



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Waverly Downtown Historic District

Other names/site number: VDHR File #323-5019

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: Generally surrounding West Main Street from County Drive West to Coppahaunk Avenue

City or town: Waverly State: VA County: Sussex

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  N/A

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
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<p>In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>_____  <b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
<p>_____  <b>Title :</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>48</u>	<u>9</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>51</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business,
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant,
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Warehouse
- RELIGION: Religious Facility
- GOVERNMENT: Town Hall
- GOVERNMENT: Public Works
- GOVERNMENT: Post Office
- SOCIAL: Meeting Hall
- TRANSPORTATION: Road-related

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant
- RELIGIOUS: Religious Facility
- GOVERNMENT: Public Works
- GOVERNMENT: Post Office
- VACANT/NOT IN USE

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

LATE VICTORIAN: Victorian (Folk)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> and 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> and EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial  
Style

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, STONE, WOOD, CONCRETE,  
METAL

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## Summary Description

Waverly was established ca. 1854 as a planned stop on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. The town includes a full range of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial, residential, civic, and transportation-related structures that reflect its late nineteenth-century development as the industrial and commercial center of Sussex County. The core of the district consists of closely spaced commercial buildings located on lots along both sides of Main Street (State Route 40), just west of the railroad crossing.

The town's form is defined by the railroad passing through the region bringing agricultural products and raw materials from western Virginia to coastal markets at Portsmouth and Norfolk. Residential subdivisions grew up to the south and east of the commercial area. An African American neighborhood located to the north of West Main Street expanded as well. Until the 1930s, with the construction of US Route 460 parallel to the railroad, there was no major highway through the community. The consequent increase in traffic encouraged expansion of commercial development to the east along Route 460.

Today, Waverly's variety of building types range in date from the early nineteenth century to the present. The resources display regionally derived vernacular forms, although architectural detailing is often derived from published sources, and displays features associated with the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Queen Anne, Italianate, Late Victorian, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Art Deco, and International styles.

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## Narrative Description

The town of Waverly, Virginia, is an important commercial and governmental center located in Sussex County along the historic Norfolk Southern Railroad/US Route 460 corridor in southeastern Virginia. The town was partially inventoried in 2011 as part of an effort to list the downtown area as an historic district. The survey documented 47 properties within the proposed boundaries of the Waverly Downtown Historic District. The district comprises a significant portion of the surviving historic commercial and residential center of Waverly. It includes the relatively intact commercial properties lining the principal blocks of Main Street and several domestic and other structures on lots in immediately adjoining areas.

Waverly's downtown is a tightly structured urban district that formed and grew around the nucleus of the railroad station. Its linear form corresponded to a section of the area's principal road at its intersection with the railroad. The district retains a high degree of integrity, and preserves the setting, feeling, and association characteristic of the center of commerce and culture in rural Sussex County. The warehouses, railroad station, substantial general stores, feed and seed stores, and well-built office buildings that face each other across the short section of Main Street are characteristic buildings that represent the century of prosperity that resulted from the intersection between transportation and the locality's exclusively agricultural economy.

The architecturally cohesive collection of buildings in Waverly's commercial center took form between the immediate post-Civil War period and the slowing of development in the middle of the twentieth century. Although the way in which their architectural details were handled changed over time, a consistent tradition was maintained of building closely spaced commercial structures close to the street edge. In contrast, houses in residential sections toward the periphery are set in wide lawns. Domestic properties utilize a regional vernacular grammar of house forms, and supported by a limited range and number of outbuilding types.

The 21-acre district contains a total of 61 resources, of which 51 are contributing and 10 are non-contributing. No properties have been previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

### *Development of Waverly (1879-1904)*

Waverly was officially incorporated as a town in 1879. The earliest buildings in Waverly stand outside the commercial core. They include a railroad depot, municipal and lodge halls, and both single and multiple dwellings. All were built using frame construction and combine vernacular forms with details derived from contemporary published architectural sources.

The oldest building in the district is the **Waverly Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)** at 352 West Main Street. In later periods it housed both Christ Episcopal Church and the Waverly Free Public Library. The small, rectangular, frame hall was built about 1880 on Lot 10 of the town plat. It has a gable-front, standing-seam metal roof, an American-bond brick foundation, and a plan like

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a nineteenth-century school house or a nave-plan church. The central door is a modern replacement, flanked by pilasters and sheltered by a small, modern shed porch. The sides are both pierced by three large regularly spaced windows filled with replacement sashes. Small shed-roofed transepts were added at the rear when the building was used as a church. The hall closely resembles schools and churches of the antebellum period that employed a very plain version of the Greek Revival style for their detailing.

**The Atlantic and Danville Railroad Station (323-5019-0041)**, later the Southern Railroad Depot, located off **Maifeld** Avenue in the northern section of the district, is a one-story, frame, rectangular railroad depot built about 1883. It features an overhanging standing-seam metal gable roof, board-and-batten siding, and a central double door in the northeast end. The door is made up of diagonally placed beaded boards and the plain wood trim has a slightly pointed head. With its simple shape and plain detailing, it resembles many railroad depots built in Virginia's smallest communities during the mid-to-late nineteenth century.

**The Masonic Lodge/Town Hall (323-5019-0045)**, located at 113 Coppahaunk Avenue, is a large, two-story, frame structure built in partnership with the Masonic and Oddfellows' lodges about 1897 to serve the growing town as a meeting hall. It utilizes elements derived from the Italianate Style, popular during the mid-to-late nineteenth century. The gable-fronted frame hall is six bays in length, is sheathed with plain weatherboards, and features a standing-seam metal gable roof with a deep box cornice that is supported on slender sawn brackets and contains an inset gutter. The cornice has a tall paneled frieze that turns and follows the angle of the roof in the gable ends. The building stands on a continuous brick foundation and is lit by evenly spaced nine-over-nine arch-headed sash windows on each floor. The three-bay front elevation includes a central double-leaf wood door with an arched transom sheltered by a later Classical Revival portico with a pedimented gable roof and paired Tuscan columns. Three similar windows range across the second floor. The interior is lined with diagonally placed beaded boards. A stair rises in the northwest corner to connect the large halls on both the first and second floors.

The west end of the district includes three frame houses that utilize vernacular forms in combination with details from high-style pattern books. These were all built ca. 1900. They include the house at **376 West Main Street (323-5019-0026)**, the house at **384 West Main Street (323-5019-0027)**, and the **John D. Gray House (323-5019-0028)**, 104 Coppahaunk Avenue. The one-story, hip-roofed, frame dwelling at 376 West Main Street takes the vernacular, single-pile, center-passage form. The three-bay front facade features a central glass-panel entry door with sidelights sheltered by a three-bay porch with wood Tuscan columns. The two-story house at 384 West Main Street takes a version of the vernacular T-plan form in which the stem of the T extends to the front. The pedimented front section contains a central entry door with sidelights and transom sheltered by a one-story porch with angled corners, square posts, and a central ornamental gable over the entry door. The two-story John D. Gray House also takes the version of the T-plan form in which the T-stem extends to the front. The pedimented front section contains a wide central picture window flanked on the north by an angled corner entry door, sheltered by a one-story porch with Ionic columns and a projecting, angled ornamental gable over the entry.

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Two frame dwellings from the period before 1905 are found north of the commercial section. Built on North Street (now **Maifeld Avenue**) circa 1885, the two-story frame **Arnold-Holdsworth House (323-5019-0047)**, at 112 **Maifeld Avenue**, features a vernacular, double-pile, side-passage plan. It includes an internal chimney between the main range of rooms, a shallow standing-seam metal hipped roof with a decorative gable over the main range of rooms, and a bracketed cornice. The house includes weatherboard siding with paneled corner boards, replaced sash windows with ornamental surrounds and shallow pointed tops, and an elaborate, one-story, three-bay porch across the front. The house uses detailing derived from published examples of the nationally popular Queen Anne style.

The two-story, frame **Boarding House (323-5019-0042)**, located at 129 **Maifeld Avenue**, was built about 1900. The gable-fronted building employs the vernacular center-passage form but is three rooms deep (triple-pile) rather than the usual two. The building features two-story paneled corner pilasters with molded capitals. The three-bay front elevation includes a central wood door with a transom and sidelights on the first floor, flanked by two-over-two sash windows. A semi-detached one-story ell extends to the rear, joined to the main house by a short, framed hyphen.

#### *Expansion of Waverly (1905-1930)*

A disastrous fire in 1904 destroyed almost all of the frame commercial buildings along West Main Street in the heart of the district. The few that survived were torn down in the mid-twentieth century to make way for other structures. As a result of the fire, the formerly frame commercial district was rebuilt and expanded in masonry between 1905 and 1915. These substantial brick structures were provided with classically detailed pressed metal cornices and wide glazed storefronts. They were designed to be part of a continuous commercial streetfront. Of the brick commercial buildings built after the fire of 1904, only a few have been lost. These include the Bank of Waverly, a distinctive, one-story brick building with arched door and window openings and a hipped roof, and the Fanny Building, a richly detailed, two-story, commercial building which housed a popular millinery store. Both were demolished in 1964 to make room for the new **Bank of Waverly (323-5019-0007)**.

Many of the brick commercial buildings built soon after 1904 use conventional Classical Revival-style decorative details. They also incorporate details like stepped parapet side walls, wide glass storefronts, classically detailed primary and secondary cornices, and shallow shed roofs concealed behind low parapets. The primacy of the streetfront facing Main Street was emphasized by treating the principal facades with more highly finished and expensive materials, including pressed face brick with narrow mortar joints, running-bond brickwork with corbelled details, and stone trim elements.

Buildings dating from the period include the commercial **Feed and Seed Store (323-5019-0005)** at 121-123 West Main Street, on the east side of the railroad. It incorporates a central storefront with a transom headed by an original pressed metal storefront cornice; a paneled brick parapet with a corbelled top across the front; three second-floor windows with segmentally arched heads. The eastern entry is sheltered by an original arched Colonial Revival-style hood supported by brackets. It gives access to a stair that serves this building and the adjacent one at 117-119 West

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Main Street. The **Moss Hardware Building (323-5019-0004)**, at 117-119 West Main Street, although not built until ca. 1915, is similar to the Feed and Seed Store. The two-story, brick commercial building has a wire-cut, running-bond brick streetfront somewhat altered by the removal of the cornice and replacement of the window sashes and storefront.

The **Drug Store/Barber Shop (323-5019-0006)**, at 210 West Main Street is one of Waverly's best-preserved commercial buildings. The two-story, brick, double commercial building incorporates two store locations and original wood and glass storefronts with transoms above and wood panels below. The larger unit to the west is entered by an inset central door flanked by angled windows while the smaller unit to the east has a flush glass-panel center door flanked by plate glass shop windows. The window bays are separated by brick strip pilasters. The front wall is headed by a deep pressed metal dentil cornice with brackets originally placed above each strip pilaster.

The **Fleetwood Building (323-5019-0015)** at 305-307 West Main Street is a tall, two-story, double commercial structure that housed the town's most successful commercial establishment. The front wall is topped by a brick parapet, supported by a corbelled brick cornice above a row of closely spaced corbelled brackets. These end at narrow strip pilasters. Recessed panels in the wall below fill the space between the second-floor windows and the cornice, with two panels on the east and three on the west half of the building. The center panel to the west contains a stone tablet with a raised inscription reading "P. Fleetwood/ 1904." The second floor of the main front of each unit contains four arch-headed windows connected by rock-faced stone heads and sills that form belt courses extending across the entire façade. Shallow panels in the brickwork are located under each window. The blind arches over each window are sheltered below semi-circular, corbelled hood molds.

The first floor of the western unit incorporates a wide storefront with an inset central section leading to metal double doors. The storefront dates from about 1940 and was originally surrounded by Carrara glass panels, since removed, leaving a surface of brick all around the storefront. The storefront of the eastern section was replaced in the 1960s with an irregular pattern of plate glass panels framed in steel, supported on a low brick base and framed by original brick piers with rock-faced stone bases. The brick area above the storefronts was covered at that time by a metal awning, later removed, and has since been clad with vinyl siding. Slender metal columns behind the glass support the masonry wall above.

The **Waverly Feed Company Building (323-5019-0014)**, at 303 West Main Street, is plainer than the adjacent Fleetwood Building (323-5019-0015), which preceded it. The south front towards Main Street features a pressed metal cornice that ends in projecting blocks and is supported on brackets and a dentil course. The standing-seam metal roof slopes to the east and the front and rear walls both are equipped with parapets. The first-floor storefront was replaced in the mid-twentieth century with three narrow sheets of plate glass on each side of an inset, single-leaf, central doorway. The storefront, added at the same time as the one to the west, is framed with narrow strips of steel and supported on a low brick base. The south front incorporates four regularly spaced sash windows with rock-faced heads and sills.

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The interior of the Waverly Feed Company Building has a modern dropped ceiling, square baseboard, and vinyl tile floor. The second floor is supported on a row of six slender metal columns that run down the center of the building. The second floor of the building is, for the most part, unfinished, but two rooms at the front were originally finished as offices.

The former **Post Office/Palace Cigar and Pool Room (323-5019-0013)**, at 301 West Main Street, is separated from the building to the east by a narrow public alley that runs to the rear of and around the buildings. The front parapet features a pressed-metal cornice with dentils and modillions. Two shallow panels fill the space between the second-floor windows and the cornice. The three second-floor sash windows have rock-faced sills and lintels. The interior features a single room on the first floor. The second floor contains a well-preserved early twentieth-century office of Dr. H. Graham Stoner. The building was added to the adjacent Waverly Feed Company Building (323-5019-0014), several years after it was built.

Three more two-story, brick, Classical Revival-style commercial structures date from soon after the 1904 fire. The first is the **Warner Grammer Store (323-5019-0034)**, located at 315 West Main Street, and features a pressed metal dentil cornice and a first-floor storefront replaced in the mid-twentieth century with sheets of plate glass on each side of a double-leaf, central doorway. The central bay, which is the narrowest, contains a one-over-one wood sash window with a fully arched transom headed by a projecting soldier course. The first floor was modernized in the 1970s. The second, the **B. E. Livesay General Merchandise Store (323-5019-0037)**, at 303-305 West Main Street, is a double commercial structure. It consists of two identical units facing Main Street. It features a pressed metal primary cornice that ends in projecting blocks. The first-floor storefront, headed by an original metal cornice, was replaced in the mid-twentieth century with central wood doors flanked by sheets of plate glass. A two-story, brick warehouse, standing just to the rear of the B. E. Livesay Store, has few windows openings. The original door was probably located between the warehouse and the store and has been concealed by a frame hyphen added to connect the two buildings.

The third building is the **Wilcox Building (323-5019-0036)** at 307 West Main Street, a two-story, brick, commercial structure. It features a pressed metal dentil cornice supported on brackets separated by sections of paneled frieze and ending in projecting blocks. The first-floor storefront was replaced in the mid-twentieth century with plate glass and an inset doorway at the east end. The second floor of the façade is similar in detail to the Fleetwood Building (323-5009-0015) across the street. It contains four blind-arch-headed windows connected by rock-faced stone heads that form a belt course extending across the entire façade.

Other substantial brick buildings were built in the second decade of the twentieth century. The **Vaughan Building (323-5019-0019)** at 328 Main Street West is a two-story, brick commercial building constructed in 1912 to serve as the community's medical center. The cream-colored, stretcher-bond, pressed-brick front wall is topped by a plain brick parapet. The continuous parapet across the front is supported by a corbelled brick cornice. The plain upper facade contains four original segmental-arched, one-over-one sash windows with projecting soldier course heads. Access to the second-floor offices is provided by a door at the west end of the front wall. The storefront, reworked in recent years with large plate glass windows, includes an angled

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entrance to the main floor at the southeast corner. The Vaughan Building is similar to the adjacent, one-story, brick **Waverly Garage (323-5019-0020)**, 330 West Main Street. The cream-colored, stretcher-bond, pressed-brick front wall is topped by a plain brick parapet. The streetfront, with an original pressed metal cornice, was reworked in recent years to include plate glass windows separated by slender fluted pilasters.

The **First National Bank of Waverly (323-5019-0021)**, at 336 Main Street West was given the town's most fully realized classical facades. The narrow, two-story, brick bank building was built in 1916. The stretcher-bond, wire-cut brick front wall takes a temple-front form similar to other banks built during the period. The lower section is divided into a single bay flanked by tall, shallow brick pilasters in the Ionic order with stone capitals and bases. An entablature inscribed with the name of the bank extends across the top of the facade. The front parapet features an applied classical pediment in the same order, with heavy modillion blocks and a central ornamental date stone in the brick tympanum. The axially located entry is surrounded by a smaller pedimented frontispiece with brick pilasters, idiosyncratic fleur-de-lis capitals, and a stepped stone flat arch. The second floor is spanned by a wide strip window filled with modern vinyl casement replacement units.

The one-story **Ellis Hardware Building (323-5019-0016)** at 310 Main Street West was built in 1919 to match the adjacent, earlier Fleetwood Building. The stretcher-bond, pressed-brick front wall is topped by a brick parapet with a coping clad with added metal flashing. The continuous parapet across the front is supported by a corbelled brick cornice above a row of closely spaced corbelled brackets. These end in narrow strip pilasters. The storefront was replaced in the 1930s with a plate glass storefront with an inset entry supported on a low paneled wood base. Slender metal columns behind the glass support the masonry wall above.

As time passed, builders sometimes emphasized the decorative use of brick for the pressed metal ornamental cornices and window heads. The two-story, **Central Garage Building (323-5019)** at 349 West Main Street, built in 1920, features a highly detailed, stretcher-bond, wire-cut brick front wall, topped by a plain brick parapet with a soldier-course brick coping. The original glazed storefront was flanked by brick piers with central panels surrounded by a border of soldier course bricks with cast stone corner blocks. The first and second floors are separated by two cast stone belt courses separated by a band of decorative paneled brickwork. The front wall is topped by a stylized entablature made up of four rows of soldier courses separated by a pressed metal architrave and topped by a pressed metal dentil cornice.

The **Coulbourn Building (323-5019-0018)** at 316 West Main Street, built ca. 1930, is a one-story, brick office building. The stretcher-bond, wire-cut brick front wall takes a temple-front form similar to banks built during the period. The lower section is divided into three bays by shallow brick pilasters. These support a pressed metal cornice with ornamental end blocks. The center bay contains a Colonial Revival doorway that includes a six-panel door with transom and deep splayed jambs with raised panels.

Some commercial buildings during this period received less attention to detail, either because of the nature of the building's function, or because they occupied a secondary position in the

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streetscape. The long, barn-like **White and Matthews Stable (323-5019-0008)** at 114 Bank Street has a stepped-gable parapet front with a brick corbelled top containing a central segmental arched vehicle entry flanked by segmentally arched sash windows. It dates from about 1905. The one-story, brick **Automobile Dealership (323-5019-0002)**, at 109 West Main Street, was built about 1920 as automobile travel became more popular. The one-story brick building has a parapet shed roof with a corbelled brick coping along the front, stepped parapets along the sides, and stuccoed piers on the front (north) flanking a two-part storefront with covered transom, replacement metal windows, and brick bulkheads.

Similarly, the plain brick **Potato Warehouse (323-5019-0003)** off West Main Street behind 109 West Main Street, built ca. 1920, is plainly detailed. It has a parapet shed roof. The **Waverly Feed and Seed Warehouse (323-5019-0046)**, off **Maifeld Avenue**, built ca. 1925, is also a one-story, brick warehouse with six-course American-bond brick walls topped by low brick parapets with a corbelled brick coping. The long, plain front wall is fronted by a concrete loading dock that was originally sheltered by a canopy that protected two wide loading doors near the east and west ends.

Only one house in the historic district dates from the period after the fire of 1904. The **Mayor B. E. White House (323-5019-0043)**, at 105 Coppahaunk Avenue, was built ca. 1912. The one-story frame dwelling takes the double-pile center-passage form. The three-bay front features a central replacement entry door flanked by one-over-one wood sash windows. A one-story, three-bay porch with modern square wood posts wraps around the western half of the north side. The tall, hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingle roofing. An offset, integral, one-room ell is located to the south end of the rear elevation.

#### *Waverly's Peak and Decline (1931-1963)*

The classically inspired architectural detailing and vernacular-derived floor plans typical of the first two decades of the twentieth century were increasingly replaced in the 1930s by more complex plans and the flat roofs and factory-produced building elements associated with Modernism, including the Art Deco and International styles. At first, these design movements were only acknowledged in the Art Deco metal and glass storefronts with which older wooden shop entries and windows were updated. Not until the 1960s did Waverly see entire new buildings that employed International style motifs. Throughout the period, Colonial Revival design elements were popular as well and modern utilitarian planning was masked by facades incorporating materials and forms associated with the popular tourist destination at Colonial Williamsburg, then undergoing restoration.

The ca. 1935 Colonial Revival-style **Filling Station (323-5019-0001)**, located on Route 460 at 101 South County Drive, is a one-story American-bond brick service station. It was given a Williamsburg-inspired Colonial-Revival appearance by means of a round-arched entry with fanlight flanked by two round-arched fixed glass windows and wide, segmentally arched garage doors, each with central stone keystones. The shallow, standing-seam metal hipped roof has a classical, molded box cornice.

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The **Hartz and Rogers Building (323-5019-0038)** at 107 **Maifeld** Avenue was built in 1941. It is a one-story, rectangular, brick-clad office building with stretcher-bond, brick veneer walls, a deck-on-hip roof, an inset central entry, and single and paired one-over-one sash windows. The inset central door is framed by a wood architectural frontispiece consisting of a full entablature supported by fluted pilasters and paneled jambs. The building's details are derived from the popular Colonial Revival style.

The former **Waverly Post Office/ Palace Cigar and Pool Room (323-5019-0033)**, located at 325 West Main Street, is a one-story, stretcher-bond brick structure with a flat roof that dates from 1961. The building, formerly leased by the U. S. Postal Service, is distinguished from earlier buildings in town by elements derived from International Style buildings located elsewhere in the state and nation. The main front has a projecting brick entrance vestibule to the east of a band of vertical windows sheltered by a cantilevered canopy supported on slender, tapered beams. A similar canopy extends over a long band of vertical windows in the center of the east side wall. The roof extends to the rear, supported by metal columns, to cover an inset loading dock at the southeast corner.

Other, more utilitarian buildings received plain detailing and economical materials, such as concrete block and brick veneer. The **Waverly Town Shops and Water Tower (323-5019-0009)**, off Bank Street, date from 1932. The complex includes four contributing resources: a one-story, six-course, American-bond brick pump house featuring a central replacement metal door flanked by high, barred, factory windows on the north front and sides and a stepped brick parapet roof; a tall, riveted metal water tower with a conical metal roof and a bulbous lower surface, supported on four riveted girder columns; a large, concrete-block shop building with two garage doors, a corrugated metal gabled roof, and metal factory sash windows dating from ca. 1960, and a small concrete block support structure built ca. 1960. The one-story, brick **School Garage (323-5019-0012)**, located off Coppahaunk Avenue behind 113 Coppahaunk Avenue, is a one-story seven-bay structure built about 1930. It features a wood box cornice, concrete foundation, modern garage doors along the west side, a gabled standing-seam metal roof, and metal factory windows.

**Chesson Feed and Hardware Store (323-5019-0017)** at 310 West Main Street is a one-story, concrete block commercial structure dating to ca. 1955. The wide plate-glass storefront has a double-leaf glass entry door and is flanked by stucco piers. The low, flat roof is not concealed behind parapets. The one-story, brick-faced masonry **Commercial Building (323-5019-0039)** at 108 **Maifeld** Avenue was built ca. 1950. The standing seam metal roof is surrounded on three sides by a low parapet. The streetfront features a central wood glass-panel door with a transom, sheltered by a bracketed hood. The door is flanked on either side by a wide plate-glass shop window.

The **Powder Puff Beauty Salon (323-5019-0025)** at 372 West Main Street was built about 1950. The small, rectangular, brick-clad, gable-front shop features running bond brick, a gable sheathed with vinyl siding, a central glass-panel wood door flanked by plate glass windows, and a wide metal awning across the entire front. The three-bay, one-story, rectangular, concrete block **Office Building (323-5019-0040)** at 111 **Maifeld** Avenue, features a shallow asphalt-shingled

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hipped roof with a box cornice. The off-center entry is flanked by six-over-six sash windows. The building was probably constructed about 1950. The concrete block **Warehouse (323-5019-0010)** off Bank Street, built ca. 1960, is a one-story, rectangular structure with a gabled standing-seam metal roof, garage doors in the short end wall, and exposed rafter ends.

*Modern Waverly (after 1963)*

After 1963, the use of vernacular forms in the historic district completely ceased. The commercial vitality of the downtown was reduced by the expansion of businesses onto Route 460 and increasing accessibility of shopping opportunities in nearby cities. New buildings were constructed in the district mostly for professional offices and residential purposes. Buildings tended to utilize details and forms loosely adapted from the Colonial Revival and International styles. Existing buildings were modernized, particularly at the storefront level, to give a clean and modern appearance at the point of entry. Other buildings were underutilized or even allowed to decay. Buildings constructed after 1963 are noncontributing because they postdate the period of significance.

As an example of the way buildings were altered to make them appear more modern, the **Warner Grammer Store (323-5019-0034)** at 315 West Main Street was given a new first-floor treatment. The Classical Revival-style building, built about 1905, was updated in the 1970s with applied metal-framed sheathing panels, a shed roof, and an illuminated, revolving clock inscribed with a Pepsi Cola symbol.

The **Bank of Waverly Building (323-5019-0007)** located at 209 West Main Street was built in 1965. The one-story International style banking pavilion was built of cream-colored brick laid in running bond. It is surrounded by a shallow, abstract, concrete colonnade with slender, ten-inch square columns supporting a ten-inch tall lintel at the top of each facade. The upper parts of the interstitial openings are filled with plain stucco panels with exposed aggregate surfaces. The interior is lit by bands of metal storefront windows. The entry door is located at the west end of the otherwise blind north facade. Additions include a metal vestibule around the main entry on the north front and a substantial, two-story, glass and stucco addition that dates from c. 1980 and obscures the original east facade.

The **Waverly Medical Center (323-5019-0022)**, at 344 West Main Street, was built in 1966. The large, one-story, rectangular, brick-clad medical building makes use of the features associated with the Colonial Revival style. The Flemish-bond, brick veneer walls support a wide gabled front clad with aluminum siding and a roof covered with asphalt shingles. The front wall has an asymmetrical appearance, but features a central glass panel entry door flanked by two windows on each side. The door and the two western windows are protected by a one-story, three-bay, Colonial Revival porch with square posts and segmentally arched openings equipped with paneled wood shutters.

The **Professional Office Building (323-5019-0024)** at 364 West Main Street is a one-story residential-scale rectangular brick-clad office building built about 1980. The stretcher-bond,

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cream brick veneer walls support a wide side-gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. The main section presents the appearance of a traditional side-passage-plan dwelling. It consists of a three-bay central section with an inset entry with paneled jambs at the east end flanked on the west by two six-over-nine vinyl sash windows. The main section is flanked at each end by recessed two-bay gabled wings with similar windows on the front and ends. The building has Colonial Revival-style box cornices on the front and rear and rake boards on the gable ends.

**The Office Building (232-5019-0029)** at 361 West Main Street is a one-story, two-bay, residential-scale rectangular frame structure built in 1980. The building features T-111 siding, a gabled asphalt-shingle roof, one-over-one vinyl sash windows, an internal brick flue, a brick foundation, and a main entrance at the south end of the west side wall sheltered by a one-bay wood porch with square wood posts.

The **Apartment Building (232-5019-0030)** at 363 West Main Street, is a two-story, rectangular brick-clad structure built about 1990. The building, which contains six two-story units, features stretcher-bond brickwork, a gabled asphalt-shingle roof, paired and single six-over-six vinyl sash windows, and paired front doors sheltered by three one-bay porches with square wood posts. Each gable contains a small circular louvered vent and the front is spanned by a synthetic dentil cornice. The two-story building was built at the rear of its lot.

The **Dollar General Store (323-5019-0032)**, at 329 West Main Street, is a one-story, concrete block commercial structure built in 1970. It features a shallow shed roof surrounded on three sides by a low parapet wall. The storefront is clad with blue glazed brick veneer and includes an inset aluminum-framed glass doorway flanked by fixed twelve-light, aluminum-framed windows. The front is topped by an added false shed roof sheathed with wood shakes. There are no openings on the sides and rear other than a central metal delivery door on the rear.

The **Commercial Building (323-5019-0035)** at 311 West Main Street, a one-story, brick veneer-clad concrete block commercial structure, was built about 1970. It has a shallow shed roof with a parapet wall spanning between the two-story buildings that flank it on the east and west. The blind streetfront has no openings. It is provided with decorative brickwork that mirrors the second floor of the adjacent building at 315 West Main Street (323-5019-0034). A narrow central panel contains a blind arched motif separated by shallow piers from larger outer panels containing segmentally arched elements. A cantilevered shed roof clad with asphalt shingles is extended across the front of the building from the building to the west.

The **Frame House (323-5019-0044)**, at 111 Coppahaunk Avenue, is a one-and-one-half-story, four-bay, frame office building built about 2000. The structure features original vinyl siding, a brick-clad concrete-block foundation, a tall gabled asphalt-shingle roof, and a central metal entry door flanked on the north by two six-over-six vinyl sash windows and on the south by a tripartite picture window. The gable ends each are pierced by a single sash window. Six-over-six second-floor sash windows in each end and a narrow wall dormer on the rear elevation light the upper floor.

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WAVERLY DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY

The inventory is arranged alphabetically by street name and then numerically by address. The resources have been designated either contributing or noncontributing based on their integrity within the contexts of architecture, commercial, industry, or transportation, within the period of significance of 1880 to 1963.

**Bank Street**

**114 Bank Street 323-5019-0008**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Stable, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1905

The barn-like gabled brick stable building has a central aisle plan and a stepped gable parapet. A shed-roofed extension along the north side contained the offices.

Individual Resource Status: Stable

Contributing Building

**Bank Street, W side S of Main St**

**Bank Street, W side S of Main St 323-5019-0009**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Water Tower, Stories 0, Style: No Discernible Style, 1932

The tall, riveted metal water tower has a conical metal roof, a bulbous lower surface, and straight sides supported on four riveted girder columns braced by horizontal struts and diagonal tie rods. It is surrounded by secondary structures.

Individual Resource Status: Water Tower

Contributing Structure

Individual Resource Status: Pump House

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Shed

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Shed, Vehicle/Equipment

**Non-Contributing Structure**

Individual Resource Status: Workshop

Contributing Building

**Bank Street, W side S of W. Main**

**Bank Street, W side S of W. Main 323-5019-0010**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Warehouse, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1960

The building is a one-story, rectangular concrete block warehouse with a gabled standing-seam metal roof.

Individual Resource Status: Warehouse

Contributing Building

**Coppahaunk Street**

**104 Coppahaunk Street 323-5019-0028**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories 2, Style: No Discernible Style, 1900

The two-story frame dwelling takes the T-plan form with a pedimented front section, an angled corner entry door, and a one-story Ionic porch.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing Building

**105 Coppahaunk Street 323-5019-0043**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories 1, Style: Vernacular, 1912

The one-story frame dwelling takes the double-pile center-passage form. The three-bay front facade features a one-story, three-bay porch.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing Building

**111 Coppahaunk Street 323-5019-0044**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 2000

June 2012: The one-and-one-half-story, four-bay, frame office building features a tall, gabled asphalt-shingle roof.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

**Non-Contributing Building**

**113 Coppahaunk Street 323-5019-0045**

**Other DHR Id #:**

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Primary Resource Information: Lodge, Stories 2, Style: Italianate, 1897

The two-story, frame, gable-fronted Town Hall/Masonic Lodge Building is sheathed with plain weatherboards and features a deep box cornice, nine-over-nine arch-headed sash windows, and a central, one-story, pedimented portico supported on paired Tuscan columns.

Individual Resource Status: Lodge

Contributing Building

## Coppahaunk Street, rear

**113 Coppahaunk Street, rear 323-5019-0012**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Garage, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1930

The building is a one-story seven-bay, brick garage with metal factory windows and one surviving folding wood door.

Individual Resource Status: Garage

Contributing Building

## Maifeld Avenue

**107 Maifeld Avenue 323-5019-0038**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Classical Revival, 1941

The Hartz and Rogers Building is a one-story, rectangular, brick-clad office building with an inset central door framed by a classical architectural frontispiece.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**108 Maifeld Avenue 323-5019-0039**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1950

The one-story, rectangular commercial building features a stretcher-bond brick veneer front and a low parapet. The central door is flanked on either side by wide plate-glass shop windows.

Individual Resource Status: Shed

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**111 Maifeld Avenue 323-5019-0040**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Office/Office Building., Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1960

The three-bay, one-story, rectangular, concrete block office building has a shallow, asphalt-shingle hipped roof with a box cornice.

Individual Resource Status: Office/Office Building.

Contributing Building

**112 Maifeld Avenue 323-5010**

**Other DHR Id #: 323-5019-0047**

Primary Resource Information: Single Dwelling, Stories 2, Style: Italianate, 1875

The two-story frame Arnold-Holdsworth House features a double-pile, side-passage plan, a decorative gable over the main range of rooms, a bracketed cornice, and an elaborate, one-story, three-bay porch.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing Building

**129 Maifeld Avenue 323-5019-0042**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Multiple Dwelling, Stories 2, Style: No Discernible Style, 1900

The two-story gable-fronted frame boarding house takes the center-passage form.

Individual Resource Status: Multiple Dwelling

Contributing Building

## Maifeld Avenue, E side S of tracks

**Maifeld Avenue, E side S of tracks 323-5019-0046**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Warehouse, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1925

The one-story, brick warehouse features a corbelled brick parapet surrounding a shallow standing-seam metal shed roof.

Individual Resource Status: Warehouse

Contributing Building

## Maifeld Avenue, W side S of tracks

**Maifeld Avenue, W side S of tracks 323-5019-0041**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Depot, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1883

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The resource is a one-story, frame, rectangular railroad depot with an overhanging standing-seam metal gable roof, board-and-batten siding, and a central double door in the northeast end. A noncontributing concrete block auto repair shop stands nearby. Two temporary trailers are on the lot but are not counted in the inventory as they are not permanently installed.

Individual Resource Status: Depot

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Workshop

**Non-Contributing Building**

## Main Street, West

### Main Street, West 323-5019-0003

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Warehouse, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1920

The building is a one-story Flemish bond brick warehouse of polygonal form with a complex standing seam metal hipped roof, open eaves, high six-light casement windows on southwest and north sides. Bricks are laid on their sides for economy of construction. Garage doors were inserted on the west side to form a loading dock in the mid twentieth century.

Individual Resource Status: Warehouse

Contributing Building

### 109 Main Street, West 323-5019-0002

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Automobile Showroom, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1920

The one-story brick building has a parapet shed roof with a corbelled brick coping along the front and stuccoed piers flanking a two-part storefront.

Individual Resource Status: Automobile Showroom

Contributing Building

### 117-119 Main Street, West 323-5019-0004

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Commercial Style, 1915

The two-story brick commercial building features a plain parapet, replacement 1/1 sash windows with segmental heads, and a modern inset storefront.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

### 121-123 Main Street, West 323-5019-0005

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The two-story brick commercial building has a central storefront, pressed metal storefront cornice, a paneled brick parapet with a corbeled top across the front, and an arched Colonial Revival-style hood.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

### 209 Main Street, West 323-5019-0007

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Bank, Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1964

The one-story International Style Bank of Waverly Building is built of cream-colored brick laid in running bond and surrounded by a shallow, abstract concrete colonnade. A substantial, two-story, glass and stucco addition that dates from c. 1980 stands to the east.

Individual Resource Status: Bank

Contributing Building

### 210 Main Street West 323-5019-0006

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The two-story, parapet-fronted, brick double commercial building incorporates original wood and glass storefronts, a deep pressed-metal dentil cornice with brackets, and strip pilasters.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

### 302 Main Street, West 323-5019-0013

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Commercial Style, 1905

The former Post Office/Palace Cigar Store and Pool Room is a brick commercial building of shallow depth with a pressed-metal cornice with dentils and modillions.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

### 303- 305 Main Street, West 323-5019-0037

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The B. E. Livesay General Merchandise Store is a two-story, brick double commercial building featuring a pressed metal dentil cornice that ends in projecting blocks. A contemporary, two-story, brick warehouse stands to the rear.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Warehouse

Contributing Building

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**304 Main Street, West 323-5019-0014**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Commercial Style, 1905

The Waverly Feed Company Building is a two-story, brick commercial resource featuring a pressed metal cornice supported on brackets and a dentil course.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**306- 308 Main Street, West 323-5019-0015**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The Fleetwood Building is a two-story, brick, double commercial resource featuring a continuous parapet across the front supported by a corbelled brick cornice. A brick warehouse to the rear was added soon after the construction of the main building. It was later converted to house a feed mill.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Warehouse

Contributing Building

**307 Main Street, West 323-5019-0036**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The Wilcox Building is a two-story, brick commercial resource with a pressed metal dentil cornice incorporating brackets separated by sections of paneled frieze, a mid-twentieth-century plate-glass storefront, and four arch-headed second-floor windows.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**310 Main Street, West 323-5019-0016**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Classical Revival, 1919

The Ellis Hardware Building is a two-story, brick commercial resource with a corbelled brick cornice above a row of closely spaced corbeled brackets, narrow strip pilasters, and recessed panels. The plate glass storefront was replaced in the 1930s.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**311 Main Street, West 323-5019-0035**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1970

The resource is a one-story, brick veneer-clad concrete block commercial resource spanning between the two-story buildings that flank it on the east and west. The blind streetfront has no openings.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

**Non-Contributing Building**

**314 Main Street, West 323-5019-0017**

*Other DHR Id #:*

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1955

The Chesson Feed and Hardware Building is a one-story, concrete block commercial resource. The wide plate glass storefront features a double-leaf glass entry door.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**315 Main Street, West 323-5019-0034**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1905

The Warner Grammer Store is a two-story, brick commercial resource featuring a pressed metal dentil cornice, a mid-twentieth-century, plate-glass, shallow brick pilasters, and a central arched window on the second floor flanked by segmentally arched openings.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**316 Main Street, West 323-5019-0018**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Office/Office Building., Stories 1, Style: Classical Revival, 1930

The Coulbourn Building is a one-story, brick office building with wire-cut brick, a three-bay temple-front form.

Individual Resource Status: Office/Office Building.

Contributing Building

**325 Main Street, West 323-5019-0033**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Post Office, Stories 1, Style: International Style, 1961

The Waverly Post Office is a one-story, stretcher-bond brick resource with International Style detailing, including a band of vertical windows sheltered by cantilevered canopies.

Individual Resource Status: Post Office

Contributing Building

**328 Main Street, West 323-5019-0019**

**Other DHR Id #:**

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Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 2, Style: Commercial Style, 1912

The Vaughan Building is a two-story, brick commercial resource with a cream-colored, pressed-brick front wall topped by a plain brick parapet supported by a corbelled brick cornice and a reworked plate-glass storefront.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**329 Main Street, West 323-5019-0032**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1970

The Dollar General Store is a one-story, concrete block commercial building with blue glazed brick veneer flanking the aluminum-framed storefront.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

**Non-Contributing Building**

**330 Main Street, West 323-5019-0020**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Garage, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1912

The Waverly Garage is a one-story, brick building with a cream-colored, stretcher-bond, pressed-brick front wall topped by a plain brick parapet.

Individual Resource Status: Garage

Contributing Building

**336 Main Street, West 323-5019-0021**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Bank, Stories 2, Style: Classical Revival, 1916

The First National Bank of Waverly is a narrow one-story, brick bank building with a temple-front form and ornamental stone details.

Individual Resource Status: Bank

Contributing Building

**344 Main Street, West 323-5019-0022**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Clinic, Stories 1, Style: Colonial Revival, 1966

The Waverly Medical Center is a large, one-story, rectangular, brick-clad medical building featuring Colonial Revival style details.

Individual Resource Status: Clinic

**Non-Contributing Building**

**349 Main Street, West 323-5019-0031**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Automobile Showroom, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1920

The Central Garage is a two-story, brick commercial building with a highly detailed, stretcher-bond, wire-cut brick front wall and a brick-infilled storefront.

Individual Resource Status: Automobile Showroom

Contributing Building

**352 Main Street, West 323-5019-0023**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Meeting/Fellowship Hall, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1880

The small rectangular frame Municipal Hall is a gable-front, rectangular frame building. Small shed-roofed transepts were added at the rear of the side walls when the building was used as a church.

Individual Resource Status: Meeting/Fellowship Hall

Contributing Building

**361 Main Street, West 323-5019-0029**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Office/Office Building., Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1980

This resource is a one-story, two-bay, residential-scale rectangular frame office building.

Individual Resource Status: Office/Office Building.

**Non-Contributing Building**

**363 Main Street, West 323-5019-0030**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Office/Office Building., Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1990

This resource is a two-story, rectangular brick-clad apartment building containing six two-story units with paired front doors sheltered by three one-bay porches with square wood posts.

Individual Resource Status: Multiple Dwelling

**Non-Contributing Building**

**364 Main Street, West 323-5019-0024**

**Other DHR Id #:**

Primary Resource Information: Office/Office Building., Stories 1, Style: Colonial Revival, 1980

This resource is a one-story residential-scale rectangular brick-clad office building presenting the appearance of a traditional side-passage-plan dwelling.

Individual Resource Status: Office/Office Building.

**Non-Contributing Building**

**372 Main Street, West 323-5019-0025**

**Other DHR Id #:**

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*Primary Resource Information:* **Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, 1950**

The small, rectangular, brick-clad gable-front shop features running bond brick, a gable sheathed with vinyl siding, a central glass-panel wood door flanked by plate glass windows, and a wide metal awning across the entire front.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**376 Main Street, West 323-5019-0026**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1900

The one-story frame dwelling takes the single-pile center-passage form. Supplemented by a three-bay Tuscan porch and hipped roof. A small frame domestic outbuilding dates from the period of significance. A modern garage is noncontributing.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Outbuilding, Domestic

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Garage

**Non-Contributing Building**

**384 Main Street, West 323-5019-0027**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Single Dwelling, Stories 2, Style: No Discernible Style, 1900

The two-story frame dwelling utilizes the T-plan form with a pedimented front section and a one-story porch.

Individual Resource Status: Single Dwelling

Contributing Building

**off Main Street, West**

**off Main Street, West 323-5019-0011**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Commercial Building, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, 1960

The one-story, stretcher-bond, brick-clad concrete block building features a flat parapet roof.

Individual Resource Status: Commercial Building

Contributing Building

**Railroad Avenue**

**off Main Street, West 323-5019-0011**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Railroad, Stories N/A, Style: No Discernible Style, 1858

The railroad track and associated right of way extends along the northeast side of the district.

Individual Resource Status: Railroad Tracks

Contributing Structure

**South County Drive**

**101 South County Drive 323-5019-0001**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Service Station, Stories 1, Style: Colonial Revival, 1935

The building is a one-story American-bond brick service station featuring a round-arched entry and segmentally arched garage doors with central stone keystones. The whole is covered by a shallow standing-seam metal hipped roof with a classical, molded box cornice.

Individual Resource Status: Service Station

Contributing Building

**off State Route T-1032**

**off State Route T-0132 323-5019-0048**

**Other DHR Id #:**

*Primary Resource Information:* Domestic Outbuilding, Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, ca. 1920

The railroad yard includes a one-story frame outbuilding clad in corrugated metal siding and equipped with a gabled standing seam metal roof, as well as a smaller outbuilding and a series of concrete pads that represent a former grain silo structure.

Individual Resource Status: Domestic Outbuilding

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Domestic Outbuilding

Contributing Building

Individual Resource Status: Foundation

Contributing Site

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE  
COMMERCE  
INDUSTRY  
TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1880-1963

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1905

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Waverly is located at what was once a very important stop on the Norfolk and Petersburg (today's Norfolk Southern) Railroad. The town remains the county's center of commerce. The historic district is significant in the areas of commerce, industry, transportation, and architecture as an unusually well preserved depot town on the important rail line connecting Norfolk, Virginia, with points to the west. It contains a fine collection of brick commercial buildings, most of which were built after a destructive fire which destroyed much of the town in 1904. The town's prosperity was associated with the processing and export of the region's agricultural products and with the exploitation of the region's rich timber reserves from the late 19th through the mid-20th century.

The Waverly Downtown Historic District meets the standards for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C as a historic district representative of the late-nineteenth- and early twentieth-century development of a regional commercial center. The period of significance extends from ca. 1880 to 1963. The earliest building dates from about 1880, a year after Waverly was incorporated as a town. The district's commercial, residential, and civic architecture primarily dates from ca. 1880 to 1930, during which time there was remarkable continuity of form and placement of buildings within the urban landscape. A loss of industry and an economic slow-down began by 1963, a historic transition that marks the end of the period of significance.

Most of the district's buildings are brick commercial and warehouse buildings ranging from plain warehouses and small stores to large and elaborately detailed Classical Revival structures that were joined in a long row of streetfronts on each side of Main Street west of the railroad tracks. A few residential, civic, and support structures date from the same period. The storefronts of many of the existing commercial buildings were altered as the town's business owners responded to the Great Depression and the post World-War II surge in population by giving older buildings a gloss of Art Deco or Modern styles. Today, the Waverly Downtown Historic District retains a large proportion of its historic commercial fabric. The district preserves significant aspects of the setting, feeling, and associations of the historic built environment from the period of significance.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

*Establishment of Waverly (1854-1879)*

Sussex County was founded in 1754 from the southwestern half of Surry County. The rural county was a major producer of tobacco in the eighteenth century, adding cotton in the antebellum period. Peanuts became an important crop in the late nineteenth century, a result of experimentation before the Civil War. The nation's first commercial peanut crop is thought to

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have been grown by Dr. Matthew Harris in Sussex County in 1842. As was the case in many antebellum Virginia counties, there was no urban center in Sussex, only a small central courthouse village.<sup>1</sup>

The Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad was incorporated in 1851 and completed in 1858. It cut straight across the flat terrain south of the James River and remade established regional patterns of commerce and transportation. It moved through the Waverly area in 1853. The Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad was absorbed into the larger Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad in 1870. This, in turn was reorganized as the Norfolk and Western Railroad in 1881. The village of Sussex, site of the Sussex County Courthouse, near the center of the county, was largely superseded by the principal railroad stop at Waverly.<sup>2</sup>

Depots were placed at points where the tracks intersected with established roads. A historic road, Allen's Road or the Courthouse Road ran from Cabin Point, a port on the James River in Surry County to the courthouse community. Waverly Station, established early in the 1850s at the Courthouse Road crossing, soon became one of the county's most important points for shipping. It eclipsed nearby settlements at Blackwater and Coppahaunk Spring and would grow over the next decades into a major commercial center. Tradition indicates that the town was named by the railroad's chief engineer, William Mahone and his wife, Otelia Butler Mahone, who is said to have selected place names, including Wakefield, Ivanhoe, and Waverly, along the railroad from the titles of some of the "Waverly" novels of Walter Scott, and, in the case of Wakefield, from the works of Oliver Goldsmith.<sup>3</sup>

The land for the depot at the crossing known as Waverly Station was purchased from Robert A. Chappell. The depot stood on the northern corner of the railroad crossing. A store and post office were opened near the depot and Robert Chappell was appointed postmaster. The store, known as the "Red Store" was operated by Robert Chappell and Richard Dobie and stood on the south side of the road to the west of the tracks, where the bank now stands. The home of the Chappells stood in an oak grove on the east side of the railroad.

#### *Development of Waverly (1880-1904)*

The town of Waverly was officially incorporated in 1879. At that time the population was 176.<sup>4</sup> Twelve lots were laid out on each side of Courthouse Road (named Main Street within the town limits) to the immediate southwest of the railroad line. Eight more lots, much larger, were aligned with the railroad. These were probably intended for industrial and warehouse uses. Because the street crossed the railroad at an angle, several of the lots have polygonal or triangular shapes and angled side or rear edges.

The reorganization of the Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad as the Norfolk and Western in 1881 was followed by the establishment of a new narrow-gauge railroad, the Danville and Atlantic, connecting the Piedmont with shipping along the James River, in 1886. The original **Danville and Atlantic Railroad Depot (323-5019-0041)** survives off Maifeld Avenue.

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Connections with new markets spurred investment in Waverly. The addition of a new agricultural product, peanuts, to the traditional crops in the region brought a boost to the economy in the late nineteenth century. Soon after the town's incorporation, the Standard Peanut Company opened a factory ca. 1880 for the cleaning and grading of peanuts for market, thought to be the first in the nation. Judge Richard Watson Arnold, an early member of the Waverly Town Council who lived at the **Arnold-Holdsworth House (323-5019-0047)**, organized the company.<sup>5</sup> The Waverly Hypothecation Warehouse opened in 1890 for the storage and sale of agricultural produce, including peanuts.<sup>6</sup>

Lumbering became an important source of wealth in the region after the Civil War, in connection with improvements in transportation and milling technology. The lumber industry grew to become one of the town's most profitable enterprises in 1905, when the Gray Lumber Company (founded in Nansemond County in 1884) moved its operations to the area and built two sawmills. With its own railroad, the lumber company was able to manage its 15,000-acre timber base for many years without moving its location. Members of the Gray family were prominent leaders in the community and state. Garland Gray (1902-1977) served in the Virginia State Senate from 1940 to 1945 and 1948 to 1971; and Elmon T. Gray served from 1971 to 1991.<sup>7</sup>

One of the community's most important buildings was the two-story frame general store operated by Purnell Fleetwood (1843-1928), one of the town's founders and most prominent citizens. Fleetwood, a native of Delaware, had opened a store in the nearby village of Blackwater in 1869. In 1874, he married Sallie Chappell, daughter of Waverly merchant Robert A. Chappell. Within a few years he had moved his business to Waverly. His influence was considerable on the growth and success of the town. He served on the town council for many years and was the founding president of the Bank of Waverly in 1900.

The Bank of Waverly was located on the southeast corner of West Main and Bank streets. The one-story, hip-roofed, brick building, which featured arched doors and windows, was built in the early twentieth century, soon after the founding of the bank in 1900, and enlarged in 1915. It was replaced by the modern **Bank of Waverly Building (323-5019-0007)** in the same location in 1965.

At the western end of town, on the south side of Main Street, stood the three-story frame store built for merchant Augustus Wright and acquired by I. Shapiro in 1913 after it escaped the fire of 1904. It was demolished before the present **Waverly Post Office (323-5019-0033)** was built in 1961.

Hotels were built at the east and west ends of town. A three-story, frame Waverly Hotel was built in the late nineteenth century near the depot. It stood on the north side of Main Street across from the surviving commercial buildings at **109 West Main Street (323-5019-0002)** and **117-119 West Main Street (323-5019-0004)**. It burned in 1912. The Central Hotel was operated by S.B. "Boney" Spratley in a large former residence near the southeast corner of the intersection of Coppahaunk and West Main Street. It is no longer standing. A large frame **Boarding House (323-5019-0042)** was built on the north side of the railroad where it is crossed by Maifeld Avenue.

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The late nineteenth-century town included a small **Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)**, built on Lot 10 of the town plat about 1880 near the western end of town. The large frame Fleetwood Store stood on the northwest side of Main Street. It was flanked by a store operated by A.H. Maifeld and J. Doyle and the drug store and office of Dr. John May. A large, frame Waverly Hotel stood on the northwest side of Main Street east of the tracks. Several side streets, including Railroad Avenue, Fleetwood Avenue (present-day Bank Street), North Street (present-day Maifeld Avenue), and Coppahaunk Avenue, were laid out by 1888. Coppahaunk Avenue became the town's most fashionable residential neighborhood.

Some architecturally significant houses were located east of the railroad tracks, including the residence of the Purnell Fleetwood family, a large, frame house with elaborate Queen Anne detail. The house, built about 1890, was surrounded by a residential suburb developed on the grounds of Fleetwood's father-in-law Robert Chappell. An African-American neighborhood was located on Railroad Avenue, west of Main Street and centered around the Liberty Baptist Church, organized in 1895.

The historic district includes five domestic structures, all dating about 1900. These include the two-story frame **Arnold-Holdsworth House (323-5019-0047)** at 112 Maifeld Avenue of ca. 1880. This house is unusually significant for its connections, not only with Waverly's economic history, but with the larger themes of African-American and U.S. presidential history. It was built for Richard W. Arnold (1843-1911), who acquired the property in 1875. He built the pioneering Standard Peanut Company factory nearby around 1880.<sup>8</sup> Arnold served on the first Town Council in Waverly from 1879, as Commonwealth's Attorney for Sussex County, 1870-1874, and as Judge of the County Court of Sussex from 1881 to 1885.

J. Thomas Newsome (1872-1942), one of the state's first African-American lawyers, lived, as a child, in one of the Arnold family's outbuildings. His mother, Ann Newsome, had been a slave in the family of Richard Arnold's wife, Ida Prince Arnold, before the Civil War and remained as her servant afterwards. Richard W. Arnold encouraged Newsome's pursuit of education at Virginia State College and Howard University, where he received high honors.<sup>9</sup> The architecturally significant frame house features a vernacular floor plan and Queen-Anne-style ornamental details. In 1915, the house was acquired by Robert E. Holdsworth of Surry County. In April 1918, as the town honored local soldiers leaving for battlefields in France, Capt. Dwight D. Eisenhower from Camp Colt in Pennsylvania visited in the Arnold-Holdsworth House with a friend, Sgt. Cecil Mann of Mount Gilead, Ohio.<sup>10</sup>

The four other frame houses are located at the west end of the district. The one-story, frame house at **376 West Main Street (323-5019-0026)** uses the regionally popular vernacular two-room plan. Two frame, two-story houses on opposite sides of West Main Street at the west end of the district share a variation of the T-plan, a regionally popular vernacular floor plan. The form of the T-plan has been rotated in both cases from the usual position at the side so that the stem of the "T" projects forward at the center front. The house at **384 West Main Street (323-5019-0027)** is matched by the **John D. Gray House (323-5019-0028)** at 104 Coppahaunk Avenue, built for a member of the prominent lumbering family of the same name. The fourth

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house is the **B.E. White House (323-5019-0043)**, located at 105 Coppahaunk Avenue, home of a longtime Waverly mayor.

As the town grew, gathering places for public meetings and entertainments were provided in commercial buildings. The small **Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)** of ca. 1880 was superseded by a new lodge building on Coppahaunk Avenue, known as the Town Hall (**Waverly Masonic Lodge/Town Hall, 323-5019-0045**). This imposing Italianate-style structure was built in 1897 on the west side of Coppahaunk Avenue near the Waverly High School. It was moved in 1937 to permit expansion of the school. In the early part of the century it was the town's main venue for traveling shows, plays, and gatherings as well as the meeting place for the local Masonic lodge, Astrea Lodge #246, chartered in 1893 and the Odd Fellows Lodge #58. The building, constructed jointly by the Masons and Odd Fellows, "was under contract to Mr. S. W. Sharp of Claremont, Virginia, at a price of \$1,746.00."<sup>11</sup>

Churches in late nineteenth-century Waverly took the plain rectangular nave-plan favored by rural churches throughout the region. The first church in Waverly was the First Baptist Church, established in 1868 by an African American congregation. The church is now located in a late twentieth-century building at the end of New Street. Liberty Baptist Church, founded in 1895 and occupying a lot on Railroad Avenue, was an outgrowth of First Baptist Church. Other churches were organized as missions by established rural churches in the vicinity. White Baptists organized the Waverly Baptist Church in 1878, which met at first in the **Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)** and later built a nave-plan church on West Main Street, which survives today.

The Spring Hill Christian Church, members of a regional denomination that broke from the Methodists in 1794, started a congregation in Waverly in 1883 and built a nave-plan church on Coppahaunk Avenue in 1886, replaced by the current building in 1908. An Episcopal church was established in the Municipal Hall building (323-5019-0023) in 1883. The Methodist Church at the village of Blackwater, on land deeded to the church in 1859, was moved to a lot on North Street (Maifeld Avenue) about 1886.

Education in Sussex County before the Civil War was limited to tutors and private academies and intended for members of the land-owning and professional elite. While some free schools were opened in the antebellum period and funded by the state's Literary Fund, it was not until the new state constitution mandated statewide public, racially segregated schooling in 1870 that public schooling spread to every region of the state. In Waverly, schooling for black children was provided for in the reconstruction period by the local school board and the Philadelphia-based Jeanes Foundation. The school was held in the old First Baptist Church building on Railroad Avenue. A one-room school for white students was built facing West Main Street in the late 1870s. The four-acre site west of Coppahaunk Avenue was the site of most educational facilities from that time on.

Much of the town of Waverly, including the Fleetwood Store, burned in a massive fire in the spring of 1904. Three stores at the southwestern end of Main Street were untouched, as were the hotels at each end of town, the Waverly Hotel and the Central Hotel near Coppahaunk Avenue and the **Waverly Masonic Lodge/Town Hall (323-5019-0045)** on Coppahaunk Avenue. The

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Waverly Hotel burned in 1912 and was replaced by the brick Westbrook (later Waverly) Hotel in the following year. The brick hotel is no longer standing. The town council passed an ordinance requiring that all new buildings be built of brick, accounting for the town's unusually consistent design and the high level of survival of historic fabric in the district.

### *Expansion of Waverly (1905-1930)*

The town continued to grow and prosper in the years after the fire. The first census of the town, made in 1900, showed that there were 491 residents. Ten years later this number had doubled to 1,065. The town's increased prosperity was reflected in its building stock. A new brick depot was built in 1914, the only one at the time between Suffolk and Petersburg. The depot is no longer standing. By 1914, the town featured a new brick business block, new concrete sidewalks and gutters, and electric lights. An electrical plant was built in 1905 by A. H. Maifeld on his land east of the railroad. Industrial buildings, including a flour mill, peanut factory, and planing and lumber mills, were located along the railroads. Residential fabric spread along each of the roads leading into Waverly, which were lined with frame dwellings. New Street, corresponding to a branch of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, connected Railroad and West Main streets on the west side of the town. During this period, the town's growing African American population expanded from Railroad Avenue along New Street, which became lined with small two-room frame houses.

The tallest of the new brick edifices that replaced the burned buildings on both sides of Main Street was Purnell Fleetwood's new double brick commercial **Fleetwood Building (323-5019-0015)**, one side of which housed Fleetwood's Store and the other side, the Waverly Furniture Store, also founded by Parnell Fleetwood and later operated by his son-in-law, John F. Baird and grandson, O. P. Baird. Both floors of each side of the building were lit by central skylights that illuminated the second floor directly and the first floor through an opening in each first-floor ceiling. Fleetwood's was the most popular and widely used store in the town. Purnell Fleetwood encouraged repeat visits by greeting farm families by name at the door and providing their children with candy treats. Change and sales slips were conveyed from the first floor to the second-floor office by a system of wires and pulleys. The furniture store advertised "funerals undertaken at a moment's notice." Behind the Fleetwood Building stood a two-story warehouse built of brick.

The two-story, brick **Waverly Feed Company (323-5019-0014)** was built immediately to the northeast of the Fleetwood Building, probably in 1905. The feed company was owned in part by Harvey Fleetwood. The warehouse directly behind Fleetwood's Store was converted into a feed mill in the mid-twentieth century in connection with the Waverly Feed Mill business. The nearby **Waverly Feed Mill Warehouse (323-5019-0046)**, also built of brick, was built about 1925 along the railroad tracks north of Main Street to serve the company's store.

The next resource to the northeast, a smaller, two-story building that once housed the **Palace Cigar Store and Pool Parlor (323-5019-0013)**, dates from the early years of the twentieth century. It was added to the feed store building, which contained the stairs to its second floor. Dr.

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H. Graham Stoner occupied the rooms over the original cigar store and pool parlor as late as 1950. Dr. Stoner practiced medicine in the town beginning in 1915 and died in 1953.

The western half of the structure housing Fleetwood's Store was heavily damaged in a fire in 1918. The interior of that section was gutted. The store reopened in the rebuilt store in 1920. Ellis Hardware moved into the new **Ellis Hardware Building (323-5019-0016)** next door at 405 W. Main at the same time.

The town's other businesses included Fanney's Millinery Store, a brick commercial building on the south side of Main Street adjacent to the railroad. The building, demolished in 1961, housed a popular dress shop and jewelry store. The **Warner Grammer Store (323-5019-0034)** at 315 West Main Street, the **Wilcox Building (323-5019-0036)** at 307 West Main Street that housed J.E. Wilcox's hardware store, and the **B.F. Livesay General Merchandise Store (323-5019-0037)** at 305 West Main Street, all were built after the fire of 1904. The **Moss Hardware Building (323-5019-0004)** at 117-119 West Main Street was built east of the tracks about 1915. A small, one-story, brick warehouse (**323-5019-0003**) on the east side of the railroad was labeled as a "potato warehouse" on a map from 1923.<sup>12</sup>

The brick commercial building (**Drug Store/ Barber Shop, 323-5019-0006**) at 210 West Main Street housed a barber shop in the east end and a drug store in the west end in 1910. By 1914, the west end was the site of a clothing store. The second floor was the long-term location of the telephone exchange. This building is the only early twentieth-century store in Waverly to retain its complete original plate glass storefront. The **Vaughan Building (323-5019-0019)** was built in 1912 by Dr. L. O. Vaughan at 328 West Main Street. It was designed as a medical building to house his office, that of Dr. John F. May, and a pharmacy, operated by P. M. Kilmartin, Sr. on the first floor. The law office of Thomas Hoverton was also on the second floor.<sup>13</sup>

The Bank of Waverly was joined in 1915 by the First National Bank of Waverly. The one-story, stone-fronted **First National Bank Building (323-5019-0021)**, built in 1916, is similar to many banks and offices built throughout the larger region in the early twentieth century. J. E. Wilcox, owner of the adjoining **Waverly Garage (323-5019-0020)**, was the founding president of the new bank, and he was joined by George H. Blood and W. M. Land as vice-president and cashier. The bank closed during the Great Depression in the 1930s.

The one-story, brick **White and Mathews' Stable (323-5019-0008)**, built about 1905 at 114 Bank Street, housed the stable and offices of the well-known horse and mule dealers, which "fell victim to progress when the automobile replaced the carriage and farming mules gave way to the tractor."<sup>14</sup> As the automobile increased its dominance on the roads of Sussex County, the **Waverly Garage Building (323-5019-0020)** was built at 330 West Main Street between 1910 and 1917. It was one of Waverly's first automobile dealerships. It was operated by J. E. Wilcox and his son J. Leo Wilcox. They sold Buick, Chevrolet, and Oakland cars. The business was sold to Sussex Motor Company in 1955 following the death of J. L. Wilcox. The **Central Garage (323-5019-0031)** opened in 1920 at 349 West Main Street on the western edge of the Central Hotel lot. Waverly's first Ford dealership was operated there by O. P. Higgins of Dendron. Another car dealership was located at **109 West Main Street (323-5019-0002)**.

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Churches in early twentieth-century Waverly abandoned the plain rectangular nave-plan for complex floor plans and Gothic Revival- or Classical Revival-style details. The Waverly Baptist Church enlarged the 1878 nave-plan church outside the district on West Main Street, which survives today. Waverly Congregational Christian Church, founded in 1886, built an elaborate Gothic Revival-style frame church in 1908. Christ Episcopal Church, established in 1883 adapted the existing **Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)** as a church, adding transepts to each side. It moved out of the district to a new brick Gothic Revival structure in 1932 on Main Street east of the railroad tracks. The Waverly Methodist Church's frame church on Coppahaunk Avenue, built in 1905, was replaced by a Classical Revival temple-form building outside the district in 1926.

During this period, the town's social activities took place in the **Waverly Masonic Lodge/Town Hall (323-5019-0045)** or in second-floor rooms over commercial establishments like "Fanny Hall" over the now-vanished Fanny Millinery Building. Traveling Chautauqua programs brought cultural events to small towns like Waverly. A production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado* was presented in the Town Hall in 1915 and children's dancing classes were held in Fanny Hall. For a period after it was constructed in 1918, films were shown in the second floor over the **Central Garage (323-5019-0031)** at 349 West Main Street. Talking pictures were shown in the Town Hall in 1932, but the opening of an auditorium at Waverly High School provided a regular location for movies. Finally, the Lyon Theater opened in 1940 at the corner of West Main and North Street (Maifeld Avenue). The Lyon Theater is no longer standing. An American Legion Building was built on Bank Street in 1940.

When Christ Episcopal Church moved to a new building at the eastern end of town in 1932, the old **Municipal Hall (323-5019-0023)** of ca. 1880 was adapted for use as the Waverly Free Public Library. The building was renovated in 1935-1936 with a Works Progress Administration grant before its grand opening in 1937. It closed in 1955 but reopened in the same location in 1979. When the library moved out in recent years, the building reverted to use as a church.<sup>15</sup>

Waverly's first high school class graduated in 1908. In 1909, a brick high school was constructed for white students. It was enlarged in the 1930s with an auditorium, gym, and industrial arts department. It was demolished along with the elementary school in the late twentieth century. A new school for black students was located on a larger tract on New Street northwest of West Main Street. It was enlarged after 1909. By 1920, the school housed eight grades. The Sussex County Training School opened there in 1923 with the assistance of the Rosenwald Foundation and graduated its first high school class in 1927. Since it was the only such institution in the county for black students, boarding facilities were provided for those students who lived at a distance.

#### *Waverly Peak and Decline (1931-1963)*

The 1930s saw the completion of systematic improvements to the town's systems and infrastructure. The town was connected with the state's electrical grid through Virginia East Coast Utilities. Water purification and sewage disposal, recreational and civic institutions, and

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vehicular and pedestrian circulation were all improved during this period. A motorized volunteer fire department was organized in 1936 and fire hydrants were installed in the following year. The existing brick commercial building stock was sufficient to hold most of the town's businesses. Several professional office buildings were built to supply a growth in professional services and corporate businesses. Meanwhile, restaurants and automobile dealerships moved from the downtown to the new Route 460 corridor nearby.

The support operations and water supply of the town are housed in the **Waverly Town Shops complex (323-5019-0009)** south of West Main Street between Bank Street and Coppahaunk Avenue. The steel water tower and support tower are typical of many erected in the second quarter of the twentieth century to supply pressure to local water supply systems. Two deep wells were sunk in 1931 to replace inadequate private wells. A steel water tower, tank, and pumping stations were completed in 1932 at a cost of \$16,000 raised by an issue of municipal bonds.<sup>16</sup> Other buildings, including a concrete block repair shop, were built circa 1960. The brick **School Garage (323-5019-0012)** nearby was built in the 1930s to house and repair school buses.

US Route 460 was built parallel to the railroad right of way. First known as Route 52, the center two lanes of the current highway were built as a Works Progress Administration project during the Great Depression. The new road put Waverly on a major highway for the first time and resulted in gradual economic improvement. The road, renamed US 460, was later widened to four lanes in 1937. As a response to the increased traffic through the town, a Colonial Revival-style **Filling Station (323-5019-0001)** was built on the southeast corner of Main Street and Route 460. This brick structure is representative of a group of service stations along the state's expanding highway system that were designed to fit in with the state's historic architecture.

Several industrial buildings were demolished or burned, including the Waverly Peanut Factory, which burned in 1936. It was located on the east side of the railroad near the Waverly Depot. Other new industries opened, in particular Gray Products, which manufactured fiber board. The company, which provided the town with significant new revenue and employment opportunities, was acquired by the Masonite Corporation in 1966.

**Fleetwood's Store (323-5019-0015)** at 305 West Main Street closed in 1939 and the space was reopened as W. S. Peebles Co. Department Store. The Peebles chain of department stores is representative of the urban-style department stores that increasingly replaced the general stores operated in rural towns by traditional rural merchants like Purnell Fleetwood. The company grew out of a general store opened by W. S. Peebles in Lawrenceville, Virginia, in 1891. The store had opened branches in two communities along the Atlantic and Danville Railroad by 1930 and expanded under the leadership of Peebles's sons to include numerous stores across the region.<sup>17</sup> The store was remodeled in 1950. A new metal and plate glass storefront was added which incorporated a central entry surrounded on the sides and top by applied colored Cararra glass. On the interior, the skylight opening in the center of both floors was filled in and a new Moderne stairway was added to reach the second floor.

In 1949 Froman's Department Store moved into the one-story **Ellis Hardware Building (323-5019-0016)** next door to the former Fleetwood Store. The Waverly Furniture Store, housed in the

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Fleetwood Building, was sold by the Fleetwood family in 1959 to A. K. Seward of Surry. Soon after, Seward extensively remodeled the interior and exterior of the building, transforming the appearance of the north side of Main Street. The new furniture store incorporated the two buildings to the east, the former **Waverly Feed Company (323-5019-0014)** and the **Post Office/Pool Room Building (323-5019-0013)**, into the new store. The storefronts were removed and new metal and plate glass windows installed. The entrance was in the original furniture store building. Glass block windows diffused the light into the second floor showroom. The open elevator at the rear was opened into the storage room over the feed store section.

The Waverly Feed Company business was moved to a new building nearby at **314 West Main (323-5019-0017)** in 1955, operating as Chesson Feeds and later Presson and Warthan, Inc. The company's feed mill, in the former warehouse directly behind Fleetwood's Store, and the **brick warehouse (323-5019-0046)** off Maifeld Avenue, remained in the same buildings. Peebles Store closed in the 1960s and its sales area was also incorporated into the Waverly Furniture Store.

The one-story **Coulbourn Building (323-5019-0018)** at 316 West Main Street is similar to many banks and offices built throughout the region in the early twentieth century. The building was built about 1930 to house the offices of Coulbourn Brothers. O. M. Coulbourn was one of four brothers who invested in land and timber in the Waverly area, as well as the Suffolk area and in Northampton County. The firm was organized in 1900 to do business in manufacturing and wholesaling lumber. The building appears to have originally served as their local office.<sup>18</sup> It was later the office of Dr. T. H. Elmore.<sup>19</sup>

William O. Rogers (1879-1951), a Surry County farmer and lumberman, moved to Waverly in 1918. The one-story **Hartz and Rogers Building (323-5019-0038)** was built in 1941 to serve as the office of Hartz and Rogers, a farming and lumber business founded by Rogers and operated at that time by Rogers and his son-in-law Arthur Paul Hartz (1906-1978). The company owned mills throughout the region.<sup>20</sup> Rogers served as a state senator from 1923 to 1934.

Small businesses continued to proliferate along the town streets in the mid-twentieth century. The **Powder Puff Beauty Salon (323-5019-0025)** was built on the corner of a residential lot at 372 West Main Street about 1950.

The Southside Virginia Production Credit Association built a headquarters building on Bank Street in 1961. This Colonial Revival-style brick building became the Waverly Public Library in recent years.

A new **Waverly Post Office (323-5019-0033)** was authorized in 1959 and built in 1961. The one-story, brick building, located at 325 West Main Street, was the community's first expression of the International style in architecture, featuring the banded windows and cantilevered roof associated with that style.

Four new subdivisions added greatly to the town's housing stock in the 1960s. These included Graydon Circle, located between Coppahaunk Avenue and Bank Street and an African American

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neighborhood near Railroad Avenue called Pine Court. New buildings were added to the downtown area to house expanded businesses and professional offices.

### *Waverly after 1963*

Waverly saw extensive changes in the last third of the twentieth century. Difficulties in parking in the historic district led to the widening of Main Street in 1971 to permit parking on both sides. Public schools were desegregated, and Waverly and Wakefield high schools were merged in 1967. In 1970, consolidation caused the high school to be converted into a junior high. After this school closed in later years it was demolished. A new commercial building housing the **Dollar General Store (323-5019-0032)** was built next to the post office at 329 West Main Street about 1970. The large concrete-block building was provided with a flat parapet roof and a blue glazed tile-clad facade.

A gradual loss of business in downtown Waverly, beginning in the 1960s, resulted from an increased ease of access to larger stores in nearby cities and the movement of some businesses to the 460 highway corridor. The closing of Peebles Department Store, as well as grocery stores, dry goods stores, and service businesses, led to a gradual deterioration of some of the buildings. Although the library closed in 1955, it was reopened at the same location at 352 West Main Street (**Municipal Hall, 323-5019-0023**) in 1979. When the library moved out in recent years the former Municipal Hall reverted to use as a church.<sup>21</sup>

The **Bank of Waverly (323-5019-0007)** at 209 West Main Street is an example of the kinds of buildings designed by regional architecture firms for major local institutions under the influence of the architectural movement known as Modernism. It is a diluted version of the mode referred to as the International Style. It was intended to make a statement repudiating local architectural and urban traditions by adopting radically contrasting materials and a freestanding pavilion form. In order to make room for the new bank it was necessary to remove two major brick buildings that previously contributed to the town's unity as a part of the continuous streetfront that arose after the 1904 fire. These consisted of the two-story commercial Fanny Building that housed Mrs. A. H. Fanny's Millinery Shop and the one-story arcaded building of the Bank of Waverly. The loss of the old bank building in 1964 was seen as regrettable by the author of the town's official history written fourteen years later: "the old building remained in use until 1964, when it was unfortunately demolished to make way for the present ultra-modern structure, opened for business in 1965, that looks oddly out of place in downtown Waverly."<sup>22</sup>

The **Waverly Medical Center (323-5019-0022)** at 344 West Main Street is a noncontributing element in the Waverly Downtown Historic District due to its age and contrasting form and material to the majority of buildings in the district. The one-story medical building was built on the site of the Judge Robert Arnold House, once considered one of the town's finest domestic buildings. The building was constructed in 1966 by Dr. M. S. Rosenberg, who had opened his practice in Waverly in 1946. It was considered an improvement in the medical facilities available in Waverly, just like the **Vaughan Building (323-5019-0019)** had been in 1912.<sup>23</sup>

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Additional professional buildings were built in the later twentieth century. Noncontributing buildings in the district include the **Professional Building (323-5019-0024)** at 364 West Main Street. It was built about 1980. The frame **Office Building (323-5019-0029)** at 361 West Main Street was also built about 1980. A six-unit, two-story, brick-clad **Apartment Building (323-5019-0030)** at 363 West Main Street was built about 1990. A small frame **Tract House (323-5019-0044)** dating from about 2000, at 111 Coppahaunk Avenue, is also noncontributing.

The Waverly Downtown Historic District remains one of the region's most intact commercial districts. It continues to play a local role as a commercial center, but its architecture embodies its most important period of growth from 1880 to 1963. Its built environment provides not only a compelling context for the post-Civil War history of the locality and region, but also a valuable potential site for adaptive reuse and transformation of the local economy.

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Name of Property

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County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Arnold, Thomas St. John. *The Arnold Family of Waverly, Virginia*, 1981.

Coker, Kenneth W. *Waverly: The First One Hundred Years, 1879-1979*. The Waverly Centennial Commission, Richmond, VA: Whittet and Shepperdson, 1979.

Holland, C. W. *University of Virginia Record Extension Series: An Economic and Social Survey of Northampton County*. Charlottesville, VA: University Extension Division, 1927.

Newsome House Museum and Cultural Center, Newport News, Virginia. History text.  
[<http://www.newsomehouse.org/history.php>].

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia

Sussex County School Board. *Sussex County, A Tale of Three Centuries*. Writers' Program of the Works Progress Administration., 1942.

Williams, Gary M. A Synopsis of the history of Sussex County, Virginia, Sussex County Historical Society [<http://www.sussexcountyva.gov/page/sussex-history/>]

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia

Waverly Downtown Historic District  
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**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** VDHR #323-5019

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### 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** 21

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

#### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 18 | Easting: 313522 | Northing: 4101210 |
| 2. Zone: 18 | Easting: 313922 | Northing: 4100958 |
| 3. Zone: 18 | Easting: 313731 | Northing: 4100746 |
| 4. Zone: 18 | Easting: 313412 | Northing: 4100826 |
| 5. Zone: 18 | Easting: 313438 | Northing: 4101111 |

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries are delineated by the polygon on the attached USGS topographical map and historic district sketch map drawn at a scale of 1" to 175'.

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the district were drawn to include all resources that contribute to the historic significance of the industrial and commercial core of the Town of Waverly, based on the period of significance, the areas of significance, and resource integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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organization: StudioAmmons  
street & number: 235 North Market Street  
city or town: Petersburg state: VA zip code: 23803  
e-mail gibson@studioammons.com  
telephone: (804) 722-1667  
date: November 1, 2012

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.
- **Photo Log**

The following information is common to all photographs:

Name of Property: Waverly Downtown Historic District

City or Vicinity: Waverly

County: Sussex State: Virginia

Photographer: Andrew Marshall

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

View along Main Street to west.

1 of 10

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County and State

Name of Property

Date Photographed: June 22, 2012

View along Main Street to east.

2 of 10

Date Photographed: June 22, 2012

View along Bank Street to north.

3 of 10

Date Photographed: April 17, 2012

210 West Main Street, south elevation

4 of 10

Date Photographed: April 17, 2012

306-308 Main Street West, south elevation.

5 of 10

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

View along Main Street to east, with post office and water tower.

6 of 10

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

White and Matthews Stable, west elevation.

7 of 10

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

Bank of Waverly, south elevation.

8 of 10

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

Frame House, east elevation.

9 of 10

Date Photographed: June 7, 2012

John D Gray House, north elevation.

10 of 10

**ENDNOTES**

<sup>1</sup> Sussex County School Board, *Sussex County: A Tale of Three Centuries*, Writers' Project, Works Progress Administration, 1942.

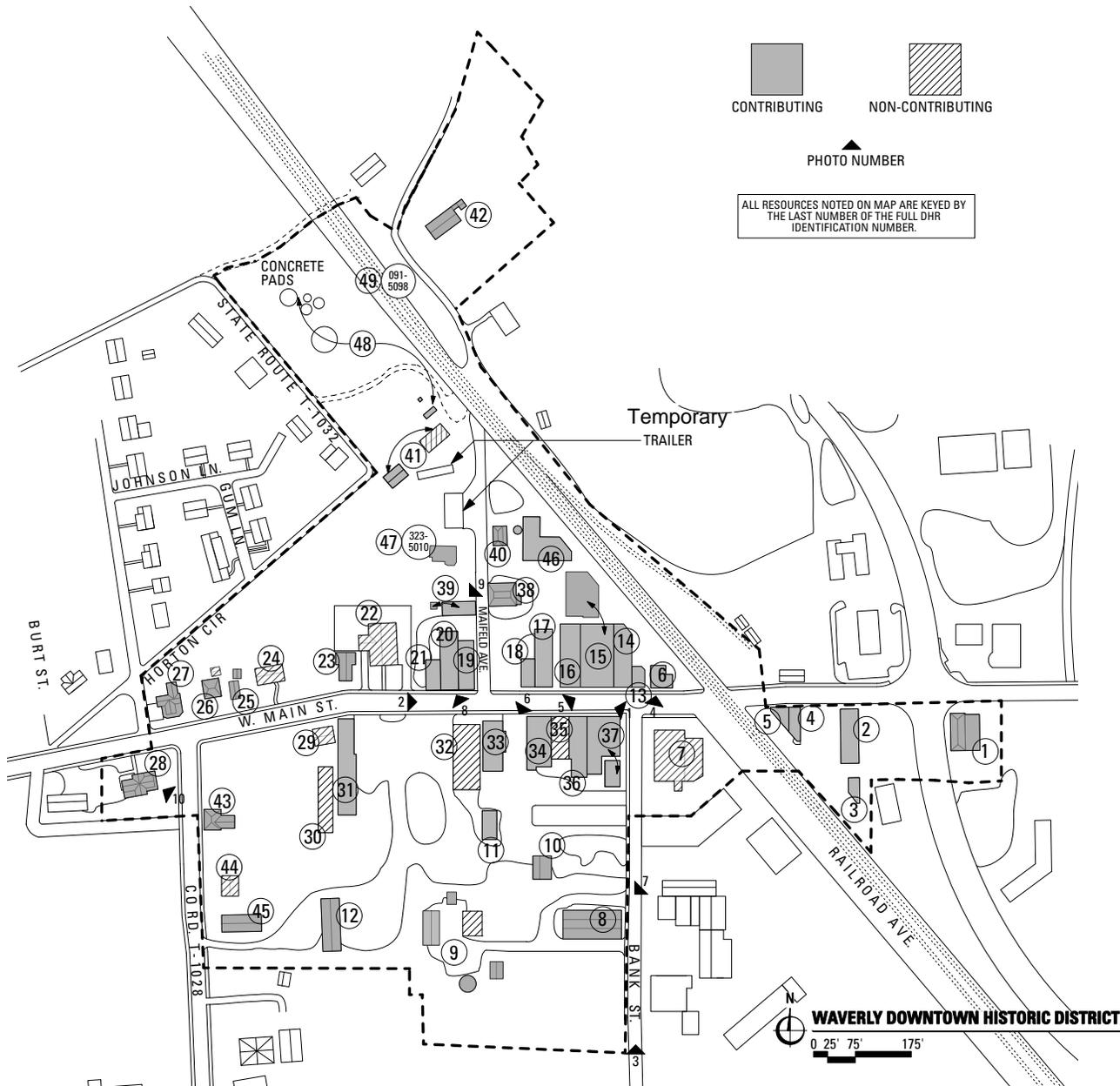
<sup>2</sup> Material in this nomination not otherwise cited is from the comprehensive account given in Kenneth W. Coker. *Waverly: The First One Hundred Years, 1879-1979*. The Waverly Centennial Commission, Richmond, VA: Whittet and Shepperdson, 1979.

<sup>3</sup> Williams, A Synopsis of the History of Sussex County.

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- <sup>4</sup> U.S. Census Office. *Compendium of the Tenth Census, 1880*
- <sup>5</sup> Coker, 12.
- <sup>6</sup> *Sussex County: A Tale of Three Centuries*, 1942, 94.
- <sup>7</sup> Coker, 29.
- <sup>8</sup> *Sussex County*, 1942 and Thomas St. John Arnold, *The Arnold Family of Waverly, Virginia*, 1981, 12.
- <sup>9</sup> Newsome House Museum and Cultural Center, history text.
- <sup>10</sup> Sussex County Clerk's Office, *Sussex County Deed Book 23*, 550.
- <sup>11</sup> Coker, 114.
- <sup>12</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1923.
- <sup>13</sup> Coker, 35.
- <sup>14</sup> Coker, 32.
- <sup>15</sup> Coker, 68, 102-105.
- <sup>16</sup> Coker, 76.
- <sup>17</sup> Company History, W. F. Peebles. See <http://web.archive.org/web/20010202084700/www.peebles.com/Companyhistory.cfm>.
- <sup>18</sup> C. W. Holland, *University of Virginia Record Extension Series: An Economic and Social Survey of Northampton County*, University of Virginia, 1927.
- <sup>19</sup> Coker, 39.
- <sup>20</sup> Coker, 70, 79.
- <sup>21</sup> Coker, 68, 102-105.
- <sup>22</sup> Coker, 30-31.
- <sup>23</sup> Coker, 85.



DHR ID NUMBER	PROPERTY ADDRESS
1	101 SOUTH COUNTY DRIVE
2	109 WEST MAIN STREET
3	BEHIND 109 SOUTH COUNTY DRIVE
4	117-119 WEST MAIN STREET
5	121-123 WEST MAIN STREET
6	210 WEST MAIN STREET
7	209 WEST MAIN STREET
8	114 BANK STREET
9	OFF BANK STREET
10	NW OF 114 BANK STREET
11	BEHIND 329 WEST MAIN STREET
12	BEHIND 113 COPPAHAUNK AVENUE
13	302 WEST MAIN STREET
14	304 WEST MAIN STREET
15	306-308 WEST MAIN STREET
16	310 WEST MAIN STREET
17	314 WEST MAIN STREET
18	316 WEST MAIN STREET
19	328 WEST MAIN STREET
20	330 WEST MAIN STREET
21	334 WEST MAIN STREET
22	344 WEST MAIN STREET
23	352 WEST MAIN STREET
24	364 WEST MAIN STREET
25	372 WEST MAIN STREET
26	376 WEST MAIN STREET
27	384 WEST MAIN STREET
28	104 COPPAHAUNK AVENUE
29	361 WEST MAIN STREET
30	363 WEST MAIN STREET
31	349 WEST MAIN STREET
32	329 WEST MAIN STREET
33	325 WEST MAIN STREET
34	315 WEST MAIN STREET
35	311 WEST MAIN STREET
36	307 WEST MAIN STREET
37	303-305 WEST MAIN STREET
38	107 MAIFELD AVENUE
39	108 MAIFELD AVENUE
40	111 MAIFELD AVENUE
41	NORTH OF 112 MAIFELD AVENUE
42	129 MAIFELD AVENUE
43	105 COPPAHAUNK AVENUE
44	111 COPPAHAUNK AVENUE
45	113 COPPAHAUNK AVENUE
46	OFF MAIN STREET
47	112 MAIFELD AVENUE
48	SR T-1032
49	WAVERLY, VA

Waverly  
Historic District

VDHR File #323-509

Waverly Va quad

1. E 313522 N 4101210
2. E 313722 N 4100958
3. E 313731 N 4100746
4. E 313712 N 4100826
5. E 313438 N 4101111

Zone 1B

1922 NAD

