colonial Revival houses. The large Colonial Revival house at 1911 Mountain View Road (80-595) formed part of a large scale, twentieth-century rural estate, one of the few surveyed in Roanoke County. A full, two-story portico adorns the large five bay brick house, with porches on one side and a one-story wing on the other. The house features a very deep plan, but interior inspection was not permitted to record the room arrangement. This site retains its rural integrity with large boxwood landscaping in the front yard and the collection of earlier farm buildings behind the house and in the surrounding fields.

Other large scale Colonial Revival residences in the county are clustered on the Hollins College campus. The largest and only brick dwelling in this grouping is Eastnor (80-175), originally the president's house. Constructed in 1929, this five-bay dwelling suggests the double-pile, central passage form, with Colonial Revival detailing. Melvern Hill (80-176), located west of Eastnor, is a more ornate,
BUNGALOWS

Top Photograph:
(80-555)
5812 Viewpoint Avenue

Bottom Photograph:
(80-596)
1909 Mountain View Road
COLONIAL REVIVAL

Top Photograph:
(80-595)
1911 Mountain View Road

Bottom Photograph:
MELVERN HILL
(80-176)
Hollins College Campus
TUDOR REVIVAL

(80-377)
5122 Old Virginia Spring Road
frame Colonial Revival dwelling with a projecting front entrance and dormer windows on
the third floor. Maison Francaise (80-181) also features the three large dormer windows along
with a segmental arched entry hood supported by scrolled brackets.

Other Styles: Roanoke County contains a few houses with other popular styles in the 20th
century. One of the most noteworthy is a large Tudor Revival house situated at 5122 Old
Virginia Spring Road (80-377), built ca. 1920 - 1940. The scale and sophistication of this
dwelling is unlike other contemporary houses in the county. The house is built of stone and half-
timbered frame construction in an irregular plan, with a variety of porches and other
projections. It remains intact its rustic setting.

An unusual example of the Spanish Colonial style survives at 4857 Poor Mountain Road (80-
575). Built ca. 1920 - 1940, this small frame and stuccoed house features a more vernacular
gable-entry plan, with a Spanish Revival porch and original mantles in the Spanish
theme.

Recreational Cottages: One of the county's most important collections of early twentieth
century dwellings are the small recreational cottages built in rustic settings, along creeks and
rivers. These are described under the theme Recreation/Arts.

AGRICULTURE

Historic Context

With its fertile soil and numerous natural water ways, Roanoke County's farmland is well
suited to crop production, pasture, and grazing. Most of the first settlers were farmers, who
took lands along the various water ways throughout the County. By 1770, the leading
agricultural products grown in the area were hemp, wheat, and corn, with smaller amounts
of hay, oats, barley, and beans. Hemp was a popular cash crop by the late 18th century and
was used for making rope to caulk vessels and for producing cloth for bagging and sails.38

Many grist mills were established throughout the area to process the wheat into flour, which
was then marketed both within and outside the state. Small communities grew around these
grist mills, which often included saw mills and sometimes fulling mills. In addition to these
crops, area farmers raised livestock, particularly cattle, horses, and pigs, which
were marketed in eastern cities. 39

Like the Shenandoah Valley, known as the "bread basket of the Confederacy" due to its
large production of wheat by 1860, Roanoke County farmers grew wheat as one of the their
major cash crops throughout the first half of the 19th century. In 1850, 104,134 bushels of
wheat were grown in the county, increasing to 175,043 ten years later. The agricultural census
of 1860 lists other major agricultural products as Indian corn (152,803 bushels) and oats (81,813
bushels).40

The most significant new cash crop in the 19th century was tobacco, which quickly became one
of the major crops in the county. Between 1850 and 1860, county production increased from
362,682 to 935,341 pounds. By 1860, half of the local farms were growing at least a small
amount of tobacco. 41 Three tobacco warehouses were constructed in the Big Lick area in the
1850s, and tobacco processing soon became a leading business. Between 1872 and 1882 there
were five thriving tobacco warehouses in Big Lick, collecting tobacco both locally and from
other parts of Virginia.42

Roanoke County's agricultural productivity increased throughout the antebellum period.
Prosperous farmers established large plantations along the flood plains of the
Roanoke River during the three decades before the Civil War, featuring a mixed production of
wheat, corn, and hogs. Many of the County's earliest farm buildings and farm groupings
survive from this period, reflecting the first

38Kagey, p. 64.
40U.S. Census, Agriculture, Seventh and Eighth Schedules, 1850, 1860.
41Kagey, p. 129.
42Kagey, p. 64; "Our Colored People" WPA Historical Inventory, p. 258.
waves of more permanent building construction.\textsuperscript{43}

The surviving farm buildings from the antebellum period are largely built of V-notched logs. Log construction was known by the German speaking people who settled in western Virginia and this technique soon became one of the most popular building technologies of the region. The majority of these antebellum farm buildings survive in the Catawba region, and include single-pen barns and double-pen barns, some of which illustrate the bank barn form found throughout Pennsylvania and the Valley of Virginia. In the survey area, few farm buildings survive from the antebellum period, including corn cribs, spring houses, and a few smoke houses.

Roanoke County prospered after the Civil War. The amount of improved farmland increased from 58,306 acres in 1860 to 69,553 acres in 1870. According to the 1870 and 1880 censuses, Roanoke County’s leading crops included wheat, tobacco, and Indian corn. In 1870, Roanoke County was one of the leading counties for livestock production, with a value of $301,285 in 1870. The majority of these animals were swine, counted at 7,344 animals.\textsuperscript{44}

By 1870, orchard products had become a major agricultural product in Roanoke County, growing from a value of $628 in 1860 to $21,165 in 1870. Jordan Woodrum had discovered that he could successfully grow apples in the Bent Mountain area. Other farmers in that community were encouraged by his success, marketing their produce through the packing plant at Starkey. Apples became an important crop in that part of the county until around 1960, when much of the orchard land was developed into modern housing subdivisions.\textsuperscript{45}

Orchard production grew in the early 20th century with better access to wider markets. Roanoke was among the top ten apple and peach producing counties in Virginia during the 1920s and 1930s, ranking eighth in peach production and ninth in apple production. Apples were still the main crop of Bent Mountain, but they were also now grown in the Back Creek and Bonsack areas. Bonsack, Cave Spring, and Back Creek contained the majority of orchard land.

Although some farmers and tenant farmers were enticed by the better wages of industrial jobs in the cities, farming still remained the main source of income at the turn of the twentieth century in Roanoke County. Improved transportation, refrigeration, and the growth of urban areas and markets encouraged many Roanoke County farmers to turn to truck farming and dairying. The size of the county farms decreased during the late 19th and early 20th century, as farmers divided their lands into smaller tracts, which they rented to tenants. The smaller tracts, often between twenty to forty acres, were often intensively cultivated by tenants as truck farms.\textsuperscript{46} Area farmers raised lettuce, cantaloupes, watermelon, beans, cabbages and tomatoes. The Bent Mountain community was known for producing considerable amounts of poultry, eggs, and cabbage.\textsuperscript{47} More Roanoke County farmers turned to dairy farming by the early 20th century, as the growing cities became dependent on the countryside for fresh milk, cream, and butter. Roanoke County farms produced large amounts of butter throughout the 19th century, and these figures continued to increase into the 20th century.\textsuperscript{48}

The majority of farm buildings and related outbuildings surviving in the survey area date to the late 19th or 20th centuries. Agricultural buildings tended to be more conservative in nature, often preserving traditional plans and building technologies. Log outbuildings survive from these years, but frame construction gradually becomes more popular. In contrast to the Shenandoah Valley, very few bank barns were recorded in the survey area. The most typical barn type was a flat barn, with lower-level cattle housing and upper level hay storage.

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{43}Kagey, p. 64.}
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{44}U.S. Census, Agricultural, Ninth and Tenth Census Schedules.}
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{45}Kagey, p. 302; U.S. Census, Agriculture, Eighth and Ninth Census Schedules.}
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{46}Kagey, p. 401.}
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{47}Kagey, p. 302.}
\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{48}Kagey, p. 439-440.}
of the peach orchards. County farmers also grew pears, grapes, raspberries, plums and strawberries.

Agriculture began to decline with the urban development of Roanoke and Salem, which accelerated after 1950. In 1970, Roanoke County had only half as many farms as in 1960. Large amounts of farmland were annexed into the cities of Roanoke and Salem and the town of Vinton. By 1982, Roanoke County contained 306 farms, averaging 109 acres each. The major agricultural pursuits in county today are poultry, dairy farming, beef cattle, and nursery products.

Surveyed Resources

With the rapid development of Roanoke County during the 20th century, much of its agricultural legacy has been lost, including the full complement of farm buildings and outbuildings that would be found in a rural community. The oldest and largest concentration of agricultural buildings survives in the Catawba Valley, which was not included in this survey. In the remainder of Roanoke County, development has taken over much of the flatter land, which was predominantly farmland in the 19th century, obliterating many of the farm buildings. The small numbers of surviving buildings makes their preservation more important, especially since many are no longer in use.

Barns are the most common agricultural building type to survive in Roanoke County, with 113 recorded in the survey area. Throughout the 19th century, log construction was most common. The majority of early to mid-19th century barns remain in the Catawba Valley, with both single-pen and double-pen plans. The largest barns followed the double-pen plan, with square log pens flanking a central threshing floor and work area. Over a dozen double-pen log barns survive in Catawba Valley, one of the oldest being the Doosing-McNeil Farm (80-112) which dates to the 1820s. The double-pen log barn at 5631 Bandy Road (80-378), constructed ca. 1900-20, is a rare example of that plan in the present survey area, which contains far fewer 19th century barns.

The Bandy barn, and many of the Catawba examples, are flat barns, but several of the Catawba’s early log barns incorporate the double-pen plan into a bank barn form. This allows for animal housing in the lower level and hay mows, granaries, and a threshing area above. Within the remainder of the county, numerous bank barns were recorded, dating largely from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Good examples of this building type include those at 6853 Poage Valley Road (80-337), ca. 1900-20, and the Saul Farm (80-616).

Other types of farm buildings survive in lesser numbers in the survey area. The second largest number of surviving agricultural buildings were corncribs, of which 13 were surveyed. As in Catawba, the earliest farm buildings are usually built of log construction, but by the early 20th century, frame farm buildings covered with board siding became more popular. These buildings follow the patterns found in the Shenandoah Valley.

Many agricultural buildings have been abandoned and altered over the years, which complicates documentation of their original use. The log storage building constructed at 5661 Roselawn Road (80-293), which dates to the mid-19th century, is a one-story structure with exposed rafters, a small side window, and an off-center front entrance. A more unusual unidentified log structure is an outbuilding at 6113 Plantation Road (80-24), with a gable roof form, a shed dormer on each side, and steps leading to an attic story. One of the more unusual farm buildings was a farm store at 11082 Mountain top Drive (80-495), built between 1880 and 1910. This one-story building has an entrance plan with the entrance in the front gable. It is the only identified individual farm store found in the county.

The domestic outbuildings recorded in the survey reflect the general patterns found throughout western Virginia. The oldest surviving examples are generally of log, stone, or sometimes brick construction, but of these log was probably most common. Many of the one-

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49 Kagey, p. 511.
50 Kagey, p. 440.
51 Kagey, p. 511, 541.
BARNs

Top and Center
Photographs:
Double-Pen Log Barn
(80-378)
5631 Bandy Road

Bottom Photograph:
(80-337)
6853 Poage Valley Road
room structures feature a gable end entrance, often sheltered by a roof that projects out over the entrance. This outbuilding form comes from central Europe and can be found throughout the southern Appalachian region.

Of domestic outbuildings, springhouses comprise the largest number, with 30 recorded in the survey. The older examples are log, brick, or stone construction, as was the case throughout western Virginia. A log example ca. 1830-50 survives at 2148 Mountain View Road. This has a front gable entrance, with a short batten door, and wide boards under the eaves. Other older springhouses include a brick and a stone springhouse at Bellvue Farm, 5648 Roselawn Road (80-292). A later stone example remains at 3104 Harborwood Road (80-471), built between 1900-20. This is a one-room, one-story structure constructed of coursed rubble stone with a front overhanging roof supported by square posts.

Sixteen smokehouses were documented in the survey. One of the oldest is a log structure at 5408 Poor Mountain road (80-8). This is a one-story, one-room building with V-notching, covered with a gable roof that extends over the front entrance. An unusual gable-roofed form on the top of the smokehouse protects the farm bell.

In the 18th and 19th century, many farms featured detached kitchens. These buildings often served a variety of functions, including cooking, soap making, butchering, and other work activities that required large fires. In western Virginia, these were usually rectangular, one-room plan structures, often built of V-notched logs, with an end chimney and a door in the long wall. The Roanoke County survey documented two good examples of these kitchens. The first, at 8439 Martins Creek Road (80-305) is one-and-one-half stories high and features open spaces between the floor and ceiling joists for ventilation. The older kitchen at 9809 Tinsley Lane (80-324) is one-story with a large brick end chimney.

One fruit-drying building was recorded during the survey. Such structures have been found in Pennsylvania, and a very few have been surveyed in the Shenandoah Valley. The Roanoke County example was constructed at an orchard farm at 7184 Old Mill Road between 1890 and 1910. This farm is located in the southwest part of the county, a popular area for apple orchards around the turn-of-the-20th century. The drying house is a one-room, one-story structure with five course American bond brickwork. The front gable roof projects over the front of the structure, in typical local outbuilding form, sheltering the batten door. The building has weatherboarded eaves and openings between the exposed rafters to allow for air circulation.

Several historic properties in the county have significant collections of early outbuildings. These properties include Speedwell at 6135 Merriman Road (80-27), the Green Richardson Home at 3250 Randall Drive (80-386), the Huff House at 5621 Plantation Road (80-15), Pleasant Grove at 4377 W. Main Street (80-25), the Brubaker House at 1745 Loch Haven Drive (80-5), and the Harris Property at 5403 Bent Mountain Road (80-294).

Speedwell, finished around 1831, has a nice collection of domestic and farm buildings, grouped together on the northwest side of the main house. Close to the house, on the south side of the driveway, is a one-story, one-room, brick outbuilding that appears to have originally been a kitchen and may have been built at the same time as the house. West of this structure is a large, late-nineteenth-century large frame barn with vertical board siding and a shed addition on both sides. A mid-nineteenth-century one-story, log outbuilding (possibly a corncrib) next to the barn has a front-gable roof, a batten door, and a smaller door to the loft. Across the driveway from these structures is a one-story, two-room, brick house (ca. 1830), with a tall interior, brick chimney and a later addition.

The Green Richardson Home dates from the same time period as Speedwell. The property contains two barns and a kitchen. The large, late-nineteenth-century, bank barn located northeast of the main house, has vertical siding with a large double-door entrance into the side gable. A smaller barn, constructed south of the larger one, has vertical siding and a gable-end, shed-roofed addition. A detached kitchen, which is contemporary with the house, is located on the north side of the house.
SPRINGHOUSES AND SMOKEHOUSES

Top Photograph
Brick Springhouse
(80-292)
5648 Roselawn Avenue

Bottom Photograph
Log Smokehouse
(80-8)
5408 Poor Mountain Road
DRYING HOUSE

McCRAE FARM
(80-301)
7184 Mill Road
The two one-story brick outbuildings on the Huff Farm are rare survivals for Roanoke County. The structure located east of the main house appears to have been a smokehouse. Northwest of the smokehouse and near the main house is a building that was probably used for a kitchen.

Pleasant Grove, which dates from around 1853, contains a particularly significant cluster of contemporary outbuildings which survive in excellent condition, including a springhouse, a slave quarters, and a smokehouse. The springhouse has a projecting front gable, in familiar form, sheltering two, and front entrances framed by molded trim with corner blocks, similar to that found on the house. The building that may have been a slave quarters is west of the springhouse. This illustrates a form commonly found in the surviving slave houses in Virginia. It is a rectangular, two-room plan, with a separate front door into each room and a chimney on each end. North of the springhouse is a large two-story brick structure believed to be a smokehouse, with slit ventilator, on the second level of all four sides. An early-twentieth-century brick garage stands south of the springhouse.

The Brubaker Farm, with a ca. 1850-70 house, has several early agricultural outbuildings. The two barns, dating to the late 19th century, are double-crib frame barns covered with vertical siding. Four, early-twentieth-century chicken houses were built behind the barns. One of these structures has a concrete foundation, and the others are supported with brick piers. They all have vertical board siding and metal shed roofs. A large, frame springhouse and woodshed, built behind the main residence, appear to date to the construction period of the house. Both of these buildings have extended front gable roofs with weatherboarded eaves. The woodshed has wide board siding and the springhouse is covered with weatherboard. Further west, in the same field is a smaller, early-twentieth-century, vertical boarded springhouse with a metal gable roof. An unusual metal frame windmill was installed near the house. It is the only windmill found during the survey.

The Harris Farm was built during the same time period as the Brubaker Farm. The extensive collection of outbuildings on this property appears to be contemporary to the house. The eight outbuildings include a springhouse, a washhouse, a corncrib, two chicken houses, a smokehouse, a stable, and a storage shed. All of the outbuildings, which are located on the hillside surrounding the house, are small scale, frame structures with metal, gable roofs, except for the springhouse, which is constructed of logs. The washhouse, chicken houses, and stable have vertical-board siding and stone foundations, and the remaining structures have weatherboard siding. The smokehouse has an unusual, exposed cross-bracing under the front gable. This property contains the most extensive collection of frame outbuildings found in Roanoke County.

**GOVERNMENT/LAW/POLITICAL**

**Historical Context**

The land in present-day Roanoke County was originally part of Orange County, which included territory east of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Mississippi River. In 1738, the General Assembly created Augusta County, incorporating the part of Orange County west of the Blue Ridge. Augusta County's rapid growth in population led to the establishment of Botetourt County in 1770. Botetourt County's boundaries extended westward to the Mississippi River and northward to the Great Lakes area, excluding the states of Kentucky and West Virginia. The area of the county that was located in Virginia included the present counties of Botetourt, Rockbridge, Montgomery, Bath, Alleghany, Craig, and Roanoke.\(^5^2\)

Beginning in 1829, the residents in present-day Roanoke County submitted several petitions to the General Assembly which led to the forming of Roanoke County. In 1838, the General Assembly passed an act to create Roanoke County. This act permitted the county to send one delegate to the lower house, but Roanoke County remained Botetourt's Senatorial, congressional, and electoral district until 1842.\(^5^3\)

\(^{52}\)Kagey, p. 36.  
\(^{53}\)Kagey, p. 104.
Salem became the county seat for Roanoke County. The County's first courthouse was built in an early classical revival style. This building was demolished in 1908, because of extensive moisture damage in the walls and floors, and replaced in 1910 by a neoclassical building.

The county courthouse contained the office of the justice of the peace, who was appointed by the governor and charged with holding monthly court sessions. Selection of the justice was based on the person's family connections, business success, education, and community respect. The justice of the peace would decide who would run for the General Assembly; the General Assembly chose the Governor; and the Governor commissioned the new justice of the peace, who was chosen by the sitting justices. This process insured immense political control for these few individuals.54

At the time that Roanoke County was established, the county courts had many functions, which were largely executive, legislative, and judicial. Roanoke County held monthly courts for local issues and quarterly courts for capital and criminal cases. The county court's responsibilities included licensing merchants, setting rates for inns, devising education and welfare systems, establishing road systems, and settling property disputes.55

In 1838, Roanoke County was divided into four districts -- Big Lick, Cave Spring, Catawba, and Salem. Each district had four representatives who supervised the election of overseers of the poor, commissioners to lay off public roads, and commissioners to select a model for the new courthouse.56

The county's boundaries changed during the mid-19th century. In 1849, Roanoke County acquired part of Montgomery County to the southwest. Two years later, Roanoke lost part of its land when Craig County was created from Roanoke, Giles, and Monroe counties.57

During the reconstruction period, the structure of county government changed. In 1870, the county was governed by an elected Board of Supervisors, the governing body which continues to direct county government to this day. The Board of Supervisors made decisions about the spending of county funds and supervised the poor house business, the free school budget and other tax issues.58

Surveyed Resources

The majority of government-related resources are located within the cities of Salem and Roanoke, neither of which were surveyed as part of this project. Salem contains the county courthouse and many other county government buildings. In 1841, the county established at poor house near Masons Cove, but these buildings are now gone.

The extant county resources that would represent this theme are largely more recent in date. These would include the Blue Ridge Parkway, built in the 1960s, four county parks, and the dam and reservoir at Carvins Creek. These are discussed in this report according to the themes that represent their function.

HEALTH CARE/MEDICINE

Historic Context

In the early to mid 19th century, many people from across Virginia and neighboring states began to flock to the springs of western Virginia for their curative powers. Roanoke County had three springs resorts in the 19th century. The first, Botetourt County springs, had a short life from 1822 to 1839 at the present day site of Hollins College. The second was Lake Spring, located outside Salem, popular during the late-19th century boom years. The third, and most popular, was Red Sulphur Springs near Catawba. Established by a group of Salem businessmen in 1856, Red Sulphur Springs was built during the springs heyday and benefited from its close location to the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad's depot at Salem. Entire families came, sometimes with their servants.

54Kagey, p. 105.
55Kagey, p. 105.
56Kagey, p. 106.
57Kagey, p. 175.
58Kagey, p. 106.
to take the waters. The spring retained its popularity through the late 19th century.59

In 1909, the Commonwealth of Virginia purchased the Red Sulphur Springs property and established its first tuberculosis sanatorium. In the early 1900s, between three to four thousand people in Virginia died of tuberculosis. The General Assembly set aside $40,000 to help combat tuberculosis. Part of this money was used to create sanitoriums, and to purchase the Red Sulphur Springs, which contained 651 acres with a three-story hotel. The clean mountain air and moderate temperature were considered ideal for aiding recovery. The Commonwealth added lean-to pavilions, tent houses, and a cottage to the property, creating a forty-two bed facility. 60

The sanitorium expanded considerably over its first thirty years. By 1937, the facility boasted 340 beds, a store, post office, school, chapel, barber shop, and administrative building on its 1,120 acres. This expansion created a number of jobs, primarily for former tubercular patients.61

The Barnett family in Catawba built a smaller, private sanitorium in the same period, with twenty cottages.62 By 1970, tuberculosis had been controlled, and the Catawba Sanatorium was closed at the end of 1971. In 1972, the Catawba Hospital reopened as a rehabilitation hospital for Virginia's elderly with mental illness.63

Improvements in rural health care came to Roanoke County in the 1920s, initiated by a women's group known as the Rural Affairs Committee of the Roanoke Chamber of Commerce. This Committee acquired funding from the Roanoke County Chapter of the American Red Cross to hire a public health nurse and from the Board of Supervisors to hire a county sanitation officer.64

The first public nurse arrived in 1920 to fulfill a work program outlined by the Rural Affairs Committee. One of the first priorities was to examine the health of all school children, many of whom were found to be ill with diseases such as pink-eye, fever, tuberculosis symptoms, and enlarged tonsils. The public health nurse vaccinated area residents and offered classes on health care to prevent the spread of disease. The next priority was to open a clinic for expectant mothers and women who had children under the age of six years old to teach them about proper health care. By 1923, classes were held to teach black and white women how to care for the sick, and community health centers were started to help answer the questions that the local people had about health. The centers for white women were located at Ogden, Tinker Creek House on Old Hollins Road, Vinton, and Edgewood. The health center for black women was located at Hollins School.65

Public health reforms increased during the 1920s and 1930s. In 1926, the County established a Board of Welfare. The Roanoke County Public Health Association began a traveling dental clinic, venereal disease clinic, and toxoid clinic. One of the most significant projects established by the County Public Health Association was Mercy House, created in 1937 as a home for impoverished people. The facility began on the poor house farm, west of Salem, opening with two cottages, one of which was for tubercular patients. Although it began as temporary housing for the poor, by 1939 it had become a sanatorium that served other health needs.67

59 Whitwell and Winborne, p. 59.
60 Kagey, p. 411.
61 Kagey, p. 412.
62 Kagey, p. 368.
63 Kagey, p. 412.
64 Kagey, p. 412.
65 Kagey, p. 469.
66 Kagey, p. 468.
The United States Veterans Administration Neuropsychiatric Facility, now located in Salem, opened in 1934 on a 445-acre site in Roanoke County. The Veterans Administration's regional office, which had been located in Richmond, was moved to the new Roanoke hospital site. Today this facility, known as the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, has over six hundred operating beds, and employs more than 1,300 people. It is a comprehensive center that includes a nursing home, a psychiatric facility, a medical center and assistance for amputees.

Surveyed Resources

The survey documented several buildings from the springs and spring resorts. The stone springhouse built between 1830 and 1850 for the Botetourt Springs Resort survives on Hollins College campus (80-189), although it has been renovated several times. This is a one-story, one-room structure constructed of coursed, cut stone and covered with a shingled, pyramidal hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves. Several resort buildings survive from the Red Sulphur Springs resort at the Catawba hospital site. Two 1850s buildings remain -- a two-story pavilion with pilastered Greek Revival facade and a cast iron octagonal gazebo. Near the center of the hospital grounds is a rubble-faced Gothic chapel with a hammerbeam roof.

The Catawba Hospital features many early 20th century buildings constructed when the resort was converted to a tuberculosis sanitorium, including an administration building, dining hall, dormitories, farm buildings and numerous frame bungalows.

EDUCATION

Historical Context

Educational opportunities for Roanoke County children were limited in the late 18th and first half of the 19th centuries. Many parents were not educated enough to teach the children, and did not have the financial means to hire a teacher. Furthermore, children were often needed to help with the farm work, particularly during the busy harvesting and planting seasons.

When the first settlers came to Roanoke County, families of the same religion often tended to settle in the same community. Their churches would also be used as schoolhouses, and the minister, who was usually the most educated person in the community, would serve as the schoolmaster. This practice was fairly common throughout the Roanoke Valley. One such example from the antebellum period was the Bethel Church in Bonsack, where David Plaine was the minister and teacher.

Other early schools were found in private homes. Occasionally, several families in a community would share expenses for a tutor. This teacher would either come to the home to teach or in most situations, give instructions in a small schoolhouse that would be constructed on a farm.

Wealthier families would hire a tutor or, starting in the nineteenth century, send their children to nearby private academies, seminaries, or institutes. By 1838, Salem had several private schools, including the Salem Academy and an academy in the Presbyterian Church building, a private girls school held in the upper story of the Bernard Pitzer store.

Orphans and poor children in the county would be apprenticed or bound out by the overseers of the poor to learn a trade from a master, who was responsible for teaching the children reading, writing, and Christian values. The apprentices would live in the master's home, and at the end of their apprenticeship, he often bought the child a suit of clothes before sending him out to find a job.

While there were several attempts to establish free schooling in the county, few such

68Kagey, p. 434.
69Telephone interview with Pat Clark, Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Salem, Va., 20 November 1991, (703) 982-2463.
70Kagey, p. 88.
71Kagey, p. 88.
72Kagey, p. 88.
opportunities were available until after the Civil War. In 1846, the Commonwealth passed a District Free School Act, which proposed the use of literary funds and the county's tax money for education. This program still was not very successful because the donation of county tax funds was optional, so many counties did not participate.\textsuperscript{73}

Roanoke County did attempt to start a free public school system in 1846, with Colin Bass as the superintendent. The court divided the county into eleven school districts.\textsuperscript{74} This system progressed slowly until after the Civil War, since the wealthier families viewed the publicly-funded schools as schools for paupers. Poorer people were reluctant to send their children to these schools for fear of being so labeled. In 1856, Roanoke County had only 185 students at public schools, with 137 attending private schools.\textsuperscript{75}

Higher education was available for those children who were properly educated. These students could attend the College of William and Mary, established in Williamsburg in 1693 and supported by tax money from the counties.\textsuperscript{76} Two colleges were founded in Roanoke County in the nineteenth century. Hollins College opened in 1842 to provide higher education for women and Roanoke College was founded in 1847 as a coeducational institution by the Lutheran Church.\textsuperscript{77}

Hollins College was built on the Botetourt Springs resort site in the northeastern part of the county. In 1839, when the resort closed, Edward William Johnston took over the resort property and began Roanoke Female Seminary. This school failed, but in 1842, Joshua Bradley, a Baptist minister, opened Hollins College, a coeducational facility, at this location. Hollins college became the first successful school of higher education for women in the state and one of the first in the nation. The school suffered from funding and faculty problems under Bradley's guidance, and in 1845 the Valley Union Education Society took over the school. Although there were twice as many male students as female by 1852, the college administration discontinued the education of boys and changed the school name to the Female Seminary at Botetourt Springs. Soon afterwards, Mrs. Ann Hollins contributed $5,000 for a new building, and the college was renamed Hollins College in her honor. Today the liberal arts college offers undergraduate programs for women and coeducational graduate programs.\textsuperscript{78}

Two Lutheran ministers, the Reverend C. C. Baugham and Dr. David F. Bittle, began the Virginia Collegiate Institute in 1842 in present-day Augusta County. In 1847, the college moved to Salem, holding classes at the Baptist Church at the East Hill Cemetery and at the Presbyterian Church, until the construction of the main college building was completed in 1848. The first students boarded at nearby private homes and meals were prepared at the Christian Stoutamire farm. The college continued to grow through the years and today it remains a private, Lutheran-affiliated, coeducational institution.\textsuperscript{79}

In 1869, Virginia adopted a constitutional amendment that required free public schools throughout the state. At that time, only half of Roanoke County's residents over the age of ten could read or write. By 1870, Roanoke County had established twenty-five schools for white children and nine for black children, many of whom could only attend at night because of daytime employment.\textsuperscript{80} Most of these early public schools met for only three months out of the year. Even with this short school year, school attendance was poor because the children were needed to help on the farms. Early schools usually had one room with one teacher who taught different grades and ages at the same time.

New private schools continued to open in the county. In 1870, the U.S Census listed two

\textsuperscript{73}Kagey, p. 153. 
\textsuperscript{74}Kagey, pp. 153-4. 
\textsuperscript{76}Kagey, p. 88. 
\textsuperscript{77}Kagey, p. 156. 
\textsuperscript{78}Kagey, p. 165. 
\textsuperscript{79}Kagey, p. 169. 
\textsuperscript{80}Kagey, p. 223.
colleges, two academies, and five private day schools in Roanoke County. Approximately 170 males and 75 females attended the two colleges. Roanoke County academies had an attendance of approximately 20 males and 40 females, and the private schools averaged about 60 males and 50 females.\footnote{Kagey, p. 254.}

In Roanoke County, as with Virginia, the interest in public education grew over the next twenty years. During this period, many of the state’s one-room school houses were constructed. By 1890, Roanoke County had 49 white and 16 black schools in the county.\footnote{Kagey, p. 245.}

Virginia mandated many educational reforms to the public school system around the turn of the 20th century. At the time, the school year was four months long, attendance was not mandatory, and teachers were not required to have a degree. Only about one half of the children were enrolled in school and many of them did not attend classes regularly. Approximately one third of the children finished elementary school. At the request of Virginia’s citizens, the General Assembly provided funds for school construction, supplies, and teacher salaries. In 1930, the nine-month school year was established. After 1939, the county only hired teachers with degrees, which further improved the education system.\footnote{Kagey, p. 475-7.}

The improvement of roads in the early 1920s led to the consolidation of many smaller schoolhouses into larger, better equipped consolidated schools. Beginning in 1907, the county offered transportation to school on a horse-drawn wagon. In 1932, Roanoke County began plans for four new high schools. The Andrew Lewis School on Broad Street, the William Byrd School in Vinton, the William Fleming School on Williamson Road, and the George Washington Carver School were built with funds provided by the federal government and money borrowed from the Virginia Literary Fund. The new high schools were equipped with libraries, industrial arts departments, and laboratories.\footnote{Kagey, pp. 414, 477.}

Roanoke County’s population grew after World War II with the baby boom and with an influx of young families who moved into the area. The number of students in the public schools increased from 8,276 to 17,929 between 1950 and 1965.\footnote{Kagey, p. 517.} Roanoke County built several new schools to accommodate the increased number of students, until the population growth slowed down in the 1980s.

A vocational school, now known as the Arnold R. Burton Technology Center, opened in Salem in 1961. The school offered eight courses of study – practical nursing, cosmetology, auto mechanics, machine shop, electricity, electronics, carpentry, drafting, and masonry.\footnote{Kagey, p. 520.} The school has continued to increase its program in recent years.

Surveyed Resources

A variety of educational resources were surveyed in Roanoke County, most of which were public school buildings. The only private school surveyed was Hollins College, a large private college complex north of Roanoke. The College contains a variety of educational structures, dating from the second half of the 19th century through the present day. The campus also includes several single family residences that have converted into office space. Many of the buildings around the Hollins College Historic District were surveyed for possible inclusion on a larger historic district.

The oldest surveyed public schools were simple one-room schoolhouses dating from the late 19th through the early 20th century. These one-room schoolhouses are similar to those found throughout Virginia. Two of the oldest school buildings in Roanoke County can be found in the Catawba Valley. The Gravel Hill School (80-128) and the schoolhouse on the Barnett-Starkey Farm (80-105) are both V-notched log construction.
ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS

Top Photograph:
(80-391)
7047 Thirland Road

Bottom Photograph:
DANGERFIELD
(80-343)
Boones Mill Area
The majority of the county's one-room schoolhouses are rectangular, frame buildings covered with weatherboarding and standing seam metal roofs. These structures have undergone many changes, and none survive unaltered. The example at 7047 Thirlane Road (80-391), built between 1880 and 1900, still maintains the basic form, but has had later additions and new windows. Several black schoolhouses were surveyed, including a well-preserved example, called Dangerfield, ca. 1870, in the Boones Mill area (80-343); the Kingstown School, ca. 1880-1900 (80-391); and an early-20th century Catawba schoolhouses with large classroom windows (80-262).

By the early 20th century, school house designs began to change, even for the smaller country schools. Some educational reformers believed that bands of windows should provide lighting across only one side of the school house. This idea is reflected in the Mountain Top School at 10118 Sling Gap Road (80-332), ca. 1900 - 1930, which still retains its tall nine-pane windows. The front entry, supported by a shed roof and simple wooden brackets, leads into the side of the gable end entry. The paired windows by the door suggest the presence of a small entrance foyer, another reform in early 20th century school house design.

A variety of two- to four-room school houses were constructed in the county during the early stages of school consolidation during the early 20th century. The majority of the surveyed examples have been remodeled into residences or for other uses. The Mountain View School, ca. 1900-20 (80-393), illustrates a larger schoolhouse plan, which incorporated more classrooms. The present-day Clearbrook Brethren Church, formerly a school (80-605), and the Back Creek School (80-501) are quite similar; both are one-story, square-shaped buildings that appear to have had four rooms each.

Between 1920 and 1940, Roanoke County began to build larger consolidated schools in the Colonial Revival style. The State Board of Education developed and circulated a collection of school building plans of different sizes for use by the counties. Each county adapted the state plans to fit the needs of that particularly community. Several Roanoke County school illustrate a popular 1920s plan. This one-story design incorporates a central gymnasium, which doubled as an auditorium, surrounded by classroom wings to the sides and sometimes along the front wall. Clearbrook Elementary School (80-605), at 5202 Franklin Road, illustrates this plan, with its gymnasium clearly distinguishable by a gable roof. Parapeted walls across the front and side are familiar features of this design. The Starkey Elementary School at 6426 Merriman Road (80-348), demonstrates another variation of the same design.

Several two-story schools were constructed in the county, including the Fort Lewis Elementary School (80-560) and Mt. Pleasant Elementary, both of which date ca. 1920 - 1940 and are in the Colonial Revival style. Clearbrook is decorated with brick quoins, keystones over the first-story windows, a broken pediment over the front door, and arched, decorative brickwork with a keystone on the protruding wings. A hipped roof, dentilled cornice, and a tall, square, central cupola with a metal finial decorate the roof line.

MILITARY

Historical Context

Roanoke County's participation in the Revolutionary War has been recorded in the Botetourt County histories, as Roanoke was part of Botetourt County at that time. On October 10, 1774, militia from Botetourt County, led by Colonel William Fleming, assisted Colonel Andrew Lewis in winning the Battle of Point Pleasant. This crucial battle took place at the mouth of the Great Kanawha River, in a region that is now part of West Virginia. Other soldiers from the county fought in the Battle of King's Mountain in North Carolina, the battle at Guilford Courthouse, and other battles in North and South Carolina. While militia from Botetourt County did not participate in many battles, they did take the county census and defend against possible

EARLY 20TH CENTURY SCHOOLS

Top Photograph:
MOUNTAIN TOP SCHOOL
(80-332)
10118 Sling Gap Road

Bottom Photograph:
MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL
(80-393)
5213 Lois Lane
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

Top Photograph:
Clearbrook Elementary School
(80-605)
5202 Franklin Road

Bottom Photograph:
Fort Lewis Elementary School
(80-560)
3115 West Main Street
Indian attack. The county militia fought in the final Yorktown battle in October 1781.88

The Civil War affected Roanoke County more directly. Roanoke County residents participated as suppliers of wool blankets, uniforms, and food, especially wheat flour and cornmeal, to the Confederate Army.89 Roanoke County sent four companies of men to fight. Three companies fought with the Army of Northern Virginia throughout the war, and the fourth company fought with the armies in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia.90 In 1862, 1864 and 1865, the Governor of Virginia requisitioned about 150 slaves to assist in the fortification of Richmond. They were required to remain in Richmond for sixty days, but some were kept longer.91

Federal forces invaded Roanoke County twice during the Civil War. In December 1863, Major General W. W. Averell and his Union troops entered the county to destroy the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, which passed through Salem. While in the county, General Averell cut telegraph wires, tore up tracks, destroyed bridges and culverts, and burned or confiscated supplies.92

The second invasion came in June of 1864. After the battle in Lexington, Union General David Hunter headed towards Lynchburg, and then followed the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad tracks west into Roanoke County. General Hunter and his troops confiscated food and destroyed property as they headed west. While in Roanoke County, they burned Bonsack's woolen mill and the nearby depot. Roanoke's only Civil War battle occurred at this time. While preparing to fight Major-General Jubal Anderson Early's men, who were advancing from the rear, General Hunter left his baggage train and artillery unprotected. Brigadier General John McCausland's Confederate troops confiscated the supplies, which resulted in the Battle of Hanging Rock.

Thirty of General McCausland's men were killed or wounded in this battle, and they lost the supplies they had secured.93

The lack of people to work farms and run businesses placed hardships on Roanoke County during the Civil War years. Although the County provided money for local soldiers and their families, supplies were limited and, by 1864, the county ran out of funds. The Ladies Aid Society obtained cotton cloth and clothing for the soldiers and Confederate Major J. C. Green provided shoes for many of the soldiers and their families.94

The county faced difficult times immediately after the war. Property values were low, Confederate money was worthless, the railroad was partially destroyed, and the numerous deaths and wounded men brought industry to a halt.95 Nevertheless, since the war ended during the spring planting season, and farms were less dependent on slaves labor than in the Piedmont and the Tidewater regions, many county residents were better off than in other agrarian areas in the South.

The United States declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917 and entered into World War I. Two days before this date, local residents held a patriotic assembly at the courthouse in Salem to encourage men to enlist. Nearly eight hundred men from Roanoke County fought in the war. Combat and disease took the lives of thirty-two of these men.96 The Red Cross, located above the Farmers National Bank, collected over $9,000 and a variety of supplies for the soldiers. The local women's groups held other fund raisers. Roanoke County was further affected by the war when a fuel shortage caused a number of churches, stores and factories to shut down temporarily.97

World War II brought a variety of changes to Roanoke County. Many county residents went to work in the new Radford Ammunition Plant, which provided jobs for 15,000 construction workers.

Kagey, p. 211.
97Kagey, p. 431.
98Kagey, p. 207.
99Kagey, p. 257.
100Kagey, p. 199.
workers and 5,000 other employees. In 1940, the
airport was considered a defense project,
receiving federal funds to improve the runways
and install lighting. The war also lowered
industrial production, since many workers were
fighting overseas. The Roanoke County
Chapter of the American Red Cross gathered
volunteers to make hospital sheets, sweaters,
scarves, dresses, socks and other clothing
articles that were in short supply because of
the war.  

World War II claimed the lives of
nearly two hundred Roanoke County citizens.

During the Korean conflict, which began in
1950, 57 Roanoke Valley men were killed.
When the State Council of Defense was re-
established in the United States, local civilian
defense units set up ground observation posts to
watch for enemy aircraft. Since nuclear
warfare was a threat, the home front
volunteers were also trained in a variety of
activities including caring for the wounded and
speaking to civic groups.

Surveyed Resources

Few military resources were recorded during
the Roanoke County survey. The county has
Civil War battlefield within its present-
county limits. Photographs of a modern marker
to the Battle of Hanging Rock are included
with the survey. This is a limestone marker
featuring a bronze plaque commemorating this
battlefield. Nearby resources may have had
associations with the battle, such as providing
hospital space, but this type of information
was not readily available at this time.

Since Roanoke County’s residents assisted in a
variety of support efforts during various wars,
other types of resources were associated with
military causes, such as the woolen mill at
Bonsack, but many of the resources are now gone
or would be located within Salem or Roanoke.
The Veterans Administration Hospital is now
within the present-day bounds of Salem.

RELIGION

Historical Context

The Church of England was the approved
religion in Virginia prior to the Revolutionary
War. The Church divided the colony into
parishes, roughly corresponding with the
counties, and assigned a minister to each
parish. Although most citizens of Roanoke
County did not belong to the established
Church, all citizens were required to support
the minister. This tax, and the fact that only
Anglican clergy could perform the ceremony of
marriage, often caused conflicts between
Anglican ministers and Protestant residents.

During the years following the Revolution, the
General Assembly dissolved the Anglican
vestry of Botetourt County and in 1780 other
denominations were permitted to perform
marriage ceremonies. The Church of England
became the Protestant Episcopal Church after
the Revolutionary War, but there were very
few members between Charlottesville and the
Tennessee line. Reverend Nicholas Cobb’s
frequent visits to then Botetourt County in the
early nineteenth century brought new members
to the church. In 1838, the Episcopalians began
holding services at a church on Tinker Creek,
starting the “Salem Parish.”

The majority of the early settlers into western
Virginia were Protestant, many of whom were
seeking religious freedoms unavailable to them
in their homelands. The Virginia Colony
tolerated their religious differences, due to its
desire to encourage settlement in the western
lands of Virginia. Early religious services were
provided by circuit-riding preachers who
traveled throughout the settled areas,
sometimes setting up a tent for several day until
more permanent ministers could be assigned.

Most of the early Scotch-Irish settlers in
Roanoke County were Presbyterian. In 1740, the
Donegal Presbytery assigned John Craig as the
first Presbyterian minister in western Virginia.
Craig preached at Augusta Stone Church and
Tinkling Springs Church near Staunton, but his
region covered nearly 10,000 miles, including
Roanoke County. As early as 1749, Craig was

98Kagey, p. 500.
99Kagey, p. 74.
100Kagey, p. 75.
101Kagey, p. 87.
traveling to Roanoke County for baptisms.

When the minister was not present a member from the congregation would lead the service. By 1762, Craig began preaching alternating sabbath days at Catawba, one of the earliest Presbyterian meetings in present-day Roanoke County. Several other congregations were soon established, such as Tinker Creek in 1771. By 1833, Roanoke County had four congregations -- Peters Creek, Tinker Creek, Catawba, and Salem.

The German families who settled in western Virginia brought a variety of Protestant denominations -- Lutheran, Reformed, and German Baptists, or Church of the Brethren. Lutherans were first recorded worshipping in the Roanoke Valley near the end of the eighteenth century. Their first itinerant minister was Reverend Paul Henkel, who traveled from his church in New Market to Roanoke County to conduct services, usually held in houses, barns, or schoolhouses. In 1826, Lutherans built their first church building, called Zion Lutheran Church on U.S. Route 11 between Salem and Roanoke. Ministers preached sermons in both German and English. The second Lutheran church in Roanoke County was built in 1845 at Pine Grove, near the intersection of routes 220 and 419. This building was demolished in 1970 for highway construction.

Large numbers of German Baptists, often called Church of the Brethren, began immigrating into Botetourt County and present-day Roanoke County in the late 18th century, particularly between 1780 and 1800. Many settled at Daleville in Botetourt County, where a Brethren school was soon established. In Roanoke County, the Gish family of Gish's Mill, were Brethren, as were many of the early settlers in the Bonsack community. Like other denominations, the Brethren worshipped in homes and schoolhouses. The Brethren built their first church, Peter's Creek Church, in 1845, along the west side of Peters Creek above Spring Road. This brick church building, which measured 75 feet by 45 feet, still stands, although it has been remodeled in recent years.

Other early Brethren churches in Roanoke County include the Oak Grove Church, built in the southwest part of the county, and Kittinger's Chapel, in the Back Creek area.

Before the Revolutionary War, several dissenting denominations were introduced into the British colonies, including the Methodists and Baptists. In 1729, John and Charles Wesley and George Whitefield, students at the University of Oxford in England, hoped to bring about a revival of personal religion within the Anglican Church. The Methodist religion was spread by circuit-riding ministers, such as Francis Asbury, who worked out of Baltimore in the 1780s and 1790s. The first Methodist Church in Roanoke County was built in 1813 in Salem and was a small log structure later covered with weatherboards. The congregation built a new church on College Street in 1850. A second Methodist congregation was formed in the Cave Spring area, where Methodists, Lutherans, and Presbyterians worshipped in a union church built in 1845. In 1853, this church was deeded to the Methodists.

The Baptists' evangelical spirit brought many members to this denomination in the late 18th century. The first Baptist church was the Catawba Church, built in 1780 near Catawba. Four years later, Baptists in Salem built the Salem Church. A revival and a new minister led to an increase in church membership, when a group of forty members formed Pine Creek Church in present-day Floyd County.

The Mormon church, which began in 1830, grew quickly during the Second Great Awakening. Between 1860 and 1888 many Mormons moved as missionaries from Wythe and Tazewell counties to the mountains of Roanoke County. Their first convert was Zulah Ann Gladden, in 1888. By 1897, fifteen Mormons in the Back Creek area built the Haran Church.

The black residents of Roanoke County belonged largely to Baptist and Methodist churches. Throughout the antebellum period, most blacks

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102Kagey, p. 76.
103Kagey, p. 78.
104Kagey, p. 81.
105Kagey, pp. 82-4.
106Kagey, p. 85.
107Kagey, p. 263.
worshipped with white congregations. For example, the Enon Baptist Church near Hollins College started Sunday school classes in the summer of 1855 for black servants and slaves of some of the members. While blacks received membership into the church, they were instructed separately.\textsuperscript{108}

After the Civil War, several black churches were established. The black members of the Enon Baptist Church established the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Kingstown. Other black churches included the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church on U. S. Route 460 and the Bethlehem Baptist Church in the western part of the county.\textsuperscript{109}

Surveyed Resources

The Roanoke Survey documented 21 churches. The majority were frame structures and dated to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Rural church design remained quite vernacular throughout most of the county.

Roanoke County has few churches standing from the first half of the 19th century. The two oldest churches in the survey area are the German Baptist Church at 3333 Cove Road (80-23) and the Cave Spring Methodist Church at 3320 South McVitty Road (80-7), both of which have been extensively enlarged and remodeled. The original parts of these churches were one-story, rectangular brick buildings that reflected the common 19th century country church design. Windows pierced the side walls and the main entrance led into the gable end. The Cave Spring Church has a later Victorian steeple.

The simple rectangular-shaped church form without any ornamentation can be found through the early twentieth century. The only break to the simple plan is often a rear apse. Several well-preserved examples survive, largely in the more remote areas of the county. In some cases, these were "chapels" rather than churches. The majority of these are frame, and include Little Hope Primitive Baptist Church (80-580) and Thompson Grove Church (80-326), ca. 1880. The Thompson Grove Church retains a high degree of interior integrity, with its beaded wainscot, original pews, plaster walls, beaded board ceiling, and paneled pulpit on a raised dais. Boone's Chapel Church of the Brethren, ca. 1910-1930, (80-589) illustrates this plan in brick construction.

Larger congregations and churches nearer to towns and cities often incorporated various stylistic features by the late 19th century. Some examples feature a slightly projecting gable entrance, such as the Bellevue Church (80-211), ca. 1890-1910, or the Bend Union Chapel. St. John's AME Church (80-613), ca. 1924, breaks the rectangular form with a full tower on the front corner. Some churches feature a bell tower and sometimes a steeple over the gable roof near the entrance gable. The Ebenezer Baptist Church (80-390) has a bell tower over the top of the projecting entrance. Kittenger's Chapel (80-300), built between 1880 and 1900, has a square cupola with a pyramidal roof, a plain cornice band, and a shed-roofed apse. The Cave Spring Church (80-288), constructed in 1907, has a square, three-tier, central, front bell tower with a pyramidal roof and metal finial.

The brick churches in Roanoke County range from the simple box-like design at Boones Chapel to larger, more prosperous brick churches at Bonsack. The Bonsack Baptist Church (80-618) boasts a full Greek Revival portico. Other more modern examples, such as the Bonsack United Methodist Church (80-617) are larger but remain relatively simple in design.

The Enon Baptist Church, at 7971 Williamson Road (80-415) illustrates the Classical Revival style. The decorative features on this church include a front pediment with a modillion cornice and full entablature. The double door entrance is capped with a pediment supported by scrolled brackets and fluted pilasters. A hexagonal bell tower with a segmented dome supported by colonnette, and a simple balustrade is centered over the original church structure. Numerous additions have been added to this church without disturbing its integrity.

\textsuperscript{108}Kagey, p. 172.
\textsuperscript{109}Kagey, p. 285.
CHURCHES

Top Photograph:
THOMPSON GROVE
CHURCH
(80-326)
10210 Bent Mountain Road

Bottom Photograph:
KITTINGER CHAPEL
(80-300)
6844 Landmark Circle
CHURCHES

Top Photograph:
ST. JOHN'S AFRICAN
METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(80-613)
3019 Rutrough Road

Bottom Photograph:
BONSACK BAPTIST
CHURCH
(80-618)
4535 Bonsack Road
The county's black churches are quite similar to white church buildings of the same era. The 1907 Cave Spring Bethel Church (AME) and the 1924 St. Johan's AME Church (80-613) are both frame church buildings, similar in design to others throughout the county.

SOCIAL

Historical Context

Court days were an important social activity for the early settlers. Residents would come to the courthouse to pay their taxes and consult lawyers about legal matters. At the same time, business transactions, such as the sale of farm equipment and horses, would take place on the courthouse grounds. Political candidates gathered and debated current issues, while friends grouped together to exchange local news and current events from the cities. During the early years, court day was considered the most important social gathering of the year. A law passed around 1902 ended the monthly court day social activities.110

Many of the social activities in a rural community such as Roanoke County revolved around the seasonal rituals of farm work. Farm families in rural communities came together to participate in a variety of harvest activities, including crop harvesting, corn shucking, and threshing. Harvest activities incorporated work with pleasure, offering opportunities for social interaction for all sexes and ages. Women gathered to prepare large meals, and after the day's work had been completed, all the neighbors often joined in playing music and dancing. According to local tradition, dances were often held at apple-butter gatherings, where men would take turns watching over the apple butter, and then would dance until it was their turn again.111

Quilting was a popular social gathering for women and girls. Mothers and daughters would piece scraps into quilt tops, which then needed to be backed and quilted. Women held quilting bees at their homes, inviting their female neighbors. These gatherings offered an opportunity for women to quilt, gossip, and exchange news. Then they would prepare a large dinner and the men would join them for the meal, often followed by dancing and games.112

Public events, such as church services, weddings, funerals, picnics, and holiday celebrations, provided additional social opportunities for Roanoke County residents. During Christmas Week, traditionally the twelve days of Christmas from Christmas Day to Epiphany, families held a variety of parties, dances and social activities.113 The Neal and Trout Houses, the only hotels in the area, would hold dances throughout the year.114 Some social events centered around agricultural events, such as livestock shows or fairs. The fair activities included prizes for the best livestock, horse races, and athletic events such as the 220 yard dash, high jumping, hammer throwing, and three-legged races.115

Social customs, such as courting, differed in the 19th century. The young men would call on girls at their homes, where they might gather around the piano and sing. Groups of young people gathered together to play games, such as charades, have a taffy pull, or hold a party or dance. The popular dances of the time were the old Virginia Reel, square dances, the quadrille, lancers and the schottische. Horseback riding, hiking, and picnics were also very popular among young people.116

In the 1930s, an elderly Roanoke County resident Albin Magee told a WPA interviewer that the main social activities for children in the 19th century were ice skating in the winter and swimming in the summer. Magee recalled that children could skate all winter until about

110Kagey, p. 291.
111Kagey, p. 147.
112Kagey, p. 149.
113Kagey, p. 143.
114Kagey, p. 148.
March. The skates were made by blacksmiths and held on with leather straps.\textsuperscript{117}

The springs resorts offered a variety of other social outlets in western Virginia, and Roanoke County was no exception. The 1884 Gazetteer observed that Salem had become "very popular as a summer resort," due in large part to its "delightful location." During the summer months, its society was "greatly augmented by visitors from the more southern localities."\textsuperscript{118} Although springs had been popular in the mid-19th century, many experienced even greater popularity with the coming of the railroad, which provided better transportation to these mountain springs resorts.

Resorts were built at natural mineral springs near the railroad depots and stagecoach stops in Roanoke County. When the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad was extended through Salem in 1852, the Roanoke Red Sulphur Spring Resort in Catawba and the Lake Spring Resort in Salem were opened.\textsuperscript{119}

Several Salem businessmen established the Red Sulphur Spring Resort on 700 acres along the south side of the Catawba Mountains, ten miles north of Salem. The hotel was completed in 1858, and the resort operated until the Civil War. F. J. Chapman reopened the spring after the war, and purchased the property in 1879. The resort prospered after the railroad came through, with guests riding the train to Salem and then taking a carriage to the resort. The sulphur and limestone springs on the site were believed to have medicinal properties. Wealthy families came from states as far away as Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas, often staying through the summer to enjoy the spring waters. During the yellow fever epidemic, many wealthy families visited the resort to take advantage of its seclusion, and to hopefully avoid becoming ill. The springs offered a variety of entertainments and amusements, including Italian string bands, checker parties, fishing, hunting, and horseback riding.\textsuperscript{120}

\begin{itemize}
  \item F. J. Chapman, a wealthy Salem hotel owner, operated both Red Sulphur Springs and the Lake Spring resort at Salem. After his death in 1894, his sons sold the Red Sulphur Springs property to the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1908. The state converted the property into the Catawba Sanatorium, taking advantage of its high elevation and dry climate for tuberculosis patients. In the early 1970s, as tuberculosis ceased to be a major public epidemic, the state converted the Catawba Hospital into a mental health facility.

Another popular springs resort in the mid-19th century was Cove Alum Springs, located on a 160 acre tract of land three miles northeast of Bennett Springs. The resort included a twenty-two room hotel with a large ballroom and four individual cottages. Visitors traveled long distances to benefit from the healing properties of the alum water and to participate in activities such as fishing and hiking. When the hotel burned in 1877, the land was sold to the John Board family, who sold it to the City of Roanoke in 1939.\textsuperscript{121}

\section*{Surveyed Resources}

Homes and farms provided the setting for many of social activities in Roanoke County in the 18th and 19th centuries. Rural churches also offered opportunities for social interaction, including weddings and other organized congregational events. These types of resources are described under Domestic, Agriculture, and Religion.

The springs resorts provided fellowship opportunities more for visitors to Roanoke County throughout the 19th century. While most of these resources are now gone, some buildings do survive from Botetourt Springs and Catawba Springs (see Health Care/Medicine).

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{117}Kagey, p. 148.
  \item \textsuperscript{118}Kagey, p. 546.
  \item \textsuperscript{119}Kagey, p. 180.
  \item \textsuperscript{120}Kagey, pp. 179-180.
  \item \textsuperscript{121}Helen R. Prillas,\textit{ Places Near the Mountains}, (Roanoke, Va.: privately published, 1985), p. 296.
\end{itemize}
RECREATION/ARTS

Historical Context

In the 19th century, many of the recreational facilities, with the exception of the springs resorts, were located within larger towns, such as Salem and Roanoke. Recreations such as horse racing and sporting events were popular during the nineteenth century, but these were held within the town of Roanoke, not in the county. Few resources of this type were uncovered within the present county boundaries during this survey.

Recreational facilities began to appear in the county during the early twentieth century. During the 1910s and 1920s, many amusement parks were built across the country. In Roanoke County, Tuck-away Park opened in 1921 near Cove Alum Springs. This park offered a dance hall, swimming pool, and concerts by the local Roanoke band. The park closed in 1942, when Roanoke City purchased land in the area for Carvins Cove Reservoir. After the reservoir was constructed, Carvins Cove became a popular location recreational area for fishing, boating, hunting and picnicking.

Between 1920 and 1950 numerous rustic cottages were built along the Roanoke River, rural creeks, and in hollows and other rural areas of the county. These structures served mainly as weekend homes but some were hunting cabins. These peaceful settings provided an opportunity for people to enjoy nature and get away from the more hectic city life.

One of the best examples of these rustic cottages is the group of cabins that remain along Crystal Creek, in the Cave Spring community. In 1932, Andrew Wright moved to Back Creek from Roanoke to escape suburban life for a simpler, rural life. Wright, and others who followed him, built log houses, which display a variety of construction techniques. Russell Hughes and his wife opened Reno's Roadhouse, a log tavern that served meals, soft drinks, and bootleg liquor, and soon became a "mecca for courting couples." Although these began as year-round residences, many have since become summer or vacation homes.

The prevalence of limestone caverns in western Virginia led to the opening of many of these caverns as tourist attractions in the 1920s and 1930s. One of Roanoke County's caverns -- called Dixie Caverns -- opened in 1922. The caverns is located on the ridge of Fort Lewis Mountain, near U.S. Route 460 and U.S. Route 11. The caverns incorporated a lodge hall and a camp ground.

Many of the first parks in this area were constructed in the cities of Salem and Roanoke. The county funded four county parks through the Park Bond of 1985: Whispering Pines, in Masons Cove; Walrond, in North County; Green Hill, in West County; and a proposed park in Cave Spring. The facilities at these parks include athletic fields, trails, picnic areas, rest rooms, tennis courts and flower gardens.

Surveyed Resources

In the early 20th century, a number of recreational cottages were constructed in the county for weekend houses. The majority of these recreational cottages were constructed of log, with a few stone examples. In some cases, these were built in clusters, such as those along Crystal Creek or at Bennett's Springs. Others were built throughout the rural areas of the county. The survey documented many of these recreational cottages.

The log cottages differ from earlier county log buildings in several ways. The earlier log structures typically have V-notching, squared corners, small entry porches, steeper pitched roofs, and were built in an agrarian setting. In contrast, the twentieth-century cabins evolved more from the early 20th century interest in rustic buildings, illustrating more variety in design and often reflecting a particular style. The 20th century cabins often have saddle notching with logs that typically extend from the end of the building and lower pitched roofs. Log railings, stone chimneys, and large porches.

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122 Kagey, pp. 334-6.

for viewing nature enhance the rustic character of these buildings.

Stylistic features are often found on the porches and along the eaves. The example at 2974 Forest Acre Trail (80-193), built between 1900 and 1920, features decorative vertical boards in the eaves. The cabin at 6210 Poor Mountain Road (80-222) has a criss-cross log railing across the porch and a combined stone and brick chimney, a common 19th century form in Roanoke County.

Several log cottages reflect characteristics of the Bungalow style, including 5643 Poor Mountain Road (80-562), 1567 Richland Hills Drive, and 6487 Bradshaw Road (80-572). These examples feature an overhanging front roof resting on more rustic log posts. The first two examples have stone chimneys. Other details included large multi-paned casement windows at the second example and a log criss-cross railing on the porch at the third example.

Some of these log recreational cottages feature vertical logs, rather than the traditional horizontal log technology. A group of these buildings survives on Skyline Road and Getty Lane, located along the Roanoke River near Wabun. Examples include 80-201, 80-202, 80-205, and 80-206.

The surveyed stone recreational cottages display a variety of design, as illustrated by 6418 Dry Hollow Road (80-582) and 2215 Janee Drive (80-521). The first example was designed to face the woods instead of the road, with a rear, main entrance and porch. The Bungalow features of this house include a gable roof that changes pitch to extend over the porch, and a large rear shed dormer. The cobble stone construction adds to the rustic character. These stones were also used for the tapered round columns, a form that is repeated in the unusual chimney. The Janee Drive house is located along a street that has one other stone, recreational house and several log cottages. This weekend house is constructed of more traditionally laid, flat, rubble stone, with a front gable dormer. The cottage has unusual, long, louvered windows and exposed rafters and a side stone chimney. The large gable-roofed pavilion in the front yard enhances the setting for outdoor activities.

Dixie Caverns (80-552) facilities include a log cabin and a stone dance hall/restaurant, both built ca. 1930-50. The dance hall/restaurant building has been considerable remodeled since its initial construction. This recreation site also has a campground behind the standing structures.

A theater/arts center called "Little Theater" (80-182) has been surveyed on the Hollins College. This is used for college and community events.

TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION

Historical Context

The first transportation routes in the Roanoke Valley were paths created by animals looking for the salt deposits, like those at the Big Lick. Indians traveling through the Valley also used these paths, including the Tutelo. The immigrants who came into western Virginia and into the Roanoke Valley followed the same paths. The major north-south route, often called the Indian road, became a public highway by 1745. Later land transactions often referred to this as the Great Wagon Road. This route began in Philadelphia, traveling west to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, from which it headed southwest into the Valley of Virginia, following present-day U.S. Route 11, and then continuing south into North Carolina.124

The major east-west route through the Roanoke Valley was called the Trader's Path. This route led west from Lynchburg, across the Blue Ridge Mountains and into Big Lick and Salem. At Big Lick, the path split, one branch heading north through Botetourt County and the other section continuing west in what was called the Wilderness Road. The poor condition of the east-west routes in the 18th and early 19th century discouraged immigration from this direction for a number of years.125

124Kagey, pp. 27-33.
125Kagey, p. 28.
RECREATIONAL COTTAGES

Top Photograph:
(80-193)
2974 Forest Acre Trail

Middle Photograph:
(80-201)
1115 Skyview Road

Bottom Photograph:
(80-521)
2215 Janee Drive
The Augusta County Court established another trail from Lynchburg through Roanoke to Salem in 1740. This trail, which intersected the Great Road near Big Lick, was later called Neeley's Road, then Lynchburg-Salem Turnpike, and today, U. S. Route 460. Another early route, called Greely Gap Road was established in 1746. This road extended five miles, connecting the Great Wagon Road and Neeley's Road, closely following current U. S. Alternate 220.

Since the early roads were often full of deep ruts, road maintenance proved a constant problem in the 18th and early 19th centuries. Citizens who lived along the road were responsible for its maintenance within five miles of their property, and an overseer was selected to enforce the law. Every man between the ages of eighteen and sixty-five was required to work on the roads in the county. Anyone who obstructed the roads or did not maintain their section was brought to court.

The early 19th century brought a flurry of turnpike construction across the state, in an effort to improve the major travel routes. Many turnpike companies were incorporated during these years, but not all were successful in completing turnpike projects. In Roanoke County, the Fincastle-Blacksburg Turnpike opened with a stagecoach stop in Salem by 1819. In 1938, the Salem and New Castle Turnpike Company and the Salem and Peppers Turnpike Companies were organized. Two years later, two more turnpike companies were formed -- the Salem and Bent Mountain Turnpike and the Buchanan and the Salem Turnpike Companies.

Travelers along the turnpike used horses and wagons and stagecoaches throughout the 19th century. A variety of service facilities, such as taverns and toll houses, were established along turnpikes, often spaced at distances for about one day's travel. Small crossroads would often develop around these taverns, creating turnpike towns. Older communities located along the turnpikes often took advantage of the increased commercial opportunities.

The county stores in these rural communities often served as the post office for the community, as at Catawba. As late as the early 20th century, the Catawba Mercantile Store (80-258), built in the early 20th century, contained the post office for the community until a separate post office was constructed on an adjacent lot in the late 1940s.

Although Roanoke County did not have river canals within its bounds, the community was influenced by the canals in nearby Botetourt County. The James River and Kanawha Canal was navigable to Buchanan, in Botetourt County, by 1852 and drained commerce from Roanoke until the construction of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad.

The railroad has played an important role in the history and development of Roanoke County, which became a hub for railroad activity. In 1852, the Virginia and Tennessee railroad was extended from Lynchburg to Big Lick and Salem. Lynchburg had been lobbying the legislature for rail transportation to the New River Valley in an effort to extend its market. Rail transportation was considered faster and easier to maintain than the earlier network of canals. Trains traveled at a speed of 40 miles per hour, greatly reducing travel time from the stagecoach era. By 1854, the tracks had been extended to Bristol.

In 1870, the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, the Southside Railroads, and the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroads merged, creating a 479-mile train system called the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio (A M & O) System. The financial panic on Wall Street in 1873 created problems for the A M & O and it was eventually sold in 1880 to Clarence H. Clark. When Clark reorganized the firm, renaming it the Norfolk and Western (N&W) Railroad Company in 1882, he selected Roanoke for its headquarters.

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126 Kagey, p. 28-9.
127 Kagey, pp. 31-3.
128 Kagey, p. 34.
129 Kagey, p. 34.
130 Kagey, p. 177.
131 Kagey, p. 243.
The Norfolk and Western proved successful. In 1896, the N&W purchased the Roanoke and Southern Railroad, which ran from Roanoke to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Eventually, the N&W system expanded throughout the midwest. While the N&W Railroad was originally used largely for transporting agricultural products, coal quickly became the main product transported and continues to be today.132

The Virginian Railway, a local rail system, began in 1909. The tracks ran east-west through Roanoke, parallel to the N&W Railroad for twenty miles, and then followed the Roanoke River. This rail system hauled coal from West Virginia to the Norfolk area. The section from Roanoke to West Virginia was electrified by 1930.133

Two small rail systems were built in Roanoke County to transport minerals from local mines. The Castle Rock Branch of the Roanoke and Southern Railroad was completed in 1893 and covered nearly three miles to the iron ore mines in Castle Rock. It lasted for only eight years while the mines were productive. The Catawba Valley Railroad was built in 1909 and connected with the N&W Railroad in Salem. It was used to transport sand, mined in Catawba, to a glass plant in Salem.134

The steam-operated street railway greatly improved transportation between Vinton and Salem in the late nineteenth century. The Vinton line and the Salem line, which were electrified in 1892, traveled at a rate of eight miles per hour. In 1929, sections of the streetcar system were replaced with motor buses. The rise of the automobile brought the demise of this system.135

Small buses, called jitneys, were used for public transportation around the Roanoke vicinity in the early twentieth century, but they were soon replaced with taxicabs. In 1913, the first cab company began operations in Roanoke, and the taxi soon became a popular form of transportation.136 Between 1930 and 1940, five interstate bus lines began operations. By 1940, buses were making frequent trips to and from Roanoke. The early bus lines included Pan-American, Consolidated Bus, New Castle Bus, and Atlantic Greyhound.137

The popularity of automobile transportation in the early 20th century led to the development of hard-surface roads. In 1906, the General Assembly passed an act that made the state responsible for helping the counties with road construction and maintenance. Only major roads in the county were paved before World War II. After the war many federal, state, and county roads were upgraded and improved, in all but the isolated mountainous areas.

Aviation was a popular hobby in Roanoke County in the early part of the twentieth century. Area residents flew planes over Roanoke, using fields outside the city for landing. In 1929, the county established a committee to find an appropriate site for an airport, incorporating landing strips, a flight school, and aircraft storage. The Cannaday Farm, six miles north of Roanoke, was selected for landing strips, a flight school and aircraft storage. As air transportation became increasingly popular, American Airlines established an air mail and passenger flight service from Roanoke in 1934.138

In 1937, Roanoke City took over airport operations from the county, paving the runways through funding from the Federal Works Projects Administration. The airport was further improved during World War II when it was declared a national defense project. This designation permitted the use of federal funds for improvements. After the war, commercial flights increased from an average of 100 passengers per day in 1945 to 1,000 by 1974.139

During the late 1970s, the Virginia Air Transportation System studied the establishment of a municipal airport for the Roanoke, Lynchburg, and Danville area. The

133Kagey, p. 443.
134Kagey, p. 407.
135Kagey, p. 404.
136Kagey, p. 405.
137Kagey, p. 443.
138Kagey, pp. 444-6.
139Kagey, p. 449.
committee chose Roanoke. An expanded and improved Roanoke Regional Airport opened in 1990.

Surveyed Resources

Historic transportation resources are generally located along the major travel arteries; in Roanoke County, these would be along the roads and later railroads. Many of the houses and other buildings along the early roads and turnpikes often served some transportation related functions. Residents of houses sometimes opened their homes to provide food and lodging for travelers. In some cases, houses evolved into taverns; in other situations, buildings were constructed specifically for use as taverns or later hotels. The Roanoke County survey identified two such lodging facilities. The Black Horse Tavern (80-410), constructed ca. 1854, is a log dwelling reportedly used as a tavern. A hotel called Belle Grove was located nearby (80-408), and its small brick Greek Revival office building (80-409) survives at the same site.

Many of the county's small towns and villages are in themselves transportation resources, including crossroads communities, turnpike towns, or railroad towns. These communities grew because of their access to transportation routes. Salem's location along major turnpikes helped boost its growth during the first half of the 19th century. Communities like Bonsack and Gish's Mill boomed during the railroad years, after the railroad came through their bounds. The City of Roanoke is one of the county's largest transportation resources, drawing much of its growth from the railroad access and the establishment of the railroad offices here in the 1880s.

Surprisingly few resources with clear ties to the railroad remain in the county. No railroad depots were discovered during the course of the survey; these are documented only through photographs. A number of the railroad-related resources that do survive have been heavily altered, so additional historical research would be needed to document their connection to the railroad. For example, at Bonsack, a turn-of-the-century house survives that was once the stationmaster's house, but this connection would not be obvious merely from an examination of the building. While some railroad resources, such as depots, were often built specifically for that purpose, in other cases, older buildings were reused as the community's needs changed.

With the arrival of the automobile, a new type of business arose -- the gas station. Often times, these stations were associated with a country store. The Roanoke survey documented several gas stations. The Hickey-Pickety-Garage (80-496), ca.1920 - 1940, a combination gas station and store, features a small one-story commercial building with a wide overhanging roof to shelter the gas pumps. The G. K. Custer Grocery and Hardware store (80-591), ca. 1920-40, is a small brick building, again with the broad overhanging roof, this time supported by massive stone columns.

Several examples of bridges have been surveyed, including a few railroad bridges from the turn-of-the-20th century and several early 20th century road bridges. These are described in more detail under engineering/technology.

COMMERCE/TRADE

Historic Context

As roads improved in the late 18th century, travel increased. This increased travel led to the establishment of many inns, taverns, and ordinaries along the main roads, providing food and lodging for travelers and their livestock. Some residents along these roads opened their houses to travelers. All innkeepers were required to purchase licenses, and the fees that they charged were set by the courts.140

Small crossroads villages often evolved around these inns and taverns along the major routes, such as Gish's Mill or Cave Spring. These villages became centers of local commerce. The country store was the center this trade, where local farmers and residents would bring goods to trade and sell and where they would purchase goods from outside the community. Other commercial enterprises at these crossroads

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140Kagey, p. 68.
TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

Top Photograph:
BELLE GROVE
(80-408)
7223 Old Mountain Road

Bottom Photograph:
G. K. CUSTER GROCERY
(80-591)
3977 Old Catawba Road
many of these trades became industrialized, 
decision, some of which later grew into larger towns and villages. 
these communities provided a variety of 
services for area residents, some of which were 
were provided in private homes and some through 
specific building types.

In the 18th and early 19th century, stores and 
trading operations often took place within 
private homes. These began as small businesses 
but often grew into larger enterprises which 
required separate store buildings. While it is 
often difficult to determine which older houses 
might have served such functions without 
additional historical research, a few surveyed 
buildings suggest a combined residential and 
commercial function. The house at 6831 
Landmark Circle (80-528) appears as a deep 
rectangular store form butted against a house 
form; examples like this in other parts of 
western Virginia have often housed commercial 
functions.

141Kagey, p. 127. 
142Kagey, p. 157. 

Surveyed Resources 
Roanoke County contains numerous commercial 
resources. The largest of these resources are the 
many crossroads communities, some of which 
located along the railroad, such as Big Lick, 
Salem, Vinton, Cave Spring, and Bonsack grew 
rapidly, benefiting from the increased trade 
provided by the railroad. For Big Lick, the 
railroad brought major commercial growth, 
boosting the community from a small 
antebellum community to a major commercial 
center. For other smaller communities, like 
Cave Spring or Bonsack, the transportation 
links available through the railroad 
courted the development of specialized 
commercial trade, such as marketing orchard 
products.

Throughout the late 19th and early 20th 
century, the majority of commercial 
establishments located within the county 
bounds related to the agricultural base of the 
community, such as milling, blacksmithing, and 
general stores. As technologies changed, and 

141Kagey, p. 127. 
142Kagey, p. 157. 

many of these trades became industrialized,
these businesses gradually left the countryside 
for cities. Some businesses, such as physicians, 
dentists, and undertakers, continued to remain 
in the countryside, but found themselves 
increased competition with those 
operations in the cities.

Beginning in the 1950s, several organizations 
have established large commercial offices in 
the county. Allstate Insurance opened an office 
in Roanoke City in 1951, but moved to the 
county in 1956. This location became a regional 
office in 1986, and currently employs over six 
hundred people. Kroger grocery operations 
bought a thirty acre tract west of Salem for a 
warehouse and freezer facility in 1959. Kroger 
has expanded to two sites, one at Glenvar and 
one on Kessler Mill Road. ITT Components 
Division established a manufacturing site in 
northern Roanoke County in 1959, and the 
Double Envelope Corporation, a printing and 
converting business, was started in the county in 
1960.

Surveyed Resources 
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resources. The largest of these resources are the 
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facilities.
STORES

Top Photograph:
(80-356)
8344 Boones Chapel Road

Bottom Photograph:
(80-626)
8176 Peters Creek Road
STORES

Top Photograph:
(80-328)
9526 Tinsley Lane

Bottom Photograph:
(80-387)
Corner of Randall Drive and Rutrough Road
The nine surviving stores display a variety of designs. One common thread underlies these examples — most are rectangular structures, with the gable end, which contains the entrance, fronting the road. The surveyed examples display tremendous variety in scale. Two of the smallest stores are 5678 Roselawn Road, (80-348), one of the few examples with an entry in the long wall, and 8344 Boones Chapel Road (80-356). Both are one-story with small shed additions to the side. A slightly larger examples survives at 8176 Peters Creek Road (80-626). This has a deeper shape and larger store area, similar to many late 19th century stores, but it is only one-story high. The store retains its simple false front and front porch, along with the plate glass windows and door which appear unaltered.

Roanoke County contains several good examples of the large merchantile stores from the early 20th century. These buildings have simple, shed roofed porches sheltering the recessed front entrance, which is flanked by large display windows. Side, shed-roof additions had been added to provide additional storage space. One of the best examples of this form is Ferris Market (80-387). This is a two-story building, with original porch, front shed roof, display windows and doors, and a loading door above the front porch.

Other good examples of merchantile stores were recorded in the survey at 9526 Tinsley Lane (80-328), 8344 Boones Chapel Road (80-356), 5167 Poor Mountain Road (80-216), 8176 Peters Creek Road (80-626), and at the corner of Randall Drive and Rutrough Road (80-387). Within the basic form of the general store, these examples display some stylistic variations. The store on Tinsley Lane, built between 1880 and 1900, features a double door entrance constructed with diagonal boards and exposed rafters with carved ends. The store on Boones Chapel Road has been decorated with single, board-and-batten shutters, a double batten door entrance, and diagonal boards on the north addition door.

By the 1920s and 1930s, with the popularity of the automobile, many stores added gas pumps and many gas stations were built with small stores. Roanoke County contains three good examples of these resource types. The characteristic feature of these structures is a wide, overhanging roof that shelters the gas tanks. Surveyed examples include 10402 Bent Mountain Road (80-528), Hickety Pickety Garage (80-496), and the G. K. Custer Grocery and Hardware Store (80-491). All of these examples are one-story and contain smaller store areas than the older merchantile buildings.

As commercial operations moved into major towns and cities in the 20th century, most of these general store operations have been abandoned and many of the buildings have been either removed or remodeled. Since the surviving stores are usually vacant or used for storage, they are threatened by neglect.

Besides the stores, which were the center of local trading, a variety of other building types served commercial functions. The community’s grist mill was often a center for trading. Taverns, hotels, and other lodging establishments can be considered commercial structures as well as transportation resources. These resource types are discussed under transportation and industry.

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION

Historic Context

The earliest industries in Roanoke County were related to agriculture or small craft shops. Most of the settlers of the county were farmers, but some practiced a trade along the side. These early settlers were often skilled in milling, coopering, cabinetmaking, blacksmithing, gunsmithing, or iron work.144 Those that did farm would often set up their operations near a large farm where their skills could be marketed.145

Milling was an important early industry in Roanoke County, as it was throughout the Shenandoah and James River Valley. Grist mills, later called merchant mills, processed wheat and corn into flour and meal, which was then marketed outside western Virginia. Some

144 Kagey, p. 63.
145 Kagey, p. 19.
of these grist mills incorporated other milling operations, such as saw mills, fulling mills, and sometimes processing lime. Mills were constructed along waterways for power, using wooden waterwheels turned by belts made from animal hide.\textsuperscript{146} By 1860, according to the U.S. Census, 12 flour and metal mills were operating in the county, employing 24 men and having a value of $178,662.\textsuperscript{147}

One of the earliest Roanoke County grist mills was constructed by Mark Evans before 1753 at the base of Mill Mountain. Tasker Tosh took his extra grain to the Evan's mill to be ground into flour and sold it to the militia. By 1797 Samuel Harshbarger had constructed a mill on Carvin Creek. Harshbarger's house, built at the same time, still stands at that site and has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. David Gish built two mills in the present day environs of Vinton, one on Glade Creek and another on Wolf Creek, both in the early nineteenth century.\textsuperscript{148} In 1848, Elijah Poage built a sawmill and grist mill in the Back Creek area. Poage lived in his ancestor's two-room log house until he built a larger house, which still stands on U.S. Route 221, in 1882. Near the house stood a loom house, a smokehouse, a slaughter house, a spring house, a post office and a coffin factory.

Colonel Henry H. Chapman and William Walton started a merchant mill in the 1850s on the Roanoke River. Their mill illustrates the varied functions of many of the western Virginia mills in the mid-19th century. The mill ground wheat for flour, corn for meal, and lime for plaster. They also had a brick plant and a sawmill on their property.\textsuperscript{149}

Many early mills incorporated fulling mills for wool. The process of manufacturing wool became more industrialized in the early 19th century at woolen mills, which wove the yarn into cloth. The Bonsacks started a woolen mill in Bonsack around 1822, producing clothing articles and blankets.\textsuperscript{150} In 1860, the woolen mill employed 18 men and had a value of $21,000, the second leading value for Roanoke County outside of milling and tobacco manufacturing.\textsuperscript{151}

A variety of small craft shops dotted the countryside in the mid-19th century, with many located in the towns and village. John Poage was a furniture maker in the early nineteenth century. He began making coffins and eventually developed an undertaking business, which has passed down through the family.\textsuperscript{152} Abraham Hupp had a metal works business in Salem, probably the tin-ware manufactory listed in the 1856 Virginia Gazetteer. Using tin, copper and sheet metal, his business made tinware, stoves, stills, and kettles. Charles and William Snyder were tanners and shoemakers.\textsuperscript{153} In the northern part of Roanoke County, F. D. Hall had a wagon making and repair business.\textsuperscript{154} The 1860 census also listed 3 boot and shoe makers, one iron-caster, and one leather-worker.\textsuperscript{155}

Minerals have been extracted from the mountains of Roanoke County for several centuries. During the late 18th and 19th centuries, many iron furnaces were established throughout western Virginia, including several in adjacent Botetourt County. An iron furnace was built in the Starkey community in the late 18th century, with "early operations on a crude scale."\textsuperscript{156} Little other mining activity occurred during the antebellum period.

The expansion of the railroads in the late 19th century led to a flurry of mining speculation throughout western Virginia. In Roanoke County, many iron mines operated during the period between 1880 and 1905. The 1884 Gazetteer noted that "the mineral deposits.

\textsuperscript{146}Kagey, p. 63.
\textsuperscript{147}U.S. Census, Agricultural, Eighth Census Schedule.
\textsuperscript{148}Kagey, p. 65.
\textsuperscript{149}Kagey, p. 125.
\textsuperscript{150}Kagey, p. 66.
\textsuperscript{151}U.S. Census, Industrial, Eighth Census Schedule.
\textsuperscript{152}Kagey, p. 65.
\textsuperscript{153}Kagey, p. 126.
\textsuperscript{154}Kagey, p. 127.
\textsuperscript{155}U.S. Census, Industrial, Eighth Census Schedule.
\textsuperscript{156}Kagey, p. 286.
the chief of which is iron are very valuable, and extensive machine and iron and steel works have recently been established." The iron works were "working to its full capacity of 100 tons of pig iron per day." The Catawba furnace produced iron for ships. The county's iron mines included the Rorer mines (opening in 1880), the Gale and Castle Rock mines in southwest Roanoke County, and the Griffin mine near Salem. Iron mining discontinued in the early 20th century, since it became cheaper to extract ore from other locations.157

In the late 1880s, rich zinc deposits were discovered in Roanoke County on David Plaine's property, near the old Bonsack depot. In 1888, 11,878 tons of zinc were shipped by railroad out of the area. Mining operations must have ceased by 1895, when the property was resold for only $2,400, suggesting that most of the zinc was already extracted.158

Other excavating operations provided building materials for the county. A high quality silica stone was extracted from the south side of Catawba Mountain and used for building stone and sand. The Roanoke College Lutheran Church in Salem and the First Presbyterian Church in Roanoke were built from this stone. The stone was also crushed into sand for glass-making. The sand was transported by wagon and later by railroad (between 1909 and 1942) to Salem for glass manufacturing at the Piedmont Glass corporation.159

The abundant sources of clay and shale throughout the county were extracted for brick-making, beginning in the late 19th century. In 1890, the Pierpont Brick Works opened in Salem, and has continued to operate for over a century. The business is now called the Old Virginia Brick Company. The Webster Brick Company operates near Bonsack, just outside Roanoke County.160

In the twentieth century, with the growth of Roanoke, thousands of new jobs have been established in the area, with many in public utilities and transportation. The majority of new industries came into Salem. A 1950 survey of Roanoke County's industries, conducted by the Salem Chamber of Commerce revealed that the county had 100 industries producing 500 products, with the majority of the manufacturing plants in the city of Salem. General Electric established a large plant in Salem in 1955, becoming one of the largest area employers.161 Today the county's diversified jobs include trade, industry, culture and transportation.

Surveyed Resources

Although mills were common in the 19th century, only one county example was found during the course of the survey, and that example dates to the 20th century and has been largely rebuilt. Turner's Mill (80-370) is a small frame building that was originally constructed ca. 1911 and rebuilt and restored in 1979 with a new waterwheel. No machinery survives inside the mill.

Few other industrial sites were found during the course of the county survey. Although there were a number of mines, few buildings survive from those operations. Several railroad bridges have been recorded that served railroad lines to the mines; these are described under engineering/technology. The majority of the surviving historic industrial sites would be located within the present-day cities of Roanoke and Salem.

The Catawba Rural Historic District survey did document several industrial sites, including small rural blacksmith shops, such as those on the Woods Morehead Farm (80-103), and the Crawford -Earkin Farm (80-129), a twentieth century building with a brick forge. Other documented sites include a 20th century portable sawmill (80-166), a stone lime kiln (80-112), and several mill sites.

157 Kagey, p. 286.  
158 Kagey, p. 288.  
159 Kagey, p. 288.  
160 Kagey, p. 288.  
161 Kagey, p. 513.
LANDSCAPE

Historic Context

Roanoke County’s natural beauty, featuring mountains, rivers, and creeks, has encouraged people to build or purchase properties for vacation and weekend homes. This interest in the area’s natural beauty led several city-dwellers to establish full-time residence along Crystal Creek in the 1930s.

The Blue Ridge Parkway runs throughout the southeastern part of the county, offering recreational opportunities for Roanoke County residents and encouraging tourist visitation.

Western Virginia features many limestone caverns, some of which are open to the public. Roanoke County contains Dixie Cavern, located on U.S. Route 460, west of Salem near the Montgomery County line. The caverns were discovered in 1920 by Bill McDaniel, who, as a young boy, was searching for sacred Indian grounds that were reportedly in the area. He found a small opening in the side of the mountain. Further exploration showed a cathedral-size cavern with a variety of multicolored limestone formations. The caverns were developed for public exploration, with stairs and tunnels created to allow easier public access. Dixie Caverns features recreational facilities, including a lodge hall, which still survives, providing a restaurant and dance hall, and a camp ground.

Surveyed Resources

The landscape resources in the county have been described under other themes. The Dixie Caverns buildings serve primarily a recreational function and are discussed under that them. Crystal Creek, and other early 20th recreational cabins, are also discussed as recreation. The Blue Ridge Parkway is described under Landscape Architecture.

FUNERARY

Historic Context

The majority of the large cemeteries in the area are located in the cities of Roanoke or Salem.

The Old Tombstone Cemetery, located about one mile north of the City of Roanoke on Plantation Road, is in the county. This cemetery is well known for the Denton Monument, which was carved in the early nineteenth century by Laurence Krone and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

More commonly found in the county are smaller church and family cemeteries. The church cemeteries are generally well maintained, but many of the family plots are in poor condition. The deterioration of family cemeteries usually occurs when the land is sold outside the family. Family cemeteries are further endangered by the lack of fencing, which would afford a measure of protection.

Surveyed Resources

The Henry cemetery and the Kittinger cemetery provide good examples of well-preserved family cemeteries in Roanoke County. The Henry cemetery (80-171) contains about 20 markers, dating from 1886 through 1940. The markers are mostly simple designs, with a few decorations about hands shaking or simple flower motifs. Three of the graves are marked with head and foot stone combinations. The Kittinger cemetery (80-173), dating from 1896 to 1990, illustrates a wide variety of popular cemetery markers to the present day.

ARCHITECTURE/
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/
COMMUNITY PLANNING

Historic Context

The Blue Ridge Parkway, a scenic roadway, runs through the eastern part of Roanoke County. President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the parkway as a New Deal program in the 1930s. The Public Works Administration funded the project, providing needed jobs to many area residents. The road took several decades to build, with final completion in 1987. The section through Roanoke County was completed in the mid-1960s. The Parkway now provides a 180-mile drive through 470 miles of park land, providing scenic mountain views of National Forest lands.
Some older houses are still visible from the Roanoke County established a Planning Commission in 1939. Within the first two years of its operation, the county adopted its first subdivision ordinance, comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance. In 1960 the zoning ordinance and map were revised. Ten years later, major revisions of the zoning ordinance text, and a county-wide reclassification of the zoning map were developed, but these changes were rejected in 1977 and clarifications of the zoning ordinance were written in 1985. A second comprehensive plan was adopted in 1974 and the present one was adopted in 1985. Today, the Roanoke County Planning and Zoning Office is working on writing a new zoning ordinance.163

Surveyed Resources

Besides the Blue Ridge Parkway, which runs through the county, no other resources in this category were uncovered during the course of the county survey.

TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING

Historic Context

Many of the county's early engineering resources are its bridges. Although early settlers forded creeks, local residents built bridges across larger rivers and creeks along the major roads as soon as resources were available. The earliest bridges were built of wood, but none of these survive to the present day. At the turn-of-the-20th century, steel truss bridges were constructed throughout Virginia. By the mid 20th century, concrete bridges became more common throughout the countryside. The Blue Ridge Parkway features several bridges from the mid-20th century that are more aesthetic in design.

Railroad construction led to the second half of the 19th century brought the construction of many cut stone bridges which crossed creeks, rivers, and roads. Even when the tracks have now been removed, many of these bridges still remain throughout the countryside.

Two other examples of technology-related resources came with rural and civic improvements in the early 20th century. The Niagara Dam was built in Roanoke County around the turn of the 20th century. The Roanoke Hydraulic Power Company acquired the rights to a section of land on the Roanoke River, a few miles southeast of Vinton. The dam, which measures 530 feet long and 60 feet high, was built at a narrow gorge where the Roanoke River passes through the mountains. The dam powers four generators which create 11,000 volts of electricity. This dam and a steam-operated plant provided the electrical power for Roanoke City for a number of years.214

In 1947, the Roanoke City Water Department constructed a reservoir at Carvins Cove. As the city continued to grow, the Water Department constructed a tunnel through Tinker Mountain to provide more water for the reservoir in 1966. In 1972 a second tunnel was created, allowing water from Catawba Creek to enter the reservoir. The Carvins Cove Reservoir has become a favorite county recreation site for picnicking, hunting, boating, and fishing in recent years.215

Roanoke County boasts the invention of the first cigarette rolling machine by James A Bonsack. While on vacation at Coyner Springs he spotted a poster from a cigarette manufacturing company offering a large sum of money to anyone who invented a machine that would roll cigarettes automatically. At the age of 16, Bonsack coaxed his friends into helping him invent such a machine. This machine greatly enhanced the cigarette industry. Bonsack and his associates secured a charter for the Lone Jack Cigarette Machine Company in 1883.164

Surveyed Resources

162 Kagey, p. 452.
163 County of Roanoke Department of Planning and Zoning, Roanoke County Land Use Plan: Comprehensive Development Plan, Horizon Year 2003 (Roanoke, Virginia: 1985), p. 104.
The Roanoke County survey identified several cut limestone railroad bridges, such as that across Peter's Creek Road and the N&W bridge over Dry Hollow Road (80-564). These bridges are constructed of cut, coursed stone supporting steel railroad trusses.

The majority of the county's road bridges are modern concrete examples that date to the 20th century. Representative examples include Mason Creek bridge, at the intersection of Route 311 and Dutch Oven Road, and the Bridge (80-588) along the Old Catawba Road, ca. 1920-40.

The survey identified one older dam site along Bottom Creek (80-502), dating ca. 1900-20. This is one of the few stone dams surviving in the county. The Niagara Dam and the Carvins Cove Reservoir were not surveyed, due to their more recent construction date.
BRIDGES

Top Photograph:
Railroad Bridge
Norfolk and Western Railroad
(80-564)
Dry Hollow Road

Bottom Photograph:
Road Bridge
(80-588)
Old Catawba Road
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NATIONAL REGISTER AND SURVEY

POTENTIAL INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS

Harris Farm, 5403 Bent Mountain Rd. (80-294)
The Harris House and its related outbuildings represent a highly intact mid-19th century farmstead. The house began as a two-room log structure ca. 1830-50, with most of the original mantels and interior trim remaining intact. This is one of the best preserved of the early 19th century log dwellings to survive in the survey area. The farm contains an excellent grouping of representative outbuildings, including a log dairy, corncrib, smokehouse, wash house, springhouse, corncrib, and two chicken houses.

Bellvue Farm, 5648 Roselawn Rd. (80-292)
Bellvue Farm illustrates the transition in local vernacular architecture from the smaller log houses of the early 19th century through the more popular I-house design by the end of the century. The house began as a single log pen, enlarged later in the century into the more popular I-house and decorated with a two-story gallery porch. The farm retains a significant collection of outbuildings, including a springhouse, smoke house, and corncrib. Bellvue represents the type of small farm engaged in the prosperous orchard business in the Bent Mountain area in the early 20th century. One of its tenant houses, associated with the orchard business, survives on the farm.

McCray Farm, 7184 Old Mill Rd. (80-301)
The McCray Farm is significant for its well-preserved vernacular domestic building forms and as a representative orchard farm in the Bent Mountain community. The oldest part of the house, currently the ell, was a two-room hall-parlor plan, built ca. 1820-40, which retains a high degree of interior integrity. The house was enlarged between 1890 and 1910 with a decorated frame I-house, reflecting the growing prosperity of this community. Like the original part, the addition survives with few changes. The farm contains a variety of associated barns and outbuildings, the most significant being a brick drying-house, the only documented example of this type in the county. The drying house was used to dry orchard products from the farm.

Speedwell, 6135 Merriman Rd. (80-27)
Speedwell is one of the best preserved antebellum houses in Roanoke County. The house, built ca. 1831, is a brick I-house with most of its original Federal trim surviving in excellent condition. A significant cluster of outbuildings survive with the house, including a detached kitchen, log corncrib, early 19th century brick kitchen/house, well, and barn. A small family cemetery, dating to the 1700s, survives near the house. The surrounding village of Starkey takes its name from this home, after Tazewell and Henrietta Harvey Starkey who owned the property when the railroad came through the area. This property has a significant front portico addition made by local craftsman Gustavus Sedon around 1877.

Pleasant Grove, 4377 W. Main St. (80-25)
Pleasant Grove is significant for its well-preserved late antebellum house and the survival of several important outbuilding types from the same period. The house, built ca. 1853, is a brick I-house, with early Greek Revival/late Federal style trim, most of which remains intact. The most significant outbuildings are a two-room brick slave house, one of the very few surveyed in the county; a brick smokehouse; and a brick springhouse. The woodwork in the house was executed by Gustavus Sedon, a well-known local joiner and carpenter.

Nininger Home, 6103 Plantation Rd. (80-34)
The Nininger House, built ca. 1863, is a well-preserved example of the larger mid-19th century homes in Roanoke County. The house, which is in excellent condition, retains most of its original Greek Revival/late Federal style trim. Several related outbuildings survive, including a brick meat house, garage, and three barns.

Gray-Flora House, 6113 Plantation Rd. (80-24)
The Gray-Flora house represents the type of large brick home built in Roanoke County during the mid-19th century. The brick I-house retains much of its original interior and exterior...
integrity, in spite of recent remodeling into apartments. Significant outbuildings include a two-level log outbuildings with projecting roof, a typical local design, and two later barns.

Dr. Gale House, 4909 Cave Spring Lane (80-10)
The Gale house illustrates the type of large brick houses found among the county's more prominent families in the mid-19th century. The brick house, ca. 1860-80, features most of its original mantels and interior finish. Dr. Joseph Gale, the original owner, founded the Lewis-Gale Hospital in Roanoke. The present owners are interested in National Register designation.

The Gray House, 6615 Peters Creek Rd. (80-401)
The Gray House is one of the largest and most stylish examples of the American Foursquare dwelling in Roanoke County. The house reflects some craftsman influences, with its sleeping porch and exterior detailing. The property retains a high degree of integrity, with few exterior or interior alterations.

5122 Old Virginia Spring Rd. (80-377)
This house is a rare Roanoke County example of Tudor Revival domestic architecture, built in a rural setting ca. 1920-1940. The house features a blend of stone and half-timbered frame construction in an irregular plan, which features a variety of porches and gables. Situated in the woods, with a creek to the north, this property illustrates the local trend to build vacation and sometimes permanent residences in rustic settings during the early 20th centuries.

Boxmont, 1911 Mountain View Road (80-595)
Boxwood is an excellent example of a very prosperous early 20th century Roanoke County farm. The house, built in 1937, presents a large and stylish example of the Colonial Revival style. The site retains a high degree of integrity with its gardens and related farm and outbuildings, including a stable, tenant house, two brick barns, and a shed barn, still in a rural setting.

POTENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Historic districts offer the opportunity to register significant groupings of related historic resources, which include a variety of resource types and possible archaeological interest. These proposed districts contain many examples of typical vernacular building forms, which gain greater significance when considered in the broader historic and architectural context. The recommended districts included here cover resources from many of the historic themes.

Janee Drive
This proposed historic district would include a cluster of approximately eight weekend cottages in a rustic creek-side setting along Janee Drive, in an area near Hanging Rock. During the early twentieth century, many such cottages were built as rural retreats, for weekend homes or sometimes permanent residences. This grouping of cottages is significant for its intact setting and well-preserved buildings.

Hollins College Historic District
The Hollins College Historic District, which now includes the campus quadrangle, should be extended to include approximately fifteen more buildings in the surrounding neighborhood. These structures, dating to the early 20th century, are used for classrooms and residences.

Bonsack
The village of Bonsack includes a significant grouping of twenty structures, including a wide range of house types, churches, and commercial structures. The Bonsack area was one of the first to be settled in the county, quickly becoming an important commercial center in the county. A early woolen mill, built in 1822, operated in Bonsack throughout much of the 19th century. The town prospered with the railroad, which came through in 1852 and established a depot here.

Wabun
The Wabun community illustrates the type of small crossroads communities that evolved in Roanoke County during the 19th century. This example is located in one of the best such collections of vernacular buildings in the southwest part of the county. Wabun includes a representative early twentieth century store, a vernacular Queen Anne dwelling, and several vernacular residences from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
Kingstown
Kingstown is significant as a little altered example of a rural black community in Roanoke County. Located northwest of Roanoke, the community retains an excellent collection of buildings, including several turn-of-the-century dwellings; a church, rebuilt ca. 1909; and a school house, ca. 1885. These buildings reflect the very common vernacular forms of their period. Several descendants of original settlers to the community still reside here.

FUTURE SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Early 20th Century Residential Structures
This survey identified 384 early 20th century properties throughout the county, including largely bungalows, foursquare, and other vernacular dwellings. These buildings were identified on the U.S.G.S. Quad maps and their building types noted. Additional survey efforts could record these buildings at the reconnaissance level.

Farm Buildings Survey
Farm buildings are one of the most endangered building types in the county with the rapid development of Roanoke County and the abandonment of its traditional agricultural base. This particular survey effort documented all standing agricultural buildings within the survey area. More time should now be devoted to surveying these resources at a more intensive level. Representative and/or significant examples of farm buildings should be recorded through measured drawings, since many of these will soon disappear.

Threatened Buildings
Many of the buildings recorded in the survey are currently suffering from neglect, and will soon be gone. Additional survey efforts should document significant and/or typical structures, such as 19th century log houses, at an intensive level, including measured drawings. This will preserve a record of these buildings for future analysis of Roanoke County's architecture. These efforts should also include those buildings that are known to be in areas where new development will occur.

Thematic Surveys
To better understand the cultural context of many of the resources apart from the domestic structures, the county might undertake more intensive-level thematic surveys of specific cultural resources. Such resources types might include stores, schools, or churches, some of the most common building types recorded in the survey. Thematic surveys provide better documentation of the development of these resource types, leading to a study of how this particular type evolved in Roanoke County. Thematic surveys can also lead to thematic National Register nominations, which is one way to identify, recognize, and nominate more typical, vernacular building types in the county.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PLANNING

EDUCATION

Distribution of Survey Forms to Property Owners

One of the first steps in educating the public about the historic resources in Roanoke County is to let them know that they exist. It is important to inform the owners of such properties that their buildings are historic and therefore a valuable part of the county’s history. This can be accomplished by mailing a copy of the survey form to the appropriate owner, whose address is listed on the form. This educational process is contingent on the computerization of the forms.

Technical Rehabilitation Brochures for Property Owners

Along with informing the owners about the importance of their building is educating them about the technical maintenance of their structures. Several key maintenance problems were observed during the survey and need to be addressed. These problems include inappropriate remodeling, nearby new development that encroaches upon the site, improper care of original materials, the use of artificial siding, and lack of maintenance. Three common, improper remodeling practices in the county are enlarging, reducing, or changing openings; adding or remodeling porches; and adding inappropriate additions.

County residents and property owners should be informed about the proper maintenance of historic materials. A few owners have sand blasted the brick on their houses, which destroys the protective, hard surface of the masonry, allowing moisture to enter the bricks and increasing deterioration. Another major problem in the area is the use of synthetic sidings, which have a different patina and texture than historically used materials and may cause the increased deterioration of the original surface by entrapping moisture. Vinyl, aluminum, asbestos, and asphalt sidings are common synthetic materials that have been used in the county.

Another threat to the county’s historic buildings in the area is lack of maintenance. While this affects a number of residential buildings, it is particularly a threat to farm buildings and outbuildings. Because many properties are no longer used for agricultural purposes, farm outbuildings have often been left to deteriorate or have been torn down. These buildings are important to the heritage of this historically agrarian county and therefore should at least receive basic maintenance such as roof repair and paint to protect them.

One way to inform the public about proper maintenance to historic buildings is through the development of technical rehabilitation brochures. Prince William County has four technical brochures prepared by Frazier Associates that would serve as good models for Roanoke County.

Develop Tour Brochures

Developing tour brochures would also inform the public about the historic resources in the county. These brochures could guide motorists through the county, indicating National Register buildings and sites, historic districts, and other historically significant properties visible from the road. Along with a map, the brochure could have short significance statements about the historic properties, much of which could be drawn from the survey records.

Audio-Visual Presentations on Historic Resources

Audiovisual presentations on historic resources are another useful technique for educating the public about the value of the community’s historic resources. Slide or video tape programs could show the county’s historic corridors or demonstrate the variety of historical development in different areas. The Roanoke Valley Historical Society or the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation may be interested in funding and/or organizing such a program.
Several such programs, some developed during the Sesquicentennial celebration are currently available through the Social Studies Office. These programs are listed under "Resources for Preservation" in this report. A new program has also been completed by the Roanoke Regional Preservation Office. As part of this survey project, Frazier Associates developed a slide program on Roanoke County architecture and the survey project.

Local Awards

Local awards are good incentives for architectural preservation. When a local historical society or preservation organization publicizes the special efforts of property owners in protecting their historic resources, or presents awards for good preservation practices, it encourages other property owners to follow these examples, while educating the public about the importance of older structures.

Newspaper Article Series

A series of newspaper articles about the historic resources in the county would highlight the importance of the older structures and help to keep preservation in the minds of the county residents. The series of articles could pertain to different themes such as building styles and types, construction eras, or technical maintenance of older buildings. The new survey reports and photographs can be used as background information for these newspaper articles.

Heritage Education in the Schools

Heritage education in the schools is important to develop children's interest about the history and historic resources of their county. The Preservation Alliance of Virginia sells a book called the "Heritage Education Workbook," which describes different processes used for educational preservation programs in the schools. Because different school districts have varying teaching techniques, it is important that the individuals who develop the heritage program work closely with the educators in the county.

The Roanoke Regional Preservation Office has been actively involved in promoting heritage education throughout the ten-county area which it serves. The RRPO offers teacher workshops and heritage programs. At present, the RRPO has developed a slide show entitled the "Architectural History of Western Virginia," which highlights the architectural history of the region it serves. This program has been designed for use in secondary schools and for adult education programs.

PROTECTION

National Register Nominations

An important starting point in the protection of the historic resources in the county is making nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for individual properties and for historic districts. While this process still allows owners to do what they want with their properties, the National Register designation recognizes the important resources in the county. Once the importance of the structures is recognized, the owner and local and state governments have the incentive to protect this heritage. Furthermore, the federal government is required to investigate alternatives if any federally funded or licensed project will have an adverse impact on a property listed on the National Register.

Zoning Study of Historic Sites for Impact

Now that many historic sites have been identified through the survey, it is very beneficial to study the impact of the present zoning on these properties. Several owners have allowed inappropriate development on their property such as commercial buildings or subdivisions.

The zoning ideally should promote the retention of the property and not allow categories that would encourage destruction of the integrity of the historic property. The provisions of the zoning classification in a historic district should assure that any new construction site has similar lot size, building height, and building size relative to the existing historic properties in the district. The
zoning classification of an individual property should not allow incompatible uses such as commercial construction or overly intense development of a historical property. New zoning classifications may need to be established as a result of this study.

**Local Historic Zoning Overlay**

After the present zoning of historic sites has been analyzed, it would be useful for the county to consider creating a local historic zoning overlay, which would provide special zoning for historic properties and districts. State enabling legislation exists to establish such an overlay and several Virginia counties have already enacted local ordinances. This form of local protection normally sets up some type of citizen board to oversee historic preservation issues and programs in the county and may also include a local design review board to oversee changes to historic properties. This local board could also establish a county-wide listing of local historic properties and sites important to Roanoke County history.

**Local Historic Resources Commission**

The creation of a permanent Roanoke County Historic Resources Commission to deal with preservation issues would further help to protect the historic resources in the area. This commission could help implement the previously mentioned recommendations for planning, including deciding which sites and areas should be included in any tour brochure, instigating the development of technical brochures, and approaching owners of more significant properties and residents in historically intact districts about the advantages of having their resources listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Furthermore, the commission could also establish a review board for historic districts once they are nominated.

**Easement Program**

An easement program would give owners another way to protect their historic resources. The owner could donate a perpetual easement (a restriction in the deed) to the local government or a nonprofit organization, such as RVPF. The agency would accept the easement if it provided for the appropriate protection of the property and would monitor the property to insure compliance on a regular basis. By donating certain development rights to the agency in the easement, the owner may qualify for certain tax benefits. An alternative scheme would be for Roanoke County to purchase easements from owners of historic properties.

**Historic Site Entry into County Information Base (GIS)**

The historic sites that have been identified in the survey process should be entered into the County's Geographic Information System as it is developed. This action will assure that the historic status of a property is presented along with the other information that is known about the parcel when any rezoning is proposed. Computerization of the survey forms will aide in this process.

**Public Properties Acquisition**

The county could establish a program to acquire historic properties for public purposes or for tourist attractions. Such a program would help protect the county's heritage when the resource is threatened by demolition or neglect, and/or if it is an extremely significant historical resource. Local organizations might be willing to help fund such projects and to create endowments for their continued operations.

**Conditional Zoning for Historic Sites in Rezonings**

When owners of historic properties apply for rezonings, there is the opportunity to request a variety of conditions if the rezoning is granted. These conditions can be tailored to each request and can be designed to encourage retaining and preserving the integrity of the historic property.

**Preservation Strategies into the County's Comprehensive Plan**

Additional historic preservation strategies should also be integrated into any future comprehensive plan. The present
comprehensive plan, which was written in 1985, has several recommendations regarding preservation and a map that shows the location of the historic sites known at that time. Now that a comprehensive survey of historic resources has been completed and their locations are identified, the additional steps listed in this report should be developed to protect these sites. This can be accomplished by incorporating the previously mentioned planning recommendations into any future comprehensive plan and in particular by establishing a permanent Roanoke County Historic Resources Commission.
RESOURCES FOR PRESERVATION

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions
Hall of the States, Suite 332
444 North Capitol Street
Washington, D.C. 20001
(301) 663-6149

The National Park Service
Preservation Assistance Division
Technical Preservation Services
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127
(202) 343-9573

The National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 673-4000

The National Trust Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
6401 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144
(215) 438-2886

STATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Preservation Alliance of Virginia
P.O. Box 1407
Staunton, Virginia 24401
(703) 886-4362

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-3143

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS/ OFFICES/ COLLECTIONS

Roanoke Regional Preservation Office
1030 Penmar Avenue, SE
Roanoke, Virginia 24013
(703) 857-7585

The regional office of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources serves a ten county area of southwest Virginia

Roanoke City Library, Virginia Room
706 S. Jefferson Street
Roanoke, Virginia 24011
(703) 981-2073
Historic materials on Roanoke Valley include books, manuscripts, photograph collections, and older newspapers on microfilm.

Roanoke County Library
3131 Electric Road, S.W.
Roanoke, Virginia 24018
(703) 772-7507
Historic materials on Roanoke Valley include books, and limited vertical files.

Roanoke County Clerk's Office
Roanoke County Courthouse
305 East Main Street
Salem, Virginia 24153
(703) 387-6205
Repository of official land records including deeds, wills, and plats and the original WPA historic survey forms.

Tony Whitwell
Hollins College
Roanoke, Virginia 24020
(703) 362-6617
Information on Roanoke County historic sites collected by Mr. Whitwell and his students.

Blue Ridge Parkway
National Park Service
220 BBT Building
1 Pack Square
SPECIAL NOTE: For further information about these slide and video presentations contact: 
Dr. Norma J. Peters, Social Studies Office 
Roanoke County Schools 
Administrative Offices 
526 College Avenue 
Salem, Virginia 24153 
(703) 345-6470

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barber, Michael B., Whitwell and Winborne, Ltd., and Mattern Mattern and Craig, Inc., 


County of Roanoke, "Roanoke County Land Use Plan." Roanoke, VA: Department of Planning and Zoning, unpublished, 1985-86.

AUDIOVISUAL RESOURCES

Slides

"History of Roanoke County" 
60 slides developed for the 1988 Sesquicentennial celebration.

"History of the Roanoke Valley" 
70 slides with script on the valley since the coming of the N &W Railroad in 1882.

"History of Education in Roanoke County," Slides with script on the history of education.

Videos

Sesquicentennial Documentary, produced by WBRA. 
Interviews with citizens of communities of Roanoke County.

Sesquicentennial Minutes, produced by WBRA. 
Short history minutes, which have been aired on TV during the sesquicentennial year.

Slides

"History of Roanoke County" 
60 slides developed for the 1988 Sesquicentennial celebration.

"History of the Roanoke Valley" 
70 slides with script on the valley since the coming of the N &W Railroad in 1882.

"History of Education in Roanoke County," Slides with script on the history of education.


"The Roanoke Valley Report." 1988, Supplement to *Pace Magazine*


U.S. Census of Agricultural and Manufacturing, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1900.


### VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES SURVEY
### ROANOKE COUNTY, VIRGINIA
### 1991

#### NUMERICAL PROPERTY LIST

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<th>File No.</th>
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<td>Boxwood Summit</td>
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93
Main Building, Hollins College
Same as 80-42
Stoner, Jacob, Spring House
Moomaw House
West Dormitory, Hollins College
Log House
William Hall House File Missing
Roanoke Navigation
Barn
Barn
Barn
Barn with Hood
Barn with Fences
Cabin (Board-and-Batten)
Cabin (Board-and-Batten)
Cabin on Bottom Creek
Logan Place
Hollins College Quadrangle
James Farm
Lower James Farm
House at Bonsack
Denton Cenotaph (Old Tombstone)
6629 Pine Needle Dr.
D.F. Taylor House, Rt 2 Box 369
7217 Pine Needle Dr.
7219 Franklin Rd.
VDOT Structure #5
7027 Franklin Rd.
6720 Circle Creek Dr.
Circle Creek Dr.
6708 Circle Creek Dr.
6624 Franklin Rd.
Harshbarger House (see 80-13)
Sarver House
Compton House
The Catawba Sanatorium

VDOT Survey
J. E. Tribbett House, Rt. 116
W. V. Turner House, Rt. 116
Joe Chisholm House, Rt. 618
James Chisholm House, Highland Rd.
Morgan House, off of Rt. 618
Abandoned Dwelling, Rt. 636
Burkholder House, Rt. 651
Thomas House, Rt. 651
Bush Home, 1730 Feather Rd.

Roanoke
Stewartsville
Stewartsville
Roanoke
Elliston
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80-132 All, Archie Wilson House
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80-135 Beard House
80-136 Brillhart Family House
80-137 House, (Brush Mountain)
80-138 Brillhart Cemetery
80-139 Brillhart farm
80-140 Shiloh Methodist Church
80-141 Hall, Alfred House
80-142 Bud Custer House
80-143 Kipps House
80-144 Wright Family Farm
80-145 House, Bending Oak Dr.
80-146 Brillhart Farm
80-147 Custer Farm
80-148 Brillhart-Hall Farm
80-149 Grisco Farm
80-150 School, Damewood Dr.
80-151 House, Damewood Dr.
80-152 House, Damewood Dr.
80-153 Hall Family Farm
80-154 Damewood, Festus Farm
80-155 Cemetery, (Damewood Dr.)
80-156 Damewood Farm
80-157 Barn, (Trout Creek)
80-158 Taylor, N.E. House
80-159 Garman, John H. House
80-160 Alls, James H. House
80-161 Alls, H. Ross House
80-162 Custer Cemetery
80-163 Wright Farm
80-164 Wright, Chester House
80-165 House, (Trout Creek)
80-166 Garman, Jim Farm
80-167 House, Route 785
80-168 6091 Two Ford Rd.
80-169 5509 S. Roselawn Rd.
80-170 5812 Ran Lynn Rd.
80-171 Henry Cemetery, Cornassel Ln.
80-172 6895 Old Mill Rd.
80-173 Kittinger Cemetery, Old Mill Rd.
80-174 7916 Williamson Rd.
5784 Foster Ln. Elliston
6210 Poor Mountain Rd. Elliston
6107 Poor Mountain Rd. Elliston
6111 Poor Mountain Rd. Elliston
Roanoke Bypass, Rt. 220 Roanoke
Brown-Acres House Roanoke
Roanoke By-Pass, Rt. 220 Roanoke
Brambaugh House, 3162 Tomaranne Dr. Bent Mountain
Farm, near McAfee Knob Catawba
Armstrong-Moses Farm Catawba
George W. Emmerson House Catawba
Bud Duffy House Catawba
George Bennett House Catawba
W. E. Thomas Barn Catawba
Thomas House Catawba
Lemon Farm Catawba
Thomas-Anderson Farm Catawba
Ralph Lee House Catawba
Mountain View Baptist Church Catawba
Farm, Rt. 779 Catawba
Cooper House Catawba
Robert Lee House Catawba
Morgan Cemetery Catawba
Catawba Cemetery Catawba
Barn, Rt. 779 Catawba
Bill Lewis House Catawba
Samuel Phillips House Catawba
Lula Garst House Catawba
Bridge, Old Rt. 311 Catawba
Catawba School (white) Catawba
Catawba United Methodist Church Catawba
Fringer House Catawba
House, Rt. 779 Catawba
Catawba Post Office Catawba
Nelson Barnett House Catawba
John Payne House Catawba
Keffer House Catawba
Catawba Mercantile Catawba
Jerry Morgan Farm Catawba
Spessard-Porter House Catawba
Jesse Bratton House Catawba
Catawba School (black) Catawba
Russell H. Blaney House Looney
First Baptist Church of Catawba Looney
Wilson-Brizendine House Looney
House, Rt. 311 Catawba
80-267 Charles Henderson House Glenvar
80-268 Taylor House Glenvar
80-269 Huffman-Damewood Farm Glenvar
80-270 John Damewood House Glenvar
80-271 Irvin Caldwell House Catawba
80-272 McPherson House Catawba
80-273 Grubbs House Glenvar
80-274 Rose House Looney
80-275 Ball House Catawba
80-276 Catawba Grocery Looney
80-280 Crystal Creek Dr. Houses Bent Mountain
80-286 Hofawger House
80-277 Store, Hanging Rock
80-278 Bennett Springs
80-279 Catawba Rural Historic District
80-280-285 numbers not used
80-286 Hofawger House (demolished)
80-287 VDOT survey, Route 115 Bent Mountain
80-288 Cave Spring Bethel Church Bent Mountain
80-289 7759 Poage Valley Road Ext. Bent Mountain
80-290 121 Poage Valley Road Ext. Bent Mountain
80-291 Bellvue Church, 5568 Roselawn Rd. Bent Mountain
80-292 Bellvue Farm, 5648 Roselawn Rd. Bent Mountain
80-293 5661 Roselawn Rd. Bent Mountain
80-294 5403 Bent Mountain Rd. Bent Mountain
80-295 5320 Spencer Drive Bent Mountain
80-296 6400 Bent Mountain Rd. Bent Mountain
80-297 6981 Bent Mountain Rd. Bent Mountain
80-298 6973 Bent Mountain Rd. Bent Mountain
80-299 6831-6845 Landmark Circle Bent Mountain
80-300 Kittingers Chapel, Landmark Circle Bent Mountain
80-301 7184 Old Mill Rd. Bent Mountain
80-302 7429 Moonlight Lane Bent Mountain
80-303 8210 Martins Creek Rd. Bent Mountain
80-304 8300 Martins Creek Rd. Bent Mountain
80-305 8439 Martins Creek Rd. Bent Mountain
80-306 8550 Martins Creek Rd. Bent Mountain
80-307 6219 Poage Valley Rd. Bent Mountain
80-308 5678 South Roselawn Rd. Bent Mountain
80-309 6104 Mount Chestnut Rd. Bent Mountain
80-310 6619 Mount Chestnut Rd. Bent Mountain
80-311 6840 Ivy Mountain Dr. Bent Mountain
80-312 Owens House, 6606 Ivy Mountain Rd. Bent Mountain
80-313 5109 Twelve O’clock Knob Rd. Bent Mountain
80-314 4429 Farm Hill Dr. Bent Mountain
80-315 Brown Cottage, 5427 Ridgelea Rd. Bent Mountain

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80-472 3554 Harborwood Rd. Salem
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80-491 8315 Willett Ln. Bent Mountain
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80-493 9970 Tinsley Ln. Bent Mountain
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80-495 11082 Mountain Top Dr. Elliston
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80-497 11010 Bent Mountain Rd. Check
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1083 Joe Carrol Rd.
4215 W. Main St.
4929 Stanley Farm Rd.
4968 Fort Lewis Church Rd.
4958 Glenvar Heights Blvd.
5753 W. Main St.
5724 W. Main St.
5817 Pleasant Run Rd.
5812 Viewpoint Ave.
4800 W. Main St.
4754 Poor Mountain Rd.
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5248 Poor Mountain Rd.
3115 W. Main St.
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4696 Cunningham Rd.
N&W Railroad Bridge, Dry Hollow Rd.
4665 W. River Rd.
3366 Carvins Cove Rd.
3378 Carvins Cove Rd.
5176 Bradshaw Rd.
5669 Bradshaw Rd.
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4857 Poor Mountain Rd.
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Goodwins Church, 5791 W. River Rd.
6197 Peaceful Dr.
Little Hope Church, Cove Hollow Rd.
6960 Cove Hollow Rd.
6418 Dry Hollow Rd.
2164 Wildwood Rd.
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1748 Richland Hills Dr.
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VDOT survey (Garden City, Roanoke, Stewartsville)
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80-359  Franklin and Willow Br. Rds.  Garden City
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80-10   Gale House (Old Dr. White Place)  Bent Mountain
80-118  Garman Barn  Glenvar
80-123  Garman Family Farm  Glenvar
80-119  Garman Farm  Glenvar
80-166  Garman, Jim Farm  Glenvar
80-159  Garman, John H. House  Glenvar
80-117  Garman, Peter House  Glenvar
80-11  Garst Fort  Salem
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80-206  5256 Getty Ln.  Elliston
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80-455  4787 Glade Creek Rd.  Stewartsville
80-459  4819 Glade Creek Rd.  Stewartsville
80-462  4860 Glade Creek Rd.  Stewartsville
80-460  4860 Glade Creek Rd., barn  Stewartsville
80-461  4948 Glade Creek Rd.  Stewartsville
80-551  4958 Glenvar Heights Blvd.  Glenvar
80-609  4591 Goodman Rd.  Garden City
80-610  4601 Goodman Rd.  Garden City
80-369  4809 Goodman Rd.  Garden City
80-586  1253 Goodwin Ave.  Salem
80-587  1255 Goodwin Ave.  Salem
80-107  Goodwin, John Farm  Glenvar
80-114  Gordon-Bennett Farm  Glenvar
80-35  Gordon, Simeon, House  Roanoke
80-354  5988 Grandin Rd.  Bent Mountain
80-128  Gravel Hill School  Glenvar
80-12  Grayholme House  Roanoke
80-446  2920 Green Hill Dr.  Salem
80-149  Grisco Farm  Glenvar
80-36  Grounds, George, House  Salem
80-273  Grubbs House  Glenvar
80-203  2733 Gun Springs Rd.  Salem
80-277  Hanging Rock, store  Glenvar
80-141  Hall, Alfred House  Salem
80-153  Hall Family Farm  Glenvar
80-470  2798 Harborwood Rd.  Salem
80-471  3104 Harborwood Rd.  Salem
80-474  3387 Harborwood Rd.  Salem
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8300 Martins Creek Rd.
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8550 Martins Creek Rd.
8037? Mayland Rd.
Abandoned House, Mayland Rd.
6566 Mayo Dr.
McConkey Farm
McPherson House
2916 McVitty Rd.
3027 McVitty Rd.
3121? McVitty Rd.
6419 Meacham Rd.
Starkey Elem. Sch., 6426 Merriman Rd.
6837 Merriman Rd.
Moomaw House
Morgan Cemetery
7429 Moonlight Lane
Morgan House, off of Rt. 618
6104 Mount Chestnut Rd.
6619 Mount Chestnut Rd.
11082 Mountain Top Dr.
1826 Mountain View Rd.
1909 Mountain View Rd.
1911 Mountain View Rd.
2148 Mountain View Rd.
Mountain View Baptist Church
2827 Neil Dr.
N&W Railroad Bridge, Dry Hollow Rd.
Nelson Barnett House
Niagara Power Station/Dam
3608 Old Catawba Rd.
3882? Old Catawba Rd.
3914 Old Catawba Rd.
House, 3977 Old Catawba Rd.
Store, 3977 Old Catawba Rd.
3988 Old Catawba Rd.
Bridge, Old Catawba Rd.
6512 Old Mill Rd.
6542 Old Mill Rd.
6547 Old Mill Rd.
7184 Old Mill Rd.
5524 Old Mountain Rd.
Glenvar
Garden City
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Garden City
Garden City
Garden City
Garden City
Glenvar
Catawba
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Glenvar
Garden City
Bent Mountain
Stewartsville
Catawba
Bent Mountain
Roanoke
Bent Mountain
Bent Mountain
Elliston
Stewartsville
Stewartsville
Stewartsville
Catawba
Salem
Elliston
Catawba
Roanoke
Salem
Catawba
Catawba
Catawba
Catawba
Bent Mountain
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Roanoke
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118
3672 Sterling Rd.
Stoner, Jacob, Spring House
Summerdean springhouse, LeMarre Dr.
2697 Sunnyvale St.
Tavern (Bower House)
Taylor House
Taylor House, Rt 2 Box 369
Taylor, N. E. House
6810 Thirlane Rd.
6909 Thirlane Rd.
6920 Thirlane Rd.
6933 Thirlane Rd.
Ebenezer Baptist Church, 7045 Thirlane Rd.
7047 Thirlane Rd., school
Thomas-Anderson Farm
Thomas House
Thomas House, Rt. 651
Thomas, W. E., Barn
Thompson Grove Church, Bent Mtn. Rd.
2020 Timberview Rd.
2033 Timberview Rd.
9525 Tinsley Lane
9526 Tinsley Lane, store
9696 Tinsley Ln.
9809 Tinsley Lane
9970 Tinsley Ln.
10325 Tinsley Lane
4062 Pitzer Rd.
Turner, H. F. House, Sterling Rd.
Tribbett, J. E., House, Rt. 116
Trout Creek barn
Trout Creek house
Troutville Weigh Station, Rt. 81
Turner, W. V., House, Rt. 116
5109 Twelve O'clock Knob Rd.
6091 Two Ford Rd.
VDOT survey, Route 115
VDOT Structure #5
5812 Viewpoint Ave.
West Dormitory, Hollins College
4665 W. River Rd.
4679 W. River Rd.
4743 W. River Rd
Goodwins Church, 5791 W. River Rd.
2164 Wildwood Rd.
80-491  8315 Willett Ln.                                           Elliston
80-44   William Hall House File Missing                         Roanoke
80-392  6520 Williamson Rd.                                    Roanoke
80-395  8160 Williamson Rd.                                    Roanoke
80-174  7916 Williamson Rd.                                    Garden City
80-358  7480 Willow Branch Rd.                                 Roanoke
80-485  7916 Williamson Rd.                                    Roanoke
80-415  7971 Williamson Rd.                                    Roanoke
80-190  Kay's Cabin, 8031? Williamson Rd.                     Roanoke
80-601  7468 Willow Branch Rd.                                 Garden City
80-265  Wilson-Brizendine House                                Looney
80-371  3713 Wispering Lane                                   Garden City
80-431  8177 Wood Haven Rd.                                   Salem
80-103  Woods-Morehead Farm                                   Glenvar
80-164  Wright, Chester House                                 Glenvar
80-163  Wright Farm                                            Glenvar
80-144  Wright Family Farm                                     Glenvar
80-577  4784 Yateman Ln.                                       Elliston
80-608  4484 Yellow Mountain Rd.                               Garden City
80-607  5376 Yellow Mountain Rd.                               Garden City
80-607  5376 Yellow Mountain Rd.                               Garden City
80-606  5512 Yellow Mountain Rd.                               Garden City