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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Erlanger Mill Village Historic District  
Davidson County, NC

## 7. Materials, con.

foundation STONE  
STUCCO  
CONCRETE

walls SYNTHETICS: Vinyl  
METAL: Aluminum  
OTHER: Masonite Hardboard  
OTHER: Rolled Asphalt  
ASBESTOS

roof METAL

## Narrative Description

The Erlanger Mill Village Historic District lies approximately one mile north of downtown Lexington and encompasses a remarkably intact collection of 302 primary resources, the majority of which were constructed between 1913 and 1929. The roughly 85-acre mill village includes about nine north-south and five east-west blocks and is separated from Lexington by Interstate 85-Business/US 29-70 Bypass, a four-lane divided highway. Commercial development at the Winston Road (NC 8) exit has encroached on the southeast corner of the village, occupying the former site of the Erlanger playground, athletic fields, and swimming pool. The village's topography is nearly level, although the northern portion of the neighborhood is at a slightly higher elevation than the southern portion.

The rear lot lines of dwellings on Short and Seventh Streets form the district's southern boundary; Winston Road (where there has been some loss of original mill housing to commercial development) and Hames Street serve as the eastern boundary; the rear lot lines of residences on Second Rainbow Street create the northern boundary; and the rear lot lines of houses on Park Circle and Second Rainbow, Olympia, and Short Streets form the western boundary. The streets and avenues are arranged in a grid pattern except at the north end and around Park Circle and Short Street, where they are curvilinear. Charlotte landscape architect Earle S. Draper laid out the crescent-shaped First and Second Rainbow Streets at the north end of Broad and Hames Streets—the district's primary north-south corridors.<sup>1</sup> The street grid's orientation shifts slightly at the south end of the village in alignment with the mill complex. Service alleys running along the

<sup>1</sup> Earle S. Draper, "Study for Village Extension, Erlanger Mills, Lexington, NC," no date, in the UNC-Wilson Library North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Lexington, Davidson County, Erlanger Mills, Series P1.

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back of house lots between most streets allowed for trash collection. The alleys are no longer maintained by the city and some are in a state of disrepair.

The east-west streets are numerically numbered, beginning with Seventh Street at the south end and ascending north to Thirteenth Street. This numbering system was originally reversed, with First Street at the north end and ascending south to Seventh Street. Original street names also differed from current names: Mill Street was originally called Central Avenue, Hames Street was Church Street, Short Street was South Street, First Rainbow Street was Rainbow Street, and Second Rainbow Street was Snow Street. Ninth Street/Fifth Street was also known as Office Street. Most of the current street names were in place by 1948, as reflected on that year's updated Sanborn map.

The Erlanger Mill complex stands on a large parcel in the southwestern quadrant of the district. The mill office, a one-story brick building with a flared hip roof, deep bracketed eaves, and a hip-roofed porch supported by Tuscan columns, is located on the west side of Mill Street facing Ninth Street. One- and two-story mill buildings constructed from 1913 through the 1960s extend north, south, and west of the office. The 1913 Sanborn map indicates that the mill complex—under construction at that time—included the main brick mill building, a large weave shed, a picker room, a cotton warehouse, a water tower, and a reservoir.

The village's two churches, both executed in the Gothic Revival style, stand at the intersection of Ninth and Hames Streets. The Graded School's Grammar Department, later attached to Erlanger Baptist Church, and the Kindergarten and Day Nursery, now a heavily-altered residence, are the only extant community buildings in the village. The Grammar Department is similar in appearance to the mill office—a one-story brick building with a flared hip roof, deep bracketed eaves, and a hip-roofed porch supported by square brick posts spanned by a brick railing. The only surviving original features of the one-story frame Kindergarten and Day Nursery are the clipped-side-gable roof and a large stone chimney. Elane Lodge, a Tudor Revival-style hotel and teacherage; Milton Hall, the YMCA; and the Graded School's Primary Department once stood in the same block as the two churches.

The land within the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District is primarily devoted to residential use and includes both single- and multi-family housing. Development is dense, and all houses have compact front and back yards and narrow side yards. The mill houses are predominantly one story in height and are positioned near the street and close to one another, resulting in a harmonious rhythm of form, massing, and materials. All of the houses are frame, sided with weatherboards, wood shakes, brick veneer, aluminum, asbestos, rolled asphalt, Masonite hardboard, or vinyl. Most dwellings are three bays wide and double-pile, with side-gable roofs, brick foundations, brick interior chimneys, and shed-roofed porches, but there are a few hip- and front-gable-roofed houses. Many residences have rear shed or gable-roofed ells to allow for additional living space. A few two-story houses are located on Mill, Seventh, and Eighth Streets. Frame, concrete block, or metal garages, sheds, and carports are located beside or to the rear of a few dwellings.

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Significant landscape features include four elongated, oval, grassy medians with recently planted trees that occupy the center of Broad Street in each block between Ninth and Thirteenth Streets, and the large round median and two small triangular medians at the center of Park Circle that were originally configured as one large median and contained the village park. Concrete sidewalks serve most of the district, but are not found in all sections. Stone retaining walls line the eastern sections of Broad and Ninth Streets, while the retaining walls on the north side of Seventh Street are stuccoed rubble. Most properties are shaded by mature deciduous and evergreen trees, and a variety of shrubbery and foundation plantings are found throughout the district.

The houses fall into two main categories: simple, basic house types with spare detailing and Craftsman bungalows, some of which are remarkably stylish for a mill village. The more basic house types are, for the most part, distributed throughout the earlier sections of the village—a roughly eight-block area just north, east, and south of the mill complex that was built out by 1916-17.<sup>2</sup> In keeping with dwelling types found in other North Carolina mill villages, the majority of these early houses are modest one-story single and double-pile side-gable-roofed dwellings with shed-roofed front porches; a few L-plan, front-gable, and pyramidal-roofed were also erected during this initial construction phase.

The distinctive bungalows appear in the next development period (1917-23), when approximately fourteen blocks on Broad, Olympia, First and Second Rainbow, and the south end of Short Streets were laid out. The dwellings on the north side of Second Rainbow Street, erected between 1923 and 1929, were the last to be constructed. A 1917 Erlanger Mill Company recruiting brochure states that “the employees’ cottages in the newer portion of the village are the most modern bungalow designs, being built with great individuality from thirty original special drawings.” Mill employees remember that the houses were painted “green, maroon, and brown” while owned by Erlanger.<sup>3</sup> Variations in siding materials, gable configuration, porch size and location, porch post style, and window arrangement lend the bungalows interest and character, a complete departure from the earlier Erlanger mill houses. Based on a comparison of the Craftsman bungalows to identical house types in Reynoldstown or Cameron Park in Winston-Salem and Alexander Manufacturing Company in Forest City, it appears that the bungalows, and perhaps even some of the simpler dwellings, may have been constructed from kits manufactured by the Minter Homes Company.

Attempts to locate a Minter Homes mill village catalog and thus identify the Erlanger house types by name and/or model number have not been successful. A 1916 residential catalog from the Huntington, West

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<sup>2</sup> The Erlanger Mill village is clearly depicted on N. R. Kinney’s “Map of Lexington, N. C.” in the *1916-17 Lexington City Directory* (Florence, SC: Charles S. Gardiner Directory Publishers, 1917).

<sup>3</sup> Phoebe Zerwick, “Company Town: Erlanger’s Townsfolk Recall the Good and the Bad During the Time When the Mill Meant Everything,” *Winston-Salem Journal*, January 1, 1989, pp. C1, C3.

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Virginia Minter Homes plant includes dwellings quite similar to those in Erlanger; those house names are included in the following typology.<sup>4</sup> Erlanger Mill Company records classify the mill houses by number of rooms (three to six) and general appearance (frame houses or bungalows).<sup>5</sup> As the floor plans of each dwelling were not readily accessible for classification purposes, fifteen primary types of mill houses within the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District were identified based on form. Variations exist within each type in elements such as siding material and porch posts. The more basic, earlier house types are categorized as A through G, while the bungalow types are H through O. The typology reflects house forms that appear with great frequency (Types A, B, I, K, and N), as well as especially distinctive house forms that are relatively rare (Types D, E, F, G, L, and M). A few houses fall outside of these categories. Although most of the dwellings have been altered since they became privately owned after 1953, the majority retain their original form and character. Typical modifications include replacement of window sash, porch posts, and original pressed-metal shingle roofs; installation of porch railings; and application of aluminum, asbestos, rolled asphalt, Masonite hardboard, or vinyl siding.

The fifteen primary house types are as follows:

Type A: a one-story, three- or four-bay, single-pile, side-gable-roofed house with a central shed-roofed entrance porch supported by square posts (some of which are chamfered), six-over-six sash, a central chimney at the roof ridge, a brick foundation (in some cases brick piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards or wood shakes, and gable vents. Some dwellings have or originally had two front doors; others have rear shed- or gable-roofed ells. Thirty-two Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 60 Park Circle and 86 Seventh Street are relatively intact examples. Type A houses are quite similar to “The Dalton,” a three-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 111.

Type B: double-pile, with an almost full-façade porch and central chimney on the front roof slope, but otherwise identical to Type A. Several Type B houses on Hames and Eighth streets have stone foundations that match the stone retaining walls found throughout the mill village. Some dwellings of this type were duplexes, although quite a few examples lost one front door when they became single-family homes. Sixty-nine Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 111 Short Street and 121 Park Circle serve as representative examples. Type B houses are quite similar to “The Scranton,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 113.

Type C: a one-story, L-plan house with a shed-roofed porch supported by square posts spanning the recess created by the front wing, six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation (in some cases brick

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<sup>4</sup> *Minter Homes Catalogue Number 101* (Huntington, West Virginia: Huntington Lumber & Supply Co., 1916), William D. Wintz Collection (Ms2003-177), West Virginia State Archives, Charleston, West Virginia.

<sup>5</sup> “Village – Houses August 1, 1920,” document from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

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piers infilled with brick or concrete block), weatherboards or wood shakes, and gable vents. Several Type C houses on Hames Street have stone foundations that match the stone retaining walls found throughout the mill village. Twelve Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 34 Mill Street and 58 Park Circle are representative examples.

Type D: a one-story, double-pile, three-bay, front-gable-roofed house with an almost full-facade hip-roofed front porch with square posts (some of which are chamfered), six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards, cornice returns, and gable vents. Four Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 203 and 214 Hames Street are substantially intact examples. Type D houses are quite similar to “The Lavalette,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 102.

Type E: a one-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed duplex with two recessed corner porches, six-over-six sash, a centrally located interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards, cornice returns, and gable vents. Only two Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category: 212 and 217 Hames Street. Type E houses are quite similar to “The Denby,” a four-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 82. The Erlanger buildings are a double variation of “The Denby,” however, as they originally functioned as duplexes.

Type F: a one-story, three-room-deep, hip-roofed house with an offset gabled front porch supported by truncated square posts on brick piers, a combination of four-over-four, six-over-six, and eight-over-eight sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards, and triangular eave brackets in the porch gable. Only three Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category: 231 and 257 Broad Street and 709 First Rainbow Street.

Type G: a two-story, three-bay, single-pile, side-gable-roofed house with an almost full-façade hip-roofed porch supported by square posts, a gabled central attic wall dormer bearing only a small vent, six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, and weatherboards. Some examples have a rear ell; others have more extensive rear additions. Five Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 83 Seventh Street and 65 Eighth Street serve as representative examples.

Type H: a one-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed bungalow with a large central gable and a smaller slightly projecting gabled bay, a gabled entry porch supported by L-shaped posts, relatively small six-over-six sash, an exterior end chimney with a paved half-shoulder, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets or false beams, and diamond-shaped gable vents. Fifteen Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; extant examples are located at 220 Hames Street and 277 Winston Road.

Type I: a one-story, double-pile, cross-gable-roofed bungalow with a partially-recessed gabled entry porch supported by L-shaped posts spanned by a kneewall, large paired and single six-over-six sash, an interior

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chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets or false beams, and diamond-shaped gable vents. Twenty-two Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; intact examples are located at 271 Broad Street and 299 Winston Road.

Type J: a one-story, double-pile, front-gable-roofed bungalow with a rear gabled (sometimes asymmetrical) ell or gabled side bays, a gabled entry porch supported by three truncated square posts on tall brick piers, paired and single six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets or false beams, and diamond-shaped gable vents. Eleven Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 288 Winston Road is an excellent example of the variation with an asymmetrical gabled side bay, and even retains its original pressed-metal roof. The house at 720 First Rainbow Street has full gabled side bays at the rear of the main block. Type J houses are quite similar to “The Lakewood,” a five-room dwelling pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog on page 37.

Type K: a one-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed bungalow (some of which have shallow rectangular shed-roofed side bays), with a recessed full-façade porch, paired and single six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes (some examples have weatherboard or German siding wainscoting below wood shake siding), exposed rafter ends, and false beams or triangular eave brackets and vents in the gable ends. The porch post variations for this type include full-length square posts, two paired truncated square posts with a third diagonal post (272 Broad Street), and paired or single truncated square paneled posts (601 Park Circle and 285 Winston Road). The truncated posts rest on wood-shingled or weatherboarded piers which are often spanned by matching kneewalls or wood railings (most of which are modern additions). Many examples have one or two small gabled dormers, usually with vents, above the front porch. Sixty-five Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category. Several dwellings pictured in the 1916 Minter Homes catalog have recessed porches and other features similar to Type K houses, but none are identical. “The Edgewood,” for example, is a five-room dwelling with a recessed porch supported by square posts and a shed dormer (p. 67).

Type L: a one-story, double-pile, front-gable-roofed bungalow with large central gable and a smaller slightly projecting gabled bay, a shed-roofed entry porch supported by very short square posts on massive pyramidal brick posts that spans the recess created by the projecting gabled bay, six-over-six sash, an exterior end chimney with a paved half-shoulder, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, and false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gable ends. Five Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 292 Winston Road and 218 Hames Street are intact examples.

Type M: a one-story, three-bay, front-gable-roofed bungalow with a side-gabled rear ell that encompasses a rear porch, a full-façade recessed porch supported by square posts, six-over-six sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets or false beams in the gables, and rectangular diamond-shaped gable vents. Only two Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category: 801 and 815 Olympia Street.

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Type N: a one-story, double-pile, cross-gable-roofed bungalow with a partially-recessed shed-roofed front porch supported by square brick or wood posts (sometimes spanned by a kneewall or railing), paired and single six-over-six sash (some examples have eight-over-eight sash on the façade and six-over-six sash on the other elevations), an interior chimney, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets or false beams in the gables, and rectangular or diamond-shaped gable vents. Twenty Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 274 Broad Street and 1 Hames Street serve as representative examples.

Type O: a one-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed bungalow with a small gable over a shed-roofed front or corner porch supported by grouped, very short, square posts on tall brick piers; single, double, and triple six-over-six sash (some examples have eight-over-eight sash on the façade and six-over-six sash on the other elevations); a brick interior chimney with a tall stack, a brick foundation, weatherboards or wood shakes, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, and diamond-shaped gable vents in the gable ends. Nine Erlanger Mill houses fall into this category; 226 and 268 Broad Street are substantially intact examples.

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## INVENTORY

The inventory list is arranged alphabetically by street name, with numbered streets following in ascending order. For streets that run north to south, the east side of the street is presented first. For streets that run east to west, the north side of the street is presented first. Some houses retain their original street addresses, which began with number one and proceeded sequentially up and down the streets of the mill village, resulting in even and odd house numbers on the same side of the street.

Each resource is designated as contributing or noncontributing to the historic significance and integrity of the district. The designation criteria are based on age and degree of alteration. Buildings are considered contributing if they were constructed before 1953, when the Erlanger Mill Company began selling mill houses to individuals, and retain architectural integrity from the period of significance. Noncontributing buildings postdate 1953 or were built before 1953 and have been heavily altered by the application of synthetic siding, replacement of original windows, enclosure of original porches, and/or the construction of large additions, and therefore have lost their architectural and historical integrity. In other words, a noncontributing building's original form has been significantly altered and character-defining features have been lost. Each dwelling's inventory entry identifies the house type if applicable, (based on the fifteen principal mill house forms), followed by notes regarding variations within the type or alterations from the original appearance. Dates of construction are based on interviews with local residents; historic plats, photographs, and drawings; the Sanborn Map Company maps (1913, 1923, 1929, and the 1948 updates to the 1929 maps); the *1916-17 Lexington City Directory* map; Davidson County property cards; and the style and form of the building. Secondary resources within a property are described in the inventory list. Vacant lots are noted.

The Erlanger Mill Village Historic District includes 302 primary resources, eighty-six percent of which are contributing. Sixty-four percent of the 92 secondary resources—frame, concrete block, or metal garages, sheds, and carports—are pre-cut or prefabricated buildings and structures constructed or added after the period of significance and do not, therefore, contribute to the district's significance.

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## **BROAD STREET**

### East Side

Mill House  
251 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer with a louvered rectangular vent, wood shake siding, triangular eave brackets, plate-glass windows, and metal porch posts.

Carport  
251 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with metal posts.

Mill House  
252 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with 2/2 horizontal sash and vinyl siding.

Shed  
252 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, low gable roof.

Mill House  
253 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers with diamond-shaped vents, truncated square paneled porch posts, paired 6/6 sash, weatherboards, and triangular eave brackets.

Shed  
253 Broad Street, circa 1940, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, shed roof, board-and-batten siding.

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## Mill House

254 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with two gabled dormers with rectangular louvered vents, replacement square porch posts, 1/1 sash, new single-leaf and sliding-glass doors on facade, vinyl siding, and vinyl eave brackets.

## Garage

254 Broad Street, circa 1930, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, cantilevered front-gable roof, wood shake siding.

## Shed

254 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, low gable roof.

## Shed

254 Broad Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, plywood siding.

## Mill House

255 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with two vinyl-sided gabled dormers, a partially-enclosed front porch with replacement square posts, paired 2/2 horizontal sash, and wood shake siding with a brick veneer kneewall across the façade.

## Shed

255 Broad Street, 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, hip roof, single-leaf entry, vinyl siding, addition on north end.

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Mill House  
256 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts, 8/8 sash on the façade and 6/6 sash on the other elevations, weatherboards with wood shake siding in the gable ends, and triangular eave brackets; low stone retaining wall along Broad Street.

Shed  
256 Broad Street, circa 1930, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, weatherboards.

Mill House  
257 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type F with a metal porch railing and Masonite hardboard siding; low stone retaining wall along Broad and Twelfth streets.

Mill House  
258 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with wood shake siding and triangular eave brackets; low stone retaining wall along Broad Street.

Garage  
258 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry.

Mill House  
259 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers with diamond-shaped vents, truncated square paneled porch posts on Masonite-clad piers, a modern wood railing, paired 6/6 sash, false beams in gable ends, and Masonite hardboard siding; low stone retaining wall along Broad Street.

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Mill House  
260 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the front porch, truncated square paneled porch posts, and Masonite-clad piers spanned by a low kneewall, 1/1 sash, Masonite hardboard with rolled asphalt “brick” siding in the front gable, and false beams in the gables; low stone retaining wall along Broad Street.

Mill House  
261 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with wood shake siding and an original pressed-metal shingle roof; low stone retaining wall along Broad Street.

Mill House  
262 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with 6/6 and 8/8 sash, wood shake siding, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Carport  
262 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with metal posts.

Mill House  
263 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the front porch, truncated square paneled porch posts on shingled piers spanned by a low kneewall, 8/8 sash on the façade and 6/6 sash on the other elevations, wood shake siding, and false beams in the gables.

Mill House  
264 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with a gabled dormer, an enclosed front porch, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, and vinyl siding.

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Mill House  
265 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type N with replacement porch system (square brick porch posts, wood railing, new floor), 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, Masonite hardboard siding, end and interior brick chimneys, and an attached flat-roofed carport on the south elevation.

Shed  
265 Broad Street, 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof.

Mill House  
266 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with truncated square vinyl-clad porch posts on vinyl-clad piers, a modern wood railing, vinyl siding, and vinyl eave brackets.

Mill House  
267 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gable over the front porch, truncated square vinyl-clad porch posts, vinyl-clad piers spanned by a low kneewall, vinyl siding, and vinyl false beams in the gables.

Shed  
267 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, front-gable roof.

Mill House  
268 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with replacement 6/6 sash, wood shake siding, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Shed  
268 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, shed roof.

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Mill House  
269 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square brick porch posts spanned by a wood-shake kneewall, upper section of porch enclosed with windows, 6/6 and 8/8 sash, wood shake siding, diamond-shaped gable vents, and a rear addition; stone retaining wall along Broad and Tenth streets.

Mill House  
270 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with screened front porch and wood shake siding; stone retaining wall.

Carport  
270 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with metal posts.

Shed  
270 Broad Street, circa 1940, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, shed roof, wide German siding.

Mill House  
271 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams and diamond-shaped vents in gables and aluminum siding; stone retaining wall.

Shed  
271 Broad Street, circa 1930, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, wide German siding.

Mill House  
272 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with paired square porch posts with a third diagonal post on shingled piers, a later wood railing, 8/8 sash on the façade and 6/6 sash on the other elevations, wood shake siding, triangular eave brackets, and a rear addition; stone retaining wall.

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Mill House  
273 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers, truncated square paneled porch posts on shingled piers, a modern wood railing, paired 8/8 sash on the façade and 6/6 sash on the other elevations, wood shake siding, and false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gable ends; stone retaining wall.

Mill House  
274 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square brick porch posts spanned by a kneewall, 6/6 and 8/8 sash, wood shake siding, a rear addition, and wood lattice between the porch posts at the basement level; stone retaining wall.

Mill House  
275 Broad Street (faces Ninth Street on 300 block north side), circa 1918, Contributing Building

One-story, double-pile, front-gable-roofed house with a wraparound hip-roofed screened porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, 6/6 sash, an interior chimney, a brick foundation, and wood shake siding.

## Medians

The four Broad Street medians do not appear on Sanborn maps but are visible in historic photographs and the current landscape.

Median  
Center of Broad Street between Thirteenth and Twelfth streets, circa 1920, Contributing Structure

Elongated, oval, grassy median with recently planted trees.

Median  
Center of Broad Street between Twelfth and Eleventh streets, circa 1920, Contributing Structure

Elongated, oval, grassy median with recently planted trees.

Median  
Center of Broad Street between Eleventh and Tenth streets, circa 1920, Contributing Structure

Elongated, oval, grassy median with recently planted trees.

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## Median

Center of Broad Street between Tenth and Ninth streets, circa 1920, Contributing Structure

Elongated, oval, grassy median with recently planted trees.

## West Side

### Mill House

226 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with replacement 6/6 sash and wood shake siding with modern shaped shingles in the gable ends.

### Mill House

227 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with truncated square paneled porch posts on Masonite hardboard-clad piers, 2/2 horizontal sash, Masonite hardboard siding, and false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gables.

### Carport

227 Broad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Structure

Metal, prefabricated.

### Mill House

228 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts and wood shakes above a German siding wainscot.

### Mill House

229 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with metal porch posts, a picture window, Masonite hardboard siding above a Permastone kneewall on the south side of the façade, and full-height Permastone veneer on the north end of the façade; a wooden handicapped ramp extends east from the front porch.

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Mill House  
230 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with square porch posts flanked by large diagonal braces on brick piers, wood shakes above a German siding wainscot, false beams in the gable ends, and a small gabled addition on the south elevation.

Mill House  
231 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type F with aluminum siding and a bay window on the south elevation.

Garage  
231 Broad Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, concrete block, front-gable roof, sliding wood doors.

Mill House  
232 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with paired square porch posts with a third diagonal post on weatherboarded piers, replacement 1/1 sash, wood shakes above a weatherboard wainscot, and triangular eave brackets.

Mill House  
233 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with rear gable asymmetrical wing, false beams and rectangular and diamond-shaped vents in the gables, asbestos siding.

Mill House  
234 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
235 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with screened porch, 2/2 horizontal windows, wood shake siding, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

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Mill House  
236 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type L with 2/2 horizontal and picture windows and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
237 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square brick porch posts, 2/2 horizontal windows, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
238 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with vertical and horizontal aluminum siding.

Carport  
238 Broad Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Structure

Metal, prefabricated.

Mill House  
239 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gable over the front porch, truncated square paneled porch posts on weatherboarded piers, false beams in the gable ends, an original pressed-metal roof, 1/1 sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
240 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with a gabled dormer with a rectangular louvered vent, a partially-enclosed front porch supported by metal posts, false beams in the gables, 1/1 sash, picture window on façade, brick veneer.

Mill House  
241 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with square porch posts flanked by large diagonal braces on brick piers, false beams in the gable ends, and vinyl siding.

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Shed  
241 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable-roof, 2/2 horizontal sash.

Mill House  
242 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers, original paneled porch pilasters, replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
243 Broad Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type J with enclosed front porch, 1/1 sash, picture window on façade, and brick veneer.

Mill House  
244 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts, German siding with wood shakes in the gable ends, and triangular eave brackets.

Mill House  
245 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with a screened front porch, 6/6 sash, wood shake siding, and diamond-shaped gable vents. Helen Rogers, the first baby girl born in the mill village (July 20, 1915), lives here.

Shed  
245 Broad Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable-roof, shed-roofed porch with salvaged posts, weatherboards.

Mill House  
246 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with gable over screened shed-roofed front porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stuccoed foundation, and synthetic shake siding with aluminum siding in the gable ends.

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Outbuilding

246 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roof, synthetic shake siding with brick kneewall, 2/2 horizontal sash.

Mill House

247 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the front porch, truncated paneled square porch posts on wood-shingled piers spanned by a wood-shingled kneewall, wood shake siding, triangular eave brackets, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Carport

247 Broad Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed, metal.

Mill House

248 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type L with wood shake siding and false beams and diamond-shaped and rectangular vents in the gables.

Mill House

249 Broad Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers, a partially-enclosed porch with aluminum-clad square posts and kneewall, triangular eave brackets, and aluminum siding.

Carport

249 Broad Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Frame, flat-roofed, exposed rafter ends.

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## HAMES STREET

### East Side

Mill House  
200 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with chamfered porch posts, a modern wood railing, 5V-crimp metal roof, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
201 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with chamfered porch posts, a modern wood railing, false beams in gable ends, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
202 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with chamfered porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
203 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with chamfered porch posts, a modern wood railing, brick foundation piers covered with vinyl panels, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
204 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, a tall interior chimney, and vinyl siding with wood shakes in the gable ends.

Shed  
204 Hames Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry, weatherboards.

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## Shed

204 Hames Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, weatherboards.

## Mill House

205 Hames Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the enclosed front porch, porch enclosed with wide German siding, wood shakes above wide German siding wainscoting on main block, boarded-up windows, and false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gable ends.

## Mill House

206 Hames Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type D with a steeply-pitched front-gable roof, an enclosed front porch, replacement 6/6 sash, vinyl German siding, and a rear addition.

## Carport

206 Hames Street, 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with metal posts.

## Shed

206 Hames Street, 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, single-leaf entry, vinyl German siding, shed-roofed porch with metal posts.

## Shed

206 Hames Street, 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, gambrel roof, single-leaf entry, plywood siding.

## Mill House

207 Hames Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with two gabled dormers, an enclosed front porch, vinyl siding, and vinyl eave brackets.

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Mill House  
208 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with a rear gabled asymmetrical ell, a modern metal porch railing, and vinyl German siding.

Shed  
208 Hames Street, 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, plywood siding.

Mill House  
209 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the front porch, square porch posts, a modern wood railing, wood shake siding above German siding wainscoting, and triangular eave brackets.

Shed  
209 Hames Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, 4/4 sash, brick chimney, metal sheathing.

Mill House  
210 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with replacement square porch posts, replacement 1/1 sash, and asbestos siding.

Shed  
210 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, 1/1 sash, vinyl German siding, metal roof.

Mill House  
211 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, replacement 9/9 sash, and aluminum siding.

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Garage

211 Hames Street, 2005, Noncontributing Building

Large, one-story, side-gable roof, roll-up door, vinyl German siding, metal roof.

Mill House

212 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type E with metal porch posts, replacement 1/1 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Shed

212 Hames Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, gambrel roof, double-leaf entry, plywood siding.

Shed

212 Hames Street, 1990, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, gambrel roof, double-leaf entry.

Mill House

213 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in the gables, Masonite hardboard siding, vinyl German siding on south elevation of main block, and a gabled rear addition with vinyl German siding.

Mill House

214 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type D with square porch posts, a solid railing, and asbestos siding.

Shed

214 Hames Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry, exposed rafter ends.

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## Mill House

215 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers with louvered vents, truncated square paneled porch posts on aluminum-clad piers spanned by a low kneewall, triangular eave brackets, and aluminum siding.

## Carport/Shed

215 Hames Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Building

One-story metal carport with rear shed room.

## Mill House

216 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with metal porch posts, a metal railing, rectangular gable vents, aluminum siding, and an attached shed-roofed carport with square brick posts on the north elevation.

## Mill House

217 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type E with metal porch posts, rolled asphalt "brick" siding with wood shakes in the gables, and rectangular gable vents.

## Shed

217 Hames Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, brick, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry, vertical board siding in gable ends, exposed rafter ends.

## Mill House

218 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type L with louvered wood screen on north elevation of porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, wood shakes above a German siding wainscot, false beams and rectangular vents in gables.

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Mill House  
219 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, weatherboards with wood shakes in the gables, and rectangular gable vents.

Mill House  
220 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with wood shake siding and replacement 6/6 sash.

Shed  
220 Hames Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, gambrel roof, double-leaf entry.

Mill House  
221 Hames Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with a gabled dormer with a diamond-shaped vent over the enclosed front porch, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, a recessed entry with sidelights, vinyl siding, and brick veneer on the façade.

Garage  
221 Hames Street, circa 1930, Contributing Building

Large, one-story, frame, hip roof, two garage bays, exposed rafter ends.

Mill House  
222 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers with diamond-shaped vents, square paneled porch posts on shingled piers spanned by a modern wood railing, a metal railing at the front steps, wood shake siding.

Mill House  
223 Hames Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with enclosed front porch, brick and concrete stoop with metal railing, original pressed-metal shingle roof, false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gables, and Masonite hardboard siding.

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House  
224 Hames Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed Ranch with blonde brick veneer and 6/6 sash.

## West Side

Mill House  
1 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type N with grouped tapered porch posts, replacement 6/6 sash, weatherboards, rectangular gable vents.

Vacant lot

Mill House  
3 Hames Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type A with enclosed porch, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
4 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with weatherboards and replacement square porch posts.

Mill House  
5 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
6 Hames Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type B with enclosed front porch, 1/1 and 2/2 horizontal sash, and vinyl siding.

Shed  
6 Hames Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated, gambrel-roof.

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Mill House  
7 Hames Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type C with replacement 6/6 sash, a side-gabled addition on the south elevation, and vinyl siding.

Shed  
7 Hames Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, weatherboards.

Mill House  
8 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with 1/1 sash, a rear shed room, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
9 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, original five-horizontal-panel door, replacement 6/6 sash, rear gable and shed-roofed ells, vinyl siding, and an attached flat-roofed carport on the north elevation.

Mill House  
10 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stuccoed foundation, weatherboards, and a rear shed room.

Mill House  
11 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, a stuccoed foundation, a rear shed room, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
12 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stuccoed foundation, and vinyl siding.

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## Mill House

13 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type C with vinyl porch posts, a vinyl railing, replacement 1/1 sash, and vinyl German siding.

## Garage

13 Hames Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, German siding.

## House

14 Hames Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed, brick-veneered Ranch with aluminum-frame sash.

## Mill House

15 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, a metal railing, replacement 6/6 sash, and asbestos siding.

## Mill House

16 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, a stuccoed foundation, vinyl siding, and a wooden handicapped ramp at the rear.

## Shed

16 Hames Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

One-story, gambrel-roof, prefabricated.

## Mill House

17 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, weatherboards, triangular gable vents, and a gabled rear ell.

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Mill House  
18 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type C with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 4/4 sash, a four-panel door, triangular gable vents, and asbestos siding.

Mill House  
19 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
20 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
21 Hames Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type A with a replacement gabled screened porch, a solid railing, replacement 6/6 sash, a gabled rear ell, and vinyl siding.

Garage  
21 Hames Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, hip-roof, two bays, rolled-asphalt siding.

Mill House  
22 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type A with a gabled rear ell and asbestos siding.

Erlanger Baptist Church Education Building  
24 Hames Street, 1957, Contributing Building

Two-story, brick, flat-roofed, rectangular building (five bays wide, ten bays deep) with a flat-roofed entry porch with grouped square posts and metal roof balustrade, metal casement windows, and auxiliary entrances accessed by exterior metal stairs on the north elevation. Erlanger Baptist Church (25 Hames Street) purchased two adjacent houses on Hames Street (formerly Church Street) in the mid-1950s and

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replaced the dwelling at 24 Hames Street with an education building, completed in January 1957 at a cost of approximately \$60,000. The commodious new building encompassed twenty-two Sunday School classrooms, three choir rooms, six bathrooms, a storage room, and a study.<sup>6</sup> A flat-roofed metal breezeway connects the education building to the rear of the Erlanger Baptist Church sanctuary.

## Erlanger Baptist Church 25 Hames Street, 1936, Contributing Building

One-story, brick Gothic Revival church with a front-gable roof, a slightly projecting central crenellated square bell tower with arched vents, an arched double-leaf entry surmounted by a stained-glass transom, multi-pane stained-glass pointed-arch windows, and shallow buttresses with cast-stone caps on the side elevations. Dr. Fred Hale, pastor of Lexington's First Baptist Church, and fifty-three charter members organized the congregation's Erlanger branch on April 12, 1916. The new Erlanger Baptist congregation met at Union Church (a nondenominational church building constructed by the Erlangers) on Ninth Street until 1923, when they built a frame sanctuary across from the mill village on Winston Road. The congregation was then renamed Tabernacle Baptist Church. The building was remodeled and brick-veneered from 1925 to 1927, but by 1932 the 432-person church membership had outgrown the building. The Erlangers donated the vacant lot on the northwest corner of Ninth and Hames Streets to the congregation in November 1935, and a new church was erected at a cost of approximately \$15,000. Foreman Willie Wilson supervised the construction, and Erlanger residents helped to dig footings and lay brick purchased from Cunningham Brick Company. The new building, completed on March 15, 1936, included an auditorium with a seating capacity of five hundred and sixteen Sunday School rooms. The congregation reverted to the original name of Erlanger Baptist Church when they moved into their new sanctuary.<sup>7</sup> The Erlangers donated the Graded School's Grammar Department (110 Ninth Street) to Erlanger Baptist Church in the late 1930s for use as Sunday School classrooms. A short one-story flat-roofed brick hyphen now connects the two buildings. A flat-roofed metal breezeway connects the Erlanger Baptist Church Education Building (24 Hames Street) to the rear of the sanctuary. The church originally had a Ninth Street address; it was later changed to Hames Street.

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<sup>6</sup> "New Education Building," *The Erlantern*, February 1957, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>7</sup> Joyce White Melton, *The North Lexington Baptist Church: "They Came From Everywhere"* (no publisher, 1991), 16-17, 41-45, 61-63; "History of Erlanger Baptist Church," October 10, 1966, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

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Mill House  
28 Hames Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 sash, a stone foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, Masonite hardboard siding, a modern standing-seam metal roof, and a stuccoed shed-roofed addition on the north elevation.

Mill House  
29 Hames Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with metal porch posts, 4/4, 6/6, and picture windows, a stone foundation, rectangular gable vents, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
30 Hames Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with triangular gable vents and asbestos siding.

Mill House  
31 Hames Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a modern wood railing, two front doors, and asbestos siding.

Vacant Lot

## **MILL STREET**

### East Side

Mill House  
33 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with a partially-enclosed porch supported by replacement square posts, a modern wood railing, and Masonite hardboard siding.

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Mill House  
34 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with modern wood lattice porch railing, weatherboards, and triangular gable vents.

Shed  
34 Mill Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, low front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, German siding.

Mill House  
35 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, triangular gable vents, and aluminum siding.

Shed  
35 Mill Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, weatherboards.

Mill House  
36 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, triangular gable vents, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
37 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, two front doors, Masonite hardboard siding, and an exterior wooden stair to an attic apartment.

Shed  
37 Mill Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, Masonite hardboard siding.

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## Apartments

38 Mill Street, circa 1914, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered, two-story, hip-roofed building with a one-story wing that wraps around the façade and south elevation, a shed-roofed screened front porch, 1/1 and 6/6 sash, brick piers infilled with brick to form a continuous foundation, vinyl German siding, a large rear addition, and exterior wooden stairs to second-floor apartments. The large scale and massing of this building is very different than the rest of the mill village.

## Mill House

39 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type G with replacement 6/6 sash and vinyl siding.

## Vacant Lot

## Mill House

41 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

One-story, pyramidal-roofed house with projecting gabled wings on the façade and south elevation, wraparound porch with metal posts and a concrete floor, 1/1 sash, tall interior brick chimney, brick foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, and vinyl siding.

## Mill House

42 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

One-story, pyramidal-roofed house with projecting gabled wings on the façade and south elevation, wraparound porch with metal posts, 6/6 sash, tall interior brick chimney, brick foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, and asbestos siding.

## Mill House

43 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

One-story, pyramidal-roofed house with projecting gabled wings on the façade and south elevation, partially-enclosed wraparound porch with replacement square posts, 6/6 sash, tall interior brick chimney, brick foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, and aluminum and plywood siding.

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Mill House

44 Mill Street, circa 1914, Noncontributing Building

One-story, pyramidal-roofed house with projecting gabled wings on the façade and south elevation, wraparound porch mostly enclosed with plywood, 6/6 sash, tall interior brick chimney, brick foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, and asbestos siding.

Vacant Lot (northeast corner of Mill and Ninth Streets)

Parking Lot (southeast corner of Mill and Ninth Streets)

Mill House

48 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, triangular gable vents, and asbestos siding.

Mill House

49 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with a modern wood porch railing, weatherboards, and peaked gable vents.

Mill House

50 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with metal porch posts, boarded-up windows, a stuccoed foundation, triangular gable vents and asbestos siding.

Mill House

51 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type G with replacement porch posts, a modern wood railing, 1/1 sash, a metal-sheathed foundation, and vinyl siding.

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## West Side

Mill House  
120 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

One-story, gable-on-hip roof, 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, wraparound porch with metal posts, interior brick chimney, brick piers infilled with brick to form a continuous foundation, triangular gable vents, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
52 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, two front doors, peaked gable vents, and asbestos siding.

Shed  
52 Mill Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, prefabricated.

Shed  
52 Mill Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, board-and-batten siding with weatherboards in the gable ends, shed additions.

Mill House  
53 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with screened porch and vinyl siding.

Shed  
53 Mill Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, plywood.

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Mill House  
54 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
55 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with modern porch railing, two front doors, a rear gabled ell, weatherboards, and triangular gable vents.

Mill House  
56 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with metal porch posts, triangular gable vents, asbestos siding, and an attached shed-roofed carport on the north elevation.

Mill House  
57 Mill Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with screened porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, and Masonite hardboard siding with Permastone under the porch.

Erlanger Cotton Mills, Inc.  
100 Mill Street, 1913, circa 1915, 1916, circa 1920, circa 1926, circa 1946, 1966, 1992 Contributing Building

The Erlanger Cotton Mills complex, located in the southwestern quadrant of the district, occupies a large parcel bounded by Mill Street on the east, Eighth Street on the south, Erlanger Alley on the west, and Tenth Street on the north. The mill office stands on the west side of Mill Street facing Ninth Street. Original and later one- and two-story mill buildings extend north, south, and west of the office.

A long, rectangular, brick building with a two-story main mill at the south end, a larger one-story weave shed at the north end, and a two-story picker room in between dominated the 1913 Erlanger Cotton Mills complex. Early photographs of the east elevation of the main mill building illustrate that the area bordering Mill Street was originally nicely landscaped with small trees, a variety of shrubs, and a paved sidewalk. A small two-story brick restroom tower extended from the center of the west elevation. The plant continued to the west to include a two-story, three-part, brick warehouse with one-story waste and opener rooms on

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the north end. A water tower stood between the main mill and warehouse; a large rectangular water reservoir was located north of the warehouse.

The one-story brick office building with a flared hip roof, deep bracketed eaves, and a hip-roofed portico supported by Tuscan columns stood at a prominent location on the east edge of the mill complex by 1915. One-over-one sash with segmental-arch transoms illuminate the building; sidelights and a segmental-arch transom flank the entry. The mill office location provided managers a view of the village's community buildings including Milton Hall, churches, and schools.

Changes reflected on the 1923 Sanborn map include the addition of a fourth section to the south end of the 1913 warehouse and the construction of a two-story brick yarn mill off the main mill's southeast corner in 1916. A short two-story brick hyphen linked the yarn mill to the main mill. A small, one-story, two-room building just west of the main mill's north end contained a carpentry shop and a machine shop. A one-story turbine and two-story boiler room extended from the west elevation of the picker room, and a long, rectangular, one-story building housing a cloth room and storage space stood directly west of the north end of the 1913 building (the weave shed section). A one-story cotton warehouse was erected north of the reservoir; a long, narrow one-story stable and saw shed stood just north of the cotton warehouse. A one-story opener room with a sawtooth roof and a flat-roofed warehouse was constructed south of the reservoir. Two long, narrow, shed-roofed garages stood west of the southern warehouses; a third, much smaller garage stood west of the yarn mill.

A 1926 Factory Insurance Association site plan clearly illustrates the mill complex in a three-dimensional perspective. The buildings are rendered in great detail, including the clerestory windows that provided light and ventilation for the yarn mill, main mill, picker room, and weave shed.<sup>8</sup> Between 1926 and 1929, the one-story cotton warehouse north of the reservoir was expanded to the north with two additional warehouse sections (the long, narrow warehouse was demolished to allow for this expansion). A frame air cooling tower was erected circa 1940 south of the 1913 brick restroom tower. By 1946, the warehouse north of the reservoir had been expanded again—an additional section was added to the north end. In the post war era, brick hyphens and additions connected all of these buildings. A narrow, windowless 1966 spinning room addition extends from the east elevation of the main mill. The reservoir was filled in with the debris from the demolition of Milton Hall in 1984; truck trailers now occupy the gravel lot at this location.

Exterior walls from the 1910s and 1920s are visible on the north and south ends of the complex. On the north end, most of the north and east elevations of the 1913 weave shed and the north and west elevations of the 1920s weave room are exposed. On the complex's south end the south elevation of the 1913 main

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<sup>8</sup> J. M. Ciarrar, "The Erlanger Cotton Mills Co., Lexington, N.C.," Sheet 1266-B, Factory Insurance Association, Hartford, Connecticut, April 19, 1926.

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mill and the south and west elevations of the 1916 yarn mill are visible. All of these early sections are brick with low-pitched gable roofs and bricked-in flat-arch window openings. Some segmental arch window openings pierced the first floor of the main mill's south elevation. The early north sections (weave shed and cloth room) feature deep bracketed eaves while the south sections (south end of the main mill and the yarn mill) have flush eaves and little ornamentation. The clerestory window on the main mill roof is intact. A section of an original stone retaining wall, similar to the stone bridge across Erlanger Branch, the stone retaining walls on Broad and Ninth Streets, and the stone foundations and porch piers on mill houses on Hames Street, separates the south end of the mill complex from Eighth Street.

## OLYMPIA STREET

### East Side

Mill House  
800 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with replacement square porch posts and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
802 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with metal porch posts, a metal railing, and aluminum siding with board-and-batten siding in the gable ends.

Mill House  
804 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, replacement square porch posts, and weatherboards.

Vacant Lot

Mill House  
808 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, a rear gabled ell, a concrete block foundation, Masonite hardboard siding, and triangular gable vents.

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Mill House  
810 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts spanned by modern wood lattice, 2/2 horizontal sash, aluminum siding, and triangular eave brackets.

Mill House  
812 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with square porch posts, a wood railing, paired 6/6 sash, wood shake siding, false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gables.

Mill House  
814 Olympia Street, 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type N with enclosed front porch with 2/2 horizontal sash, 6/6 sash elsewhere, triangular eave brackets, rectangular gable vents, and false beams in the gables, vinyl siding, shed addition on south elevation.

Mill House  
816 Olympia Street, 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with chamfered porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, and aluminum siding.

## West Side

Mill House  
801 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type M with false beams in the gables and rolled asphalt siding.

Outbuilding  
801 Olympia Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, 2/2 horizontal sash, asbestos siding.

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Mill House  
803 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a partially-enclosed screened porch (wood-shingled corner pier intact), 2/2 horizontal sash, wood shake siding, triangular eave brackets, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Shed  
803 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, wood shake siding.

Mill House  
805 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with weatherboards, a metal porch railing, triangular eave brackets, and rectangular and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Mill House  
807 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with wood shake siding.

Mill House  
809 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a screened front porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, triangular eave brackets, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
811 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, replacement slender square paired porch posts, triangular eave brackets, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
813 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with screened porch, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

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Mill House  
815 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type M with replacement square porch posts, triangular eave brackets, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
817 Olympia Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with truncated square paneled porch posts on wood-shingled piers spanned by a shingled kneewall, triangular eave brackets, wood shake siding, and an attached carport on the south elevation.

## **PARK CIRCLE**

East Side  
(North to South—house numbers are not in numerical order)

Mill House  
604 Park Circle, 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type H with an enclosed porch, 1/1 sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
603 Park Circle, 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with 2/2 horizontal sash, false beams in gables, and rolled asphalt “brick” siding.

Mill House  
602 Park Circle, 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square porch posts, a wood railing, wood shake siding, and an enclosed rear porch.

Mill House  
601 Park Circle, 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers, truncated square paneled posts on shingled piers, a wood railing, paired 6/6 sash, false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gable ends, and wood shake siding.

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Mill House  
600 Park Circle, 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with paired 6/6 and 2/2 horizontal sash and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
121 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a stuccoed interior chimney, weatherboards, and diamond-shaped gable vents.

Mill House  
122 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
123 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
124 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with metal porch posts, a metal railing, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
58 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type C with one chamfered post and one replacement square post, a modern wood railing, triangular gable vents, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
59 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, a stuccoed interior chimney, and weatherboards.

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## Mill House

60 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, a rear shed room with a shed-roofed porch, and aluminum siding.

## Mill House

61 Park Circle, circa 1914, Noncontributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, a poured concrete porch floor on a concrete block foundation, 2/2 horizontal sash, vinyl siding, and an attached carport on the south elevation.

## Mill House

622 Park Circle, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type I with metal porch posts, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, diamond-shaped gable vents, a rear shed room, and rolled asphalt "brick" siding.

## Medians

One large median appears in the this location on the 1923 Sanborn map; the current configuration, with a large round median and two small triangular medians, appears on the 1929 Sanborn map.

### North Median

Park Circle, circa 1925, Contributing Site

Triangular, grassy median.

### East Median

Park Circle, circa 1925, Contributing Site

Round grassy median that originally contained the mill village park.

## Duplex

605 A, B Park Circle, 1986, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roofed duplex with 1/1 sash and wood siding; located on the east median.

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Triplex  
605 C, D, E Park Circle, 1986, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roofed duplex with 1/1 sash and wood siding; located on the east median.

South Median  
Park Circle, circa 1925, Contributing Site

Triangular, grassy median.

## West Side

Mill House  
613 Park Circle, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in the gables, a stuccoed foundation, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
614 Park Circle, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type H with a partially-enclosed porch and shed addition on northeast corner of façade, 2/2 horizontal sash, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Garage  
614 Park Circle, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
615 Park Circle, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with metal porch posts, a metal railing, rectangular and diamond-shaped gable vents, false beams in the gable ends, and wood shake siding,

Shed  
615 Park Circle, circa 1940, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, German siding.

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Mill House  
616 Park Circle, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with two gabled dormers, original paneled porch pilasters on wood-shingle piers, metal porch posts, a metal railing, false beams in gable ends, diamond-shaped gable vents, and wood shake siding.

Shed  
616 Park Circle, circa 1940, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, German siding, shed additions with board-and-batten siding.

Mill House  
617 Park Circle, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with 1/1 sash and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
618 Park Circle, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with metal porch posts, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
619 Park Circle, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gable over the front porch, truncated paneled square porch posts on wood-shingled piers spanned by a wood-shingled kneewall, 4/4 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and wood shakes siding.

Mill House  
621 Park Circle, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type N with partially-enclosed porch with square replacement posts, 6/1 sash, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
623 Park Circle, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in the gables, diamond-shaped and rectangular gable vents, and wood shake siding.

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## FIRST RAINBOW STREET

### North Side

#### Mill House

701 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed house with clipped gables, a front-gable wing on the east side of the façade, a hip-roofed entry porch with metal posts, porch extends diagonally from junction of main block and front-gable wing, replacement 6/6 sash, picture window on facade, complex triangular eave brackets, and asbestos siding.

#### Mill House

703 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, and asbestos siding.

#### Mill House

705 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed house with partially-inset central front-gable porch with metal replacement posts and a metal railing, 6/6 sash, exterior brick chimney, brick foundation, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, diamond-shaped-shaped gable vents, wood shake siding.

#### Mill House

707 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl German siding.

#### Mill House

709 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type F with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, replacement 6/6 sash, a polygonal bay on the west elevation, and vinyl siding.

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Mill House

711 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with an offset gabled dormer, square porch posts, a wood railing, and wood shake siding.

Mill House

713 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type O with an auxiliary side porch, metal porch posts, and 2/2 horizontal sash.

Mill House

715 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with wood-shingled porch posts and kneewall, 2/2 horizontal sash, false beams in the gable ends, and vinyl siding.

Carport

715 First Rainbow Street, circa 2004, Noncontributing Structure

Metal, prefabricated.

Mill House

717 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stuccoed foundation, and aluminum siding.

Mill House

719 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, front-gable-roofed house with 2/2 horizontal sash, recessed porch in southwest corner, brick façade chimney, triangular eave brackets, and vinyl siding.

Mill House

721 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a large gabled dormer, vinyl-sided porch posts, 1/1 sash, false beams in the gable ends, and vinyl siding.

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## Mill House

723 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type O with enclosed porch, replacement 6/6 sash, and aluminum siding.

## South Side

## Mill House

706 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with square porch posts, a wood railing, a German-sided room at the southeast corner of the porch, wood shake siding, and an original pressed-metal shingle roof.

## Mill House

708 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type I with a vinyl-sided enclosed porch, 1/1 sash, wood paneling with wood shakes in the gables, and a rear shed addition.

## Playhouse

708 First Rainbow Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, shed roof, single-leaf entry, beaded vinyl siding.

## Mill House

710 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type J with partially-enclosed front porch with a replacement square post and a modern wood railing, 1/1 sash, and vinyl German siding.

## Mill House

712 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with partially-enclosed porch supported by replacement square posts, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

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## Mill House

714 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with modern wood porch railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, asbestos siding, and a rear shed addition.

## Mill House

716 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, triangular eave brackets, and Masonite hardboard siding.

## Mill House

718 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, a stuccoed interior chimney, peaked gable vents, and vinyl siding.

## Shed

718 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, single-leaf entry, exposed rafter ends.

## Mill House

720 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with wood shake siding and a modern wood railing.

## Shed

720 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, single-leaf entry, exposed rafter ends.

## Mill House

722 First Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer with louvered vents, square porch posts, triangular eave brackets, wood shake siding, and a rear porch enclosed with wide German siding.

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## SECOND RAINBOW STREET

### North Side

#### Mill House

736 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer with louvered vents, slender square porch posts on wood-shingled piers, a wood railing, two front doors, false beams in the gable ends, and wood shake siding.

#### Mill House

738 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

One-story, cross-gable-roofed house with an engaged porch along the west elevation of the front-facing gable, 2/2 horizontal sash, brick interior chimney, brick foundation, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

#### House

740 Second Rainbow Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

One-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed infill house with a recessed front porch, vinyl windows, a concrete block foundation, and vinyl siding.

#### Mill House

742 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

Type N with replacement square porch posts, complex triangular eave brackets, and vinyl siding. The owner stated that the house was built between 1918 and 1923.

#### Shed

742 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated, one-story, front-gable roof, horizontal-light windows.

#### Mill House

744 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood railing, triangular eave brackets, and vinyl siding.

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## Mill House

746 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Noncontributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, vinyl German siding, and a large side-gabled rear addition.

## Mill House

748 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type B with a replacement full-width porch with square posts, a wood railing, and a central front-gable; vinyl German siding.

## Shed

748 Second Rainbow Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

One-story, gambrel-roof, double-leaf entry, prefabricated.

## Mill House

760 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

Type I with replacement square porch posts and asbestos siding.

## Mill House

762 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in gables, wood shake siding, and an attached carport on the southwest corner of the house.

## Mill House

764 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1925, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type N with 1/1 sash and vinyl siding.

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## South Side

### Mill House

731 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer with louvered vents, metal porch posts, two front doors, complex triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

### Mill House

733 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, cross-gable-roofed house with a recessed porch along the west elevation of the front-facing gable, square porch post, 6/6 sash, brick interior chimney, brick foundation, exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, asbestos siding, and an engaged rear porch at the southeast corner with a turned post and a modern wood railing.

### Shed

733 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, low gable roof, metal.

### Mill House

735 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with an enclosed front porch with sliding glass doors, 1/1 and fixed sash, a stuccoed interior chimney, wood shake siding, and a front deck.

### Shed

735 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, exposed rafter ends, metal sheathing.

### House

737 Second Rainbow Street, 1993, Noncontributing Building

One-story, side-gable-roofed Ranch with 6/6 sash, a concrete stoop, and blonde brick veneer.

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## Mill House

739 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered one-story, side-gable-roofed house with an engaged corner porch with replacement square bracketed porch posts, a modern wood railing, replacement 6/6 sash, an interior chimney, a stuccoed brick foundation, a gabled rear addition, and vinyl siding.

## Shed

739 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, flat metal roof, vinyl siding.

## Mill House

741 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with a wood-shingled porch post and kneewall, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

## Mill House

743 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered one-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed house with 1/1 sash, an enclosed or removed front porch, a brick stoop, an interior chimney, and vinyl siding.

## Mill House

745 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood railing, a concrete block stovepipe chimney on the east elevation, and wood shake siding.

## Mill House

747 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type A with square porch posts spanned by a wood-shingled kneewall; exposed rafter ends, triangular eave brackets, a rear addition, and wood shake siding.

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## Mill House

749 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with square porch posts, a wood railing, wood shake siding, and an enclosed rear porch.

## Shed

749 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, shed roof, exposed rafter ends, plywood sheathing.

## Mill House

751 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, exposed rafter ends, complex triangular eave brackets, aluminum siding, and a shed-roofed addition on the west elevation.

## Carport

751 Second Rainbow Street, 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with square posts and wood lattice.

## Guest House #1

751 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, one-room, frame, shed roof, 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, vertical and horizontal wood siding, scalloped bargeboard.

## Guest House #2

751 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, one-room, frame, shed roof, 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, vertical and horizontal wood siding, scalloped bargeboard.

## Mill House

753 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, exposed rafter ends, complex triangular eave brackets, vinyl siding, chain-link fence.

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**Shed**

753 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, brick foundation, wide German siding.

**Shed**

753 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, gambrel roof, double-leaf entry, concrete block piers, plywood siding.

**Mill House**

755 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Single-pile Type H with a modern wood porch railing, an interior chimney, complex triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

**Mill House**

757 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a front porch with square posts spanned by wood lattice; complex triangular eave brackets, wood shake siding, and a rear addition.

**Carport**

757 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1960, Noncontributing Structure

Flat-roofed with metal posts.

**Shed**

757 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, brick piers, wide German siding.

**Mill House**

759 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer with louvered vents, recessed front and rear porches with grouped square posts on rolled asphalt "brick" piers, modern wood railings, complex triangular eave brackets, and rolled asphalt "brick" siding.

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## Mill House

761 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with mid-century modern metal tubular porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, complex triangular eave brackets, and aluminum siding.

## Shed

761 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, single-leaf entry, brick foundation, Masonite hardboard siding.

## Shed

761 Second Rainbow Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, gambrel roof.

## SHORT STREET

### North Side

## Mill House

108 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with partially-enclosed porch, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl siding.

## Shed

108 Short Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

One-story, metal, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry.

## Mill House

109 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, faux "stone" Masonite hardboard siding, and a gabled rear addition with vinyl German siding.

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Mill House  
110 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, boarded-up windows, two front doors, diamond-shaped gable vents, weatherboards, and a rear addition.

Mill House  
111 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood railing, two front doors, weatherboards, and a rear addition.

Shed  
111 Short Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, front-gable roof, double-leaf entry, plywood siding.

Mill House  
112 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, vinyl siding, semi-circular gable vents, and a gabled rear addition.

## South Side

Mill House  
404 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with partially-enclosed porch supported by paired square posts on vinyl-clad piers, a wood railing, false beams in the gable ends, a brick end chimney, and vinyl siding.

Shed  
404 Short Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated, gambrel roof.

Mill House  
405 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square porch posts, a wood railing, false beams in the gable ends, and weatherboards.

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Mill House  
408 Short Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with square porch posts, a wood railing, a stuccoed foundation, false beams in the gable ends, and vinyl German siding.

## WINSTON ROAD

### West Side

Mill House  
276 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with truncated paneled square porch posts on wood-shingled piers, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, triangular eave brackets, wood shake siding, and an original pressed-metal roof.

Mill House  
277 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with picture windows on the façade and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
278 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, replacement square porch posts, 1/1 sash, triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
282 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with 8/8 sash on the façade and 6/6 sash elsewhere, wood shake siding, and an original pressed-metal roof.

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Mill House  
283 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, chamfered porch posts, false beams in the gable ends, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
284 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with a modern porch railing, 1/1 sash, a picture window on the facade, and asbestos siding.

Mill House  
285 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, truncated paneled square porch posts on wood-shingled piers, false beams and diamond-shaped vents in the gable ends, and wood shake siding.

Mill House  
288 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with a rear gabled asymmetrical wing, wood shake siding, original pressed-metal roof.

Mill House  
290 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, hip-roofed house with a gabled front porch with paneled square posts on stuccoed brick piers, replacement 6/6 sash, a picture window on the facade, an interior chimney, a stuccoed brick foundation, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
292 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type L with wood shake siding.

Mill House  
293 Winston Road, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Type K with a large gabled dormer over the enclosed front porch, 3/1 sash, aluminum and rolled asphalt siding with wood shakes on the dormer.

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Mill House  
298 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with wood shake siding.

Mill House  
299 Winston Road, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in the gables and wood shake siding.

## **SEVENTH STREET**

### North Side

Mill House  
79 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, vinyl siding, and a screened porch on the east elevation.

Mill House  
80 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 6/1 sash, a gabled rear ell, triangular gable vents, and rolled asphalt "brick" siding.

Mill House  
81 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with a partially-enclosed and screened porch with replacement square posts, a modern wood railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, weatherboards, and a front deck.

Mill House  
82 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with a partially-enclosed porch with square posts, a wood railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, and Masonite hardboard siding.

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Mill House  
83 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type G with 2/1 sash, a concrete block porch foundation, asbestos siding, and a one-story rear ell with an enclosed shed porch.

Mill House  
84 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with a partially-enclosed porch with metal posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, peaked gable vents, rolled asphalt "brick" siding, and a rear shed addition.

Mill House  
85 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with square porch posts, a wood railing, weatherboards, and a small German-sided shed addition on the west elevation.

Mill House  
86 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with square porch posts, a modern wood railing, two front doors (western door opening has been infilled with weatherboards), triangular gable vents, a rear gabled ell, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
87 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Noncontributing Building

Type B with enclosed front porch, 2/2 horizontal and 6/6 sash, peaked gable vents, Masonite hardboard siding, and a rear shed addition.

Mill House  
88 Seventh Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood railing, 3/1 sash, peaked gable vents, a rear addition, and fiberboard "brick" siding; stuccoed retaining wall.

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Mill House  
89 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type B with an enclosed front porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, rectangular gable vents, a rear addition, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
90 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a wood railing, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
91 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stuccoed foundation, diamond-shaped gable vents, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
92 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, a stuccoed interior chimney, a rear shed addition, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
93 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, two front doors, and Masonite hardboard siding.

Mill House  
94 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts and a metal railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, and asbestos siding.

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Mill House  
95 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, remnants of a wood railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, and aluminum siding.

## **SEVENTH STREET**

### South Side

Bridge and Wall  
96 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Structure

Bridge over Erlanger Branch with stone piers and railing; a low stone wall lines the path leading to the bridge, which originally connected the two-story mill supervisor's house at 1 Childers Court (a contributing building in the Lexington Residential Historic District) to the village. Interstate 85-Business/US 29-70 Bypass, a four-lane divided highway, now separates this residence from the mill village.

Mill House  
96 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type B with an enclosed front porch with jalousie windows, 1/1 sash, a rear shed addition, and vinyl siding.

Garage/Carport  
96 Seventh Street, circa 1970, Noncontributing Building

Frame, low gable roof, vinyl siding.

Mill House  
97 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, vinyl siding, and a 5-V crimp metal roof.

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Mill House  
98 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type B with an enclosed front porch, 2/2 horizontal sash, a picture window on the facade, diamond-shaped gable vents, vinyl siding on the facade, asbestos siding on the other elevations, and a front deck with a lattice railing.

Mill House  
99 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
100 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood lattice railing, replacement 6/6 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
101 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a wood lattice railing, replacement 6/6 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
102 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
103 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
104 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Noncontributing Building

Type B with enclosed front porch and vinyl siding.

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Mill House  
105 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, two front doors, and aluminum siding.

Mill House  
106 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, 1/1 sash, two front doors (eastern door opening has been enclosed), and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
107 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, two front doors (eastern door opening has been enclosed), diamond-shaped gable vents, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
108 Seventh Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with square porch posts, a modern wood railing, 1/1 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and vinyl siding.

## **EIGHTH STREET**

### North Side

Mill House  
399 Eighth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type I with false beams in the gables and asbestos siding.

Shed #1  
399 Eighth Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, gambrel roof, plywood siding.

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Shed #2

399 Eighth Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, gambrel roof, plywood siding.

Carport

399 Eighth Street, circa 2000, Noncontributing Structure

Low gable metal roof, metal posts.

Mill House

400 Eighth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with chamfered posts, a wood railing, rectangular gable vents, and weatherboards.

Mill House

401 Eighth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with chamfered posts, a modern wood railing, diamond-shaped gable vents, weatherboards, and rear additions.

Mill House

402 Eighth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, 1/1 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, a rear addition, vinyl siding, and an attached carport on the east elevation; concrete block retaining wall capped with brick on the west side of the lot.

Mill House

403 Eighth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type H with replacement square porch posts, a modern wood railing, a stuccoed foundation, and weatherboards.

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## South Side

Mill House  
62 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts on stone piers, a metal railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, a stone foundation, and vertical and horizontal aluminum siding.

Mill House  
63 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with metal porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, a rear shed addition, and rolled asphalt “ashlar” siding.

Shed  
63 Eighth Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated, plywood.

Mill House  
65 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type G with replacement square porch posts, some replacement 6/6 sash, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
66 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type G with replacement square porch posts, original five-panel front door, and asbestos siding.

Mill House  
67 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement turned porch posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, two front doors, peaked gable vents, and asbestos siding.

Mill House  
68 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with square replacement posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, original five-panel front door, triangular gable vents, gabled and shed rear ells, and asbestos siding.

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Mill House  
69 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type A with square replacement posts, original five-panel front door, triangular gable vents, a rear shed room, and weatherboards.

Mill House  
70 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type N with a partially-enclosed front porch supported by metal posts, a metal railing, replacement horizontal sliding-sash, triangular gable vents, shed-roofed additions on the east and west elevations, and aluminum siding.

Outbuilding  
70 Eighth Street, circa 1955, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, 2/2 horizontal sash, asbestos siding.

Mill House  
71 Eighth Street, circa 1914, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, 2/2 horizontal sash, two front doors, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
72 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with replacement square porch posts, a modern Chippendale railing, 1/1 sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, vinyl siding; covered breezeway connects house to garage.

Garage  
72 Eighth Street, circa 1990, Noncontributing Building

Frame, side-gable roof, two open garage bays, vinyl siding.

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Mill House  
73 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, diamond-shaped gable vents, and aluminum siding.

Garage  
73 Eighth Street, circa 1940, Contributing Building

Frame, one-story, sliding wooden doors, weatherboards.

Carport  
73 Eighth Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Structure

Flat metal roof, square wood posts.

Mill House  
74 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts, a metal railing, replacement 6/6 sash, rectangular gable vents and vinyl German siding.

Mill House  
75 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with a partially-enclosed porch with replacement posts, a modern wood railing, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, and vinyl siding.

Mill House  
76 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with screened front porch with replacement square porch posts and a wood lattice railing, 1/1 sash, and vinyl siding.

Garage  
76 Eighth Street, circa 1940, Contributing Building

Frame, front-gable roof, German siding.

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Shed  
76 Eighth Street, circa 1980, Noncontributing Building

Prefabricated, metal.

Mill House  
77 Eighth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

Type B with metal porch posts and railing, 2/2 horizontal sash, and aluminum siding.

## **NINTH STREET**

### North Side

Erlanger Graded School (Grammar Department)/Erlanger Baptist Church Sunday School Building  
110 Ninth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, brick, hip-roofed building with a distinctive pedimented dormer with flared eaves and truncated columns flanking louvered vents; a low-hip-roofed porch supported by square brick posts spanned by a brick kneewall, deep bracketed eaves, an original pressed-metal shingle roof, replacement 8/8 sash that are much shorter than the original windows, and a replacement double-leaf glass entry. This building initially served as Erlanger Graded School's Grammar Department. The Erlangers donated it to Erlanger Baptist Church (25 Hames Street) in the late 1930s for use as Sunday School classrooms. A short one-story flat-roofed brick hyphen now connects the two buildings.

Mill House  
225 Ninth Street, circa 1920, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered Type K with front porch enclosed with vinyl German siding, some replacement 1/1 sash, false beams in the gables, and wood shake siding; low stuccoed concrete retaining wall.

Shed  
225 Ninth Street, 1950, Contributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, single-leaf entry, wide German siding.

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Kindergarten and Day Nursery  
226 Ninth Street, 1921, Noncontributing Building

Heavily altered one-story building with a clipped-side-gable roof, a partially-enclosed recessed front porch, 1/1 sash, a stone chimney, a brick foundation, and vinyl German siding with a brick kneewall on the south elevation; low stuccoed concrete retaining wall. This building originally had wood shake siding and an almost full-width recessed porch with stone posts, railing, and steps on the south elevation of the main block. The porch entrance was on the west elevation. Forty students attended kindergarten in March 1921.<sup>9</sup>

Mill House  
300 Ninth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type O with lattice-enclosed porch and wood shake siding.

Garage  
300 Ninth Street, circa 1940, Contributing Building

One-story, front-gable roof, concrete block.

Mill House  
301 Ninth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type L with screened porch and wood shake siding.

## South Side

Erlanger Union Church  
115 Ninth Street, circa 1916, Contributing Building

One-story, scored stucco, front-gable-roofed Gothic Revival church with a crenellated square bell tower on the northeast corner, a double-leaf entry sheltered by a bracketed hood and flanked by corner buttresses, a tripartite pointed-arch window on the facade, double-hung sash with diamond-shaped panes on the other elevations, and a brick foundation. A large wood handicapped ramp extends across the façade to modern wood steps. The Erlangers constructed Union Church to serve as a nondenominational house of worship

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<sup>9</sup> "Kindergarten," *The Erlanger Community*, Volume II, No. 2, March 1921, p. 10, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

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for the mill village around 1916. Some attendees formed a Baptist congregation which met in the basement until they constructed a frame sanctuary across Winston Road in 1923. (The Baptists eventually built a brick Gothic Revival church at 110 Ninth Street in 1936.) The other congregants formed a Methodist church which continued to meet in this building; the building is labeled “Erlanger Methodist Church” on the 1923 Sanborn map and “Erlanger Methodist Episcopal Church” on the 1929 Sanborn map.

## **THIRTEENTH STREET**

### North Side

#### Mill House

725 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

One-story, double-pile, side-gable-roofed house with a gabled porch with metal posts, a metal railing, 1/1 sash, exposed rafter ends, and wood shake siding.

#### Mill House

726 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with replacement square porch posts, complex triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

#### Mill House

727 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type N with square brick porch posts, a wood-shingled kneewall clad, complex triangular eave brackets, and wood shake siding.

#### Mill House

728 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type J with vinyl-clad porch kneewall and modern wood railing, replacement 6/6 sash and vinyl siding.

#### Mill House

729 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with a gabled dormer, metal porch posts, complex triangular eave brackets, rolled-asphalt “ashlar” siding, asbestos siding on dormer, and an attached flat-roofed, concrete block garage.

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Mill House  
730 Thirteenth Street, circa 1920, Contributing Building

Type K with chamfered porch posts, a modern wood railing, triangular eave brackets, rectangular gable vents, wood shake siding, and an original pressed-metal shingle roof.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

The Erlanger Mill Village Historic District meets National Register of Historic Places Criterion A for industry and community planning and development and Criterion C for architecture, and is of local significance. Erlanger Mills was Lexington's largest and most productive textile manufacturing operation, and the mill village design and distinctive mill houses further enhance the district's significance. Although it is not known who prepared the original mill village schematic plan, Charlotte landscape architect Earle S. Draper laid out the crescent-shaped First and Second Rainbow Streets at the north end of Broad and Hames Streets.<sup>10</sup> The mill worker housing falls into two main categories: simple, basic house types with spare detailing and Craftsman bungalows, some of which are remarkably stylish for a mill village. The more modest dwellings are, for the most part, distributed throughout the earlier sections of the mill village—a roughly eight-block area just north, east, and south of the mill complex that was built out by 1916-17.<sup>11</sup> The distinctive bungalows appear in the next development period (1917-23), when approximately fourteen blocks on Broad, Olympia, First and Second Rainbow, and the south end of Short Streets were laid out. The houses on the north side of Second Rainbow Street, erected between 1923 and 1929, were the last to be constructed. The Graded School's Grammar Department, later attached to Erlanger Baptist Church, and the Kindergarten and Day Nursery, now a heavily altered residence, are the only extant community buildings in the village. The village's two Gothic Revival-style edifices—Union Church and Erlanger Baptist Church—stand at the intersection of Ninth and Hames Streets and continue to function as important religious and social components of the Erlanger community. The district's period of significance begins in 1913 with the construction of the mill complex and first phase of worker housing and continues to 1953, encompassing mill and mill village expansion phases and ending when the Erlanger Mill Company began selling mill houses to individuals.

## Historical Background

New York textile magnates Abraham and Charles Erlanger purchased a 250-acre portion of the Grimes estate north of Lexington for a new mill site in 1911. The Erlanger brothers wanted their own source of checked cotton dimity fabric for the one-piece men's underwear (union suits) manufactured for the BVD company in their Baltimore plant, and a group of Lexington businessmen, led by George Mountcastle,

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<sup>10</sup> "Erlanger Cotton Mills, Lexington, N. C.," later label in newspaper article reads "Architect's Drawing in 1912," printed in *Lexington, North Carolina* (no publisher, 1914), p. 55; Earle S. Draper, "Study for Village Extension, Erlanger Mills, Lexington, NC," no date, in the UNC-Wilson Library North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Lexington, Davidson County, Erlanger Mills, Series P1.

<sup>11</sup> The Erlanger Mill village is clearly depicted on N. R. Kinney's "Map of Lexington, N. C." in the *1916-17 Lexington City Directory* (Florence, SC: Charles S. Gardiner Directory Publishers, 1917).

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persuaded them to locate a production facility in North Carolina. Charles Erlanger's son Milton hired local and out-of-state carpenters and masons to build Erlanger Cotton Mills and supervised the undertaking that began with the construction of a concrete dam in December 1913.<sup>12</sup>

A long, rectangular, brick building with a two-story main mill at the south end, a larger one-story weave shed at the north end, and a two-story picker room in between encompassed the eastern section of the 1913 Erlanger Cotton Mills complex. This building originally housed 25,600 steam-powered spindles and 680 looms; the first cloth was woven on March 28, 1914. A boiler house and turbine room extended from the east elevation of the main mill. Early photographs of the east elevation illustrate that the area bordering Mill Street was nicely landscaped with small trees, a variety of shrubs, and a paved sidewalk. The western section of the mill complex included a two-story brick warehouse (divided into three sections by interior firewalls) with one-story waste and opener rooms on the north end. The large rectangular reservoir north of the warehouse and two towers between the main mill and the warehouse supplied water to the mill's sprinkler system.<sup>13</sup>

Production doubled by 1916 with the introduction of two labor shifts and the installation of new equipment and facilities including 15,360 additional spindles, 420 new looms, and a 5,000-spindle yarn plant. Erlanger Mills employed approximately 1,400 workers during its first years of operation and produced eight million yards of fabric annually. Mill employees worked an average of fifty-five hours a week and lived in the village of frame houses surrounding the mill complex. Workers could rent a variety of houses at the rate of twenty-five cents per room per week, which included the cost of electric lights, water, and sewer.<sup>14</sup>

A 1916 photo illustrates some of the mill houses on Hames and Mill Streets, in addition to Union Church, the graded school, and Milton Hall on the south side of Ninth Street. Milton Hall, a brick, hip-roofed building with a full-façade porch named in honor of Milton Erlanger, housed a spacious gymnasium/auditorium and a café on the upper floor and a general store, post office, barber shop, nurse's office, billiard room, and community showers on the lower level. Employees used mill-issued tokens and

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<sup>12</sup> "The Erlanger Story," circa 1964 promotional brochure in the Erlanger vertical file at the Davidson County Library in Lexington, reprinted in *The Dispatch* on September 8, 1964; "Erlanger Cotton Mills Came to Lexington Forty-One Years Ago," circa 1954 article from the Erlanger vertical files at the Davidson County Historical Museum; "Editorial," *The Erlanger Community*, Volume II, No. 2, March 1921, p. 6, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum; Joyce White Melton, *The North Lexington Baptist Church* (Lexington: The North Lexington Baptist Church, 1991), 2-5.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid*; Sanborn Map Company maps, Lexington, Davidson County, 1913.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid*; M. Jewell Sink, *Davidson County: Economic and Social* (Chapel Hill: UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Rural Socio-Economics, 1925), 38-39; M. Jewell Sink and Mary Green Matthews, *Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina* (High Point: Hall Printing Company, 1972), 291.

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coupons to make purchases at Milton Hall. Elane Lodge, a two-story, fourteen-room teacherage; the Graded School's Primary Department; and the Kindergarten and Day Nursery stood on the north side of Ninth Street by 1921. The mill village continued to expand through the late 1920s, eventually encompassing 320 homes, two churches, and a series of community buildings.<sup>15</sup>

The Erlanger Company published the first issue of *The Erlanger Community*, an illustrated newsletter that contained commentary on life in the mill village, in November 1919. A letter from Dr. P. P. Claxton, U. S. Commissioner of Education, to Erlanger residents declared that

“Erlanger is beautiful for its broad streets and clean sidewalks, its cozy houses with their large yards...its playgrounds and its plots of ground for the common use of the people...Close enough to the town of Lexington and the railroad station to give the needed contact to the outside world, Erlanger is still free from the crowding and noise and dust and dissipations and vices of the city.”<sup>16</sup>

Articles covered a wide selection of topics, from home garden management to the history of Erlanger Graded School. The newsletter also posted schedules for community baseball, volleyball, and basketball games as well as club meetings.

The Erlanger Dairy began operating in the spring of 1918 with the intention of providing wholesome and sanitary milk for village residents, but eventually supplied milk for clients throughout Lexington. The no longer extant dairy complex, located northwest of the mill village, included large gambrel-roofed Rustic Revival log barns, a bunkhouse for dairy employees, and a series of silos when Jim Swing took over the operation in 1922. His family ran the dairy for forty-seven years.<sup>17</sup>

Erlanger inhabitants also benefited from a community poultry yard and a piggery, established by the company in an attempt to remove the noise and smell of livestock from individual residential lots. Photographs in the December 1919 issue of *The Erlanger Community* contrast “the old way” of keeping pigs in derelict pens with “the Erlanger way” of scientific hog-raising. Residents were further encouraged

<sup>15</sup> “Erlanger Village in 1916,” *The Erlantern*, February 1960, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum; Milton Hall was demolished in July 1984, see Bruce Wehrle, “Milton Hall is Gone, But Memories Linger,” *The Dispatch*, July 2, 1984, p. 13.

<sup>16</sup> *The Erlanger Community*, Volume I, No. 1, November 1919, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>17</sup> “The Erlanger Dairy,” *The Erlanger Community*, Volume III, No. 2, April 1922, pp. 2-4, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum; Ray Rollins, “Lexington Landmark: 57-Year-Old Barn is Coming Down,” *Winston-Salem Journal and Sentinel*, May 23, 1977; Joyce White Melton, *The North Lexington Baptist Church*, 8.

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to keep back yards clean and tidy by using company-provided garbage cans and stacking wood and coal neatly.<sup>18</sup> Service alleys running along the back of house lots between most streets allowed for trash collection.

With livestock and trash contained elsewhere, the back yards of house lots could then be utilized solely for food production. A community greenhouse supplied residents with vegetable and flower plants for home gardens. The Erlanger Company paid young boys to work in the gardens under the supervision of their teachers, who inspected their efforts once a week. The boys also maintained village landscape features such as the Broad Street medians. Women preserved fruits and vegetables from their home gardens at the community cannery. Competitions for the best jams and jellies were popular events at the Erlanger Fair.<sup>19</sup>

The Erlanger Cotton Mills complex included an office (circa 1915), additional warehouses north and south of the reservoir, and a two-story yarn mill (completed in 1916) off the main mill's southeast corner by 1923. A one-story brick cloth room and storage space stood directly west of the north end of the main mill building. The warehouse north of the reservoir was expanded between 1926 and 1929. Production shifted to cotton dress and shirt fabrics around 1925, when men started wearing two-piece underwear instead of union suits. The Erlanger plant included 46,000 steam- and electric-powered spindles and 1,240 cloth looms operated by 1,600 employees by 1927, when annual production was twenty million yards of cotton fabric. The growing popularity of rayon fabrics in the early 1930s resulted in the gradual incorporation of synthetic fibers into Erlanger products, which translated into a need for new equipment and the space to house it.<sup>20</sup>

Modifications to the Erlanger plant reflected changes in the textile industry as a whole, as textile manufacturers focused on expanding productive capacity, improving textile quality, and reducing labor costs in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The mechanization of the textile industry during this period resulted in the loss of jobs, decreased pay, and poor working conditions; unions consequently found more support among mill employees. The Great Depression further contributed to layoffs and pay cuts at Erlanger and elsewhere, and set the stage for mill workers across the South to participate in the General Textile Strike of 1934. The strike temporarily shut down the Erlanger plant, and after the strike ended the Erlanger Mill Company fired known union sympathizers. The union efforts were not in vain, however, as

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<sup>18</sup> *The Erlanger Community*, Volume I, No. 2, December 1919, pp. 2, 7, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>19</sup> "Our Garden Squad," "Our Greenhouse," *The Erlanger Community*, Volume I, No. 7, October 1920, pp. 2, 3; "Home Making Exhibit," *The Erlanger Community*, Volume I, No. 1, November 1919, p. 8; from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>20</sup> Sanborn Map Company maps, 1913, 1923, 1929; "The Erlanger Story," circa 1964 promotional brochure; Jacob Calvin Leonard, *Centennial History of Davidson County* (Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton Company, 1927), 316.

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the Roosevelt administration's social and economic reform programs culminated in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which instituted a forty-hour work week and increased worker pay by establishing a national minimum wage.<sup>21</sup> Erlanger wages varied considerably in the 1930s. A November 23, 1936 list of Power Department employee wages reflects a wide hourly rate range based on job classification, with janitors at the low end (\$0.275 an hour or \$11.00 a week), and the second hand and electrician at the high end (\$0.715 an hour or \$28.60 per week).<sup>22</sup>

Erlanger was officially incorporated into the Lexington city limits on January 1, 1942, but the village retained a strong sense of community. Erlanger Day celebrations, which included a large picnic and the Miss Erlanger beauty pageant, continued to fill the Broad Street medians every year. World War II demands resulted in a resurgence of the southern textile industry, and Erlanger produced Army uniform cotton twill and parachute nylon rip-stop in addition to shirt, bathing suit, dress, and pajama fabric for the New York market. By 1948, the warehouse north of the reservoir had been expanded again and additions connected all of the buildings in the complex.<sup>23</sup>

Erlanger Mills installed new roofs on the mill houses and began selling them to private owners at a cost of \$500 a room in 1953, with current residents being given preferential consideration. The company provided financing, in part to prevent investors from purchasing the houses for use as rental houses. The majority of the mill houses were sold by 1963.<sup>24</sup> An undated list in the possession of long-time Erlanger employee Lester Sain itemizes the purchaser name, sale price, downpayment amount, mortgage lender, and interest rate for each mill house sale.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, et. al, *Like a Family: The Making of a Southern Cotton Mill World* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1989), 202-208; Steve Dryden, "Erlanger-Underwear, Paternalism in Lexington History," *The Dispatch*, November 17, 1977, p. 13; Brent Glass, *The Textile Industry in North Carolina: A History* (Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, 1992), 59.

<sup>22</sup> "Power Department," typed memo delineating operative wages effective November 23, 1936, from the Parkdale Mills historic artifact collection, Lexington, NC.

<sup>23</sup> "The Erlanger Story," circa 1964 promotional brochure; Joyce White Melton, *The North Lexington Baptist Church*, 14; 36-37; Sanborn Maps, 1948.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid; Joyce White Melton, *The North Lexington Baptist Church*, 12, 14; Steven Bradley Benson, "A Village Beautiful: History of Erlanger Village," paper prepared for the UNC-Charlotte Department of Geography and Earth Sciences, 1999, 6.

<sup>25</sup> <sup>25</sup> Lester Sain, interview with the author, August 2, 2007.

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Milton Erlanger created the Erlanger Mills Corporation in 1956, which encompassed the North Carolina Finishing Company (Salisbury), Alexander Mills (Forest City), and Leward Cotton Mills (Worthville), in addition to Lexington's Erlanger Mills, Inc. He served as honorary chairman of the board of directors until 1960, when his son Michael assumed the top management position.<sup>26</sup> Michael quickly instituted a modernization program at the Erlanger Mills facility. The plant was air-conditioned and humidity controls installed, a new building to house the picker machinery was constructed next to the opening room in 1962, and new spinning, twisting, and spooling equipment was purchased. A 1966 addition to the east elevation of the main mill provided additional space for spinning frames.<sup>27</sup>

Erlanger Mills continued to play an important role in the Lexington economy through the 1960s. A 1968 newspaper article reports the Erlanger plant had an annual payroll of \$4,500,000 for 950 employees. The plant produced a wide variety of synthetic fibers by that time, including Dacron, Fortrel, Kodel, and Avril, in addition to combed cotton blends. Erlanger developed fabrics for the United States military in the 1960s: a fine combed cotton for Vietnam soldiers' uniforms and a light-weight cotton-Avril blend for duffle bags.<sup>28</sup>

The Erlanger family announced plans to sell the company after Milton Erlanger's death in 1969. Parkdale Mills Inc. of Gastonia purchased Erlanger Mills in 1971 and still continues to operate the plant.<sup>29</sup> Parkdale undertook a multi-million dollar modernization project at the Lexington mill in 1992, converting the ring-spinning operation to an open-end spinning operation. The plant manufactures cotton and cotton/blend yarn which is then sold to knitting and apparel companies. Approximately 125 employees produce 1,400,000 pounds of yard a week.<sup>30</sup>

Three Parkdale employees—Lester Sain, Maezellar Peebles, and Estill Edwards—worked at the mill when it was owned by the Erlangers. Lester Sain has been a mill employee for sixty-three years, first laying up

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<sup>26</sup> Marjorie W. Young, ed., "Milton S. Erlanger," *Textile Leaders of the South* (Columbia, S. C.: R. L. Bryan Company, 1963), 59.

<sup>27</sup> "Erlanger's Annual Payroll Up \$2 Million in Ten Years," *The Dispatch*, 1968; "Modernization Program Underway," *The Erantern*, August 1962, p. 3; *The Erantern*, May 1966, p. 1, from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>28</sup> Erlanger's Annual Payroll Up \$2 Million in Ten Years," *The Dispatch*, 1968;

<sup>29</sup> "Heart Attack Fatal to Milton S. Erlanger," *The Erantern*, Volume 21, No. 7, July 1969; "Erlanger Mills To Be Sold," *The Dispatch*, May 19, 1970; "Erlanger Mills Purchased by Gastonia Firm," *The Dispatch*, August 6, 1971.

<sup>30</sup> Vikki Broughton Hodges, "Parkdale Mills completes \$25 million upgrade," *The Dispatch*, August 13, 1992; Shane Hamrick, Parkdale Plant Manager, interview with the author, August 2, 2007.

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roving in the spinning room and then working as doffer. After serving in World War II, Mr. Sain went back to school and returned to Erlanger as a refrigeration shop employee. Mr. Sain lived at 21 Hames Street, and purchased that residence and three others when the Erlangers started selling mill houses. He began overseeing the second shift around 1967, and also supervised the air conditioning unit. Mr. Sain is currently the shop manager.<sup>31</sup>

Maezellar Pebbles, who was hired as a spinning room sweeper in 1965, became Erlanger's first African American spinning machine operator around 1968. Mrs. Peebles operated a variety of spinning machines with different frames, including open-end machines, and eventually began changing wax in the machines. She is currently the backwinding operator. Mrs. Peebles never lived in the Erlanger Mill village, but her entire family has been employed by Erlanger or Parkdale. Her husband James worked in the opening room and carding section, her son Doug runs drawing, and her son De operates the packing line.<sup>32</sup>

Estil Edwards, an open end spinning technician, began working at Erlanger in 1957. His first job, which paid ninety-eight cents an hour, was to run the quill skinner, a machine that removed yarn remnants from used bobbins and reloaded them for use in the weave room. Mr. Edwards worked the third shift for many years, as a technician and shift supervisor, and eventually moved to the first shift and was promoted to winding department manager. After the machinery in his department was phased out, he worked with the overhaul crew. Mr. Edwards and his wife rented a mill house on First Rainbow Street for many years, but they no longer reside in the mill village. Mrs. Edwards also worked at the mill, as a receptionist in the front office.<sup>33</sup>

## Industry Context

Davidson County was created from a portion of Rowan County in 1822; Lexington became the county seat in 1824 and was incorporated in 1827. The Lexington Manufacturing Company, a steam-powered cotton mill constructed in 1839, was the first large-scale industrial enterprise in town. After the mill burned in 1844, development was slow until a North Carolina Railroad line traversed Davidson County in 1855,

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<sup>31</sup> Lester Sain, interview with the author, August 2, 2007.

<sup>32</sup> Maezellar Peebles, interview with the author, August 2, 2007. Mrs. Peebles was not the first African American employee at Erlanger, but she was the first to work in a position other than janitorial services. Erlanger built about ten houses for African American workers on Swing Dairy Road west of the mill village; none are extant. Lester Sain, interview with the author, August 2, 2007.

<sup>33</sup> Estil Edwards, telephone interview with the author, August 6, 2007.

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connecting the eastern and western parts of the state and providing the impetus for commercial farming and the development of textile and furniture industries.<sup>34</sup>

The anticipation of the arrival of the railroad in the 1850s resulted in Lexington's first building boom, which culminated in the completion of a new courthouse in 1858. The commercial district extended from the courthouse along Main Street by 1885, when the first Sanborn maps were produced for the area. Industrial buildings were also located close to the center of town. John D. and Thomas J. Grimes constructed a four-story, frame, steam-powered flour mill one block west of Main Street in 1879, and soon expanded into a four-story brick addition. William E. Holt established Wenonah Cotton Mills in 1886, sparking development east of Main Street. William A. Watson and D. K. Cecil moved their brick-making machine from Concord to Lexington in 1890, facilitating the manufacture of stronger, more durable, and smoother building brick at a most opportune time, as merchants, tradesmen, industrialists, bankers, doctors, and lawyers erected businesses, offices, and homes in the county seat.<sup>35</sup>

The influx of laborers for new businesses resulted in the population more than doubling—from 626 to 1440—between 1890 and 1900. The population increase fueled a need for additional housing, and dwellings for the both the elite and working classes were built southwest of the central commercial district. Amenities such as telephone and electric service were available to Lexington residents by 1897.<sup>36</sup>

As the twentieth century dawned, Lexington, like much of the state, was poised for continued growth and expansion. A special 1906 issue of *The Dispatch* proclaimed Davidson County “the center of Piedmont North Carolina, Section of Golden Promise, A Land Where Progress Reigns.” A *Commercial History of the State of North Carolina*, published in 1908 by the North Carolina Division of the Travelers Protective Association, declared that:

Lexington, North Carolina, presents in a nutshell the story of the new South. In less than a decade it has developed from a straggling village to a splendid modern town, bustling with activity, throbbing with new-found energy, accomplishing each day more than the old town did in twelve months....About one and one-half millions are invested in

<sup>34</sup> Sink and Matthews, 78; Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2003), 406.

<sup>35</sup> Sink and Matthews, 83-84, 90-93; Paul Baker Touart, *Building the Backcountry: An Architectural History of Davidson County, North Carolina* (Lexington: The Davidson County Historical Association, 1987), 31.

<sup>36</sup> Sink and Matthews, 90-93.

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manufacturing; the output is valued at about three millions; fifteen hundred workingmen find employment....Industrially, educationally, socially, Lexington is an ideal town.<sup>37</sup>

By 1911, the Winston-Salem Southbound and the Southern Railway passed through Lexington, connecting the growing town to markets throughout the eastern United States. The Lexington Board of Trade made a concerted effort to bring farmers downtown to shop when they delivered and received goods at the freight depots on either side of town.<sup>38</sup>

Most Lexington residents worked at furniture and textile manufacturing industries or in auxiliary service enterprises. Dixie Furniture, Star Milling, Valley Tie and Lumber, Davidson County Creamery, Dacotah Cotton Mills, Nokomis Cotton Mills, Erlanger Mills, Shoaf-Sink Hosiery Mills, Lexington Coal and Ice, Peerless Mattress, Lexington Coca Cola Bottling, Lee Veneer, Lexington Chair, Industrial Manufacturing, Lexington Mirror, and Southern Upholstery are just some of the companies that began operating in Lexington between 1900 and 1920. Erlanger Mills was the largest textile manufacturing operation by far, encompassing 46,000 spindles and 1,240 cloth looms operated by 1,600 employees in 1927. Annual production was twenty million yards of cotton fabric. In comparison, Dacotah Cotton Mills employed 235 workers and output ten million yards of chambrays worth just over one million dollars in 1924. Nokomis Cotton Mills produced sheeting, print cloths, and pajama checks valued at \$400,000 that same year.<sup>39</sup>

Company owners and employees lived close to the downtown commercial and industrial area, and with the exception of a few pockets of mill housing, were scattered throughout Lexington's residential district. John H. Mattison, a Dacotah Mills superintendent, resided in a modest frame bungalow at 302 West Second Avenue. Luther Dane, a foreman at Dixie Furniture, lived in a side-gable bungalow at 315 West Third Avenue, while Jacob Wagoner, an employee of Nokomis Mills, resided just down the street at 307 West Third Avenue. Most Erlanger Mills workers lived in the Erlanger village north of town, but a few, including O. Klutz Sharpe, an assistant manager at the Erlanger Community Club who occupied a hip-roofed cottage at 500 West Second Avenue, lived in Lexington.<sup>40</sup>

## Architecture Context

<sup>37</sup> Sink and Matthews, 93. The Winston-Salem Southbound Railroad line and the railroad right-of-way is just west of the district.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid., 96-97.

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., 290-291.

<sup>40</sup> Ernest H. Miller, *1925-1926 Lexington City Directory* (Asheville: Commercial Service Co., 1926).

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The development of Erlanger and other North Carolina textile mills created not only jobs, but entire communities, as mill owners constructed small self-sufficient villages to sustain mill workers and their families. Mill villages contained homes, schools, churches, and company stores adjacent to the mills and often boasted sizable populations. Mill owners qualified school and church construction as philanthropic efforts, but the 1910 Federal *Report on Women and Child Wage Earners* dismissed this assertion, stating that “mills had to build complete communities to attract workers and these expenditures counted as normal costs of doing business.”<sup>41</sup>

The Erlangers, like other mill owners, perpetuated “a distinctive ideology of paternalism,” which “invoked the image of family to justify extending authoritarian and hierarchical discipline to workers.”<sup>42</sup> Benevolent acts and mill village amenities might boost worker morale, but they also served to produce dependence. Churches and mill officials insured stability and order by withdrawing church membership and mill employment from anyone who compromised the moral character of the mill village through drunkenness, disorderly behavior, or criminal activity.

Local carpenters designed and built the earliest North Carolina mill houses, which resembled small vernacular farmhouses. In order to facilitate cost effective construction, rows of identical one-story frame dwellings with front porches and kitchen ell were generally erected in close proximity to the mill. By the end of the nineteenth century standardized mill house plans were available in publications such as textile industry theorist Daniel A. Tompkins’ *Cotton Mill - Commercial Features* (1899), which included elevations, floorplans, and detailed specifications for two-, three-, four-, and five-room one-story frame dwellings. Tompkins felt that gardening was “conducive to general contentment among the [mill] operatives,” and thus promoted sizable (half-acre) mill house lots. His work served to codify vernacular practice and to introduce planning and design theory into mill house and village construction.<sup>43</sup>

National and regional trends influenced mill village design in the early twentieth century. Charlotte landscape architect Earle S. Draper’s mill village plans drew from Frederick Law Olmsted’s naturalistic landscape design tradition. Draper used existing topography and vegetation to guide his plans, arranging low-density housing around gently curving roads in a manner designed to appeal to southern mill residents’ “rural and mountain origins.” As most mill workers brought the habits and accoutrements of life on the

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<sup>41</sup> Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, James Leloudis, Robert Korstad, Mary Murphy, Lu Ann Jones and Christopher B. Daly, *Like a Family: The Making of the Southern Cotton Mill World* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1987), 114-115; Margaret Crawford, *Building the Workingman’s Paradise: The Design of American Company Towns* (London and New York: Verso, 1995), 177, 185-186.

<sup>42</sup> Crawford, 178.

<sup>43</sup> Glass, *The Textile Industry in North Carolina*, 18; Brent Glass, “South Mill Hills: Design in a ‘Public’ Place,” in *Carolina Dwelling*, ed. Doug Swaim (Raleigh: North Carolina State University, The Student Publication, 1978), 145.

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farm to their new setting, house lots were deep, allowing plenty of room for gardens, livestock pens, and outbuildings. Rows of street trees were intended to screen houses from the main mill complex and each other.<sup>44</sup>

Although landscape architects did not design mill village houses, they did have a great deal of influence upon the types of houses erected in their planned mill villages. Draper and other designers favored the Craftsman bungalow over the vernacular frame house for mill village dwellings, as the potential for variations in bungalow detail and finish allowed for a welcome departure from the uniformity of company housing. Margaret Crawford suggests that, as the bungalow was the ubiquitous rural and urban dwelling in the first decades of the twentieth century, this evolution of mill house style removed some of the social stigma attached to vernacular mill houses and their residents. She asserts that “improved housing began to erase the social boundaries between living conditions in mill villages and those of urban areas and gradually included mill workers as part of the Piedmont culture.”<sup>45</sup>

The Erlanger Mill Village layout and house designs were carefully considered. Although it is not known who prepared the original mill village schematic plan, Earle S. Draper laid out the crescent-shaped First and Second Rainbow Streets at the north end of Broad and Hames Streets.<sup>46</sup> The current street configuration reflects Draper’s design, but other plan components, such as the erection of a community building on the north side of Thirteenth Street overlooking the Broad Street median and a church on the northwest corner of First Rainbow and Thirteenth Streets were not executed. Single-family dwellings occupy these locations. Draper specifies the number of rooms in the expansion area houses, with six-room dwellings lining First Rainbow Street and four-, five-, and six-room residences on Second Rainbow Street. Approximately three blocks of four-room houses west of Second Rainbow Street and several dwellings north of Second Rainbow Street were never constructed. Draper’s plan also calls for a small pond and curvilinear roads to occupy the area southwest of Second Rainbow Street, east of Hames Street, and north of Park Circle. This area was never developed.

The Erlanger Mill Village houses fall into two main categories: simple, basic house types with spare detailing and Craftsman bungalows, some of which are remarkably stylish for a mill village. The more basic house types are, for the most part, distributed throughout the earlier sections of the mill village—a

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<sup>44</sup> Hall, et. al., 114-115; Crawford, 185-186.

<sup>45</sup> Crawford, 192-193.

<sup>46</sup> “Erlanger Cotton Mills, Lexington, N. C.,” later label in newspaper article reads “Architect’s Drawing in 1912,” printed in *Lexington, North Carolina*, (no publisher, 1914), p.55; Earle S. Draper, “Study for Village Extension, Erlanger Mills, Lexington, NC,” no date, in the UNC-Wilson Library North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Lexington, Davidson County, Erlanger Mills, Series P1.

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roughly eight-block area just north, east, and south of the mill complex that was built out by 1916-17.<sup>47</sup> In keeping with dwelling types found in other North Carolina mill villages, the majority of these early houses are modest one-story single- and double-pile, side-gable-roofed dwellings with shed-roofed front porches; a few L-plan, front-gable, and pyramidal-roofed houses were also erected during this initial construction phase.

The distinctive bungalows appear in the next development period (1917-23), when approximately fourteen blocks on Broad, Olympia, First and Second Rainbow, and the south end of Short Streets were laid out. The dwellings on the north side of Second Rainbow Street, erected between 1923 and 1929, were the last to be constructed. A 1917 Erlanger Cotton Mills recruiting brochure states that “the employees’ cottages in the newer portion of the village are the most modern bungalow designs, being built with great individuality from thirty original special drawings.” Mill employees remember that the houses were painted “green, maroon, and brown” while owned by Erlanger.<sup>48</sup> Variations in siding materials, gable configuration, porch size and location, porch post style, and window arrangement lend the bungalows interest and character, a complete departure from the earlier Erlanger mill houses. Based on a comparison of the Craftsman bungalows to identical house types in Reynoldstown or Cameron Park in Winston-Salem and Alexander Manufacturing Company in Forest City, it appears that the bungalows, and perhaps even some of the simpler dwellings, may have been constructed from kits manufactured by the Minter Homes Company.<sup>49</sup>

The Minter Homes Company, like Aladdin, Montgomery Ward, and Sears, Roebuck & Company, produced pre-cut house kits for a wide range of dwellings, from modest mill houses to elaborate Colonial Revival mansions. The company also produced plans, specifications, and construction materials for community buildings such as schools, churches, bunk houses, boarding houses for mill and industrial villages and mining and lumber camps throughout the southeast. The United States War Department purchased 1,724 Minter Homes bungalows for construction in the town of Nitro, West Virginia between February and July, 1918. The Minter Homes Company Greenville, South Carolina division went into receivership in April 1921, but the Minter Homes Corporation of Huntington, West Virginia manufactured ready-made houses until 1954 and custom millwork until 1983.<sup>50</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> The Erlanger Mill village is clearly depicted on N. R. Kinney’s “Map of Lexington, N. C.” in the *1916-17 Lexington City Directory* (Florence, SC: Charles S. Gardiner Directory Publishers, 1917).

<sup>48</sup> Phoebe Zerwick, “Company Town: Erlanger’s Townsfolk Recall the Good and the Bad During the Time When the Mill Meant Everything,” *Winston-Salem Journal*, January 1, 1989, pp. C1, C3.

<sup>49</sup> The attribution of the Erlanger and Alexander Manufacturing Company houses to Minter Homes is based on a reference to identical houses in Reynoldstown being “of the Minter-Holmes type of house.” See Nannie M. Tilley, *The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 270-271.

<sup>50</sup> Cora Teel, “Minter Homes Corporation,” draft *West Virginia Encyclopedia* entry, 2005.

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Attempts to locate a Minter Homes mill village catalog and thus identify the Erlanger house types by name and/or model number have not been successful. A 1916 residential catalog from the Huntington, West Virginia Minter Homes plant includes dwellings quite similar to those in Erlanger; those house names are included in the Erlanger typology. Erlanger Mill Company records classify the mill houses by number of rooms (three to six) and general appearance (frame houses or bungalows).<sup>51</sup> As the floor plans of each dwelling were not readily accessible for classification purposes, fifteen primary types of mill houses within the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District were identified based on form. Variations exist within each type in elements such as siding material and porch posts. The more basic, earlier house types are categorized as A through G, while the bungalow types are H through O. The typology reflects house forms that appear with great frequency (Types A, B, I, K, and N), as well as especially distinctive house forms that are relatively rare (Types D, E, F, G, L, and M). A few houses fall outside of these categories. Although most of the dwellings have been altered since they became privately owned after 1953, the majority retain their original form and character. Typical modifications include replacement of window sash, porch posts, and original pressed-metal shingle roofs; installation of porch railings; and application of aluminum, asbestos, rolled asphalt, Masonite hardboard, or vinyl siding.

The Erlanger Mill Village is not the only textile mill-associated housing in Lexington, but it is certainly the largest, most distinctive, and most intact collection in terms of architecture and landscape design. Dacotah, Nokomis, and Wennonah Cotton Mills in southeast Lexington all had associated mill housing similar to the Type A and B houses in Erlanger. As none of those operations ever approached the size of Erlanger, the mill villages were significantly smaller.<sup>52</sup> Eight circa 1910 Wennonah Mill houses (six on South State Street and two on West Ninth Avenue) are included in the Lexington Residential Historic District. The one-story, three-bay, single-pile, weatherboarded South State Street houses have side-gable roofs, hip-roofed front porches supported by square posts, and rear gabled ells. The Ninth Avenue houses are a bit larger—one-and-one-half-stories—and have shed-roofed rear ells.<sup>53</sup>

Other North Carolina mill villages also contain a variety of house types. Moses and Cesar Cone built a series of villages for their mill operatives in Greensboro. The oldest mill houses are vernacular one- and two-story frame buildings, while later dwellings north of White Oak Mill include stuccoed hollow tile bungalows and two-story houses, some with faux half-timbering in the gables (White Oak New Town

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<sup>51</sup> "Village – Houses August 1, 1920," document from the collection of the Davidson County Historical Museum.

<sup>52</sup> For more information on Dacotah, Nokomis, and Wennonah Cotton Mills see M. Jewell Sink and Mary Green Matthews, *Pathfinders Past and Present: A History of Davidson County, North Carolina*, 289-291.

<sup>53</sup> Heather Fearnbach, "Lexington Residential Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 2007.

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Historic District, Guilford County, NR 1992).<sup>54</sup> The Roanoke Rapids Historic District (NR 1999) encompasses several mill villages with vernacular mill worker housing and pre-cut houses from the Aladdin Homes Company. Popular models such as “The Gretna,” “The Edison,” “The Rodney,” and “The Princeton” were constructed on vacant lots between older houses and in new sections of the mill villages.<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Bishir and Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina*, 333-334.

<sup>55</sup> Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 1996), 306.

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## 10. Geographical Data

### UTM References, con.

5. Zone 17 567300 Easting 3965640 Northing

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District are indicated by the bold line on the enclosed map. Scale 1" = 140'

### Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Erlanger Mill Village Historic District are drawn to encompass the area contained in the mill village as it appeared in 1929. The area immediately outside the district is characterized by modern commercial development.

### Photograph Catalog

All photographs by Heather Fearnbach, Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., 3334 Nottingham Road, Winston-Salem, NC, 2005 and 2007. Digital images located at the North Carolina SHPO.

1. Erlanger Cotton Mills, Inc., Office, 100 Mill Street, looking west
2. Erlanger Cotton Mills, Inc., South Elevation, 100 Mill Street, looking northwest
3. Erlanger Baptist Church (25 Hames Street) and Graded School's Grammar Department (110 Ninth Street), looking northwest
4. Streetscape, West Side Hames Street, looking northwest
5. Type C Mill House, 34 Mill Street, looking southeast
6. Type G Mill House, 83 Seventh Street, looking northeast
7. Type I Mill House, 299 Winston Road, looking northwest
8. Type M Mill House, 815 Olympia Street, looking northwest
9. Noncontributing Ranch House, 224 Hames Street, looking southeast