

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

ULR 3/20/08  
NRHP 5/15/08

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rocky Mount Historic District, Boundary Increase  
other names/site number 157-5002, Rocky Mount Historic District - Orchard Avenue Extension

2. Location

street & number Orchard Avenue, between East Court and Patterson streets not for publication n/a  
city or town Rocky Mount vicinity n/a  
state Virginia county Franklin code 067 zip code 24151

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant     nationally     statewide x locally. (     See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 3/27/08  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

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

         
Signature of commenting official/Title Date  
     
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
    entered in the National Register  
    See continuation sheet.  
    determined eligible for the National Register  
    See continuation sheet.  
    determined not eligible for the National Register  
    removed from the National Register  
    other (explain):      
Signature of the Keeper      
Date of Action



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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** 1820-1949

**Significant Dates** N/A

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A

**Architect/Builder** Angle, Nathaniel

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)**

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

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

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

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreage of Property** 12 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>17 599042 4094668</u>	2 <u>17 599117 4094621</u>	3 <u>17 599132 4094361</u>	4 <u>17 599066 4094316</u>

See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

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

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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name/title Barbara Chauncey, Board President, Rocky Mount Community Partnership for Revitalization; and Michael J. Pulice, Architectural Historian, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

date December, 2007

street & number 1030 Penmar Ave. SE telephone 540-857-7586

city or town Roanoke state VA zip code 24013

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**Additional Documentation**  
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

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

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

**Photographs** Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state VA zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the

**United States Department of the Interior  
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CONTINUATION SHEET****Rocky Mount Historic District-  
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Rocky Mount, Virginia**Section   7   Page   1  **7. Summary Statement from 1999 nomination**

*Rocky Mount is a small service, factory, and courthouse town sited near the center of Franklin County in the rolling, rural terrain of the Piedmont plateau within view of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the north. The district runs south to north on an uphill grade along Main Street, bordered by Franklin and Floyd streets to the west and Maple Avenue and E. Court Street to the east. The district is composed of relatively intact buildings ranging in date from the early and mid-nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century.*

**Architectural Description for Boundary Increase**

Orchard Avenue is a residential street tucked away behind the Franklin County courthouse and the central business district in the town of Rocky Mount, Virginia, all of which is encompassed by the existing Rocky Mount (National Register) Historic District. Although the northernmost two blocks of Orchard Avenue appear to have been eligible for inclusion in the district when it was listed in 1999, they were not included to the currently listed district. Those two blocks, to the south of East Court Street and terminating at Patterson Street, are documented here-in as a contributing boundary increase.

Whereas the existing district contains commercial, industrial, government, transportation-related, religious and domestic properties, all of the resources in the increase area are domestic in nature. They comprise only single family dwellings and a number of associated outbuildings.

As evidenced by the 1920 and 1930 population census, the majority of the development on Orchard Avenue occurred during this period of the town's history. There were, of course, earlier and later exceptions. This area, being contiguous to the town's central business district, would prove to be a perfect residential locale for many of the "movers and shakers" of that era.

Orchard Avenue, which branches off of East Court Street, is a secondary thoroughfare through the area, having derived its name from an apple orchard that existed in the neighborhood. The upper end of East Court Street is dominated by the historic Franklin County Courthouse, an imposing building, and the Franklin County administrative offices and related businesses. The lower end of East Court is dominated by residential properties. East Court Street is included in the existing Rocky Mount Historic District.

An outstanding feature of the houses on Orchard Avenue is the broad pallet of architectural styles prevalent during the 1920s and 1930s. The oldest, and perhaps most prominent house, is an 1861 frame Greek Revival known as the Greer House. It is situated on the corner of East Court Street and Orchard Avenue. and is already included in the existing Historic District.

Orchard Avenue also boasts two impressive Victorian style houses. One is characterized by the usual trim adornments, i.e., bracketed eaves, spindle work, gingerbread and other details, while the other house is rather symmetrical, considering its gable-ell plan. It lacks the towers and bay windows one normally associates with a Queen Anne style. A number of town residents recall this house as being a Sears "Package House".

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Several good examples of the classic American Foursquare are also found here. These brick houses are square in plan, two stories, and set on a full basement. They all exhibit a the classic front dormer set in a pyramidal hip roof. A full porch spans the entire width of the each façade, with the roof supported by unadorned columns. Examples of National Folk, Tudor, Colonial Revival, and Massed-plan styles are also represented on the avenue.

By far the most prevalent architectural style in the neighborhood is the Craftsman bungalow. The standard design tends to be one or one and a half stories high with a low-pitched side-gable roof. The principal features are wide roof overhangs, and a prominent roof dormer on the front elevation. Brick is the preferred facing. Extending across each house's entire facade is a porch, having either a shed or gable roof and supported by tapered posts.

Of the dwellings included in the boundary increase, all but two were constructed by 1950. The majority are owner-occupied. For the most part, these houses have been well maintained. Noteworthy is the recent private investment on Orchard Avenue, as evidenced by numerous house repairs. The historic integrity of the houses is generally excellent.

Highly visible from the neighborhood is the town's most prominent landmark, Bald Knob Mountain. In close proximity to the neighborhood and Bald Knob Mountain, is the Power Dam site on the Pig River.

**INVENTORY OF RESOURCES:**

Properties in the inventory are organized alphabetically by street name and numerically by address. The heading for each entry lists the address, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources file number(s), the historic name of the resource (if known), the resource type, the style and the approximate date of construction. At the end of each entry is a resource count, including primary and secondary resources, and the status of each resource as either "contributing" or "non-contributing," as determined by their integrity within the period of significance. The body of the entry describes the exterior architectural features of the resource. Construction dates are based on city or county directory listings, city tax assessments, field investigation, and local history.

**Inventory Justification**

In the following inventory all resources, both primary and secondary, have been considered either contributing or non-contributing based upon the Architecture area of significance as listed under Criteria A, and based upon the greater district's period of significance as 1820 through 1949. All non-contributing resources have been so noted for either having been constructed after 1949 or as having insufficient integrity to represent the period and areas of significance.

**30 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0200 House, one-story, brick, Ranch style, ca. 1970. Non-Contributing.  
Secondary resource: Garage, ca. 1980. Non-Contributing.**

**40 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0201 House, brick, 1½ stories, Style: Craftsman Bungalow, ca. 1925. Contributing.**  
This 1 ½ story, Craftsman style house was built ca. 1925. It was included in the 1930 census. This house has a concrete foundation, a full basement, brick-veneered walls, and a side-gabled roof with composite shingles. The large front-facing dormer contains 3 double-hung, side by side, 6-over-6 windows. The dormer is clad with weatherboards and a composite shingle roof. The rear gabled dormer is identical. One exterior brick chimney is located on the south elevation; a second interior chimney is located to the rear. The façade has a pair of double-hung, 6-over-1, Craftsman style windows located to each side of the entry.

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Craftsman style, front door is  $\frac{3}{4}$ -length glass separated into 6 lights. There is a one-story full-length porch across the façade. The porch roof is supported by four columns with square brick bases. The porch foundation is brick, extended upward to form a solid railing, itself crowned by a concrete cap. The rear of the house has some modern additions. There are no secondary resources.

**50 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0202 House, brick, 2 stories, style: American Four-square, ca. 1925. Contributing.**

This two-story Four-square style house was built ca. 1925. It was included in the 1930 census. It has a concrete foundation, brick-veneered walls, and a pyramidal roof with composite shingles and a large hip dormer on three sides of the house and multi-pane Craftsman-styled windows. One brick interior chimney is located in the center of the roof apex. The façade has 2 bays on the first-floor level. The front entry has a single-leaf door, sidelights and lighted transom. To the left side of the entry is a 4-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled window. Two pair of 4-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled windows complete the second story façade. There is a one-story, full-length porch across the front, wrapping around the north side of the house. It has a hipped roof with composite shingles, supported by a base of square columns of brick and slanted wood posts. The roof extends beyond the house to the north to create a carport. Below the porch is a brick foundation. The original south-east wall of the house has an original "bay window" consisting of three single 4-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled windows covered by a half-round pent roof.

**Secondary resource:** Detached two-story workshop, originally built as a garage. It has a concrete foundation, brick-veneer walls, and a gable roof with composite shingles. The original garage door has been replaced with a modern single-pane glass door and a modern 6-over-6 double window. The original second-story window has been replaced with a single modern 6-over-6 window. Overall, the building displays little historic integrity due to numerous alterations. **Non-Contributing.**

**55 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0203 House, brick, 2 stories, style: American Four-square, 1927. Contributing.**

This two-story Four-square was built in 1927. It has a concrete foundation, brick-veneer walls, and a pyramidal roof with composite shingles and a large front-facing hip dormer with a pyramidal roof and three 4-over-1 sash Craftsman-styled windows. Two brick interior chimneys are located to each side of the roof apex. The façade has 3 bays on the first-floor level. The front entry has a single-leaf door, sidelights and lighted transom. To each side of the entry are paired 4-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled windows. The paired windows are repeated directly above at the second-floor level. There is a one-story, full-length porch across the front, wrapping around the south side of the house. It has a hipped roof with standing-seam metal, supported by square brick columns with concrete caps, the roof extending beyond the house to the north to create a carport. Below the porch is a brick foundation with diamond-shaped vents. The original south wall of the house has an original 6-foot by 15-foot "bump-out" extension. The rear elevation has some modern additions. There are no secondary resources on the property.

**70 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0204 House, brick, 2 stories, style: American Four-square, ca. 1925. Contributing**

This two-story Four-square style house was built ca. 1925. It was included in the 1930 census. It has a concrete foundation, brick-veneer walls, a pyramidal roof with slate shingles, and a large front-facing dormer with three multi-pane Craftsman-style windows. One brick interior chimney is located to the south side of the roof apex. The façade has 3 bays on the first-floor level. The front entry has a single-leaf door, sidelights and lighted transom. To each side of the entry is a 1-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled window. A pair of 1-over-1, double-hung sash, Craftsman-styled windows are repeated directly above at the second-floor level. There is a one-story, full-length porch across the front, wrapping around the north side of the house. It has a hipped roof with standing-seam metal, supported by square brick columns with concrete caps, the roof extending beyond the house to the north to create a carport. Below the porch is a brick foundation. The original north wall of the house has an original 6-foot by 15-foot "bump out" extension. Annexed to the rear of the house is a one-story, brick veneered attachment possessing a standing-seam metal hip roof through which extends a brick chimney.

**Secondary resources: 1) Small frame garage with front-gabled roof of composite shingles. Ca.1930. Contributing. 2) One-story, wooden shed. Ca.1930. Contributing.**

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**80 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0205 House, frame, 2 stories, Style: Queen Anne, 1900. Contributing.**

Numerous town citizens recall this property as being a “Sears Package House”. It has a pyramidal standing-seam metal roof with a front gable and a side gable. The crown of both gables is lower in elevation than the apex of the pyramidal roof. There is also a front-facing gabled dormer with two single-light windows. On either side of the pyramidal roof’s apex are two interior brick chimneys. The house has two entry doors; the main entry door has an overhead transom; the second entry door is located off the wrap-around porch and has no transom. To the left side of the main entry is a large double-hung, 1-over-1, window. Two single, 1-over-1 and one single, 1-over-1 windows are located directly above on the second story. To the right of the main entry is a single, double-hung, 1-over-1 window. Matching windows are found on both the north and south sides of the house. A “bump-out” extension is located on the south side of the second story of the house; located directly below this extension are three individual, double-hung, 1-over-1 windows creating a bay window. To the rear of the house is a rear-facing high-pitched gabled roof of standing-seam metal, off of which runs a shed roof addition. A porch with standing-seam metal hip roof runs across the full length of the house and wraps-around the north side. This porch is supported by eight metal columns. The house has a concrete foundation; the full basement contains casement windows.

**Secondary resources:** 1) Small frame storage building with open front, vertical board siding and front-gable standing-seam metal roof. **Ca. 1930. Contributing.** 2) Frame storage building with lapped-wood siding and high pitched, front-gabled standing-seam metal roof. A modern door and window have been added to this building. **Early 20th-century. Contributing.**

**85 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0206 House, frame, 2 stories, Style: gable-ell plan, 1909. Contributing.**

This 2 story house has a side-gable and a front-gable with original standing-seam metal roof. Vinyl siding now clads the house. One interior brick chimney is located on the front of the house in the side-gabled roof’s apex and another is located in the front-gabled roof’s apex. The entry door, with an overhead transom, is located under the side-gable roof and is paired with a single, double-hung, 2-over-2, window. Matching windows are located directly above on the second story as well as on the first and second stories under the front gable. A concrete foundation supports the house. A front porch with a hipped shed roof runs the length of the house under the front-gable. The standing-seam metal porch roof is supported by 3 columns; each has a squared brick column base with a concrete cap and tapered wood posts. A modern addition was added to the rear of the house.

**Secondary resource:** Frame garage/workshop, front-gabled roof, vinyl-siding. **ca. 2000. Non-Contributing.**

**90 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0207 House, frame, 2-story, no style, 1900. Contributing.**

This is a two-story house, clad in aluminum-siding, with a side-gabled, standing-seam metal roof. The original part of the house is one room deep with a center hall and a room to each side of the hall, on both stories. A one-story section was later added to the rear of the house. This aluminum-sided addition contains 1-over-1 windows and a shed roof of standing-seam metal. With the exception of the front porch, other windows through-out the house are double-hung, 1-over-1. The front porch, with a composite shingled hip roof, was enclosed at a later date and is clad in aluminum-siding. The entry has a centered full glass door with sidelights. This entry is flanked by windows. The house sits on a stone foundation.

**Secondary resource:** A double-car garage, with a side-gable, metal roof and aluminum siding, sits on the property behind the house. The garage has a cinderblock foundation and a modern garage door. **Ca. 1930. Contributing.**

**95 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0208 House, brick, 1 ½ stories, style: Craftsman Bungalow, 1920. Contributing.**

This house has a concrete foundation, brick-veneered walls, and a side-gabled, standing-seam metal roof. The large gable front dormer contains 3 double-hung, side by side, 1-over-1 windows. The dormer is clad in lap-strake siding with a standing-seam metal roof. Two interior brick chimneys are located in the center of the roof apex on either side of the front dormer. The front entry is a Craftsman style door with sidelights and lighted transom. To each side of the entry is a double-hung, 1-over-1, Craftsman style window. Both sides of the second story have two double-hung, 1-over-1, Craftsman style windows. On either

side of the double-hung windows is a small, double-hung, 1-over-1 window. All window lintels are constructed of vertical "soldier" bricks. There is a one-story full-length porch across the facade of the house, with four square brick columns. The wooden

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balustrade is a modern addition. To the rear of the house is a two-story weatherboarded addition with a hip roof.

**Secondary resources: 1)** A small one-story, frame building stands at the rear of the property. The two-room building has a standing-seam metal roof and an interior brick chimney that extends below the roof apex. **Ca. 1920. Contributing.** **2)** A modern garage has a front-gabled roof of composite shingles and a non-descript garage door. **Non-contributing.**

**115 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0209 House, frame, 1 story, no style, ca. 1915. Contributing.**

This 1-story frame house with lapped-wood siding has a high pitched, side-gabled, metal roof with a front-gabled dormer trimmed with scalloped wood shingles. The roof eaves are boxed. The centered front entry has divided multi-colored panes; a single-light

transom runs the full width of the entry door. On either side of the entry is a single, double-hung sash, 3-over-1, window. On the north side, a turret extension contains 4 single, 1-over-1, double-hung sash. The frieze above the extension is decorated with dental molding. One interior chimney is located in front of the house at the roof's apex and a second is located in the center of the roof in the rear of the house. A shed-roof front porch is supported by five round wooden columns. The foundation is of brick piers reinforced by concrete and concrete block with a full basement containing single-pane casement windows. A modern addition has been added on the south side and rear of the house. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**120 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0210 House, frame, one-story, no style, Ca.1925. Contributing.**

This one-story house with a hip roof of composite shingle was built circa 1925. It was included in the 1930 census. The house was a simple hall and parlor plan, two rooms wide and one room deep. It has a hipped roof, aluminum-siding, and brick foundation. Over time, there has been a number of alterations and additions. Among the changes are a composite shingle roof containing a front-facing hipped dormer with 3 side stationary, 4-pane lights, and a wing added to the north-side enclosure of the front porch. **Secondary resource:** Garage, cinderblock, one-story, aluminum roof, behind the house. **Ca. 1940. Contributing.**

**135 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0211 House, brick, 1 ½ stories, style: Craftsman Bungalow, 1925. Contributing.**

The house has a concrete foundation, brick-veneered walls, and a side-gable, composite shingle roof. The large gable front dormer contains 3 double-hung, side by side, 4-over-1 windows. Roof rafter ends are exposed under the eaves. The house has one exterior brick chimney on the north side, below the roof's apex and one interior brick chimney on the east side, on the back roof slope. The front entry is a Craftsman style door with divided lights. To one side of the entry are three double-hung, 4-over-1 windows; to the other side is a double-hung, 4-over-1 window. The first floor on the south side of the house has three, double-hung, 4-over-1 windows; on either side is a small window with divided lights. The second floor has two double-hung, 4-over-1 windows; on either side is a smaller double-hung, 4-over-1 window. There is a one-story full-length porch across the façade, with four square columns of brick with concrete caps. On the north side of the house is a flat-roof carport supported by four square columns of brick; one side of the carport is encased by a brick wall.

**Secondary resources:** Two frame buildings with front-gable, standing-seam metal roofs sit on the property: **Garage, ca. 1920. Contributing; Shed, ca. 1920. Contributing.**

**140 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0212 House, aluminum-siding, 2 stories, style: Four Square, Ca. 1925. Contributing.**

This two-story, Four-square was built ca.1925. It was included in the 1930 census. It has a concrete foundation, aluminum-siding, and a high pitched hip-roof of standing seam metal. The front dormer has a hip roof and three single, Craftsman style windows. Two interior brick chimneys are located to each side of the roof apex. The entrance consists of a single door, sidelights, and an overhead three piece transom, all recessed into the wall. To each side of the entry are paired 3-over-1, double-hung Craftsman style sash. Matching Craftsman style, single, 3-over-1, windows are located directly above on the second story as well as the north and south sides of the house. A one-story, full length porch runs across the front and wraps around the north

side of the house. The overhang on the north side supports a carport. The porch has a hipped roof with standing-seam metal, supported by seven columns. Each column has a square brick base with a concrete cap and tapered wood posts. A concrete-capped brick pier adorns each side of the front entry steps. The attached two story appendage to the rear has a lower standing-seam metal hipped roof at a

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right angle to the front of the house. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**145 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0213 House, frame, 1 story, style: Craftsman, Ca.1920. Contributing.**

This is a one-story, front gabled house, the only one of its kind on Orchard Avenue. It has 3-over-1 Craftsman style windows. There are paired windows flanking the front entry. The door also has three vertical lights. The front porch, with shed roof and metal lattice columns on brick bases, extends across most of the façade. There are two tall brick chimneys on the south side of the roof: one internal, one external. The exterior is clad in wide aluminum siding and the roof is covered with composite shingles. **Secondary resource:** Garage, frame, with front-gable, standing-seam roof; vertical-board siding, **Ca. 1920.**

**Contributing.**

**150 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0214 House, frame, two-story, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca.1925. Contributing.**

This two-story house has a pyramidal roof of composite shingle, aluminum-siding, and stone foundation. It was included in the 1930 census. The front dormer with hip roof is decorated with a louvered half-circle vent and a vertical board front. Two brick interior chimneys are located slightly below the roof's apex on the north and south sides of the house. The original front entry is now hidden by enclosure of the front porch. Windows on the first and second stories, although varying in size, are wood, 6-over-6, double-hung. The porch now has double French doors with divided lights and sidelights. The new entry is flanked on each side by a pair of double-hung, 6-over-6, windows. Single, double-hung, 6-over-6, windows appear on the other exterior walls of the enclosed porch. A modern addition was made to the rear of the house. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**160 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0215 House, frame, 1 story, no style, Ca.1920. Contributing.**

This one-story house was included in the 1930 census. It has a stone foundation, wood lap-siding, a composite shingle, high pitch hip-roof, and two interior brick chimneys at the rear of the house and slightly below the roof's apex. The glass entry door has divided lights. On either side of the entry is a single, 2-over-2, double-hung window. Matching windows are on both the north and south sides of the house. Across the façade of the house is a one-story, full length porch with a standing-seam metal roof. The roof is supported by four round wood columns.

**Secondary resource:** Garage, 1 story, frame, corrugated metal siding and front-gabled roof. **Ca.1980. Non-contributing.**

**170 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0216 House, brick, 1.5 stories, no style, 1957. Non-Contributing.**

This one and one-half story brick house has a side-gable, composite shingle roof. A gabled roof with a lower elevation extends over a carport built on the north side of the house. This roof is supported by wrought-iron columns. A front-facing, gabled brick extension is located on the front of the house and is decorated with a fanlight. A double-flue brick exterior chimney is located on the north side of the house. A front porch with a shed roof runs the length of the side-gabled section and is supported by wrought-iron columns. The front entry door contains a fanlight. To the right of the entry is a three piece window; a large single glass pane is flanked by double-hung, 1-over-1 windows. Other windows through-out the house are 2-over-2 and have vertical brick lintels and brick sills. The house sits on a concrete foundation with a full basement. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**180 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0217 House, 1 story, wood lap and vinyl siding, no style, ca.1920. Contributing.**

This one-story, house was built circa 1920. It was included in the 1930 census. The house has a concrete foundation. Two of the exterior walls are clad in wood lap-siding; the other exterior walls are clad in vinyl siding. The house has a composite shingle, high pitch hip roof. One interior brick chimney is located at the rear of the house and slightly below the roof's apex. The entry

door is glass with divided lights. On either side of the entry is a single, 2-over-2, double-hung window. The north side of the house has matching windows; the south side of the house has one matching window. A small window was placed on the south side of the house when a modern addition at the rear of the house was added. Across the façade of the house is a one-story, full length porch with a flat composite shingle roof. The roof is supported by four round wood columns. There are no secondary resources on this site.

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**185 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0218 House, one-story, frame, style: Craftsman, ca.1920. Contributing.**

This one-story house was built circa 1920, as evidenced by the 1930 census. The house has a hipped roof of standing-seam metal and a front-facing, hipped-roof dormer, also of standing-seam metal. The lapped-wood siding dormer contains three individual, 3-over-3, windows. The dormer is further decorated with a fanlight vent. Two interior chimneys, brick with stucco covering, are located at the east and west sides of the roof's apex. The house's exterior is of lapped-wood siding and has a concrete foundation. The entrance consists of a single door, divided light sidelights, and an overhead divided light transom. To the left of the entry is a pair of single, double-hung sash, 1-over-1 windows; to the right of the entry is a single, double-hung sash, 1-over-1 window. Matching windows are used on all sides of the house. A porch, with a brick foundation, runs across the front of the house and is supported by five columns. The square columns are of brick and are topped with concrete caps and slanted-wooden posts. Family members of the house's occupants report the house was built by the building company of Mr. Nathaniel Angle, a town founder.

**Secondary resource:** A modern one-story, frame storage building, with pyramidal, composite shingle roof and vinyl siding, at the rear of the property. **Non-Contributing.**

**190 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0219 House, frame, 1 story, style: Craftsman, 1950. Non-Contributing.**

This one-story, massed-plan, family house was built in 1950. The house is largely obscured by vinyl-siding and has a front-gabled roof of composite shingles and a modern rock-faced concrete foundation. The front entry is accessed by a small stoop with a front-facing gable roof which is supported by two wrought-iron columns. A pair of double-hung, 6-over-6, modern windows adorn the front of the house; single, 6-over-6, windows are used on other exterior walls. A shed-roof addition has been added to the rear of the house. The south elevation retains its 3-over-1 craftsman style wood sash, but the house as a whole bears poor exterior integrity.

**Secondary resource:** A one-story, frame workshop with old weatherboards and a side-gabled composite shingle roof, sits at the rear of the lot. It has exposed rafters and a modern double-entry door. **Ca.1950. Non-Contributing.**

**200 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0220 House, frame, 1 story, no style, Ca.1950. Non-Contributing.**

This one-story, massed-plan, family house was built in 1950. The house is largely obscured by new vinyl siding and has a parged concrete block foundation and a front-gabled roof of composite shingles. The front porch has been removed. Existing windows have been replaced with modern windows on all sides of the house. The exterior is clad in vinyl-siding. The house as a whole bears poor exterior integrity. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**205 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0221 House, brick, 1 story, no style, 1945. Contributing.**

This house has a concrete foundation and a side-gable, standing-seam metal roof. The eaves contain louvered wood vents. A front gable with German-siding and standing-seam metal roof is located on the front of the house. The front porch, under the front gable, is supported by brick piers with tapered wooden posts. The front entry has a rail-and-stile paneled door. Prominently located to the south side of the entry is a large brick exterior chimney with two flues. A small, 4-over-4, window decorates each side of the chimney. Elsewhere in the house are 6-over-6, double-hung windows; all have vertical brick lintels and brick sills. An interior brick chimney is located in the rear of the house; the chimney flues are protected by an arched brick cap. A carport has been added to the north side of the house. It is supported by five brick pier columns with brick railings on three sides. The carport has a flat roof and wood balustrade.

**Secondary resource:** A one-story storage building with beveled beaded siding and a front-facing gable of composite shingle roof and concrete foundation sits at the rear of the property site. **Ca.1945. Contributing.**

**210 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0222 House, frame, 1 story, no style, 1941. Contributing.**

This modest one-story, massed-plan, family house was built in 1941. It has a concrete block foundation, aluminum siding, and a side-gabled roof of composite shingles. An interior brick chimney is located in the roof's apex on the northwest elevation. The front wall was indented to make an integral porch under the roof line. The porch is supported by two wrought-iron columns and

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adorned with iron porch railings. A front door and a single, double-hung, 6-over-6, window is inset in the porch. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**225 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0223 House, brick, 1 story, Style: Tudor Revival, Ca.1940. Contributing.**

This house, has a side-gabled, standing-seam metal roof. On a slightly lower elevation, a steeply pitched front gable with a diamond brick pattern and standing-seam metal roof is located in the center of the facade. The front entry has a simple wooden door that is accessed by a small concrete stoop. Prominently located to the south side of the entry is a large brick chimney that appears to have multiple, though undecorated, chimney pots. Window sizes vary throughout the house but are dominated by double-hung, 6-over-6, windows of varying size. The house also possesses a classic Tudor window style with two small 4-over-4 windows, one on the south side of the chimney and another on the second story. Window lintels throughout the house are constructed of a soldier brick and all windows have brick sills. The house also possesses a rear shed roof of standing-seam metal and a basement.

**Secondary resource:** A one-story, frame storage building with a front-gable roof of standing-seam metal sits at the rear of the property site. **Ca. 1940. Contributing.**

**230 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0224 House, frame, 1 story, no style, 1949. Contributing.**

This modest, massed-plan house has a concrete block foundation, aluminum siding, and a side-gable roof of composite shingles. An interior brick chimney is located slightly below the roof's apex on the south-west side of house. The front-east corner of the house is indented to make an integral porch under the roof line. The porch is supported by two wrought-iron columns and adorned

with iron porch railings. A front entry door and a single, double-hung, 6-over-6, window is inset in the porch. A gabled addition was added to the rear of the house. This addition contains a full basement with a double-sliding glass door and a casement window. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**240 Orchard Avenue 157-5002-0225 House, frame, 1 story, no style, 1949. Contributing.**

This massed-plan house has a concrete block foundation, aluminum-siding, and a side-gabled roof of composite shingles. The front-east corner of the house is indented to make an integral porch under the roof line. The porch is supported by two wrought-iron columns and has iron porch railings. A front entry door and a single, double-hung, 6-over-6, window is inset in the porch. Various sized windows are hung on the remaining exterior walls. There are no secondary resources on this site.

**10 East Street 157-5002-0226 House, frame, 1 story, no style, Ca. 1930. Contributing.**

This modest, single-family dwelling is situated at the corner of East Street and Orchard Avenue. Although temporally and architecturally consistent with the houses in the amended boundary area and set very close to Orchard Avenue, it fronts onto East Street. It has a hip roof with composite shingles, brick exterior chimney on the rear elevation, blue vinyl siding, and one-over-one sash windows. It has a small porch on the northwest corner, covered by a shed roof. There are no secondary resources on this site.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Summary Statement and Justification of Criteria from 1999 nomination**

*Rocky Mount is a small courthouse town that developed to accommodate agriculture, industry, and transportation provided by wagons, railroad, and automobiles. Rocky Mount today is a mixture of these elements accentuated by some of the grandest houses in Franklin County. The commercial areas consist of two- and three-story brick buildings that lend a sense of permanence to the town. The Franklin County Court House dominates the skyline at the southern edge of the proposed historic district. Franklin Street, running along the Norfolk Southern railroad serves as the main commercial corridor among early twentieth-century stores and warehouses. The 1892 railroad connection secured Rocky Mount's transportation based industrial economy, and the Norfolk and Western Depot anchors the northern end of the district. The 1990 formation of the "Save the Depot Committee" prevented its demolition, and a federal transportation grant ensured its current rehabilitation to begin new life as the Franklin County Welcome Center.*

*Five principal historic themes emerge from the Rocky Mount Historic District: Architecture (single dwellings and churches), Commerce (office building, law office, auto showroom, bank, hardware store, department store), Government (county courthouse, jail, municipal buildings, post office), Transportation (Norfolk and Southern railroad and Norfolk and Western Depot), and Industry (Bald Knob Furniture Company housing on Hale and Scott streets). The buildings of Rocky Mount reflect the agrarian and commercial development surrounding its courthouse.*

*The Rocky Mount Historic District (157-5002) is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criteria A and C. It is eligible under Criterion A because it represents broad patterns of development associated with Franklin County's tobacco and grain production, commerce, lumber and textile manufacturing, and the advent of the railroad and the automobile. The district contributes to our local understanding of Virginia's physical and cultural landscape because it historically and presently serves as the agricultural, commercial, and governmental center of Franklin County. The district is eligible under Criterion C because it represents examples of architecture associated with the above mentioned patterns of development that shaped the Town of Rocky Mount including worker housing, vernacular, and high-style architecture*

**Summary Statement and Justification of Criteria for Boundary Increase**

The boundary increase area of the Rocky Mount Historic District, which extends along Orchard Avenue for two blocks to the south of East Court Street, is eligible as an integral part of a small courthouse town that developed to

accommodate agriculture, industry, and transportation. The 1892 railroad connection secured Rocky Mount's transportation-based industrial economy, and the town began to grow steadily during the last years of the nineteenth century. Orchard Avenue was being developed at that time, and by the 1930s, the lots in the northernmost two blocks were largely occupied by Four-squares, Bungalows, and small cottages. The growth of the nearby central business district and the town as a whole occurred simultaneously, and some of the most active members of the community resided on Orchard Avenue. The area continues to be highly attractive to potential homeowners, in-part because the houses have retained a high level of historic integrity. As part of the existing Rocky Mount Historic District,

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the boundary increase area is eligible under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The contributing buildings all fit within the period of significance of the overall district, ending in 1949.

**Historical Background**

Most of the development of Orchard Avenue, between East Court Street and Patterson Avenue, occurred during the 1920s. The houses on Orchard Avenue were built by individuals who made significant contributions leading to the positive economic development of the Town of Rocky Mount. These individuals and their families were notable for contributions made to the town in business, education, legislative, manufacturing, medical, political, and social services.

Town residents recall that 90 Orchard Avenue housed the Lee Telephone Company. In the 1930 census, the occupant of this property gave his occupation as “foreman” at a telephone company. Property location has not been determined, but a 1920 census shows two ladies living on Orchard Avenue who gave their occupation as “telephone operators”.

**The Orchard Avenue residents, during the period of significance, included:**

Halifax Peake – who along with his partner, N.P. Angle, built a general-merchandise store in the town; organized the Bald Knob Furniture Company, the county’s largest employer for many years; and, in addition, served on Town Council for 10 years.

Word Peake – a courier for General Scott in France during WW I; returned to Franklin County where he began his educational career in the local school system, serving as high school principal, and culminating in his appointment as General Supervisor of Franklin County Schools.

Burgie Fisher – became manager of the 4 year old local telephone company which he subsequently purchased and reorganized. His brother, Luther N. Fisher, later joined him in expanding this company.

Frank Morris – owned and operated the Singer Sewing Machine Company store in town. Later, would found a large mercantile store within the town which became GE’s largest distributor, west of Richmond, in the State of Virginia.

Walter Beverly – with a partner, he ran the Gazette, the town’s newspaper, and Printing Office.

O.T. Kittinger– a druggist in town for over 60 years; served in WW I; organized American Legion Post 6; participated in burial ceremonies for the fist Franklin County veterans sent back from overseas.

Allan O. Woody – one of his sons became the Mayor of Rocky Mount and served in the position for 20 years. The town's current municipal building carries his name in recognition of his contributions to the town.

Vernon Lynch – owner of Lynch Hardware; his son, who lived in the house, later purchased and ran Lynch Funeral House which is still in operation today.

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Squire Chitwood – Franklin County's representative in the State Legislature for a number of years. His first wife, Blanche, was one of the founders of Rocky Mount Christian Church.

Zack Perdue – purchased and ran the Rocky Mount Ice, Coal, and Wood Company.

Lee Frith – a mail carrier; he owned a large parcel of land on Orchard and had a large orchard. This was the origin of "Orchard Avenue".

Bess Mosely – the daughter of Dr. Thomas Bailey Greer, Jr. Dr. Greer was a prominent physician in Rocky Mount and served on the first state medical examining board. He was the original owner of the 1861 Greek-Revival historic house on Orchard.

Jesse Law – foreman for the Angle Silk Mills, Inc. This company became part of the J.P. Stevens Company in 1959.

## **9. Bibliographical References**

Much of the historical information was obtained by Barbara Chauncey through interviews with long-time residents and their family members, in 2006 and 2007.

U.S. population Census for Franklin County, Virginia, 1920 and 1930.

Franklin County Real Estate Records, online at <http://arcims2.webgis.net/va/franklin/>

Salmon, John S. and Emily J. Salmon. *Franklin County Virginia 1786-1986: A Bicentennial History*. Rocky Mount, Virginia: Franklin County Bicentennial Commission, 1993.

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Rocky Mount Historic District, Boundary Increase (Orchard Avenue) is shown on the accompanying scaled map entitled, "Proposed Addition to the Historic District," dated 2007, showing the tax parcels and footprints of the resources.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary of the increase area encompasses the remaining concentration of contributing resources within their appropriate historic settings, on Orchard Avenue and surrounding areas. The boundary lines follow roads and property lines.

**Photographs**

All photographs:

Rocky Mount Historic District, Boundary Increase, Franklin County, Virginia, #157-5002

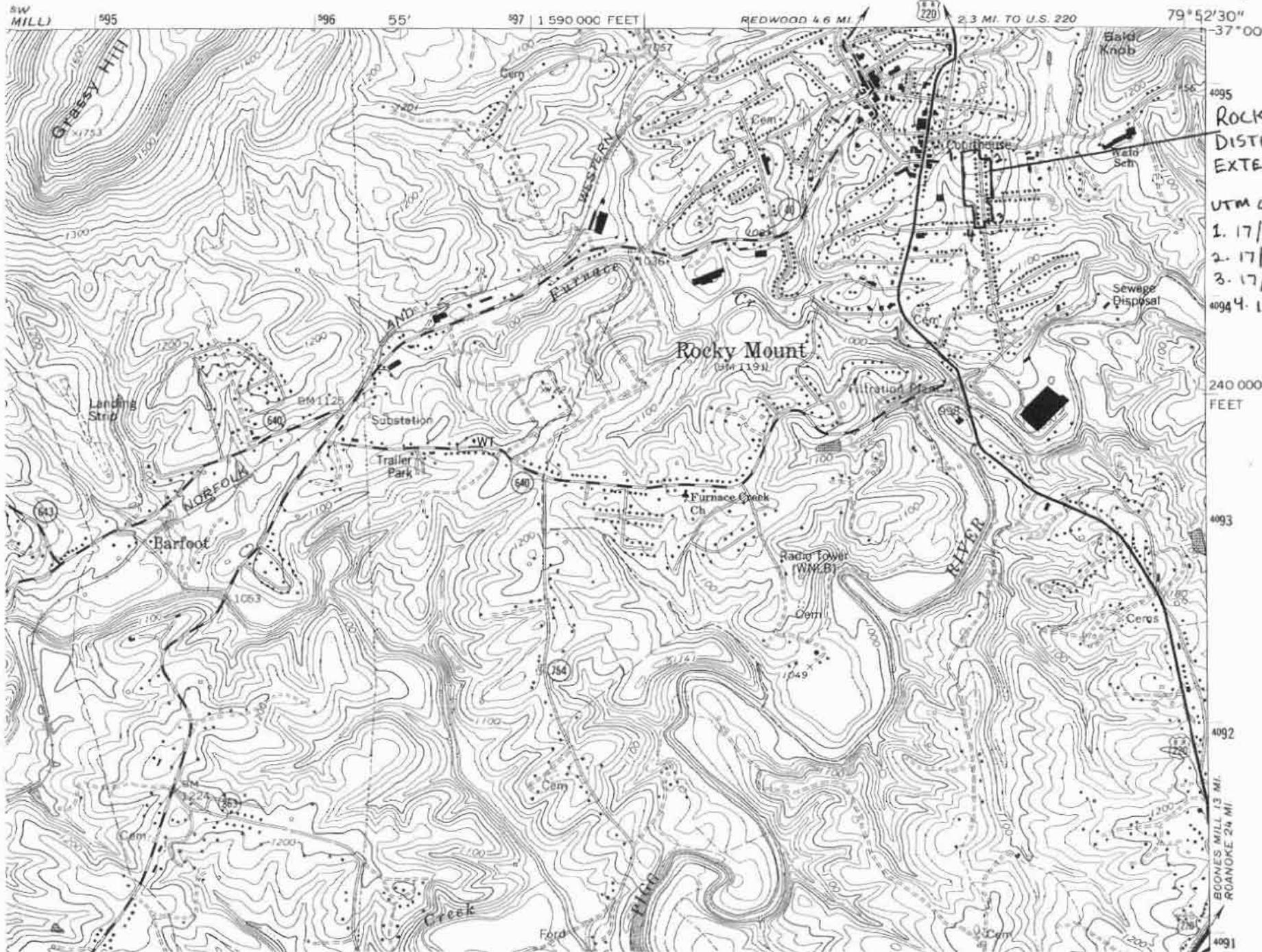
Taken October-December, 2007 by Michael J. Pulice.

Digital Photos stored at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia.

- 1) House, 80 Orchard Avenue, facing northwest
- 2) House, 85 Orchard Avenue, facing northeast
- 3) Houses, from right to left: 50, 70, 80, & 90 Orchard Avenue, facing northwest
- 4) House, 95 Orchard Avenue, facing northeast
- 5) House, 145 Orchard Avenue, facing east
- 6) Houses, 140 Orchard Avenue (right), 150 Orchard Avenue (left), facing northwest
- 7) House, 160 Orchard Avenue, facing northwest

ROCKY MOUNT QUADRANGLE  
VIRGINIA—FRANKLIN CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

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ROCKY MOUNT HISTORIC  
DISTRICT ORCHARD AVE.  
EXTENSION

- UTM COORDINATES:
1. 17/599042/4094668
  2. 17/599117/4094621
  3. 17/599132/4094361
  4. 17/599066/4094316

240 000  
FEET

BOONES MILL 13 MI.  
ROANOKE 24 MI.