

UPTOWN LEXINGTON NATIONAL REGISTER INVENTORY LIST:

The following inventory is organized geographically, starting with the former Davidson County Courthouse at the southwest corner of S. Main Street and W. Center Street. From there the inventory follows a circular path, starting northwest of the courthouse, then running south along the west side of Main Street to Third Avenue, then northward along the east side of Main Street to Second Street, and then south along the west side of Main Street to Center Street. Along the way the inventory includes buildings located on side streets within the district boundaries. The one exception to this order is the Lexington State Bank Warehouse (#67), which was identified at the conclusion of the survey as a separate property. It is located on the east side of Greensboro Alley just north of W. Second Avenue.

The inventory list provides the name, location date of construction, contributing or non-contributing status, and a summary for each resource with the district. Historical and architectural data is based primarily on a combination of on-site inspection and research with Sanborn Insurance Maps from 1885 through 1929, Lexington city directories from 1925 through 1948, old photographs, oral interviews, and several secondary sources (see bibliography). The inventory entries are keyed by number to the accompanying district.

For each property in the inventory there is an accompanying file which contains the property historic survey form, photo proofs, and any documentary information available. These files will be maintained at the State Historic Preservation Office in the Division of Archives and History in Raleigh.

1. (FORMER) DAVIDSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

SW cor S. Main & W. Center Sts.

1856-58; 1866-69; 1918

Contributing building

Listed on the National Register in 1971, the former Davidson County Courthouse is one of the most architecturally significant courthouses in the state. The stuccoed stone temple-form building of Classical Revival design was constructed between 1856 and 1858 at a cost of \$20,000. The building is attributed to George Dudley and William Ashley, but whether they were the designers or contractors is not known. In 1865 a fire severely damaged the courthouse, but between 1866 and 1869 just over \$10,000 was spent to restore it. The interior of the courthouse was remodeled in 1918, and in 1958 a new courthouse was built nearby. For some years now the former courthouse has been occupied by the Davidson County Historical Museum.

2. RAPER BUILDING

SW cor W. Center St. and Court Square

ca. 1907

Contributing building

The Raper Building was constructed around 1907 according to plans prepared by Knoxville mail order architect George F. Barber. It was used as the law offices of owner Emery E. Raper and other attorneys. Continuing in the same use today, it is now part of the offices of the Brinkley, Walser firm. The two-story brick building with low hipped roof, overhanging bracketed eaves, and one-over-one sash windows originally faced Courthouse Square. In 1986 the east side entrances were converted to windows, a north side window was converted to an entrance, the building was connected by a passage to the adjacent law building (see #4), and the interior was remodeled. Nevertheless, the

exterior of the Raper Building continues to exhibit the essential qualities which characterized it when it was built as the first brick building along Lexington's Lawyers' Row.

3. OFFICE BUILDING

1 W. Center St.
ca. 1937
Contributing building

According to Dr. Dermot Lohr, he constructed this two-story brick building for his medical office around 1937. By 1950 it had become the office of the Citizens Insurance Agency, and today it houses law offices. The plain building has simple brickwork detailing, a flat roof, and six-over-one sash windows. The two second-story facade windows have been converted in recent years to a single bay window, but otherwise the building presents the same austere appearance that originally characterized it.

4. LAW OFFICES

10 LSB Plaza; 12 Court Square
1920s
Contributing building

This row of lawyers' offices was built over a period of several years during the 1920s, replacing earlier frame buildings. Originally divided into three sixteen-foot lots, the northernmost building was erected ca. 1921 by lawyer J. Ray McCrary. The adjacent building to the south was built by lawyer L. A. Martin ca. 1928. On the south side of it was the building erected by Zeb Walser to replace his ca. 1901 frame law office which had stood on the site. These buildings were a part of those (see also #2 & #5) which made up Lawyers' Row along the alley behind the courthouse. On this Court Square (east) side of the row, the buildings are unified by their simple 1920s appearance, which includes slightly recessed entrances, one-over-one sash windows, a flat roofline, and a plain-facade enlivened by bands of patterned brickwork. The buildings were eventually expanded to LSB Plaza and that (rear) side was remodeled in the Colonial Revival style ca. 1980, becoming the primary entrance to the Brinkley, Walser law firm, which by that time occupied all three buildings. As interior spaces were combined, they were remodeled. Nevertheless, the east elevation of the row retains its 1920s appearance and its essential visual orientation to the old courthouse (#1).

5. LAW OFFICE

16 Court Square
1920s
Contributing building

The two-story brick building at the south end of Lawyers' Row was probably built around 1924 by lawyers Wade H. Phillips and John Bower. Its simplicity of stretcher-bond brickwork, flat roof, one-over-one sash windows, and recessed entrances nearly matches that of other offices in the row (see #4). A one-story rear addition extends the office westward to LSB Plaza.

6. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

16 S. Main St.

by 1885
Contributing building

Sanborn Insurance Maps suggest that this building had probably been built by 1885. For a number of years it served as a general merchandise store, and then in the teens and twenties it was a drugstore, first with a Masonic Hall upstairs and later with an Elks Club on the second floor. A law office was located at the rear, conveniently close to the courthouse next door. The handsome two-story building features red brick walls with contrasting rusticated granite corner posts and round-arched window lintels and sills as well as a classical parapeted cornice. Although the first-story shopfront and the window sash have been changed, the building retains enough salient characteristics of its original appearance to continue contributing to the historic character of the district.

7. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

18 S. Main Street
by 1885
Contributing building

Like the adjoining building (see #6), this commercial building is a two-story brick structure with rusticated granite-corner posts and window trim. Instead of a classical cornice, however, its parapeted cornice features two separate bands of brick corbeling. The shopfront has been changed, but the second-story one-over-one sash round-arched windows remain intact. Sanborn Maps and city directories reveal that the building was first used as a general merchandise store, and later as a drugstore, a tailor's shop, a dry goods store, and a women's clothing store.

8. (FORMER) BANK OF LEXINGTON

20 S. Main Street
bet. 1913 & 1923; ca. 1980s
Non-contributing building

Prior to 1923, Sanborn Maps show that a building on this site served a variety of commercial uses. Between 1913 and 1923 the Bank of Lexington was apparently built as a majestic two-story Neoclassical Revival structure whose image appears in old photographs. Around the 1980s, however, the building was completely modernized with a glass curtain wall front, so that it no longer retains historic integrity. The building is now used for law offices.

9. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

22 S. Main St.
bet. 1885 & 1890
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps suggest that the present two-story brick commercial building on this site dates from between 1885 and 1890. The facade features an impressive three-bay arched window outlined with rusticated granite at second-story level, while the first story retains granite corner posts and a classical cornice. Second-story windows on the south side elevation have granite sills and lintels, while first-story doors and lunette windows on the side are accented with decorative brickwork. Old photographs show that the parapeted cornice once has patterned brickwork, but this treatment does not survive. On the interior,

both floors retain decorative pressed metal ceilings. Historically, the building has been used as a general store, a dry goods store, and an office. In the 1920s it was the W. G. Penry Co. department store.

10. (FORMER) W. G. PENRY HOUSE

NE cor W. First Ave. & LSB Plaza
bet. 1902 & 1907; ca. 1940s
Non-contributing building

This house appears to have been built between 1902 and 1907, according to Sanborn Maps. By at least the 1920s it was the home of the W. G. Penry family. Penry operated the W. G. Penry department store at the corner of S. Main St. and W. First Avenue (see #9). The large two-story house features Flemish bond brickwork, a steep hipped roof with parapeted cross gables, paired and tripled one-over-one sash windows, and several one-story frame porches with Tuscan columns. Sadly, the house has had major one and two-story modern brick additions to its front and rear and in this state no longer retains its architectural integrity. Beginning around 1940, the building was used for some years as the Cathell Clinic, run by Dr. James L. Cathell. It is now used for offices and shops.

11. (FORMER) MARCH HOTEL

100-108 S. Main St.
ca. 1900; ca. 1910
Contributing building

This was the site of the March Hotel (or Hotel March) from at least as early as 1885. Initially, however, it was a two-story frame hotel with a two-story wrap-around porch. By 1902 the frame building had been replaced with a two-story brick building with much the same configuration as today. A documentary photograph shows the building with this appearance. On the 1913 Sanborn Map the hotel is illustrated for the first time as a three-story building with a one-story central portico (documentary photographs show this portico), indicating that the building took on its present appearance around 1910. From 1896 until the 1910s, the Bank of Lexington was located in the northeast corner of the building. Various stores occupied the other shopfronts along S. Main Street and W. First Avenue. The hotel lobby was located in the center of the Main Street facade, and the hotel rooms (now vacant but intact) were on the upper two floors. In 1929 the south end storefront on Main Street served as the Union Bus Station, and the police station was located on the First Avenue side. The former March Hotel is one of the most architecturally imposing of the historic buildings in the district. Its grandiose classical design includes a rusticated brickwork arcade on the first story of the First Avenue elevation, Ionic pilasters, classical window surrounds with scrolled keystones, and a majestic modillioned cornice crowned by a decorative parapet. The rear of the building is plain and reveals a U-shaped plan with a one-story kitchen and dining room ell.

12. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

106-114 S. Main St.
1919
Contributing building

Although the first story of this row of stores has been remodeled, the second story remains intact (though one small section has been sheathed in metal). The 1919 building

derives its decorative treatment from the repetition of one-over-one sash windows, patterned red brickwork, and contrasting white window trim and classical cornice. Probably the longest occupant of one of the stores in the building has been Pickett and Green, a clothing store listed here in the 1925 city directory and still occupying No. 112. Other prominent occupants have included McLellan's and Gilmer's stores.

13. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

120 S. Main St.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Although an earlier commercial building was located on this site, the present two-story brick structure appears to date from between 1913 and 1923. For years the first story housed a hardware store--first Conrad's and then Farmer's--while offices were located on the second floor. The most prominent of these for more than a half-century was the photography studio of H. Lee Waters. He took thousands of photographs of local people, buildings, and events which now constitute an important documentary collection. The building features segmental-arched windows, a brickwork panel on the upper facade, and a simple corbeled cornice. The first-story shopfront has been remodeled, as has the first-floor interior, but the second floor retains its decorative pressed metal ceiling.

14. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

16-18 W. Second Ave.
bet. 1907 & 1913; bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps suggest that the main part of this building (the three storefronts running east from the corner of Greensboro Alley) was erected between 1907 and 1913 for the Coca-Cola Bottling Works and that the section connecting this with the two-story commercial building on the corner of Main Street (see #13) was added between 1913 and 1923 for use as hardware storage. A variety of small businesses have been located here through the years. The one-story brick building features a unifying brick corbeled cornice and central shop entrances flanked by shop windows.

15. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

22-24 W. Second Ave.
ca. 1935
Contributing building

City directories suggest that this one-story brick building with simple corbeled cornice was probably built around 1935. The west half of the building retains its decorative pressed metal ceiling. Some early businesses located here include McCrary Electrical Supplies, the C. H. Surratt Food Store, and the Carolina Appliance Company.

16. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

28 W. Second Ave.
ca. 1935
Contributing building

Like the buildings on either side of it (see #15 and #17), this is a simple one-story brick commercial building with a modest corbeled cornice. City directories suggest that it, too, was probably built around 1935. For a number of years it was occupied by the Henry G. Fritts Grocery.

17. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

30 W. Second Ave.
ca. 1945
Contributing building

This plain one-story brick commercial building was probably built around 1945 as the Fritts Packing Company, located next to the Henry G. Fritts Grocery (see #16). Like the other buildings in this row, it is devoid of decoration save for a brick soldier-course across the facade and a simple corbeled cornice.

18. EARNHARDT BUILDING

27-31 W. Second Ave.
bet. 1923 & 1929
Contributing building

Between 1885 and 1896 a two-story frame cotton gin operated by John W. Earnhardt was located at this site. By 1902 the frame building had been replaced by a two-story brick veneered structure which continued as a cotton gin until at least 1923. After Earnhardt retired in 1925, he erected this one-story brick building with three store fronts to replace the cotton gin. The Davidson County Public Library occupied No. 31 during the 1930s. The 1929 Sanborn Map shows that a filling station was connected to the west end of the building, but it does not survive. The Earnhardt Building is distinctive in having a shaped parapet along the facade with a stone insert in the center saying "Earnhardt." The stores in this building retain their decorative pressed metal ceilings.

19. JOHN RAKER BUILDING

25-25 1/2 W. Second Ave.
1951
Non-contributing building

Based on the name and date affixed to the upper facade, this two-story brick building was erected for John Raker in 1951.

20. SMITH BROTHERS BUILDING

23 W. Second Ave.
1951
Non-contributing building

This plain two-story brick commercial building was erected in 1951 for the Smith Brothers, according to a placque in the upper facade.

21. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

15-17 W. Second Ave.
bet. 1923 & 1929
Contributing building

This one-story brick commercial building utilizes multi-colored brick which matches that of the adjacent Buchanan-Siceloff Building (#22). The only other decorative treatment is the basketweave brickwork band at cornice height. Sanborn Maps suggest that this building was erected between 1923 and 1929. Prior to that time the site was occupied by a livery and then an auto paint shop and hardware storage. The present building has served a variety of commercial uses.

22. BUCHANAN-SICELOFF BUILDING

200-202 S. Main St.

bet. 1923 & 1929; ca. 1930s

Contributing building

Although this large two-story commercial building of multi-colored brick appears to have been constructed at one time, old photographs show that originally the building consisted of only the first seven bays running south from the southwest corner of S. Main Street and W. Second Avenue. This was between 1923 and 1929. Within a few years the final seven bays were added. The building is twelve bays deep and is distinguished on both the front and north side elevations by patterned brickwork and oriel balconies. The first story storefront has been remodeled. On the interior, the second floor retains its two wide open spaces. Prominent early occupants were the Raylass Department Store and Efirid's Department Store.

23. SICELOFF-WOODRUFF BUILDING

208-214 S. Main St.

ca. 1950s-60s

Non-contributing building

In the 1910s an auto repair shop was at this location. The present two-story brick veneered building may incorporate that earlier building, but if so the entire facade was remodeled around the 1950s so that nothing old remains visible.

24. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

218 S. Main St.

ca. 1960

Non-contributing building

Now Lanier's Hardware Store, this is a large, L-shaped two-story building of modern design that wraps around the north and west sides of the former Post Office property (see #25). Until at least the late 1940s, it was the site of the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

25. (FORMER) UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

220 S. Main St.

1911-1912

Contributing building

Built in 1911-1912, the former United States Post Office is one of the most architecturally prominent buildings in Uptown Lexington. It establishes a solid southern anchor for the historic district. James Knox Taylor was the supervising architect for the monumental Neo-classical Revival stone building. Unlike most of the buildings in the district, the former Post Office is a free-standing structure set back from the street on the

rise of a small grassy lot with trees. A paved parking area is in the rear. Six large Tuscan columns form a portico on the facade, and slightly smaller one-bay wings extend the building on either side. A parapeted classical cornice with flat roof tops the building. The interior has been remodeled except for the grand lobby, which boasts a patterned marble and terrazzo floor, a marble wainscot, fancy radiators, paneled walls, and classical moldings and cornice. In mid century the building became the Davidson County Public Library, but since at least the mid-1980s it has served as the Arts Center for Davidson County.

26. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

125 S. Main St.

bet. 1890 & 1896; ca. 1960s

Contributing building

Sanborn Maps indicate that this two-story brick commercial building was constructed between 1890 and 1896. Originally it was a hardware store with a lodge on the second floor. Later uses included the telephone exchange and various stores, among which was the D. Pender Grocery Company. Although the facade was sheathed in metal (probably in the 1960s), this corner building continues to contribute to the historic character of the district. Its expansive south side elevation and rear remain intact with segmental-arched doors and windows and other openings, conveying the predominant appearance of a late-nineteenth-century building.

27. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

117 S. Main St.

bet. 1890 & 1896; ca. 1960s

Non-contributing building

The rear of this building indicates that it is old, and the Sanborn Maps suggest that, like the adjacent building (see #26), it dates from the early 1890s. However, in the case of this building, not only has the facade been sheathed with modern materials (likely in the 1960s), but neither side is exposed to view, so that with its present appearance it no longer contributes to the historic character of the district. It was first the Hargrave Hotel, then the Central Hotel, and later a furniture store.

28. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

109 S. Main St.

ca. 1935; ca. 1960s

Non-contributing building

Old photographs show that this was the Art Deco style Vestal Building, probably built in the early-to-mid 1930s. For years its primary occupant was the Belk or Belk-Martin Department Store. The second floor housed such offices as James P. Bingham, dentist; Willis J. Vestal, physician; the Vanity Fair Beauty Salon, and Pilot Life Insurance Company. Although the rear of the building remains exposed to view, the expansive facade has been completely sheathed in modern materials, so that the building in its present state no longer contributes to the historic character of the district.

29. VARNER BUILDING

103-107 S. Main St.

bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Although the first story of the Varner Building has been remodeled, the second story remains architecturally intact. It features a modillioned cornice across the first story, paired one-over-one sash windows, a stone string course above which is the building's name, and a second-story modillioned and parapeted cornice. Sanborn Maps reveal that the building was constructed between 1913 and 1923. Originally the south half of the building was a movie theatre, and two stores and various offices made up the rest of the building. One of the most prominent occupants of the building was The Dispatch Publishing Company, publisher of the Lexington newspaper.

30. MOFFITT BUILDING

101 S. Main St.
1920s
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps show that prior to 1902 a dwelling was at this location. From 1902 through 1929, the Sanborn Maps indicate a two-story brick store at the site. While portions of the Moffitt Building may date from 1902, its stylistic appearance suggests a construction or remodeling date of the 1920s. The building features dark red patterned brickwork with contrasting classical detailing (panels, medallions, and cornice) in white terra cotta. The first story shopfront appears to date from the 1920s or 1930s. The second story windows have been boarded shut. City directories show that various shops and professional offices have occupied the building, which in 1941 was listed as the Moffitt Building, the name that is emblazoned beneath the facade cornice.

31. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

3-5 E. First Ave.
ca. 1905; ca. 1920
Contributing building

As with the Moffitt Building (see #30), the Sanborn Maps suggest that this two-story brick building may have been built between 1902 and 1907. However, the rather intact facade looks more like the 1920s. It features a recessed entrance, a glass tile transom, simple brickwork patterning, and terra cotta string courses. The second story windows have been boarded up. For a number of years, half of the building was used as the Western Union Telegraph Company office. A variety of stores and offices have occupied the rest of the building.

32. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

7 E. First Ave.
bet. 1902 & 1907; 1920s
Contributing building

According to the Sanborn Maps, a one-story brick building stood at this location as early as 1907. However, the multicolored and patterned brickwork of this small commercial building looks more like the 1920s. Various small restaurants have been housed in the building.

33. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

9-11 E. First Ave.
bet. 1902 & 1907
Contributing building

Although part of the facade of this one-story brick building has been altered, one wood and glass shop window, a wooden intermediate cornice, a paneled upper facade, and a simple corbeled brick cornice with tile coping remain intact. According to the Sanborn Maps, the building was first used as a bakery and later as a store, a gunsmith shop, an electrical contracting office, and a beauty salon.

34. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

13-21 E. First Ave.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps suggest that this commercial building with three shopfronts was built between 1913 and 1923. Although the shopfronts have been remodeled to varying degrees, they still retain an overall sense of their period integrity. Features of the one-story brick building include multi-paned shop windows with wood paneled dado, a multi-paned transom, an intermediate wooden cornice, a paneled brick upper facade, and a simple corbeled cornice. Numerous small businesses have occupied the row through the years, including printing companies, beauty shops, a plumbing and heating company, and a construction company.

35. SMITH-THOMPSON BLOCK

23 S. Main St.
1900
Contributing building

Although the first story of this corner building has been somewhat remodeled, an early photograph shows that much original fabric remains intact. The photograph labels this the Smith-Thompson Block, a carved stone on the building dates it 1900 (which is confirmed by the 1902 Sanborn Map), and city directories show that for years it was the Peoples Drug Store. (Initially it was apparently Thompson's Drugstore.) Outstanding features include decorative paneled and corbeled brickwork, paired one-over-one sash windows with granite sills and lintels, a corner ironwork oriel balcony, and a broad, four-part arched window on the facade which is outlined with rusticated granite and filled with decorative leaded glass. On the interior, the first floor has been remodeled, but the second floor remains wonderfully intact with plastered walls, a beaded board ceiling, bull's-eye cornerblock woodwork, and early shelving which runs along one wall.

36. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

17-21 S. Main St.
by 1885
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps show that this handsome two-story brick building had been erected by 1885. Initially it housed a hardware store and a drugstore. Other early uses have included a general merchandise store, a grocery, a bank, and a clothing store. The first story has

been remodeled, but an early photograph shows that originally it had round-arched doors and windows. A metal first-story cornice remains on No. 21. The second-story facade remains intact with a row of six round-arched windows and a decorative brick corbeled cornice consisting of a string course, a blind arcade, and a dentil course.

37. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

15 S. Main St.
by 1885; ca. 1905
Contributing building

An early photograph shows that this building originally looked much like its neighbor to the south (see #36). Sanborn Maps show that a two-story brick building had been erected here by 1885, and that it took on its present size (depth) between 1902 and 1907. It was a general merchandise store, and then a hardware store, a grocery, a jewelry store, and a clothing store by the 1920s. At some point the facade was re-bricked so that it is now very plain with only a simple first-story cornice, a row of flat-headed windows, and a corbeled cornice. The expansive north elevation, which faces the southeast quadrant of Courthouse Square, retains a decorative corbeled cornice and a few round-arched openings at the rear of the first-story level. Otherwise the wall has no openings, which was the case in 1885.

38. COURTHOUSE SQUARE (SOUTHEAST QUADRANT)

SE cor S. Main & E. Center Sts.
1824; ca. 1910
Contributing site

The Courthouse Square was established in 1824 as the center of the new county seat. It was laid out where the main streets, then known as Davis Street and Steele Street (Main Street) and Cameron Street and Stanly Street (Center Street) came together. Over time the square became defined into four quadrants surrounding the intersection of Main and Center Streets. Sanborn Insurance Maps suggest that this change may have taken place around 1910. The southeast quadrant was the location during the nineteenth century of the public well. Now the quadrant is comprised of a grassy lawn surrounded on three sides by a holly hedge, on four side by a sidewalk, and with five trees along the east and south sides.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

Contributing object

In the center of the quadrant stands the Confederate Monument which faces north. It is a tall granite monument "topped by a bronze soldier. It was erected by the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy on September 14, 1905. Located originally at the center of the intersection of Main and Center streets, it was moved to its present site at some later date.

39. DEVELOPMENT BUILDING

1-11 S. Main Street; 1 E. Center St.
ca. 1905
Contributing building

The Development Building was a major commercial undertaking in Lexington around 1905. The 1907 Sanborn Map labels it the "Davidson County Development Co. B1." It is a large, three-story, nine-bay-wide brick building with round-arched openings on the first floor and raised brick arches above the round-arched third-story windows. Brick string courses decorate the parapeted cornice. The central entrance leads to a long hall with a beaded board wainscot and a decorative pressed metal ceiling. The first story has been somewhat altered, and the window sash have been replaced, but otherwise the exterior remains largely intact. The National Bank of Lexington and a grocery store were among the first to occupy the building. Later there were hardware stores, a harness shop, a jeweler, a cafe, the Lexington Working Men's Club, and a variety of business and professional offices and other stores to fill the building.

40. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

SW cor E. Center St. & Marble Alley bet.
1907 & 1913; ca. 1920
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps suggest that this building may have been built between 1907 and 1913, but definitely by 1923. In 1913 it was labeled a "carriage repository," but in 1923 it was identified as a garage for forty cars and an auto repair shop. The 1925-26 City Directory lists it as the Reynolds and Raper Garage. At least through the 1940s its occupants continued to be associated with automobile and trucking businesses. The two-story brick structure has large, segmental-arched vehicular openings on the first story, replacement second-story windows, and a shaped parapet. The Marble Alley elevation has striated common bond brickwork and segmental-arched windows.

41. (FORMER) MARBLE WORKS

12 E. Center St.
bet. 1890 & 1896; bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

The front half of the two-story brick marble works building was erected between 1890 and 1896, while the rear half was added between 1913 and 1923. Marble cutting took place here in the early years (and in an earlier building on the site), and it was from this business that Marble Alley--which runs along the east side of the building--got its name. By the mid-1920s the marble works no longer occupied the building, and in its place a series of bakeries were located here for at least twenty years. The first story shopfront of this narrow building has been remodeled, and the second-story facade windows have been partially enclosed. However, the segmental-arched window openings, the lunette ventilator, and the decorative metal cornice on the facade remain intact as do the segmental-arched windows which line the Marble Alley elevation.

42. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

8-10 E. Center St.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Commercial building

The exterior of this building remains largely intact. What appear to be original entrances and one-over-one sash windows remain, as do the patterned brickwork and the brick corbeled cornice. The Sanborn Maps show that the two-story building was erected

between 1913 and 1923. City directories reveal that prior to the mid-1940s the building was used primarily for medical and dental offices with an occasional business on the first "story.

43. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

1-3 1/2 N. Main St.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps do not make clear when this building was erected. It may have been built as two stores between 1890 and 1896 (north half) and 1896 and 1902 (south half). If so, however, it appears that the buildings were unified and took on their present overall appearance between 1913 and 1923. The building is a simple two-story brick structure with two remodeled shopfronts, a central round-arched entrance to the second floor, paired windows across the facade and south elevation, and brick string courses above the first story and defining the cornice. A ca. 1920 photograph shows that the building looks now as it did then except for its modified shopfronts. During the 1920s the north half of the building was used as the A & P grocery. During the 1930s and 1940s the Economy Auto Supply Company and the Citizens Loan Company/Citizens Insurance Agency occupied the first story, while various state and private offices filled the second story.

44. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

5 N. Main St.
between 1890 & 1896; ca. 1960s
Non-contributing building

Sanborn Maps suggest that this two-story brick building was constructed between 1890 and 1896, and a ca. 1920 photograph shows that it matched the contiguous building to the north (see #45). It was originally used for a meat market and later for various stores and offices. During the 1950s or 1960s, however, the facade was completely modernized, and the building no longer contributes to the historic character of the district.

45. (FORMER) BARBER SHOP

7 N. Main St.
bet. 1890 & 1896
Contributing building

This two-story brick building dates from between 1890 and 1896, and for at least half a century it was used as a barber shop. It shares a classical metal cornice with its contiguous stores on either side (see #44 and #46). Although the first-story shopfront was remodeled, possibly in the 1930s, the building retains its pair of second-story sash windows (now six-over-six instead of two-over-two) with their metal cornerblock lintels, its heavily corbeled upper facade, and its metal cornice. The rear of the building retains its segmental-arched doors and windows.

46. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

9 N. Main St.
bet. 1902 & 1907
Contributing building

Although this narrow building has a replacement first-story shopfront and second-story window, the upper facade and classical metal cornice remain intact. It was built between 1902 and 1907, probably to fill in the narrow space left after the earlier construction of the contiguous buildings to the north and south (see #45 and #48). It is tied with the building at 7 N. Main Street (#45) by its classical metal cornice. For years it was used as a cafe.

47. COURTHOUSE SQUARE (NORTHEAST QUADRANT)

NE cor N. Main & E. Center Sts.

1824, ca. 1910

Contributing site

(For general information on the Courthouse Square, see #38.) The northeast quadrant of the Courthouse Square features a grassy lawn, three trees, a holly hedge on three sides, and internal walkways. At the rear of the quadrant is a flagpole erected in 1972, and in front of it are three small stone monuments with bronze plaques. The one at the north end honors those from Davidson County who served in World War I. The center monument honors those who fought in World War II and in the Korean War. The south end monument honors the Vietnam War veterans.

48. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

11-15 N. Main St.

1890; 1920s

Contributing building

The 1890 Sanborn Map identifies this two-story brick building as "being built." The September 17, 1890 issue of the Davidson Dispatch, after bragging on this new building, reports that, "The first room is occupied by the popular merchant, J. F. Ward, the second by J. W. McCrary, who has a first class furniture store, and the third by Messrs. Redwine and Son, the hardware man." J. F. Ward's General Store was established in 1875 at another location, but moved to this building in 1890. It is the oldest known business still in operation in Lexington. Until at least 1950 the three parts of the building continued in their original uses as a department store, a furniture store, and a hardware store. The building was apparently remodeled around the 1920s, and two of the first-story shopfronts again at some later time. The store at 15 N. Main Street appears to retain an early storefront with a wood-paneled base and a deeply recessed entrance with a double-leaf door. The brick facade of this three-part building is relatively plain, with only string courses of patterned brickwork and a slightly corbeled brick cornice to provide visual contrast. Raised round-arched brickwork is still visible on the expansive south elevation, and the rear features round-arched doors and windows. The rear of the first floor of the former hardware store at 15 N. Main exhibits a small enclosed office with mezzanine above and a stair to the second floor. The second floor remains largely intact and has evidence of windows along the north side, verifying that this building is older than the three-story building currently next to it.

49. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

17 N. Main St.

bet. 1907 & 1913

Contributing building

According to Sanborn Maps, this narrow three-story brick building was erected between 1907 and 1913. Initially it was a hardware and harness shop, and for more than twenty years it was part of the Lexington Hardware Store next door at 15 N. Main Street. The first-story shopfront has been remodeled but retains its recessed entrance and flanking metal pilasters produced by the Chattanooga Roof and Foundry Company. The second and third stories retain their window openings with granite sills and lintels, but the sash have been replaced. A multi-layer corbeled cornice crowns the building.

50. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

19 N. Main St; 3 E. First St.

ca. 1980

Non-contributing building

This one-story brown brick veneered building appears to date from around 1980. The rear portion may be the one-story brick veneered building shown on the 1923 and 1929 Sanborn Maps, but if it is, it has been totally remodeled.

51. WAREHOUSE

7 E. First St.

bet. 1913 & 1923; bet. 1923 & 1929

Contributing building

This plain brick building fronts a small alley behind the Main Street buildings. Parts of the building may date from as early as 1896, but the main two-story section appears to have taken on its present form bet. 1913 and 1923, with the one-story north section having been built between 1923 and 1929. According to the Sanborn Maps, it was always used for hardware storage, and city directories confirm that this was the warehouse for the Lexington Hardware Company.

52. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

8-10 E. First St.

bet. 1923 & 1929

Contributing building

Sanborn Maps show that this one-story brick building with two stores was built between 1923 and 1929. The severity of the building is relieved by a paneled brick dado beneath the windows and basketweave string courses located above the windows and at cornice level. Although No. 10 has been remodeled, No.8 remains largely intact with a recessed entrance, a glass-paned transom (covered on the outside but visible on the interior), and a decorative pressed metal ceiling. Early businesses occupying the building included a dry cleaning and dyeing shop, a grocery, a shoe repair shop, a cafe, and the Kirkman Funeral Home.

53. HINKLE BLOCK

101-105 N. Main St.

bet. 1902 and 1907

Contributing building

The Hinkle Block was built between 1902 and 1907, according to Sanborn Insurance Maps. Initially the building housed a bank on the corner, a clothing store, and a farm

implements store, while on the second floor was the Masonic Hall. By 1913 the Co. A 3rd Reg. NC Armory met on the second floor, while the first floor was taken up with the bank, a grocery, a meat market, and an insurance office. Various stores and offices occupied the building in subsequent years. Although the first-story shopfronts have been remodeled, the rest of the building remains largely intact. The seven-bay facade includes flat-arched windows with granite sills (the openings themselves have been boarded up), brick pilasters, a corbeled cornice, and a high parapet with small polygonal turrets. These features continue on the eleven-bay-deep south elevation, where there is also a blind-arcade of round arches on the first-story and a corbeled string course between floors.

54. HANKINS BUILDING

107 N. Main St.

1902

Contributing building

A stone block in the center of the upper facade of this building says "Hankins 1902." Prior to 1902, a grocery was located at this location, but in that year the building--new or remodeled--was shown to be a clothing and dry goods store. City directories in the 1920s associate the building with J. A. Hankins. Although the first-story shopfront has been modernized, the rest of the three-bay facade remains intact. It features two-over-two sash segmental-arched windows and a heavily corbeled and paneled brick cornice. The rear of the building retains its segmental-arched window openings.

55. HEDRICK'S HALL

109-111 N. Main St.

1902

Contributing building

Very similar in design to the Hankins Building next door (see #54), Hedrick's Hall carries an upper facade stone with the name of the building and its date of construction (1902). The corbeled and paneled cornice matches that of the Hankins Building, but here the four-bay facade features round-arched windows with granite sills and raised brick arches above. The first story shopfront has been remodeled, but the interior retains its row of braced central support posts and its early twentieth-century appearance. The rear of the building shows a low gable roof, segmental-arched windows, and a short, one-story ell which served as a warehouse. For years the building housed a grocery store and a furniture store.

56. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

113-115 N. Main St.

by 1885; ca. 1960s

Non-contributing building

The Sanborn Maps suggest that this two-story commercial building may have been built by 1885, and the brickwork on the rear of the building suggests that this may indeed have been the case. However, the entire facade has been remodeled with stucco, wood, and replacement glass, and the building in this state no longer contributes to the historic character of the district. In its earliest years, an opera house was located on the second floor. Various shops have been located on the first floor. The building now appears to have been converted to apartments.

57. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

121 N. Main St.

bet. 1923-1929

Contributing building

Although the Sanborn Maps indicate that a two-story store was located on this site from at least 1885, the present building appears to date from the 1920s. In fact, it was likely rebuilt or heavily remodeled between 1923 and 1929, because the 1929 map describes in detail--for the first time--its fireproof construction. Various businesses have been located here, including an auto parts wholesale business. The two-story corner building is distinguished by the use of red brick veneer accented by white blocked stone on the first story of the facade, along with stone garlands beneath the second-story windows, stone medallions above the windows, and a white string course and coped cornice.

58. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

15 E. Second St.

bet. 1923 & 1929

Contributing building

This one-story brick building is stylistically related to the building at the corner of N. Main and E. Second Streets (#57) and is separated from it by an alley. Its stuccoed facade is scored to resemble stone blocks, and its shopfront is surrounded by a band of some of the same decorative detailing as is found on the corner building. Although the shopfronts have been partially enclosed, the physical relationship between this building and the one on the corner remains clear. Sanborn Maps show that the building was constructed between 1923 and 1929. In 1929 it housed an undertaker and an auto mechanic. In later years it continued to house a funeral home along with other, businesses. At one time there were wings connected to the south side and rear of the building, but these have been torn down.

59. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

104 N. Main St.

bet. 1913 & 1923

Contributing building

Sanborn Maps show that this narrow two-story brick building was erected between 1913 and 1923. A variety of businesses have occupied the building. While the first-story shopfront has been remodeled, the second story of the facade, the north side elevation, and the rear all remain intact. The upper facade features three one-over-one sash windows with rough granite sills and flat-arched lintels with brick Tudor labels and a two-layer decorative corbeled brick cornice. The north elevation retains a decorative glass transom over the side shop window and a row of round-arched lunette windows (now infilled). The rear retains a central round-arched entrance flanked by segmental-arched windows and three flat-arched windows on the second story.

60. J. C. SMITH BUILDING

100-102 N. Main St.

bet. 1913 & 1923

Contributing building

The handsome J. C. Smith Building was erected between 1913 and 1923, according to Sanborn Maps. During the 1920s it housed the Smith general merchandise store, a grocery, and the Masonic Hall on the second floor. In later years other stores and offices occupied the building. The large two-story brick building is Colonial Revival in design and is three bays wide and seven bays deep. The first story of the facade has been remodeled, but the rest of the building remains intact. Notable features include large round-arched windows consisting of a pair of six-over-one sash windows headed by a fanlight, a row of small horizontal flat-arched windows (now enclosed) on the south elevation beneath the round-arched windows, patterned brickwork, a terra cotta string course across the facade, a terra cotta classical parapeted cornice, and a remarkable classical side entrance at the west end of the south elevation.

61. (FORMER) LEXINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

8 W. First St.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Sanborn Maps show that this two-story brick building was built between 1913 and 1923 as the Fire House #1. It remained in use as the Lexington Fire Department through at least the 1920s, but by 1937 it was listed in the city directory as a machinery and welding shop, a tin shop, and a cafe. The first story of the facade features two large vehicular entrances, a corner door, four second-story windows, a string course, and a corbeled cornice. Numerous doors and windows are found on the east side and rear of the building.

62. AUTO REPAIR SHOP

NE cor W. First St. & Greensboro Alley
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

Built between 1913 and 1923, this building was for years an auto repair shop. The handsome one-story brick structure features a round-arched vehicular entrance on the facade along with a shop window and a segmental-arched pedestrian entrance. A brick sawtooth band runs across the facade beneath the corbeled cornice. The west side and rear exhibit common-bond brickwork and segmental-arched windows.

63. HEGE-HARMON BUILDING

12-20 N. Main St.
1922
Contributing building

The Hege-Harmon Building is a large two-story brick building which takes up half the Main Street block face. Built in 1922, the building is said to have been dedicated by Governor Cameron Morrison. The Commercial and Savings Bank was located at the south end, and Young's Theatre (later the Granada Theatre) was located in the middle. The City Drug Company, a department store, a grocery, and a variety of other businesses occupied the first floor through the years. The second floor housed numerous offices. While the first story facade has been largely remodeled, the rest of the building remains intact. The red brick structure features contrasting white terra cotta trim around doors and windows and for decorative string courses and the coped cornice.

64. COURTHOUSE SQUARE (NORTHWEST QUADRANT)

NW cor N. Main & W. Center Sts.
1824; ca. 1910
Contributing site

(For general information on the Courthouse Square, see #38.) The northwest quadrant of the Courthouse Square features a grassy lawn, four trees, a holly hedge across the rear and along half of each side, and internal sidewalks. Across the rear of the quadrant are three small stone monuments. The monument on the north end was erected in 1918 by the North Carolina Historical Commission and the Board of Commissioners of Davidson County in honor of the settling of Daniel Boone nearby and the passage of the American Army under General Nathaniel Greene in 1781 in route to Guilford Court House. The center monument was erected in 1981 by the Capt. Benjamin Merrill Chapter of the NSDAR in honor of Capt. Benjamin Merrill, whose home was eight miles south and who died for the cause of the Regulators on June 19, 1771. The monument at the south end was erected in 1928 in honor of the city of Lexington, which was incorporated in 1828.

65. COMMERCIAL BUILDING

2-10 N. Main St.
bet. 1913 & 1923
Contributing building

This large two-story brick building is ten bays long and five bays deep. Sanborn Maps suggest that the present building was constructed or at least acquired its present appearance between 1913 and 1923. Prior to that a collection of buildings in a variety of sizes was located here. Various stores have occupied the building, but the longest has been the Conrad and Hinkle Grocery, which was listed here in the 1925-26 City Directory and continues to operate today. Another long-time occupant was the Sanitary Barber Shop. Most of the first story of the facade has been remodeled, but the rest of the building remains intact. White terra cotta trim used for string courses, cornice, and other trim contrasts sharply with the patterned red brickwork walls. Windows are mostly paired. The Conrad and Hinkle Grocery is the most intact part of the building. Its shopfront features a recessed double-leaf entrance and a patterned tile dado and floor. The interior retains its decorative pressed metal ceiling and the general ambiance of grocery store from the first half of the twentieth century.

66. (FORMER) CITY BARBECUE

5 Greensboro Alley
ca. 1940
Contributing building

Good barbecue is an old tradition in Lexington and numerous barbecue restaurants abound. The 1929 Sanborn Map indicates that there were several small frame sheds, labeled "barbecue stands" located across the street from here on the northwest 'corner of W. Center Street and Greensboro Alley. These were especially busy during the weeks when court was in session. These no longer survive, but the City Barbecue building (which was earlier called Stamey C. Warner Lunches and then Stamey's Barbecue), was built around 1940 and stands as a permanent reminder of this important aspect of Lexington culinary life. It is a one-story red brick building with multicolored patterned brickwork on the facade and a remodeled entrance. A brick addition stands on the north

side of the building, and a concrete block barbecue pit and preparation area stands at the northeast (rear) corner.

67. LEXINGTON STATE BANK WAREHOUSE

E side Greensboro Alley
bet W. First & Second Aves.
ca. 1960s
Non-contributing building

This is a two-story concrete block warehouse with a vehicular door and pedestrian door on the west end next to Greensboro Alley and several miscellaneous windows on the second story of the same end.