

# HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

June 1998



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures .....	2
Abstract .....	4
Acknowledgements .....	5
Chapter 1 - Project Background.....	6
Chapter 2 - Methodology .....	9
Chapter 3 - Historic Context .....	14
Themes:	
Domestic .....	37
Subsistence/Agriculture .....	47
Government/Law/Political.....	54
Health Care/Medicine .....	57
Education .....	60
Military/Defense .....	64
Religion.....	67
Social .....	74
Recreation/Arts .....	77
Transportation/Communication .....	81
Commerce/Trade .....	85
Industry/Processing/Extraction.....	92
Landscape .....	95
Funerary .....	98
Ethnicity/Immigration.....	100
Chapter 4 - Survey Findings .....	103
Chapter 5 - Evaluation .....	120
Chapter 6 - Recommendations.....	125
Glossary .....	128
References.....	135
Appendices - Separate Document	
Appendix A.....	Inventory of Surveyed Resources by Identification Number
Appendix B .....	Chronological Inventory of Surveyed Resources by Identification Number
Appendix C .....	Chronological Inventory of Surveyed Resources in Chronological Order
Appendix D.....	Alphabetical Inventory of Surveyed Resources
Appendix E .....	Historic Context Inventory of Surveyed Resources by Identification Number

Appendix F.....Wuzit Inventory of Surveyed Resources by Identification Number

Appendix G.....Preliminary Information Form for Eligible Drakes Branch Historic District

Appendix H..... Preliminary Information Form for Eligible Keysville Historic District

## List of Figures

Map of Charlotte County with Magisterial Districts and USGS Quads .....	8
Map of Virginia with Charlotte and Surrounding Counties .....	14
Greenfield .....	17
Charlotte Courthouse .....	19
Harvey's Tavern .....	20
Red House Tavern, Part 1 .....	20
Gravel Hill .....	20
Do Well .....	21
Do Well - Mantel .....	21
Rough Creek Baptist Church .....	22
Red Oak Grove Store .....	23
Gravel Hill - Interior .....	24
Moldavia .....	25
Salem Baptist Church .....	25
Wardsfork Mill .....	28
Formosa Store and Post Office .....	29
Keeling's Drug Store .....	29
Rutledge Bar Room .....	30
Charlotte Hotel .....	30
St. John House - Gable Detail .....	31
Central High School .....	31
Salem School .....	31
Friendship Baptist Church .....	32
Grace Episcopal Church .....	32
Moses Hall .....	33
Hanmer Car Company .....	33
Tenant House, Route 643 .....	34
H. B. Owen House .....	35
Gertrude Shook Studio .....	35
Central High School (African-American) .....	35
South Isle .....	38
High Hill .....	38
Woodfork .....	39
Ridgeway - Mantel .....	39
Randolph Plantation - Kitchen .....	40
High Hill Smoke House .....	40
Mapleton .....	41
Gravel Hill - Mantel Detail .....	41
Oak Hill Dairy .....	43
Beechenbrook Smoke House .....	44
J. E. Gilliam House .....	45
Toombs Tobacco Farm - Tobacco Barn Interior .....	49
Charles Adams House Tobacco Barn .....	50
Cliffside Overseer's House .....	51
Tenant House, Route 611 .....	51



Westview Granary .....	51
Locust Grove Corncrib .....	52
Sunnyside Barn .....	52
Mapleton Hay Barn.....	52
Madisonville High School Cannery.....	53
1817 Plat of Charlotte Court House.....	55
Charlotte County Jail .....	56
Randolph Plantation Law Office .....	56
Cullen Fire Department .....	56
Roxabel Doctor’s Office.....	58
House, Route 47.....	59
Westview School .....	61
Madison Academy .....	61
High Hill School .....	62
School, Route 619.....	62
Saxe Schoolhouse .....	62
Phenix Schoolhouse.....	63
Hermon Church.....	69
Salem Baptist Church .....	70
Oak View Church .....	71
Trinity Methodist Church .....	71
Staunton River Baptist Church .....	71
Keysville Presbyterian Church .....	72
Henry Church.....	72
Phenix Methodist Church .....	73
Old Brick Tavern/Watkin’s Tavern .....	75
Wylliesburg Community Center.....	76
Red House Tavern, Part 2 .....	78
New Theater.....	79
Gertrude Shook House.....	80
Saxe Railroad Depot .....	83
Bridge, Route 707 .....	84
Harvey’s Store .....	87
Wylliesburg Store .....	88
H. T. Guthrie Store .....	89
Crouch Drug Store .....	89
J. C. Paulett Warehouse .....	90
Old Well Store and Voting Precinct .....	90
Jarman Store.....	90
Newcomb’s Store.....	91
Hamlett Barber Shop.....	91
Crafton Gate Fire Tower.....	94
Red Hill Garden Plan.....	96
M. P. Lipscomb Funeral Parlor - Detail.....	99
“The Street” .....	101
Bluestone-Harmony School.....	102

Table 1- Charlotte County Resource Distribution Matrix .....	10
Table 2 - Survey Findings.....	104

## **Abstract**

In April 1996, the County of Charlotte was awarded a matching grant by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources as part of the cost-share program available to localities in order to conduct an historic survey of the County. In September 1996, Hill Studio, P.C. was awarded a contract by the Department of Historic Resources to conduct this survey. The survey was carried out under the direction of Alison S. Blanton, Project Manager and Project Architectural Historian.

The contractual agreement between Hill Studio and the Department of Historic Resources designated that 200 properties were to be surveyed at the reconnaissance level and 20 properties were to be surveyed at the intensive level for a total of 220 properties. Of the intensively surveyed properties, 19 were determined to be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Approximately 56 additional individual properties were recommended for further study to determine National Register eligibility.

In addition to the property surveys, the contractual agreement specified that two Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs) would be prepared for the project. Hill Studio prepared PIFs for the towns of Keysville and Drakes Branch Historic Districts. These proposed districts have been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

## **Acknowledgements**

This project could not have been completed without the generous support and cooperation of the County of Charlotte and its citizens and to them Hill Studio would like to extend our warmest thanks.

The unfailing support of the members of the Charlotte County Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities was a key factor in the completion of this project. Hill Studio is grateful for their gracious assistance and genuine interest in the success of this undertaking. From personal tours of the County to overnight lodging and interviews, the following members are heartily thanked for their involvement: Ann Charlton, Gerald Gilliam, Betty Anne Petty, Lucille Purcell, Frances Ramsey and Lucretia Whitehouse.

Stephanie Heintzleman, Charlotte County Planner, and the staff of the County Administrator were generous in their assistance and offered the team guidance and helpful information throughout the course of this project.

Hill Studio, P.C. would like to extend a special thanks to the following for taking the time to share with us their knowledge of Charlotte County: Bret and Liz Peaden, Hilda Branch, Reginald Pettus, David and Peggy Quarrier, Catherine St. John, Patty Tucker, Barbara Bailey, Jimmy Ramsey, Courtney Parsons and Mrs. Bessie Lowe. Their contributions to the project are invaluable.

A special thanks is due to the owners and representatives of the intensive-level survey properties for their cooperation in having their properties surveyed. This part of the survey could not have been possible without their time, support and interest.

Margaret Peters and Marc Wagner of the Department of Historic Resources were instrumental in the completion of this project. The team members of Hill Studio would like to thank them for their guidance and assistance throughout the course of this architectural survey.

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **PROJECT BACKGROUND**

#### **Introduction**

The County of Charlotte was awarded a matching grant in July 1996 by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources as part of a competitive selection process to have an historic architectural survey conducted of resources in the County. In September 1996, Hill Studio, P.C. was contracted by the Department of Historic Resources to conduct the survey. The survey was carried out under the direction of Alison S. Blanton, Project Manager, who was the Architectural Historian and principal investigator. She was assisted by Valerie N. Birch, AICP, Project Advisor. Ms. Blanton was assisted in the field by Ms. Birch, Mary Zirkle, Stacy Marshall and Michael LaRoche, project research associates. Additional graphic support was given by Peter Giraudeau, Erin Elisabeth Jones and Rob Crawford.

#### **Project Description**

##### *Purpose*

The primary purpose of this project is to provide the County and its residents and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources with information concerning historic resources in Charlotte County in order to encourage and improve the protection of these resources. The knowledge gained from this survey will help to achieve this purpose by providing information that is necessary to:

- Study the possibility for the creation of new preservation and conservation districts;
- Make informed comprehensive planning decisions;
- Increase public awareness of the value of historic resources within Charlotte County;
- Provide preliminary information for potential federally-funded projects that would require Section 106 Review.

The objective of this study was to conduct a survey of architectural resources 50 years or older in Charlotte County to produce the following items:

1. Integrated Preservation Software (IPS) database for 200 properties surveyed or resurveyed at the reconnaissance level. Reconnaissance level surveys provide the following basic information about an historic resource:
  - Address/location
  - Name
  - Date of resource
  - Style of architecture
  - Historic context
  - Architectural description, including exterior architectural features
  - Brief description of secondary resources
  - Statement of architectural and historic significance

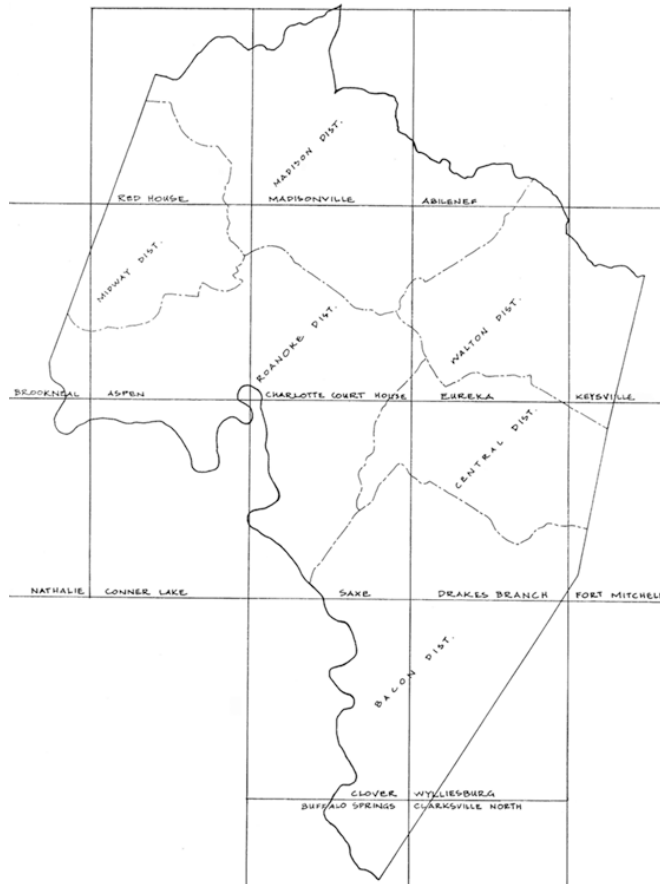
- Physical condition
  - Threats, if any
  - Site plan of the property
  - Photographs documenting each resource, historic and nonhistoric
  - Section of USGS location map with resource delineated
1. Integrated Preservation Software (IPS) database for 20 properties surveyed at the intensive level. Intensive level surveys provide a more detailed documentation of an historic resource, including a description of the interior features of the resources and more in-depth historic background as well as a determination of eligibility for National Register listing. The following information is included in an intensive-level survey:
    - Address/location
    - Name
    - Date of resource
    - Style of architecture
    - Historic context
    - Period context
    - Function of property
    - Architectural description, including exterior architectural features
    - Interior description of the main level
    - Brief description of secondary resources
    - Statement of architectural and historic significance
    - Physical condition
    - Threats, if any
    - Site plan of the property
    - Interior floor plan
    - Photographs documenting each resource, historic and nonhistoric
    - Section of USGS location map with resource delineated
  1. A survey report that discusses the historic context of the survey area based on appropriate themes recognized by DHR, evaluates the significance of the resources and provides recommendations for further study, preservation planning and educational projects.
  2. Two historic district Preliminary Information Forms, one for the town of Keysville and one for the town of Drakes Branch.
  3. A set of USGS topographic maps indicating the location of all surveyed properties.
  4. A scripted slide show of resources as they relate to the historic presentation of the survey findings.

The survey report will serve as a planning document for making land-use decisions and planning for future survey, evaluation, treatment and possible economic marketing of architectural resources within the study.

**Survey Area**

Charlotte County is located in southside Virginia. It is bordered by Appomattox and Prince Edward Counties on the north, Lunenburg and Mecklenburg Counties on the east and Campbell and Halifax Counties on the west. Charlotte County is divided into six magisterial districts and is composed of 17 USGS topographic maps.

**Figure 1: Map of Project Area with Districts and USGS map makeup**



## **CHAPTER 2**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **Literature and Records Review**

Background data was reviewed prior to, during and after completion of the field study. The literature and records search was conducted in Charlotte County, Blacksburg, Richmond and Roanoke, Virginia at the following locations:

- Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia
- Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia
- Charlotte County Clerk's Office
- Charlotte County Public Library
- Charlotte County APVA Museum
- Roanoke Regional Library and the Virginia Room, Roanoke, Virginia
- Newman Library, VPI and SU, Blacksburg, Virginia

The following resources were reviewed:

- Virginia Department of Historic Resources Archives, including the National Register of Historic Places files
- County Documents and records
- County Library archive files
- Charlotte County APVA files and publications, including issues of "The Southsider"

#### **Previous Architectural Investigations**

A total of 130 resources have previously been surveyed within the study area. Of these resources, seven are on the National Register of Historic Places. These National Register properties include:

19-0008	Greenfield
19-0024	Mulberry Hill
19-0027	Red Hill
19-0029	Roanoke Plantation Outbuildings
19-0030	Staunton Hill
185-0001	Charlotte County Courthouse
185-0023	Charlotte County Court House Historic District

#### **Research Methodology Prior to Field Study**

In order to gain an understanding of what time periods and historic themes had been documented previously, it was necessary to perform an assessment of where these earlier survey properties fit into time and historic contexts. By plotting these properties according to these criteria, the survey team was able to target time periods and themes that were under-represented and to then seek out



those resources to fill in gaps for a more rounded survey of Charlotte County. This information is outlined in **Table 1, Charlotte County Resource Distribution**. It was determined by the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) what sites should be resurveyed or surveyed on an intensive level from review of the current files in DHR archives.

<b>CHARLOTTE COUNTY RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION</b>										
	1750-1789	1789-1830	1830-1860	1861-1865	1865-1917	1917-1945	1945-present	UNMAPPED	UNDATED	TOTAL
DOMESTIC	1	24	27		5	11		2		70
AGRICULTURAL	1		3		4	2		1		11
COMMERCE/ TRADE	1	3	1					2		7
RELIGION		1	2		1	1		1		6
EDUCATION										0
INDUSTRY									1	1
GOVERNMENT/ LAW/ POLITICAL		1	1							2
TECHNOLOGY/ENGINEERING			2		2	1				5
TRANSPORTATION		1			2	3				6
FUNERARY										0
RECREATION/ART								1		1
MILITARY										0
ARCHITECTURE			1							1
ETHNICITY/IMMIGRATION										0
HEALTH CARE/MEDICINE										0
LANDSCAPE										0
SOCIAL		1	1					1		3
SETTLEMENT PATTERN										0
DEMOLISHED										3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>111</b>

A public meeting was held at the County Administrative offices in February 1997 to generate interest in the project survey and to collect additional information and sites for survey. This meeting was attended by over 20 county residents who were asked to identify buildings and sites which they felt should be included in the survey. The survey team also gathered further leads for intensive properties to document at this meeting. The survey assessment and meeting were used to inform the survey process along with other research.

## **On-site Survey Methodology**

Once preliminary research was conducted, on-site field work began in March 1997 and was completed in August 1997. The field survey was guided by USGS topographic quadrangle (quad) maps, an initial meeting with APVA board members, quad maps marked at the public meeting, various historic maps and the book Charlotte County Rich Indeed which listed many county resources.

The survey systematically covered Charlotte County starting with the southernmost end of the county and working northward. Numerous resources were brought to the attention of surveyors while in the field and every effort was made to investigate these during the course of the survey. An historic resource was circled on the quad maps if it was not documented on the reconnaissance level in order to demonstrate the number of historic resources found throughout the county. Survey efforts targeted rural areas first and then resources within the towns since the team had a good understanding of what was available for documentation in the more settled areas.

## **Intensive-level Survey Properties**

Intensive-level survey properties were identified with the help of the APVA, DHR, and the public meeting and were chosen based on their ability to provide significant information about the history of the county or that were considered threatened and warranted further documentation. Twenty properties were presented to the DHR Evaluation Team for their decision of the property's potential eligibility for National Register listing. The following properties were surveyed to determine potential eligibility:

19-0001	Arcadia
19-0004	Do Well
19-0006	Gravel Hill
19-0010	Harvey's Tavern
19-0011	High Hill
19-0022	Moldavia
19-0025	South Isle
19-0028	Ridgeway
19-0049	Wardsfork Mill
19-5094	M.P. Lipscomb Store
19-5146	Toombs Tobacco Farm
19-5167	Bluestone Harmony Academy
185-0016	Brick Tavern
185-0022	Moses Hall
185-0023-006	Charlotte County Jail
185-0023-037	Charlotte County Board of Education Building
185-0023-038	Central High School
185-5001	Central High School (African-American)
248-0001	Keysville Railroad Depot (also 248-5001-002)
248-5002	Morton Hall
248-5001-001	Charlotte Hotel

## **Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs)**

A Preliminary Information Form provides the State Review Board with enough preliminary information, such as integrity and historical background, to determine whether or not a potential historic district warrants more detailed documentation for nomination to the National Register (VDHR: 1). A completed PIF is first reviewed by VDHR's National Register Evaluation Team. The PIF is then reviewed and forwarded to the State Review Board for their approval upon request of the local government. If this board feels that the information provided in the PIF is sufficient, it will act on the question of the district's eligibility (VDHR: 2).

An historic district Preliminary Information Form was prepared for the towns of Drakes Branch and Keysville (see Appendices G and H). The PIF submissions included black and white photographic documentation as well as color slides of general streetscapes, significant historic resources within the proposed boundaries, as well as a sampling of noncontributing resources also within the district boundaries. Similar work was recently completed for the Charlotte Court House Historic District (185-0023) which was successfully listed on the Register following the PIF process.

## **VDHR Integrated Preservation Software Data Entry**

All survey findings, including those previously documented, were entered into the Virginia Department of Historic Resources Integrated Preservation Software system (IPS) as individual files. As a systematic compilation of information gathered in field surveys, these files contain the following information:

- VDHR site file identification number (a unique number assigned to each surveyed property by DHR that identifies it by county or town and a sequential four-digit number to identify the specific resource)
- Property name
- Address/Location of resource
- USGS quadrangle name
- Site description
- Resource classification and number of resources associated
- Estimated date of construction
- VDHR historic context
- Physical condition
- Any known threats to the property
- Primary exterior components and materials
- Architectural style
- Architectural description
- Additions or Alterations described
- Secondary resource description
- Architectural and historic significance statement
- Bibliographic data
- Graphic documentation

The IPS files generated for previously surveyed resources not resurveyed during this survey project contain the following basic elements: VDHR site number; property name; county; address; USGS quadrangle name; date and resource type as the information was available from previous survey forms. Diskettes with these IPS files containing the survey information for this project were provided to DHR and the County of Charlotte.

The following DHR site ID number prefixes were assigned to resources surveyed within the study area:

- 19 Resources within Charlotte County but outside the town limits of Keysville or Charlotte Court House
- 185 Resources within the town limits of Charlotte Court House
- 248 Resources within the town limits of Keysville

## **Expected Results**

Based on the fact that the development of Charlotte County was primarily agricultural with an emphasis on tobacco, the majority of properties surveyed were expected to be agricultural-related. Resources associated with this development would include large antebellum plantations or farmsteads that consist of single dwellings, tenant houses, tobacco barns and smoke houses. Other expected buildings relating to the agricultural development of Charlotte County would be granaries, corncribs, sheds and animal shelters such as barns, stables and poultry shelters. Due to the large slave population used in agricultural capacities, it was expected that a number of slave-related resources would be found. In addition to these resources that contribute to individual properties, it was expected that there would be a number of crossroads stores, small community post offices, one- and two-room schools and churches that reflect the surrounding community.

It was expected that most of the resources would date from the early 19th century through the early 20th century. It was anticipated that most rural resources would be vernacular in style while resources associated with towns would tend to exhibit a wider range of architectural styles and features. The earlier plantations and farmsteads would have been located on relatively large tracts of land and as a result, would tend to be spaced at some distance from one another and have resources for self-sufficiency. It was expected that the number of dwellings would increase closer to the location of towns. The survey team expected to find settlements associated with crossroads areas and that these would include one or two stores, several dwellings, a post office and possibly an ordinary, a school and a church.

Another determining factor in settlement location was the presence of the railroad through parts of the county. As a result, the team expected to find railroad properties and towns along the Richmond-Danville rail line (later Virginia Southern) and the Norfolk and Western (Norfolk-Southern) lines.

## CHAPTER 3

### HISTORIC CONTEXT OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Charlotte County was formed in 1764 from parts of Lunenburg County and named by the House of Burgesses for Queen Charlotte, the wife of King George III of Great Britain. Located in the Southern Piedmont region of Virginia, Charlotte County encompasses approximately 471 square miles bounded by Appomattox and Prince Edward Counties to the north, Campbell County to the west, Mecklenburg and Lunenburg Counties to the east, and the Staunton River and Halifax County to the south.

Situated midway between Tidewater and the Blue Ridge (Figure 2), the topography of this plateau region ranges from moderate to steep hills and broad fertile river bottoms created by the various tributaries of the Meherrin and Staunton Rivers, which include Cub Creek, Turnip Creek, Bluestone Creek and Roanoke Creek, among others. Since its first settlement, the



economy of the county has been based on agriculture, with tobacco, corn, wheat and hay as the primary crops in addition to livestock and dairy farms. In addition to the fertile soils, natural resources of the county include timber, clay deposits, copper, and granite -- to name a few (Ailsworth et al, 1979: 2-4). While limited development of these resources has occurred, as with the lumber, agricultural products remain the primary resources of the county.

Early settlement of the county prior to the coming of the railroad and the Civil War was characterized by large land holdings, in the form of tobacco plantations, with early roads leading to courthouses, churches, mills and crossing points on the river. Other than the settlement around the courthouse, where business thrived on court days, commercial establishments such as stores and taverns occurred along the stage routes and crossroad junctions. The production of tobacco as the primary cash crop dominated the social and economic structure of the region prior to the Civil War. As these large plantations were for the most part self-sufficient, the early settlers were closely tied to their land and the immediate community surrounding them.

Settlement patterns began to change after the Civil War. The development of the railroad and the industrial age in the late 19th century created new towns and better connections with societies and markets outside the region. With the abolition of slavery, which was necessary to the labor-intensive cultivation of tobacco, the land-use patterns and agricultural practices shifted to smaller farms and more diversified crops. Today, even with the influx of new people and the changes brought on by the industrial age and the 20th century, Charlotte County remains primarily an agricultural community with a strong sense of local identity and traditions.

#### 1607-1750 EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT TO SOCIETY

The region of Charlotte County, with its fertile lands and numerous creeks and rivers, has attracted wildlife and people since the beginnings of time. The earliest human habitation of the area dates back to the early Pleistocene period, based on the evidence of fluted projectile points found in the

area and attributed by the Smithsonian to "Folsom Man" (Ailsworth et al, 7). Although not as many of these Folsom or Virginia fluted points have been found in Charlotte as compared to the surrounding counties, the wide variety of location, type and workmanship of these points indicates that the region was inhabited by a wide range of cultures from 11,000 BC to 1700 AD (Ailsworth et al, 10-11).

Upon the arrival of the earliest white men to the region in the late 17th century, the nomadic Saponi Indians of the Sioux Nation inhabited the area that would become Charlotte County. The first written account of encounters with the Saponi comes from John Lederer, a member of an exploration party dispatched by Governor William Berkeley in 1670. After the party turned back in fear of hostile attacks, Lederer continued to follow their Indian guide and traveled through the region of Charlotte County to reach a Saponi village on the banks of Otter Creek in present-day Campbell County (Crouch, 1987: 2). The presence of another Saponi village along the banks of the Staunton River near Harrisburg was reported the following year in 1671 by the trading party of Batts and Fallam (Ailsworth et al, 18).

These Saponi villages, however, were on the route of the Great Iroquois War Path and soon after the encounters with the white men, the Saponi abandoned their villages to move south and join the Occaneechee tribe at their large trading village at the junction of the Staunton and Dan Rivers near what is now Clarksville (Crouch, 2). After Bacon's Rebellion in 1676, the Occaneechee and Saponi tribes moved further south into North Carolina and eventually north to New York after the Albany Peace Treaty of 1732 (Ailsworth et al, 23). Therefore, by the early 18th century when settlement of the area began, the region of Charlotte County was no longer occupied by the Saponi. Although there is little physical evidence that remains of these Indian tribes, the names of the various streams and creeks of the region -- Meherrin, Cub, Roanoke, Beaver Pond -- attest to the presence of these early nomadic tribes and their appreciation and knowledge of the wildlife of the area.

In 1702, the area that was to become Charlotte County was part of Prince George County, which encompassed all lands south of the James River. Settlement of the western regions of the county was promoted in 1720 with the creation of Brunswick County and the promise of tax exemption for a period of ten years. Settlement of this frontier region was intended to create a "buffer zone" between the Indians and the settled Tidewater area. The remoteness and dangers of the region are implied in the act creating the new county that provided settlers with "one firelock, musket, one socket, bayonet fitted thereto, one cartouch box, eight pounds bullet, and two points powder" (Ailsworth et al, 29). Even with these promotions, settlement of the frontier was slow, primarily due to a lack of connection to the markets and ports of the Chesapeake Bay (the Staunton River flows southeast to Albemarle Sound) and the boundary dispute with North Carolina (Ailsworth et al, 29). The delay from 1720 when the county of Brunswick was created and the formation of a court in 1732 is evidence of the slow development of the area.

Large tracts of land in the area were patented to settlers as well as speculators. In 1733, Clement Read was granted 10,000 acres on the Little Roanoke River and established his home Bushy Forest (Bouldin, 1888: 4). Colonel Richard Randolph explored the region with Read in 1730 and patented a large tract of land on both sides of the Staunton River; however, he did not settle this land immediately. While these and other early landowners were typically from the Tidewater area of Virginia and of English descent, another group of Scotch-Irish settlers came to the area in the early

1730s from Ulster Province Ireland by way of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in search of religious freedom. Led by John Caldwell, this community of approximately 200 Scotch-Irish Presbyterians settled on the banks of Cub and Wallace creeks and established **Cub Creek Church (19-0003)** in 1738 (Ailsworth et al, 33).

Permanent settlement of the area was again promoted in 1738 with the passage of the "Act to Encourage Settlement." This act allowed for the payment of land and taxes in currency rather than the traditional payment of tobacco, as well as another ten-year tax exemption and naturalization papers to all immigrant settlers (Ailsworth et al, 32-33). Further settlement continued following these new provisions. Thomas Bouldin was granted 400 acres on Twitty's Creek in 1746 and built the second frame house, **Golden Hill (19-0044)** (Ailsworth et al, 47).

By 1745, the population warranted the creation of the new county of Lunenburg. In order to help support this new county, the 1738 act providing tax exemption was repealed (Ailsworth et al, 36). Many of the early settlers in the area that would become Charlotte County were active and prominent in the new county of Lunenburg. John and William Caldwell of the Cub Creek Community served as first justices in Lunenburg, Clement Read was the first clerk of the court, and Thomas Bouldin was the first sheriff of the county.

Roads during this time were little more than trails, and many of the early court records dealt with orders for new and improved roads and the appointment of road surveyors. The earliest roads were typically directed by topography, following earlier animal and Indian paths along ridges and creek crossings. With the arrival of permanent settlements, the early trails were widened to wagon roads and began to lead to destinations such as ferry crossings and courthouses. The first road in the area was "Randolph Road" which passed over the Meherrin and Little Roanoke Rivers and Cub Creek into Campbell County (Ailsworth et al, 183).

The first dwellings constructed by the earliest settlers were typically of log construction. The construction of these structures was dependent on the native materials at hand -- timber and stone -- and were somewhat crude in design. As the settlers became more established and could afford more time and materials for their domiciles, they usually replaced the early log structures with more permanent and sophisticated frame and brick houses. Bushy Forest, built by Clement Read in ca. 1733 was noted as the first frame house in the area. Although no description of the house remains, the inventory of furnishings files at Read's death in 1763 indicates that it was a large and well-appointed residence for its time (Eggleston, 1932: 37). Thomas Bouldin constructed **Golden Hill (19-0044)**, the second frame house in the county, in 1746. This 1 1/2-story frame dwelling was later replaced in the early 19th century.

As part of an English colony, the Anglican Church was the official church and shared status and duties with the county courts. Parishes were established, usually along county lines, and prominent citizens served as vestrymen to collect tithes and fines to support the church and provide for the indigent poor. While part of Brunswick County, the area of Charlotte was in St. Andrew's Parish. With the creation of Lunenburg County in 1745, Cumberland Parish was formed.

The first Anglican chapel in the area of Charlotte was Roanoke Chapel, constructed in 1747 near present-day Drakes Branch (Ailsworth et al, 124). In 1738, the Scotch-Irish Caldwell community

applied to Governor Gooch for the freedom to worship under the Toleration Act and **Cub Creek Church (19-0003)** was established (Priddy, 4).

## **1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**

The French and Indian War (1754-1763) interrupted the settlement of the frontier, particularly in the western-most regions of Lunenburg County which extended to present-day Henry, Patrick, Franklin and Bedford counties. Under the direction of Governor Dinwiddie, the colonial government established a series of forts throughout the frontier region, including fortifications in the present-day counties of Augusta, Halifax and Bedford. The area of Charlotte supported this movement with the establishment of a magazine in 1756 on Clement Read's land at Bushy Forest near the site of Charlotte Court House (Ailsworth et al, 39). In addition to this support, many men from the area served in the army during the war.

As the area of Charlotte was not directly threatened by the hostilities of the war, settlement continued and the population of the area increased. In 1757, Cumberland Parish was divided to create Cornwall Parish, which encompassed the area that would become Charlotte County. As a result of this growth and the construction of the magazine, a community began to develop. In 1759, the House of Burgesses authorized Clement Read and John Pleasant to lay off 100 acres they owned around the magazine into streets and lots and to establish the town of Dalstonburgh (Hutcheson, 1928: 7).

As settlement continued, a petition was unsuccessfully filed in 1762 to divide Lunenburg County into three counties. In November 1764, the petition was accepted and Lunenburg County was divided to create the counties of Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, and Charlotte. Clement Read constructed a frame courthouse and the first court was held on March 4, 1765. Many of the early settlers in the area participated in the first county government, including: Samuel Cobb as clerk; James Hunt, Thomas Bedford, David Caldwell, Elisha White, Thomas Spencer, John White and Joseph Morton as justices; and, Thomas Read as sheriff and surveyor (Ailsworth et al, 60). Business of the court included: the construction of a jail; setting of fees for ordinary, ferries, and mill licenses; licensing ministers to perform marriages; registering free negroes; registering earmarks of livestock; and the construction and improvements of roads (Ailsworth et al, 65-66).

Transportation was a key issue in the new county as political and economic viability relied on the access to court and markets. In addition to road orders, the early court records are filled with licenses to landowners to operate ferries along the Staunton River. A 1792 plat indicates the existence of Cole's Ferry at the early date of 1792 (Ailsworth et al, 65). At least twelve other ferries, including ones operated by John Randolph and Joseph Fuqua, are mentioned in the early court records of this period (Ailsworth et al, 539-540). Based on the court records, which authorized 19 bridges between 1773 and 1789, the construction of bridges was also critical to developing a system of transportation in Charlotte with its many rivers, creeks and streams (Ailsworth et al, 538-539). In 1785, a comprehensive road act was passed that gave counties the power to construct and improve roads in response to petitions of the citizens. In order to carry out this important work, the county was divided into precincts and surveyors appointed who were authorized to call on local men within the precinct to provide labor for the road work (Ailsworth et al, 184).



In the early agrarian society of the county which was composed primarily of self-sufficient farms and plantations, the farmers and planters had to provide many of their own products and services. Typically private grist mills, saw mills and brickyards were found on the larger properties such as **Mulberry Hill (19-0024)** and **Greenfield (19-0008)** (Figure 3). Often these operations, particularly the mills, also served the community immediately surrounding them. Court records mention 20 water grist mills in the area between 1769-1789 (Ailsworth et al, 540-541). As these mills were the first industry of this rural area, many of the early road requests were to provide access to these mills.



Again due to the agrarian and self-sufficient character of this rural county, early commercial ventures were typically limited to small crossroad stores and traveling peddlers that provided the products that the farmers and planters could not grow or make themselves. As many as 19 merchants were licensed in the years 1787-1789 with their stores serving the community immediately surrounding them (Ailsworth et al, 533-534). The store operated by Mack Goode & Co. which was later bought in 1789 by Edward Moseley gave rise to the present-day community of Wylliesburg, named after the Scotchman Hugh Wyllie who ran the store for Moseley (Ailsworth et al, 317). Other early merchants included William Barksdale, Samuel Venable & Co., John Thomas, Edmund Ryan, and Archibald Campbell. Itinerant peddlers, licensed in various localities, also supplied goods to the rural areas. Following the Revolutionary War, many of the early mercantile businesses throughout Virginia closed or suffered hard times as they lost their connections to the mercantile houses of England.

Taverns, also known as ordinaries, provided goods and services in the early days of the county as well. These establishments not only provided room and board for travelers, but also served as a gathering place for the local community. Early court records list as many as 71 licenses granted to operate ordinaries between 1765 and 1789 (Ailsworth et al, 517-519). Many of these were renewed over the years or licenses granted to a new operator of an already existing ordinary, indicating the popularity of these establishments. These were typically located around courthouses, such as **Tankersley Tavern (185-0011)** built by the Reads in 1765 or along major routes of transportation, as indicated in the licenses issued to John Epperson in 1768 and to John Cardwell in 1773 to operate an ordinary at Little Roanoke Bridge (Ailsworth et al, 517). Thomas Bouldin, Jr. opened an ordinary along the "King's Road" near Wylliesburg in 1778-1779. Ordinaries were not always operated in buildings constructed specifically for that purpose. In many cases, a house, a barn or a store that happened to be located along a well-traveled route was used as an ordinary. Court records attest to this practice as entries for licenses granted include: John Almond in 1772 for "the Parson's barn"; James Love in 1774 to operate in McCraws old store; and William Harvey in 1787 for "Thomas Harvey's old plantation" (Ailsworth et al, 518).

Houses during this period were of frame construction with the limited supply of bricks produced on the site being used for the foundations and chimneys. Often these properties were enlarged and improved during the prosperous years of the early 19th century before the Civil War. **Mulberry**

**Hill (19-0024)** built by Judge Paul Carrington ca. 1755 was originally a two-over-two room frame structure oriented to the south. Frame wings were added in the 1830s and many of the extensive outbuildings, including brick slave quarters, a summer house, law office, kitchens, creamery, spinning & weaving rooms, date to this later period. **Greenfield (19-0008)** built in 1771 by Isaac Read is the most intact dwelling from this period. Inspired by his years at William and Mary in Williamsburg, Read constructed this two-story, five-bay frame dwelling in the Georgian style with its symmetry, 1 1/2-story end wings, and paneled interior. The original **Red Hill (19-0027)**, which burned in 1919 and was rebuilt in the 1950s, was an example of an early hall-and-parlor home that was later expanded in 1833 with a two-story addition before enlarging into a central-passage plan in the early 1900s.

Education during this period was considered the responsibility of the individual. Prior to the Revolutionary War, those families that could, sent their children to schools in England. Tutors employed in private homes or early "field schools", in which a community joined together to employ a teacher, provided the earliest forms of local education. The clergy of the Church of England typically served as the main source of formal instruction in the colonies prior to their removal after the Revolutionary War. Early field schools in Charlotte County dating to the period following the war included one at Crown Point near **Golden Hill** as well as the 1778 Robertson Schoolhouse and the 1781 Watson Schoolhouse (Ailsworth et al, 176). Charlotte County was also active in the establishment of higher education in the area of Southside Virginia. At the October 1774 meeting of the Hanover Presbytery at **Cub Creek Church**, it was decided to raise funds to establish Liberty Academy (later Washington & Lee University). A seminary was also recommended at that meeting and in February 1775, Prince Edward Academy, also known as Hampden-Sydney Academy was founded.

Although the Church of England expanded in the early days of Cornwall Parish and Charlotte County from the original Roanoke Chapel to include three additional chapels -- Ash Camp (1750), Sandy Creek (1755) and Rough Creek (1769) -- the Church as a representative of the British government lost favor during this period of the Revolutionary War and the Freedom of Religion Act of 1786. The Methodist movement began in the 1770s within the Established Church with clergy such as Devereaux Jarrett and Robert Williams preaching the teachings of John Wesley throughout the Southside. The Methodist Church, which broke from the Anglican Church in 1784, focused in the early days on circuit riders and mission work rather than constructing churches. As early as 1789, Methodists were active in Charlotte County with the Virginia Methodist Conference held at William White's near Rough Creek in 1787 and visits to the area by Bishop Asbury in the 1790s. The first Methodist Church organized in Charlotte County was Hebron Church, built in 1789 and rebuilt on the original foundation in 1838 although this thought is marred by reports that the building was moved (Ailsworth et al, 162-163).

The Baptist Church began as a dissenting group in the area as early as 1761 when John Weatherford began preaching. During this time, the Cub Creek Baptist Church was formed and officially organized in 1771 as the first Baptist Church in Charlotte County. In 1771 John Williams organized Meherrin Church to serve the counties of Lunenburg, Mecklenburg and Charlotte. The meetinghouses of Salem Creek and Mossingford organized from Meherrin in 1785 (Ailsworth et al, 148-149).

The Presbyterian Church continued to gather primarily at **Cub Creek Church**. After years of relying on itinerant pastors, Cub Creek received its first pastor, the Reverend Robert Henry, in 1755. Under the leadership of Reverend Samuel Stanhope Smith (1771-1774), Cub Creek and the Hanover Presbytery focused on establishing classical schools such as Liberty Academy and Prince Edward Academy. Following the Revolutionary war, many members of the Cub Creek community, including Caleb Wallace, who was installed as pastor in 1774, moved to Kentucky to claim large land tracts that had been granted for military service (Ailsworth et al, 134).

The newly-formed Charlotte County actively participated in the campaign for independence and the Revolutionary War. Paul Carrington and Thomas Read represented Charlotte County in the House of Burgesses in 1765 and supported Patrick Henry's resolution to oppose the Stamp Act. In 1776, the citizens of Charlotte were among the first to instruct its delegates at the Virginia Convention to vote for independence and its militia followed up with action in numerous battles during the war. Towards the end of the war, French troops were stationed at the magazine in what was then known as Marysville (Charlotte Court House).

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

During the period from 1790 to 1830, the population of Charlotte County increased by 51% from 10,078 to 15,252. While this growth accurately reflected the increasing development and prosperity of the county, it should be noted that the number of white citizens remained the same during the period, increasing by only 7%, while the number of slaves almost doubled from 4,816 in 1790 to 9,433 in 1830 (Priddy, 29). This ratio of almost 2:1 of slaves to whites would shape the politics, economy and society of the county for the first half of the 19th century.

Although the county was only newly formed at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, her citizens were active not only in the declaration of and fight for independence, but in the creation of the new state and nation as well. Two prominent politicians, Patrick Henry and John Randolph -- one at the end of his career and the other at the beginning -- resided in Charlotte County during this period. These two met in a famous debate in Charlotte Court House in March 1799 to address Virginia's support of the Alien and Sedition Acts in their successful campaigns for the Virginia House of Delegates and the National House of Representatives. In the War of 1812, the citizens of Charlotte County enthusiastically responded to the call to arms. John D. Richardson of **Maple Roads (19-0057)** earned the title "Hero of Craney Island" for his leadership in defending the Chesapeake Bay (Priddy, 4).

Locally, the county government continued to expand and establish itself at Marysville. The public square around the courthouse was designated in the 1817 sale of Thomas Read's land. With Read's death, the clerk's office was moved from his home at **Ingleside (19-0019)** to a new building behind the courthouse. The present **Charlotte County Courthouse (185-0001)** (Figure 4), designed in the classical temple form with Tuscan portico according to advice from Thomas Jefferson, was constructed in 1823. A stone jail was built in 1792, later enlarged in 1810, and was eventually replaced by another stone jail built in 1829 at the site of the present ca. 1930 jail directly behind the courthouse.



Transportation continued to improve during the early 19th century. Although a toll bridge over the Staunton River was constructed in 1806, ferries remained the primary means of river crossing with fares set by the General Assembly prior to 1807 and by the county courts thereafter (Ailsworth et al, 187-188). Flatboats were also used to transport goods to shipping points by way of creeks and streams. The stagecoach lines were the dominant means of passenger travel during this period. Their routes, which typically stopped at taverns or stores that served as postal stations, helped to establish the majority of the early 19th century communities such as Key's Tavern (Keysville), Chickentown (Madisonville), Red House, Barnesville, Harrisburg, and Wylliesburg. Outside of the courthouse, taverns and stores such as the circa 1830 **Harvey's Store (19-0009)** and **Harvey's Tavern (19-0010)** (Figure 5) in Chickentown, the **Red House Tavern (19-5006 (Figure 6) and 19-5007)**, and the **Wylliesburg Store (19-5129)** served as the nucleus to their communities. The



business of grist and saw mills which remained the principal industry in this primarily agricultural region during the early 1800s, also generated the development of small villages such as Eureka.

The county remained rural and agrarian in nature. Tobacco continued as the primary cash crop. The labor required for the cultivation of this crop necessitated the importation of large numbers of slaves, as indicated in the population figures of the period. The Personal Property Tax Lists for 1800 indicate that the majority of the planters owned less than 15 taxable slaves (age 12 or older) with a total of 36 residents owning more than that. The largest slaveholders at this time were listed as: John Randolph and Judith Randolph with 69 slaves; Colonel Thomas Read with 37; and Patrick

Henry's estate with 33 slaves (APVA, *Southsider* (1993), 37). In addition to slave labor, tobacco production required a large amount of land as the crops quickly depleted the soil and fields had to lay fallow from year to year. These large tracts of land typically consisted of the main house at the center, located far back from the road, surrounded by the domestic and agricultural outbuildings necessary for operating the house and plantation. As in the case of John Randolph's **Roanoke Plantation (19-0029)**, the tract was divided into quarters with different settlements of slave quarters and outbuildings at each.

Domestic buildings of this period became larger and more elaborate, reflecting the prosperity and permanency of the owners. Although vernacular traditions continued to dominate the building practices, the availability of pattern books began to infuse the traditional forms with stylistic trends. Early log dwellings were covered with weatherboards and frame construction gradually began to be replaced by brick as the availability of slave labor for the production of bricks increased. The traditional 1-1/2 story, hall-and-parlor and single-pile plans began to expand with the addition of wings and the detailing of porches, door surrounds and cornices became more elaborate. Examples such as **High Hill (19-0011)** and (Old) **Gravel Hill (19-0006)** (Figure 7) were incorporated into larger, central-passage plans. The one-and-a-half story frame dwelling with side-gable roof and English basement remained a popular vernacular form. The interiors of these seemingly simple dwellings such as **High Hill** were often lavishly embellished with molded chair rails, stairwalls, door and window surrounds and mantels based on designs made available through pattern books such as Asher Benjamin's 1806 edition of *The American Builder's Companion*.



The influence of the Federal, or Adam, Style began to appear in Charlotte County in the early 1800s in fashionable residences such as **Do Well (19-0004)** (Figure 8), **Woodfork (19-0034)**, and **Ridgeway (19-0028)**. These large 2-story brick dwellings feature Flemish bond on the front elevation, double exterior-end chimneys, lintels with keystones, and fanlights. Interior details of these central-passage, double-pile plan dwellings include arched openings, delicate carvings in the mantels, and paneled wainscoting, reveals, and stairwalls. The Adamesque swags and urns embellishing the mantel at **Do Well**, built ca. 1821-1822 by William M. Watkins, are the finest example of the Federal style found in Charlotte County (Figure 9).





Although several programs, including Jefferson's 1796 Act to create a public school system and the establishment of the Literacy Fund in 1810, were instigated during this period to provide public education, these programs could not disassociate themselves from charity, and the majority of the citizens of Charlotte County preferred to be responsible for educating their children (Ailsworth et al, 177). Either private tutors were engaged or small subscription schools, called "field schools," were established by neighbors. An example of a field school survives at **Westview (19-5110)**, which was owned by John McCargo in the early 1800s. A classical school, providing instruction in preparation for college, was conducted by the Reverend John H. Rice from 1804-1812 in his home, Greenwood, and the Bethesda Meeting House (Ailsworth et al, 145).

Churches, with the exception of the Episcopal Church (formerly the Church of England), began to thrive during the period following the Freedom of Religion Act and the "Great Awakening." The Presbyterian Church grew from **Cub Creek Church** to form the **Village Presbyterian Church (185-0013)** in Charlotte Court House in 1825 and **Concord Church (19-5001)** in 1790 near Red House. Several early meetinghouses were replaced by more substantial churches, such as the 1829 Bethlehem Presbyterian Church at the Old Welch Tract Meeting House (Ailsworth et al, 142). Several of the early Episcopal chapels were taken over by other denominations, including Ash Camp Baptist Church and **Rough Creek Presbyterian Church (19-5037)** (Figure 10), which was rebuilt in 1838.





The charitable responsibilities of the parish also had to be reassigned and, in 1828, a Poor House was established by the county (Ailsworth et al, 86).

Social life during the early 19th century revolved around the extended family. Weddings and extended visits by family and friends offered a welcome respite from everyday rural life. Fox hunting season was another excuse to gather with friends and neighbors. Often during these times, large dances were held in the homes or local taverns. Trips to the springs in the area such as Wheeler's Springs near Red House were fashionable during this period as well.

### **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

The period preceding the Civil War was a time of continuing prosperity in Charlotte County. The status quo ruled as many of the same original families, with their successive generations, remained in control of large tracts of land and active in the local and state government. The population actually decreased slightly during this period from 15,252 in 1830 to 14,471 in 1860. Although there was a slight decline in the white and slave population, the primary exodus during this period was the free blacks as nearly one third left the county in the year prior to the Civil War (Priddy, 29). At the same time, the slave population of the county had increased to 65%, higher than the state average of 40% at the time (Salmon and Campbell, 45). As these numbers indicate, Charlotte County was entrenched in "the peculiar institution" and would be deeply involved and affected by the events leading up to and resulting from the Civil War that would follow.

Transportation improved greatly during this period. As evidenced by the growing number of slaves, tobacco cultivation continued as the primary industry of the region and the need to transport this and other products to the markets and ports of Richmond, Petersburg and Norfolk dominated improvements in the transportation system. At the beginning of the period, the waterways appeared the most direct and efficient means of transportation, with the challenge being to connect the streams and rivers of the area with the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. In 1829, the Roanoke Navigation Company was formed to commercially develop the Roanoke River by establishing a system of canals that would connect it to the James River (Ailsworth et al, 193). Road improvements also continued during the period with the construction of the Marysville Plankroad Company established in 1852, to connect the county seat of Marysville to Drakes Branch, and the

Christiansville and Keysville Plankroad Company in 1853. These early canal and road efforts, however, were quickly superseded by the coming of the railroad in the 1850s. By the time of the Civil War, the Richmond and Danville Railroad was completed through Keysville, Drakes Branch, Mossingford and Randolph to the Staunton River Bridge. Full development of the railroad was interrupted, however, by the Civil War.

These improvements in transportation prompted the growth and development of many small villages in the county as mail service was expanded and the railroad created new settlements at stops along the line. The development of communities such as Friends Grove, Red Oak Grove, Abilene, Wylliesburg and Aspen Wall is evidenced by Martin's 1837 Gazetteer which lists a number of towns and postal villages that included stores, blacksmith shops, churches and an increasing number of dwellings (Martin, 150). The **Wylliesburg Store (19-5129)**, **Red Oak Store (19-5147)** (Figure 11) and **Harvey's Store (19-0009)** in Chickentown survive as reminders of these early communities. The railroad created a new system of depot and postal villages along its lines. Drakes Branch developed because of the railroad. A depot was located here in 1852 because of the good water supply for the steam engines. The railroad also brought postal service to the area and it began to develop as a commercial center for the area in the late 1850s. Keysville, already established as Key's Tavern along the King's Highway, experienced growth from the railroad as more hotels were built and a commercial center was established. Other towns that developed along the railroad lines as shipping points and mail stops included Mossingford, Randolph, and Ontario (formerly Haleysburg). Although many of these towns still exist today, there is little structural evidence from the antebellum period due to the destruction of the railroads and depots during the Civil War,



The county seat of Marysville continued to thrive as the center of local government and commerce after the subdivision of Thomas Read's land in 1817 and the construction of the new **Charlotte County Courthouse (185-0001)** in 1823. In 1835, Martin describes the town as having 40 dwellings, two churches, two taverns, five stores, four attorneys, two schools (one classical and one common) and a temperance society and a bible society as well as a number of small industries including saddlers, tailors, blacksmiths, wagon and carriage makers, boot and shoe factories and carpenters, bricklayers and cabinetmakers (Martin, 150).

Industry continued to exist on a local level with individual craftsmen supplying the local community with necessities. The 1850 census lists 24 blacksmiths, one boatmaker, four bootmakers, five cabinetmakers, one chairmaker, one clockmaker, six coopers, ten millers, nine saddlers, ten shoemakers, four tanners, 13 wagon makers and 27 wheelwrights (Nance, 117). The arrival of the railroad in the 1850s introduced for the first time the prospect of producing goods for distribution beyond the local market. In 1864, the Confederate States Porcelain Company was licensed to mine kaolin and manufacture porcelain, china, firebricks and other earthenware (Ailsworth et al, 117-118). The company was dissolved in the 1870s after the war demand had passed.



Agriculture, specifically tobacco, continued to dominated the county's economy. In 1850, 53% of the population was engaged as planters or farmers operating 903 farms and (Nance, 117, Crouch, 13). Virginia ranked first in the nation in the production of tobacco with the southside counties, including Charlotte, leading in that production. Tobacco was the primary export product with other crops raised primarily for local use. In 1855, Charlotte produced 3,868,040 pounds of tobacco compared to 372,867 bushels of corn, 85,6653 bushels of wheat, and 171,872 of oats (Edwards, 203). This almost exclusive focus of the cultivation of tobacco is also reflected in the records for individual properties during the period. The Agriculture Census for 1850 lists reports Isaac Read of **Greenfield (19-0008)** as producing 20,000 pounds of tobacco with the next largest crop being corn at 1,750 bushels (APVA, Southsider, 60). A large population of slaves was necessary to cultivate these large crops of tobacco and many of the plantations had settlements of field hands conveniently located on their large tracts of land. Although most of these settlements have disappeared due to poor construction or eventual lack of use, the brick slave quarters known as **The Street (19-0031)**, which was built in the 1850s as part of Charles Bruce's plantation, Dikeland, survives today.

Domestic dwellings also reflected the prosperity of the antebellum period. Trends that had begun in the early 19th century, such as the larger I-house, the use of brick, the use of pattern books and the emergence of master builders, now became the standard for the homes of the prosperous planter class. This period, however, is distinguished by the work of master builders such as Dabbs and Thomas of Richmond and the architect John E. Johnson as they popularized the romantic styles of the Italian villa, the Greek Revival and the Gothic Revival. Houses such as



**Gravel Hill (19-0006)**, built by Dabbs and Thomas for the Hannah family in 1847, and the ca. 1840 **Diamond Hill (185-0003)** in Charlotte Court House are examples of the Greek-Revival style. The T-shaped (or dog-eared) motif used in doors, windows and mantels of **Gravel Hill** (Figure 12) became a standard form copied in many Greek-Revival houses throughout the county. **Staunton Hill (19-0030)**, designed in 1848 for Charles Bruce by John Evans Johnson and constructed by Dabbs and Thomas, introduced the popular Gothic-Revival style to Charlotte County. Overlooking the Staunton River, this impressive structure features such details as crenellated parapets, corner turrets, marble quatrefoil columns and tracery windows that define this romantic style. The additions at **South Isle (19-0025)**, which are believed to have been designed by Johnson in the 1850s, combine the symmetry and classical detailing of the Greek Revival with its three-bay facade and the fluted pilasters and fretwork of the mantels, with features of the Gothic Revival such as the chamfered octagonal columns on the porch, the drip molds over the windows and the clustered pilasters and crenellations on the interior door surrounds. Structures such as the 1847 board-and-batten **Arcadia (19-0001)** and the ca. 1853 Reps A. Barnes House exemplify the Italianate style with their paired, round-headed windows, wide eaves with paired decorative cornice brackets, and chamfered and bracketed porch columns.

Substantial progress was made during the establishment of schools prior to the Civil War. The 1810 Literacy Fund continued to provide some free education to the poor. Statistics for the period 1832-

1860 show that on an average, as many as 15-25 common schools existed throughout the county providing education to 30-50% of the county's poor children (Ailsworth et al, 179). These public or common schools still carried the stigma of charity and many of the citizens of Charlotte County preferred to provide for their children's education themselves, either through private tutors as at **Gravel Hill (19-0006)** or subscription schools. Martin's 1835 Gazetteer lists one classical school and one common school in Charlotte Court House. Over the succeeding years, Charlotte Court House served as the mecca for education in the county with a number of private schools operating during the years before the Civil War. It appears that a public library was also established at the county seat as early as 1838, based on a letter from William M. Watkins to his son Clem in Philadelphia requesting his help in purchasing books (Gaines, 1940: 86-87). Martin Hart and Thomas Bouldin operated classical schools in Charlotte Court House beginning in 1833. Thomas Bouldin later opened a school in Rough Creek (1850-1855) and a boarding school at his family home, **Golden Hill (19-0044)**, beginning in 1855, which attracted boarders from Richmond and other cities throughout Virginia (Ailsworth et al, 180). David Comfort ran a classical school beginning in 1832 before establishing a boarding school for girls at **Moldavia (19-0022)** (Figure 13, next page) in 1858 just outside of town. Samuel J. Price operated a Female School at Charlotte Court House from 1837 to 1839, and the Reverend Michael Osborne ran the Young Ladies Seminary from 1840 to 1844. The tuition for this school, which included the option of instruction in French at an additional charge, was \$75-\$85 per term (Ailsworth et al, 181). The Charlotte Academy was opened in Charlotte Court House in 1858 to serve as a preparatory school for the University of Virginia. Other schools throughout the area, typically operated by clergy in churches, or supported by local subscription included the ca. 1838 boarding school at **Cub Creek Church (19-0003)**, the 1838 **Madison Academy (19-5004)**, the Clary School at Staunton River Meeting House (1842-1845), and Ward's Neck at Rough Creek (Ailsworth et al, 181). The 1850 Census reported 19 schoolmasters in the county and a total of 436 students attending school (Edwards, 203). The majority of these schools, however, closed during the Civil War, and failed to reopen during the financially stressful times after the war.



Religion continued to thrive during this period with the establishment of a number of new churches between 1830-1860. Supply ministers who rotated their duties in various churches throughout the region typically served these churches. By 1850, the census listed 25 churches and 12 ministers in the county (Nance, 117). As slaves typically attended the churches of their masters, many of these pre-Civil War churches include balconies used as the slave gallery.

Charlotte Court House continued to develop as a religious as well as political center of the county. The **Village Presbyterian Church (185-0013)** was organized from Cub Creek Church in 1825, and after originally meeting in the Old Brick Meeting House which burned in 1833, constructed the present church in 1833-1834. The cemetery was deeded to the church in 1840 for use by all citizens of the town. **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church (185-0006)** organized from Ash Camp Baptist Church and

built a church in Charlotte Court House in 1837. A new church was constructed with the help of Josiah Dabbs in 1859. The Methodist church also established a presence in the county seat with the construction of **Charlotte Methodist Church (185-0019)** in 1841.

Other churches that were already established, built new church buildings or sanctuaries during this prosperous time.

**Rough Creek Presbyterian (19-5037)**, which had met in the ca. 1769 Episcopal chapel Rough Creek, built their own church in 1838. **Salem Church (19-5022)** (Figure 14), which was organized as New Salem Meeting House in 1829, constructed the present building ca. 1860. In 1857,



Ash Camp Baptist Church, which had organized in 1802 using the original Ash Camp Episcopal Chapel, contracted Josiah Dabbs to build a new church just outside of Keysville. The only surviving Episcopal congregation of Roanoke Chapel moved to Marysville in 1861 and constructed Grace Episcopal Church. **Concord Church (19-5001)**, originally established as Little Concord in 1790, reorganized in 1820 with the construction of the present church that was remodeled in the Gothic-Revival style in the 1850s.

Health care during the antebellum period was limited to visits by local doctors only after home remedies were exhausted. Charlotte County had a number of doctors as indicated by reports of Martin in the 1835 Gazetteer where three resident physicians were noted in Charlotte Court House as well as ones in Red House, Rough Creek and Wylliesburg (Martin, 150). By 1850, the census reported 25 physicians and one dentist residing in Charlotte County (Nance, 117). A County Health Board existed, but tended to respond primarily to outbreaks of epidemics, such as the smallpox in 1836 and 1856 (Gaines, 1940: 88). An Overseer of the Poor was appointed and a Poor House was erected ca. 1830 on 446 acres on Horsepen Creek. This institution operated until 1887 when a new one was built on Cub Creek (Ailsworth, et al 86). Recreational social needs continued to be met primarily through visits with friends and relatives and centered around the home. The **Masonic Lodge (185-0005)** was built in 1852 in Charlotte Court House as fraternal organizations were active during this period. In addition to the lodge in Charlotte Court House, a Masonic Lodge was established in Keysville prior to the Civil War and was destroyed during Wilson's Raid in 1864 (Ailsworth et al, 323).

## **1861-1865 THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD**

With a population ratio in 1860 of nearly 2 to 1 slaves to white men and an economy based almost exclusively on the production of tobacco, Charlotte County was deeply entrenched in the emotional, social and economic causes of the Civil War. Although the ethics of slave ownership were not agreed upon by all, with such prominent citizens as John Randolph freeing his slaves upon his death, the economic reality of the necessity of slave labor to cultivate the labor-intensive tobacco crops was not questioned. The future of the county's economic viability depended on the preservation of this peculiar institution. Even before secession was declared, the citizens of Charlotte County supported the Confederate cause as they issued bonds to outfit three militia companies as early as

January 1861 (Ailsworth et al, 224). Local men participated on all fronts of the war in various companies such as the Keysville Guard, the Charlotte Rifles, Randolph's Guard, and the Staunton Hill Artillery, which was outfitted personally by Senator Charles Bruce of Staunton Hill (Ailsworth et al, 227).

In addition to the drain on its manpower as able-bodied men joined the forces, the county was burdened by the task of financially supporting the war. In 1861, the General Assembly authorized counties to raise funds to outfit their volunteer militias. Throughout the war, Charlotte County issued bonds to accomplish this as well as to support the families of soldiers left at home. With cash becoming a scarcity, the county resorted to the practice of impressing staples such as corn, wheat, flour and cotton from its wealthier citizens for distribution to the families of soldiers who could not provide for themselves. In 1864, the Confederate War Secretary sent a quartermaster to the county to oversee distribution of these staples. Much of the grain used for distribution came from the large estate of **Staunton Hill** (Ailsworth et al, 225). The Confederate Army also impressed slave labor for its construction projects.

Charlotte County was directly affected by the war in 1864 as General James H. Wilson led his troops across southside Virginia in a campaign to 1864 to destroy the Richmond and Danville Railway and cut off the supply lines to General Lee's army. This campaign, referred to as Wilson's Raid, brought looting and destruction to farms and homes along its path as Union soldiers raided such places as **Do Well (19-0004)**, **Ingleside (19-0019)** and **Greenfield (19-0008)**, among others. The railroad tracks were destroyed and the depots at Keysville, Drakes Branch, Mossingford and Randolph were burned. The campaign culminated in Charlotte County with the Battle of Staunton River Bridge in June 1864 when Captain Benjamin Farinholt and troops successfully defended this strategic railroad bridge from destruction by the much larger troops of General Wilson. Confederate president Jefferson Davis later fled from Richmond to Danville with his government over this bridge.

With General Lee's surrender at Appomattox in April 1865, confusion followed. Food and money continued to be scarce, the pardon of Confederate soldiers was uncertain and the future of the newly-freed blacks was unknown. With the emancipation of slaves, which was almost two-thirds of the population in Charlotte County, the social, agricultural and economic foundations of the county were destroyed. As supporters of the Confederate government, local officials were considered traitors and not allowed to hold office. There were no entries in the court order books of the county from April to August of 1865 (Ailsworth et al, 245). Charlotte County became a defeated (and depleted) territory occupied by the enemy Union troops. The period that would follow would be one of social and economic, as well as physical, reconstruction.

## **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD**

The Reconstruction Period following the Civil War from 1865-1917 marked a painful time of transition for both the whites and newly-freed blacks as the social, economic and political system slowly changed and adapted to a new order that included freedom for all. In addition to the social upheaval left by the war, the South was left destitute financially. This was particularly true in Virginia as the debt incurred by the war was immense and its economy, based on slave labor, was devastated, as were many of the financial institutions which were destroyed. Fortunately, by the beginning of the 20th century, the emergence of the steel-rail era of the Industrial Revolution and

changes in agricultural practices would serve to facilitate as well as diversify the economy of Charlotte County.

The population of Charlotte County during the second half of the 19th century realized a slight increase overall of approximately 9% from 14,171 in 1860 to 15,785 in 1910 (Nance, 117). For the first time since the late 18th century, however, the ratio of blacks to whites began to decrease as the white population increased and the free blacks began to leave the rural county to seek better opportunities elsewhere. The Freedmen's Bureau (1865-1869) was created to teach the newly-freed African Americans their new civic responsibility by registering them to vote and assist them in finding employment. Many of the blacks, especially those skilled in tobacco production, migrated to the large tobacco markets of Lynchburg, Danville, Richmond and Petersburg where paid work was available. For the majority of the freedmen, however, life as a slave had prepared them for little and returning to the plantation was often their only opportunity for work. Many of these former slaves, it should be noted, chose to stay on the plantation out of loyalty to their previous owners as well as a need for familiarity and security during these turbulent and changing times.

Although tobacco was the most labor-intensive crop to cultivate and depended on the abundance of cheap labor, it was also the most financially productive crop and continued to be the county's predominant crop into the 20th century. After a drop in tobacco market prices in the late 1900s, the market returned to pre-Civil War prices by the early 20th century with the new popularity of dark tobacco used in manufacturing cigarettes (Crouch, 13). Sharecropping emerged as a solution for the white landowners who could not work their large tracts without a large labor force and to the needs of the freedmen who had no means to acquire land of their own.

Towards the end of the 19th century, there was a movement towards reform in agricultural practices. The continued dominance of tobacco cultivation, which depleted the soil, as well as the practice of tenant farming, which did not allow enough land for proper crop rotation and land management, were discouraged. The large plantations of the antebellum days were subdivided into smaller tracts and offered for sale. The 1889 Handbook of Charlotte County, Virginia, compiled by R.V. Gaines, and J. Cullen Carrington's 1907 edition of Charlotte County, Virginia: Historical, Statistical and Present Attractions both reflect the trends of the time. These writings promoted the various advantages of the county, including the soil and climate for farming as well as the availability of cheap labor, in conjunction with the benefits of reformed agricultural practices such as soil fertilization and crop diversification and rotation. Advertisements for farms, including specific descriptions of their soils, were included in the publications. Among these offerings, a property on the Staunton River with 600 acres that included three tobacco barns, two granaries, tenant houses, a river landing and a 14-room brick dwelling was advertised for \$15,000 (Gaines, 72). The original Paul Carrington, Jr. property of **Sylvan Hill (19-5096)** was offered in 1889 with "430 acres, a flouring and grist mill, saw mill, wheelwright and blacksmith shop, corn crib, barns, tenant dwellings and 20-room remodeled mansion," but no price was listed (Gaines, 71). In the early 1900s, **Sylvan Hill** was given to the State Department of Agriculture to be used as an agricultural test farm to teach and promote new farming techniques. This movement appears successful as the number of farms increased during the period from 903 in 1850 to 1,287 in 1910 (1910 Agricultural Census). Tenant farming, however, continued to be a problem as 906 of the farms in 1910 were operated by tenants.

The transportation system, which suffered the county's most direct blow from the war with the destruction of the Richmond-Danville Railroad, slowly began to recover during this period. The Richmond-Danville line was rebuilt with new depots constructed at Keysville, Drakes Branch, Mossingford and Randolph. By 1909, the Virginian Railroad (originally called the Tidewater) was completed from Roanoke to Norfolk to serve as the "greatest coal-carrying road in the world" (Carrington, 130). With the completion of these two major railroad lines, the county clerk J. Cullen Carrington boasted in 1907 that "there is no section of the county more than five miles from a Railroad" (Carrington, 128). River traffic by bateaux and steamships continued at a reduced rate during the late 1800s. Just after the war, Charles Bruce invested in a steamboat line from Brookneal to Randolph to aid in transporting goods to market. Even though he convinced the Roanoke Navigation Company to spend \$3,000 on Staunton River improvements, the steamboat venture failed (APVA, Southsider (1989), Gilliam 68). In 1913 the Hanmer Motor Car Company was established in Keysville. With the arrival of the automobile to Charlotte County in the early 1900s and the creation of the State Highway Commission in 1906, the county and state road system began to show promises of improvement.

As transportation continued to improve, Charlotte County became more diversified, creating new products and reaching out to new markets. Between 1880 and 1920, the value of manufactured products in Charlotte County increased from \$89,206 to \$522,623 (Priddy, 15). Industries included: lumber mills, saw mills, stave mills, bottling works, an ice factory, an oil distribution plant, roller mills, flour mills, wood-working plants and tobacco factories.

Tobacco warehouses and prizeries were established in Drakes Branch, Keysville, Eureka, and Phenix, allowing the farmers to sell their crops directly to the manufacturers without having to travel to other markets. Drakes Branch, with two warehouses and two prizeries, became a leading tobacco market with sales of dark tobacco reaching 5,600,00 pounds in 1908 (Daniel, 28).

As the agricultural economy diversified, mills and canneries began to develop to commercialize these products. **Wardsfork Mill (19-0049)** (Figure 15) was constructed as the county's first roller mill on the foundations of an earlier mill in ca. 1916 (Parsons, interview). Other mills included the Phenix Roller Mill, which was operated by J.E. Gilliam in connection with his planing mill, as well as mills in Saxe, Keysville and Cullen. In addition to flour and cornmeal, these mills often sold feed and fertilizer as well. Large canneries were operated at Red Oak and Phenix in the late 19th and early 20th century (Carrington, 75; APVA, Southsider (1997), Gilliam, 67).



With the railroads continuing to build and open up new markets, the lumber industry emerged to supply this construction as well as products for markets. By the late 1890s, the town of Keysville boasted a sawmill, a shuffle and spool manufacturing plant, a planing mill, and a lumber drying kiln (Crouch, 11). B.D. Adams operated a saw and planing mill at Red Oak in 1907 (Carrington, 71).

The town of Phenix became a center for the lumber industry in the early 1900s with the completion of the Virginian Railroad. A number of sawmills were established by various interests from throughout Virginia as well as other states, including New York. Related industries included the Phenix Manufacturing Company, which produced various tool handles and baseball bats, and the Phenix Planing Mill Company (APVA, Southsider (1997), 65-66).

A number of other smaller industries developed during this progressive period. In Drakes Branch, the foundry of E.S. Cook, which began in 1861, continued to thrive and R.W. Payne opened a brickyard in the early 1900s. Mining of copper and gold occurred on a limited scale. A total of six copper mines, including the Grove's Copper Mine and the McNeny Copper Mine, operated until the 1920s in the vicinity of Keysville (Crouch, 9). Several findings of gold were also reported near Keysville in the late 1890s; however, there is no record of any commercial mining operation. Other industries in Keysville included a mattress factory, the Virginia Silk Company and the **Crystal Ice and Power Plant (248-5006)**.

With the development of the railroads and the growth of industries, towns already in existence became more developed and new towns began to emerge. The towns of Abilene, Cullen, Phenix and Aspen developed with the completion of the Virginian Railroad in the early 1900s. These towns typically featured a post office, sometimes located within the depot, and several stores. The earlier town of Allen's Mill became known as Saxe, named for a Vermont poet, after the Mossingford depot and postal station were relocated there (Ailsworth et al, 313). Several stores, including the ca. 1890 **M.P. Lipscomb Store and Funeral Parlor (19-5094)** existed in this milling town prior to the arrival of the railroad and post office. The town of Chickentown, located on the road leading to Pamplin with its Norfolk & Western station, was renamed Madisonville in 1875 in honor of Henry Madison, a prominent citizen of the county. The Roanoke depot was rebuilt and the village around it was renamed Randolph after the Civil War with several taverns and stores, such as the **Formosa Store and Post Office (19-5100)** (Figure 16) located near the village.



The towns of Keysville, Drakes Branch and Phenix were developed by land companies in the late 19th and early 20th century. Keysville, which had existed as Key's Tavern in the early 19th century, continued to develop as a commercial and shipping point along on the Richmond-Danville Railroad.



The land improvement company of Hardman and Rummel purchased the Keysville tract of 300 acres in 1874 and subdivided the land into business and residential lots for sale. The town was incorporated in 1887 and the first census reported a population of 126 people in the corporate limits (Crouch, 9). The town was further developed as a railroad and resort town

by the Virginia Land Improvement Company in 1891 with plans to accommodate 10,000 people. Its high elevation (the highest between Richmond and Danville) and the **Keysville Tonic Springs** helped to promote the town as a resort. Several disasters, including a tornado in 1882 and three fires between 1887 and 1893 retarded the towns development. By 1907, however, Keysville was well established with a population of 600 and a number of industries and businesses, including: the Bank of Keysville, a branch of the Bank of Chase City, two large tobacco warehouses, nine general stores, **Keeling's Drug Store (248-5001-005)** (Figure 17, previous page), the **Hanmer Motor Car Company (248-5001-007)**, six churches, and the **W.H. Rutledge Bar Room (248-5001-003)** (Figure 18).



Industries included the Keysville Shuttle and spool Manufacturing Company, West & Willis Planing Mills, the Bon Air Manufacturing Company, the Virginia Silk Company, and the **Crystal Ice and Power Plant (248-5006)**. Two hotels, the ca. 1907 **Charlotte Hotel (248-5001-001)** (Figure 19, below) and the Keysville Hotel, served the local residents, railroad passengers and tourists (Carrington, 141-142). In 1912, the **Keysville School (248-5001-012)** was constructed and dramatic and musical performances were held in Clark's Hall over Clark's Store on King Street. Electricity came to the town ca. 1914 when the **Crystal Ice and Power Plant** was converted to an electrical plant (Crouch, 21). In 1897, two fires destroyed the business district along King Street and a tornado in 1915 caused further damage.

In 1868, L.S. Squire purchased a large tract of land lying south of Twitty's Creek and laid off town sites for Drakes Branch. The commercial district along Main Street began in 1873 with the construction of two large stores and tobacco warehouses that proved successful. The town soon grew around these tobacco concerns, with a population in 1903 of 703. By 1900, there were five churches representing four denominations in Drakes Branch. The Bank of Chase City established a branch in town in ca. 1902 which was later bought by local interests and changed to the State Bank of Charlotte County in 1908 (Daniel 29). By the beginning of the 20th century, Drakes Branch was a leading market for dark tobacco trade with six prizeries and a peak in sales in 1908 of 5,600,000 pounds (Daniel, 28).



In addition to the tobacco industry, Payne's Brickyard and E.S. Cook's foundry were successful operations in Drakes Branch. By 1907, the town consisted of two warehouses, six prizeries, ten stores, one drugstore, a brickyard, a foundry, four churches, a graded school, a new high school, one bank and two hotels (Carrington, 139).

The town of Phenix emerged with the completion of the Virginian Railway in 1909. The Home Development Company, composed of businessmen from Farmville, organized in 1907 to develop the



town of Phenix on 2700 acres of land along what was then known as the Tidewater Railroad. After a survey was completed and lots laid out, the company hosted a Farmer's Institute and Picnic to promote the property, which at the time consisted of the depot, a warehouse and a store, to the public (APVA, Southsider (1997), Gilliam 64). To encourage land purchases, the infrastructure of a community was quickly established. A post office was located in a store as early as 1909. By 1910, a school was established in the warehouse followed by the construction of a three-room school building in 1911. Church services began to be held at the same time with the completion of the Phenix Presbyterian Church in April 1911. The vast amounts of quality lumber in the area prompted the establishment of a number of sawmills as well as the Phenix Manufacturing Company (1908) and the Phenix Planing Mill (APVA, Southsider (1997), Gilliam 65-66). Two tobacco warehouses and a prizery provided a local market with rail access for the surrounding tobacco farmers. From 1913 until 1919, the Charlotte Gazette was published in Phenix before moving to Drakes Branch.

Domestic dwellings during this period also developed in connection with the railroads and industrial age as pre-cut architectural details associated with the Queen-Anne style were made available on a widespread and affordable basis. These scroll-sawn decorative pieces such as cornice brackets, trusses, vergeboards, spindlework and patterned shingles were used to embellish cornices, gables, walls, roofs and porches. **Morton Hall (19-5002)**, constructed ca. 1893 in Keysville, is an excellent example of the Queen-Anne style in form and detailing. The ca. 1900 **St. John House (19-5099)** (Figure 20) is a more typical example of the simple I-house form with Queen-Anne style detailing in the gables and porch.



Public education services expanded towards the end of the 19th century with the creation of the State Board of Education in 1870. This marked the beginning of a reluctant and slow shift from church-supported and private education to a system of free public education for both blacks and whites. There were a number of private schools that either continued or began to operate during this period as either an extension of the earlier practice of private education or in reaction to the proposed public school system. **Moldavia (19-0022)** continued in operation as a private school after the Civil War. The **Bluestone Harmony Academic and Industrial School (19-5167)** opened in 1898 as the Keysville Mission Industrial School under the auspices of the Bluestone Association to provide black children with a quality education and vocational training. Public schools included the

1908 Drakes Branch High School, the 1912 **Keysville High School** and the 1918

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**Central High School (185-0023-038)** (Figure 21) in Charlotte Court House. The **Central High School** building was located adjacent to the **Board of Education Building (185-0023-037)**, which represented the commitment of public education in the county. The old Field schools continued to be used throughout the county, but were gradually replaced with three- and four-room schoolhouses such as the ca. 1910 **Saxe School (19-5089)**, the ca. 1910 Ontario School and the ca. 1915 **Salem School (19-5121)** (Figure 22) for blacks. Most importantly, the number of schools and the percentage of school-age children enrolled increased dramatically during this period from a population of 4,719 potential students with 1,584 enrolled in 36 schools in 1870 to a population of 5,121 with 3,280 enrolled in 86 schools (Carrington, 28-29).

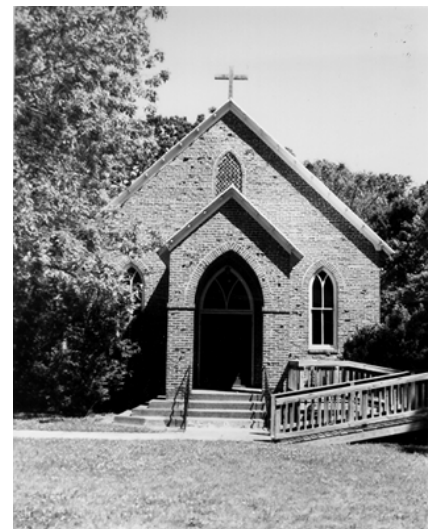
Religion thrived in the late 19th and early 20th century in Charlotte County, with 63% of the residents of Charlotte reported as members of a church in 1916 (Priddy, 25). With the social uncertainty that followed the Civil War, many flocked to the stability of their churches. A number of new churches, typically designed in the popular Gothic-Revival style, were established. These included the 1878 **Friendship Baptist Church (19-5115)** (Figure 23), which formed from the ca.



1825 Shiloh Baptist Church, and the 1881 Bethel Baptist Church, which formed from the 1833 congregation at Midway Baptist Church. The emancipation of slaves also prompted the blacks, who had previously worshipped in the balcony of their master's church, to establish their own church. After the congregation at **Salem Church** completed their new building in ca. 1870, they gave the original church to the blacks and it became White Oak Grove Church. In 1871, **Morrison Grove Baptist Church (19-0059)** was established from **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church**. The Ridgeway Presbyterian Church was founded by a black congregation in 1876, as well as the 1865 Keysville Colored Baptist Church.

With the greater development of towns, many churches either relocated to or were founded in the newly-incorporated towns. **Grace Episcopal Church (19-5157)** (Figure 24), which

existed in the late 1700s as Roanoke Chapel near Drakes Branch before moving to Marysville in 1861, returned to Drakes Branch in 1878. Other churches established in Drakes Branch included the 1875 Drakes Branch Presbyterian Church and the 1899 Drakes Branch Baptist Church. In 1915, Cullen Baptist Church was established in the new railroad town. The Salem Methodist Church, which was established in 1832, relocated in Keysville in the 1870s as the Keysville Methodist Church.



Social institutions also emerged during this period of instability towards the end of the 19th century and then thrived during the era of civic pride and communal cooperation that marked the early 1800s. The Marysville Debating Society was organized in 1867 by a group of prominent Charlotte County residents who met weekly to secretly debate topics ranging from "Which has the greatest influence over mankind, hope or fear," and "Has England the right to hold Ireland in subjection" to "Which is most to be enjoyed, the pursuit or possession of a wife" (APVA, Southsider (1989), 33-34). Another society was the Gravel Hill Literary Society, which was founded in the early 1900s with monthly meetings at Gravel Hill School. Topics of interest for discussion or debate topics included "Resolved, that hope yields greater delight than memories," and "On Working in New Ground" (APVA, Southsider (1983), 36-37).

Masonic Lodges continued to be popular, as evidenced in the reconstruction in the 1880s of the Masonic Lodge in Keysville, which had been destroyed in the Civil War and would be destroyed again by fire in 1887 (Crouch, 8). The most far-reaching social institution in Charlotte County was the Grand United Order of Moses Society, organized in 1904 by J. Murray Jeffress as a benevolent insurance society to meet the needs of the black race. **Moses Hall (185-0022)** (Figure 25) in Charlotte Court House served as the national headquarters for this society as well as a social gathering place for the local black community. The annual three-day meetings held each year were a spectacular event drawing delegates and new initiates from across the country as well as entertaining the local community with parades, speeches, and a carnival. The current structure was built ca. 1925 for these gatherings.



## **1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II**

The period following Reconstruction was characterized by stabilization with a steady but slow growth in population and progress in technology. The social and political upheaval of race relations following the Civil War had been constrained by Jim Crow laws that would persist until the civil rights movement of the 1960s. Although the country faced the stressful times of two world wars and an economic depression, there was an underlying sense of unity across the county. While technology and the economy continued to advance, it was a steady progress rather than a revolution.

The introduction of the automobile and paved roads during this time would prove to be the most far reaching and enduring development of the period. While railroad construction dominated the late 19th century, the automobile would capture the imagination of society for the next half century. With the establishment of the State Highway Commission in 1906 and an appropriations program for road construction in 1909, county and state road systems began to improve. By 1930, the area of Charlotte County contained more than 75 miles of paved state and federal highways and more



than 200 miles of improved dirt roads (Priddy, 16). The **Hanmer Motor Car Company (248-5001-007)** (Figure 26) established in 1913 in Keysville expanded to a Ford dealership in 1916 with the present building constructed in 1923. A Chevrolet dealership was located in Cullen. Gas stations such as the **Harrisburg Store (19-5066)** and the **Store, Route 360 (248-5009)** emerged as a new building type, characterized by their location on well-traveled routes and the porte-

cochere, or wide overhang, that provided protection from the weather. **Newcomb's Store (248-5008)** is unusual in its irregular form as it is sited at the juncture of a Y-shaped intersection of two major roads in Keysville. The building's relationship to the road and its traffic is unmistakable with its angled facade facing each road.

Agriculture continued to be the primary industry of the county; however, the diversification of crops that was promoted in the reform movement of the late 1900s began to take place. By 1925, the number of farms in the county had increased to 2,811 with an average size of 86 acres. Although Charlotte County still ranked fifth in the state in tobacco production, crops were becoming more diversified with tobacco production representing only 12% of the total value of agricultural products in 1927 (Priddy, 30). Crops such as corn, wheat and hay as well as livestock were becoming increasingly popular. Tenant farming remained a problem during this period with 40.7% of farms operated by tenant farmers. The disadvantage to these farms was the high rate of turnover which resulted in a lack of long-range management of the land. Tenant houses dating to this period (**Tenant House, Route 643 (19-5083)**, Figure 27) can be seen throughout the county, particularly in the southern section where the early land grants originally created such large plantations as Roanoke Plantation.



While lumber and related industries continued to thrive during this period, other industries emerged that benefited from the improved road systems as a means of distribution. Flour and grist mills continued to operate and now often expanded beyond servicing the immediate community to distributing their own brand of flour and corn meal in stores throughout the region. **Wardsfork Mill (19-0049)** distributed their "Favorite Flour" brand across a wide region that reached as far south as Oxford, North Carolina (Parsons, interview). The Red Oak Bottling Company was founded in 1926 and provided as many as fourteen fruit flavored sodas to a three-county area that was served by two Model Ford trucks (APVA, Southsider (1989), Gilliam, 42). Other industries active in the early and mid 20th century included a pickle factory in Drakes Branch and a sassafras oil distribution plant and box factory in Keysville. By 1920, the value of products manufactured in Charlotte County had increased from \$89,206 in 1880 to \$522,623 and equaled 20% of the county's total value of products (Priddy, 15). By the mid-20th century, it was recognized that while "a predominant agricultural element implies a better class of people, a healthier mode of life, ... a certain percentage of manufacture in a county adds progress in material ways, -- better houses, better roads, better schools, the necessities of modern life" (Priddy, 15).

Domestic dwellings constructed during this period were considered an improvement as electricity and indoor plumbing became a standard. The bungalow and American Foursquare emerged as the dominant building forms. Detailing, even in the vernacular houses, was influenced by the Craftsman style. The availability of house designs through the distribution of mail-order catalogs by Sears, Roebuck and Company helped to promote the popularity of the Craftsman-style bungalow. The **H.B. Owen House (248-5007)** (Figure 28), constructed of Kalamazoo tile in Keysville, is an example of the application of a new material made available through the railroad applied to the



standard American Foursquare form. Several concrete-block dwellings, including the **Gertrude Shook House (19-5071)** and the **Gertrude Shook Studio (248-5003)** (Figure 29), which demonstrated further experimentation with materials and form, were constructed in the mid-20th century. Outbuildings associated with domestic buildings continued to decrease during this period and were limited primarily to garages, carports, and storage sheds.

The educational system continued to improve with the construction of a number of new schools during this period. As the school population increased, the old field school system of the 19th century was replaced with consolidated schools in the growing towns and communities. Four-year high schools are located in the towns of Charlotte Court House, Keysville, Drakes Branch, Madisonville, Phenix and Wyllesburg. In 1938, Randolph Henry High School and **Central High School (African-American) (185-5001)** (Figure 30) were constructed to consolidate the high schools across the county. The earlier high schools, such as the **Keysville School**, the **Madisonville School**, were converted to elementary schools. Vocational training was an important aspect of the educational curriculum and many of these schools had a vocational training or agricultural school associated with them. With the establishment of the American Red Cross and the Public Board of Health, health education also became integrated into the curriculum. The county library was established in 1937 in the ca. 1836 **Hagerman-Marshall (185-0002)** in Charlotte Court House. This library was the first of eleven county libraries in rural southside Virginia made possible by anonymous grants by David K. Bruce.



Although Charlotte County did not experience direct threats from either World War I or World War II, it did experience the loss of men who went overseas to serve. In cooperation with the rest of the county, citizens of Charlotte County had to ration food and other commodities to provide for the war effort. The Charlotte County Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized in 1917 for war relief work and continued during peace times to promote improvements in public health. These community efforts that were created out of necessity during the war continued during peace times to work together towards improving the quality of life throughout the county. Women's Clubs were formed in Keysville and Drakes Branch to promote civic improvements such as circulating libraries and academic scholarships. The county's youth followed the example of their parents by participating in the Junior Community League and agricultural clubs. Fraternal organizations such as the Masons, Odd Fellows and American Legion were either founded during this period or continued as an active group committed to civic and social improvements (Priddy, 28-29). Following World War II, the American Legion was formed in Keysville and purchased the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp outside of town for use as their post where they held a yearly carnival (Crouch, 24). Recreation during the mid 20th century included a five-county baseball league, movies at the **New Theater (248-5001-006)** in Keysville, and various dance halls at restaurants such as Tucks and Sheldon's in Keysville or the Crab Orchard Dance Hall and the Ghana Club (African-American).

## DOMESTIC

Approximately 182 domestic-related buildings have been surveyed in Charlotte County, representing about 55% of the building inventory. These buildings surveyed include a wide range of resource types that date from the late 18th century to the mid-20th century. Given the agrarian nature of Charlotte county, the majority of the residences are rural in nature, associated with large plantations in the late-18th to mid-19th century and smaller farms in the century following the Civil War. Secondary domestic resources relating to these properties include outbuildings such as kitchens, well houses, smokehouses, dairies, slave quarters, tenant houses, carriage houses, and garages. Given the large population of slaves in Charlotte County, it was surprising that a total of only three known slave quarters were located in the survey. Early urban dwellings dating to the first half of the 18th century included many of the dwellings in Charlotte Court House and the taverns located at various crossroads or communities. Other urban dwellings and several hotels surveyed date to the post-railroad era of the late-19th and 20th century as towns developed around the railroad and local industries. Three dormitories are included in the inventory; two of which are related to schools and one is associated with a the national headquarters of a fraternal organization.

### 1607-1750 EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT TO SOCIETY PERIOD

Although permanent settlement of the area of Charlotte County began as early as the mid 1700s, with Clement Read at Bushy Forest (1733) and Thomas Bouldin at Golden Hill (1746), there are no physical remains of dwellings constructed during this period. Written accounts describe the domestic buildings of this period as being one-and-a-half story structures of frame construction.

### 1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD

A total of five dwellings dating to this period have been surveyed. Two of these structures were destroyed by fire and were reconstructed at the turn of the century. Houses during this period were typically frame with the limited supply of bricks produced on the site being used for the foundations and chimneys. The side-gable roof was the dominant form and the floor plans -- either hall-and-parlor or central-passage -- were typically single-pile. Often these 18th century structures were enlarged and improved during the prosperous years of the first half of the 19th century. Outbuildings include the kitchen at **Edgehill (19-0005)**.

**Mulberry Hill (19-0024)**, built ca. 1755 by the Frith family and purchased by Judge Paul Carrington in the 1790s, was originally a one-and-a-half story, frame structure with a hall-and-parlor plan and side-gable roof. Frame wings were added in the 1830s that reoriented the house and obscured its original form. The original **Red Hill (19-0027)** which became the home of Patrick Henry in 1790, was another example of an early hall-and-parlor plan with side-gable roof. The house was later expanded in 1833 into a central-passage plan with wings at either end. A fire in the early 1900s destroyed the structure and the present house is an early 20th century remarkably accurate reconstruction.

**Greenfield (19-0008)**, built in 1771 by Isaac Read, is the most intact dwelling from this period. Inspired by his years at William and Mary in Williamsburg, Read constructed this two-story, five-bay frame dwelling in the Georgian style with its strict symmetry of form, 1-1/2 story end wings,



and paneled interior. A modillioned cornice embellishes the side-gable roof with its interior end chimneys and beaded weatherboarding covers the exterior. The interior features a central staircase with paneled stair wall and three slender, turned balusters per a tread with an open, carved stringer. Paneled wainscoting extends throughout the house on the first and second floor hallways. Although the mantels on the first floor were replaced in the early 1800s when the wings were expanded, the second floor mantels with their molded cornice shelf, paneled surround, and arched opening are original.

Another example of a central-passage, single-pile plan was found at **South Isle (19-0025)** (Figure 31) in the original ca. 1780 section that faces the river. This two-story frame section with side-gable roof retains its original entry hall and staircase with the simple Georgian detailing that distinguishes it from the later 1840s Greek Revival side addition. The original **Sylvan Hill (19-5096)**, built ca. 1785 by Paul Carrington, Jr. and later destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1890, differed from the other central-passage, frame structures with its polygonal side bay and brick construction.



Although the brick and frame structure of **Edgehill (19-0005)**, built in the late 18th century by Clement Carrington, burned in the 1930s, the kitchen is still standing. This one-and-one-half story frame structure is covered with weatherboard siding and a side-gable roof. Other domestic outbuildings associated with these late 18th century dwellings appear to have been built at a later date as the plantations became more established and more prosperous.

## **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

Approximately 33 domestic resources dating to this period have been surveyed. These resource are located throughout the county and range from the one-and-one-half story vernacular examples of frame construction to the finely-detailed, Federal-style, brick buildings designed by master builders. With the exception of the taverns and early dwellings of Charlotte Court House, then known as Marysville, these resources were sited away from the road on large tracts of land. Domestic buildings of this period became larger and more elaborate, reflecting the more permanent settlement and the prosperity of the owners as well as the extensive operations of the plantation. Although vernacular traditions continued to dominate the building practices, the availability of pattern books, such as Asher Benjamin's 1806 edition of *The American Builder's Companion*, began to infuse the traditional forms with stylistic trends. Early log houses were covered with weatherboards and frame construction gradually began to be replaced by brick as slave labor for the production of bricks became available. As the operations of the tobacco plantations increased, including their land holdings and slave population, the number of domestic outbuildings also increased during this period.



Typically, the earlier vernacular dwellings, such as the one-bay, one-room structures at the ca. 1790 **Roanoke Bridge/Elm Shade (19-0098)** and the **Old Young Place (19-0018)** were later enlarged with one-and-a-half story, three-bay side additions. Although these frame buildings are simple in form, their nine-over-nine sash windows identify them as part of the Federal period of the late 18th and early 19th century. A similar frame structure, the **House (19-0015)**,



which is no longer standing, featured a raised basement of English bond, Flemish bond chimneys, and flush beaded weatherboarding on the porch wall as a means of formalizing that exterior space. The original ca. 1790 section of **High Hill (19-0011)** (Figure 32) is an example of a one-and-a-half story, hall-and-parlor plan with gabled roof and dormers that was later expanded with a central-passage addition. **Red Hill (19-0027)** is yet another example of a late 18th century, two-story frame dwelling with hall-and-parlor plan that was expanded in 1833 to a central-passage plan.

By the early 19th century, the single-room and side-passage plans were replaced by the central-passage, single-pile plan. This form, as seen in the ca. 1830 addition at **High Hill (19-0011)**, typically featured a building of frame construction on a raised brick basement with a side-gable roof and two exterior end chimneys. Other examples of this popular form, which continued to be built in Charlotte County up until the mid 1800s, include the ca. 1820 **Vaden Farm (19-0105)**, the ca. 1827 **Thomas J. Adams House (19-5065)**. Although the exterior of these one-and-a-half story frame dwellings appear simple in design, the interiors feature detailing associated with the early Federal style. The large raised basements of these structures were usually used for the kitchen and dining room. The interior of **High Hill** features horizontal-board wainscoting, a paneled stair wall, architrave trim around the windows and doorways, and tripartite mantels with end pilasters and hand-carved beading and bands of reeding.

Perhaps most noteworthy during this period is the appearance of the two-story, five-bay, Federal-style house of brick construction. Examples include **Do Well (19-0004)**, **Woodfork (19-0034)** (Figure 33), built by a professional architect of



Lynchburg, and the **Watkin's Tavern/Old Brick Tavern (185-0016)** -- all of which are associated with William M. Watkins -- as well as **Ville View (185-0014)**, **Maple Roads (19-0057)**, **Do Better (19-0036)**, **Ridgeway (19-0028)**, and **Ingleside (19-0019)**. The owners of these houses being some of the most prominent and influential citizens of the county, this type of dwelling became representative of the well-to-do planter's house in the first quarter of the 19th century. These structures were constructed of brick in three- to five-course American bond on a raised brick basement with side-gable roof and exterior end chimneys that were often paired and/or featured a raised parapet at the gable end. Arched fanlights with tracery usually topped the six-paneled doors. The interior, which had expanded to a central-passage, double-pile plan, featured paneled wainscoting, six-paneled doors, and tripartite mantels with hand-carved detailing (**Ridgeway** mantel, Figure 34 at left).

The most elaborate and well-preserved example of this type of Federal-style dwelling is **Do Well** (Figure 8), constructed ca. 1820 by William M. Watkins. Paneled wainscoting extends throughout the interior and paneled reveals surround the window and door openings, which are topped by a cornice-shelf crown supported by fluted pilasters and entablature with fretwork detailing. The mantels are the best examples in the area of the Federal style with tripartite entablatures and fine Adamesque detailing influenced by the various pattern books available. In particular, the mantel in the parlor features an urn with swags in the central tablet flanked by swags topped with bows and two smaller urns set within ovals in the end blocks that are supported by slender paired columns (Figure 9). These details are similar to designs by Owen Biddle and William Pain in popular pattern books. Arched alcoves with fluted pilasters and keystones flank the mantel and the fretwork detailing in the mantel is continued in the chair rail around the room.

Although these large, self-sufficient farms and plantations of rural, early 19th century Charlotte County originally included a full complement of domestic outbuildings to provide for the practical needs and operations of the property, very few of these resources survive today. A total of three detached kitchens were surveyed, including resources at **Roanoke Plantation (19-0029)** (Figure 35), **Roanoke Bridge/Elm Shade (19-0098)**, and **Ville View (248-0014)**. These buildings are utilitarian in design with one-and-a-half stories (providing for storage or sleeping quarters in the loft area) with side gable roof and exterior end chimneys of brick or stone. With the exception of the log structure at **Ville View**, these buildings are of frame construction. This same form was often later attached by a hyphen to the main house, as seen at **Westview (19-5110)** and the **Foster House, Route 710 (19-5104)**.



Smokehouses are another necessary outbuilding in the complex of a rural plantation as smoking was the only means to preserve meat at the time. These structures are simple and small in form, typically frame with a dirt floor and steeply-pitched gable roof. In order to keep the space air-tight, there is usually a single door and no windows. Draft to keep the fire burning is provided by small flue openings placed either under the eaves or high in the gable end. Examples surveyed that date to this period include: **High Hill (19-0011)** (Figure 36), **Westview (19-5110)**, **Atkins House (19-5123)**, and **Roanoke Bridge/Elm Shade (19-0098)**.



Given the large population of slaves in Charlotte County in the first half of the 19th century, it was surprising that there were only two properties surveyed where slave cabins or the foundations of slave cabins remained. At **Red Hill (19-0027)** the coachman's house survives. This small log structure has a steeply-pitched side gable roof and one exterior end stone chimney. Only the remains of one brick chimney and hearth of what was originally a row of slave cabins survive at **Maple Roads (19-0057)**.

Due to the large operations of the plantation or other pursuits of the owner such as law or medicine, many plantations included a small office as part of the complex of outbuildings surrounding the main house. In Charlotte County, a total of four offices were surveyed during this time period. Both John Randolph of **Roanoke Plantation** and Patrick Henry of **Red Hill** kept law offices at their homes. The office at **Roanoke Plantation** is a simple rectangular frame structure with one-and-a-half stories, a side-gable roof with boxed cornice, and an exterior end brick chimney. The office at **Red Hill** is similar with a central chimney. The office at **Maple Roads** is also of this same simple design. Thomas Read's office at **Ingleside**, which has been replicated in the present ca. 1960s Charlotte Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities Museum in Charlotte Court House, served as the county clerk's office during his tenure from 1810 to 1817. This one-story, three bay brick building featured a side-gable roof with boxed cornice and modillion detailing.

## **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

The approximate 37 domestic dwellings constructed during this period that have been surveyed reflect the prosperity of the antebellum years in Charlotte County. Trends that had begun in the early 19th century such as the double-pile plan, the use of brick, the influence of pattern books, and the emergence of master builders -- now became the standard for the homes of the prosperous planter class. The greatest contributions to domestic design were made by the firm of Dabbs and Thomas, master builders of Richmond, and the architect John E. Johnson as they popularized the romantic styles of the Italianate, the Greek Revival, and the Gothic Revival.

Many of the vernacular style dwellings retained the traditional forms of the one-and-a-half story dwelling with side-gable roof or the central-passage, single-pile I-house, as in the **Rutledge House (19-5144)** and **Mildwood (19-0021)**. Often, these vernacular forms borrowed detailing from the popular styles as in the scalloped vergeboard along the gable ends of **Millbrook (19-5097)**.



entry porch with paired Doric columns and roof balustrade, and the rectangular transom and sidelights with diamond-paned glass.

The Federal style continued to influence the designs of dwellings in the early years of the antebellum period. The ca. 1830 two-story, five-bay brick section of **Wardsfork (19-0032)** includes a pedimented entry porch supported by slender, paired Doric columns and Adamesque detailing on the interior mantels. **Mapleton (19-0020)** (Figure 37), constructed in 1837, represents a transition from the Federal to the Greek-Revival style with its nine-over-nine and six-over-nine light windows, the pedimented end gables, the

The Greek-Revival style, the first of the romantic styles, dominated the newly independent United States through much of the first half of the 19th century. This style, which is characterized by elements such as the Doric-columned porches, wide cornice and frieze emulating the classical entablature, and the rectangular door surround of transom and sidelights. **Gravel Hill (19-0006)**,

constructed by Dabbs and Thomas in 1847 for the Hannah family, is an excellent example of the popular style with its two-story, pedimented Doric portico, classical entablature with triglyphs and metopes, and full-length shutters that give the impression of pilasters. The original plan was T-shaped, a form that was common to the style, and which was echoed in the dog-eared trim around the windows and doors of the interior and exterior as well as in the mantels (Figure 12, 38 at right). The double-leaf entrance features a rectangular transom and



sidelights with diamond-paned glass. On the interior, the entrance is distinguished by a curved, floating staircase. A rear addition with side portico was added in the early 1900s and a portecochere was added in the mid-20th century.

A similar example of the Greek-Revival style by Dabbs and Thomas is ca. 1852 **Moldavia (19-0022)** (Figure 13), This two-story, three-bay frame structure was originally constructed as a residence for Mary (Molly) Read and David Comfort and was soon after converted into a private

boarding school for girls. Although not as grand as **Gravel Hill**, the design of **Moldavia** includes many of the same features such as the T-shaped form and window and door surrounds and the two-story shutters. The glazing of the door surround is simpler with square lights instead of diamond panes and the interior staircase is composed of the standard two runs with intermediate landing. Other examples of the ca. 1840 Greek-Revival style include **Woodburn (19-0033)**, **Wynyard (185-0009)**, and **Diamond Hill (185-0003)**. **Woodburn** features a Doric porch, plain entablature, and corner blocks in the window and door surrounds. The design of **Diamond Hill (185-0003)** in Charlotte Court House includes bull's eye corner blocks, Tuscan-columned porch, and cornice with mutules. The one-story, square plan with hip roof design of **Cottage Valley Farm (19-0002)**, constructed ca. 1858-1859 and no longer standing, is another example of the Greek-Revival style in a simpler and less common form.

Charles Bruce of Berry Hill in Halifax County is responsible for bringing the latest trend of the Gothic-Revival style to Charlotte County with the construction of **Staunton Hill (19-0030)** in 1848. Having traveled north to study law at Harvard, Bruce was exposed to the Gothic movement as a reaction against the rigid symmetry of the classical Federal and Greek-Revival styles that had so dominated the late 18th and early 19th century. Bruce employed John Evans Johnson, the architect of Berry Hill, and Josiah Dabbs as carpenter to design and construct the quintessential Gothic-Revival style house. Completed in 1848 for the unheard of sum of \$75,000, this two-story brick and stucco structure features a crenelated parapet; central, three-story tower; Tudor-style marble verandah; pointed-arch windows with Gothic tracery, and clustered octagonal chimney pots. The Gothic-Revival style is carried throughout the interior with pointed-arch doorways trimmed by clustered columns, marble floors, niches, and a floating double staircase.

Due to the many similarities of detailing and design, it is assumed that John Evans Johnson was also responsible for the Gothic-Revival addition made to **South Isle (19-0025)** in the 1840s. This two-story, three-bay frame addition with hip roof features a combination of Greek-Revival and Gothic-Revival details on the exterior such as the paneled cornerboards, rectangular transom and sidelights with diamond-paned lights, and the drip molds over the square-headed windows. On the interior, the Greek-Revival influence is visible in the mantels; however, the Gothic-Revival style prevails with door surrounds of clustered pilasters, pointed-arch alcoves and door in the parlor, and a floating double staircase similar to **Staunton Hill**. Another example of the influence of the Gothic-Revival style is seen at the ca. 1850 **W.B. Ramsey House (185-0023-019)** in Charlotte Court House. This one-and-one-half story frame dwelling features Gothic tracery in the transom and sidelights and sawn detailing in the vergeboard and window hoods.

Also associated with the picturesque movement, the Italianate style represents another movement away from the classical vocabulary of the Federal and Greek-Revival styles with its projecting towers, bracketed cornices, and arched and paired windows. Although the Italianate style had almost completely replaced the Gothic-Revival style in most places by the 1860s, in Charlotte County, **Arcadia (19-0001)** is the only example of this style that has been surveyed. Board-and-batten siding, sawn vergeboard, and paired, arched windows distinguish this two-story, three-bay frame structure. The porch features a flat roof with arched wooden balustrade supported by sawn brackets and chamfered octagonal columns with shallow, arched spandrels. The double-leaf entrance features doors with 1/1 arched panels surrounded by a 4-light rectangular transom of stained glass and 4-light sidelights. Originally a Maltese cross in form, two one-story side wings

and a rear wing have been added. The interior features a curved staircase, four-paneled (arched) doors surrounded by a "T"-shaped architrave surround, decorative plaster ceilings and marble fireplaces. The complex of **Arcadia** is unique in that the outbuildings, which were either remodeled or constructed in the early 20th century, complement the style of the main house using board-and-batten siding and decorative-sawn vergeboards.

The greatest number of significant outbuildings surveyed date to this prosperous period. Perhaps most noticeable is the incorporation of these domestic outbuildings into the overall design of the complex, as with the complementary buildings at **Arcadia** and **Staunton Hill** as well as the attached colonnades housing the kitchen, servants quarters and supplies at **Staunton Hill** and **South Isle**. The office at **Staunton Hill** is also Gothic-Revival in style with a steeply-pitched gable roof and pointed-arch openings with tracery. At **Arcadia**, both the smokehouse and the kitchen are frame with board-and-batten siding and decorative vergeboard along the kitchen roof.

Other kitchens dating to this period surveyed include a brick kitchen at **Woodburn**, an attached frame kitchen at **Cottage Valley Farm** (demolished), and a frame kitchen at the **Rutledge House**. These structures are typically one or one-and-one-half story high with side-gable roof and one exterior end chimney. The frame kitchen at **Wynyard** is unique in that it has two separate single-leaf entrances, indicating a dual function of either residence, storage, or wash house.

Slave quarters that were surveyed included those in the colonnade at **Staunton Hill**, two freestanding frame dwellings at **South Isle**, and what was once a row of brick slave quarters originally associated with Charles Bruce's estate, Dikeland, known as **The Street (19-0031)**.

In addition to the Gothic-Revival style office at **Staunton Hill**, simpler frame office buildings were surveyed on the properties of **High Hill**, **Moldavia**, and the **Wyllie House (19-0035)**.

A number of antebellum smokehouses survive. These were typically frame with a steeply-pitched roof, as at **Woodburn**, **South Isle**, **Wynyard**, **Moldavia**, and **Wyllie House**. The smokehouse at **Arcadia** features a pyramidal roof and board-and-batten siding. The best preserved example stands at **Gravel Hill** with its clipped-gable roof and shed-roof side wings.

At least one dairy has been documented in the county dating to this time period. The dairy at **Oak Hill (19-0056)** (Figure 39), used for keeping dairy and other products cool, resembles a granary or short smokehouse but open woodwork running under the cornice allows for heat dissipation.



## **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD**

Domestic dwellings during the last half of the 19th century and the early 20th century developed in close connection with the railroads and the industrial age as pre-cut architectural details associated with the Queen-Anne style were made available on a wide-spread and affordable basis. As towns

also developed in conjunction with the railroad during this period, many of the houses constructed were on urban lots rather than farmsteads. With the rapidity of the building boom, the loss of slave labor for the manufacture of bricks, and the ready availability of lumber through the railroads, frame construction became more prevalent. Although the academic styles of Italianate, Queen-Anne, and Colonial-Revival were well-known, their influence was more noticeable in the detailing applied to traditional forms such as the I-house rather than the overall design of the structure.

Vernacular building forms such as the one-story, three-bay frame dwelling with side-gable roof with central peak as in the **Hamlett House (19-5062)** are still common. The **House, Route 660 (19-5050)** and the **House, Route 606 (19-5109)** are examples of this same form that add Victorian detailing in the turned porch columns and scroll-sawn brackets. The two-story, three-bay I-house with side-gable roof exemplified in the ca. 1870 **House, Route 15 (19-0083)** also continue to be a popular form during this time. Victorian detailing is added with scroll-sawn brackets and decorative vergeboards along the cornice and turned columns with spindlework and scroll-sawn detailing on the porches in the **St. John House (19-5099)** (Figure 20), the **Green House (19-5068)**, and **Beechenbrook (19-5072)**.

An Italianate version of the I-house form is seen at the ca. 1880 **Garland House (19-5126)**. This two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with hip roof and central peak features a heavy bracketed cornice, molded window hoods, projecting side bay, and arched Gothic window in the central peak.

Another common form in the early 1900s is the two-story, three-bay, L-shaped dwelling with intersecting-gable roof. A simple example of this is seen in the **House, Route 691 (19-5014)**. More elaborate examples of this form are seen at **Morton Hall (248-5002)** and the **Dr. W. S. Pugh House (19-5019)**. In addition to the cornice brackets and Victorian wrap-around porches, these resources feature decorative scroll-sawn trusses and patterned woodwork or shingles in the gables. The interior of **Morton Hall** retains its original Victorian mantels and light fixtures. The influence of the Colonial-Revival mixes with the Queen-Anne at the **Berkley House (19-5059)** where a projecting front bay window and Ionic porch columns are added.

The Colonial-Revival style began to appear in the county after the turn of the century. The ca. 1900 **Lipscomb-Tucker House (19-5091)** in Saxe illustrates the early influence of the style with the application of a two-story portico with squared Doric columns and a central pedimented gable to the traditional I-house form. This form is expanded in the central-passage, double-pile plans with hip roof and intersecting gables in the early 20th century examples of **Red Oak Grove (19-5149)**, the **Tune Devin House (19-5132)**, and the **J. Devin House (19-5130)**.

Another early 20th century form influenced by the Colonial-Revival is the American Foursquare, An example of this form is seen in the ca. 1910 **Payne House (19-5163)** with its hip roof with gabled dormers, paired windows, and wrap-around porch with porte-cochere.

Two unusual examples of early 20th century domestic dwellings surveyed include the **House, Park Street (19-5057)**, with its two-story, one-bay front gable form with gable returns, and the **J. C. Jackson House (19-5133)** with its one-story cottage form with central-ridge chimney and side wings.

The number and types of outbuildings began to decline towards the end of the 19th century as technological advances lead to the disappearance of some outbuildings and urban living practices reduced the need for self subsistence. Well houses, smokehouses and ice houses continued to exist, although in smaller numbers. Four smokehouses were surveyed in association with domestic dwellings of the period. With the exception of the log smokehouse at **Beechenbrook** (Figure 40), these resources are typically of frame construction



with weatherboard siding and a gable roof. The appearance of the garage as a new building type illustrates the new lifestyle introduced by the automobile. A number of the dwellings surveyed included garages on the property. This new building type was similar in form and construction to the familiar equipment shed with its weatherboard siding and gable roof.

## **1917-1945    WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

As the industrialization of the area that began in the previous period with the railroads continued to develop, and the subdivision of large tracts of land combined with the decreased emphasis on farming, development and building practices began to change. Although houses continued to be built in the rural areas as well as the towns, they were on much smaller tracts of land and were located near the road rather than down long secluded lanes. The new styles introduced during this period also tended to be on a smaller scale.

Approximately 40 buildings constructed during this period were surveyed. These represent buildings across the county, in towns as well as rural areas. Wood and brick continued as the most prevalent building materials with a few experiments in the use of Kalamazoo brick tile and concrete block. While the I-house continued to be popular, the American Foursquare and bungalow form gained in popularity. As for domestic outbuildings, with the exception of the garage, they disappeared during this time.

The American Foursquare, with its two-story, two-bay plan and hip roof with dormers, became a standard form. The **House, Route 607 (19-5134)** and **House, Route 678 (19-5041)** are typical examples of this form with minimal detailing. The **H.B. Owens House (248-5007)** (Figure 28) is a more unusual example constructed of Kalamazoo brick tile and exhibiting the influence of the Colonial-Revival style in its gable returns.



The best example of the Classical-Revival style is the ca. 1925 **J.E. Gilliam House (19-5063)** (Figure 41) with its two-story entrance portico supported by grouped colossal Doric columns superimposed on a one-story, three-bay porch with central balcony. The Colonial-Revival style became increasingly popular with the restoration of Williamsburg in the 1920s and 1930s. The ca. 1930 **Anchor and Hope (19-5073)** illustrates the influence of Colonial Williamsburg in its one-and-one-half story, symmetrical brick form and side-gable roof with modillion and dentil detailing and gabled dormers. The ca. 1930 reconstruction of **Roxabel (19-0043)** stands as a Colonial-Revival interpretation of the original early 19th century design.



The biggest influence on the domestic buildings of this period was the emergence of the Craftsman style as it either directed the overall design of houses or influenced the detailing of a vernacular form. Several examples of Craftsman-style bungalows were surveyed, including the **Adams House (19-5145)**, the **House, Route 619 (19-5032)**, and the **House, Route 615 (19-5075)**. These buildings are characterized by their exposed rafters, central dormer, and side-gable roof that extends to encompass the porch with battered wood columns on brick piers. The **House, Route 660 (19-5025)** with its hip roof is an adaptation of the cottage form to this style. Another common Craftsman-style form is represented in the **Meyer House (19-0103)** and the **House, Route 750 and 654 (19-0104)** with their one-story, front-gable form with exposed rafters.

The influence of the Craftsman style on vernacular forms is evident in the **House, Route 672 (19-5044)** with the addition of exposed rafters to the traditional I-house form. A group of seven similar houses near Wylliesburg -- including the **Toombs House, Route 607 (19-5135)**, **House, Route 607 (19-5137)**, and the **House, Route 15 (19-0082)** -- suggest that they may have been worker's houses for a nearby industry. These one-story, three-bay frame dwellings have side-gable roof with exposed rafter tails.

Perhaps the most unusual houses in Charlotte County are the two concrete block dwellings designed by the artist Gertrude Shook. The **Gertrude Shook House (19-5071)** is a one-story, three-bay concrete block structure with flat roof and parapet wall. The **Gertrude Shook Studio (248-5003)** (Figure 29) in Keysville is an interesting complex of two buildings, the residence and art studio, connected by a covered walkway and constructed of concrete block with plate-glass walls along one side.

## **SUBSISTENCE/AGRICULTURE**

The overall thrust of this theme encompasses the research of methods for the acquisition, processing and storing of food. Agriculture as a theme relates specifically to methods and technology of processing food and other agricultural goods and the investigation of the sites at which such activities occur.

### **Property types surveyed**

Tobacco Barns  
Granaries  
Corncribs  
Canneries  
Barns  
Chicken Coops  
Dairy Barns  
Root Storage Buildings  
Silos  
Stables

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Tobacco Plantations and Overseer's Houses:*

19-0001	Arcadia
19-0004	Do Well
19-0006	Gravel Hill
19-0008	Greenfield
19-0011	High Hill
19-0020	Mapleton
19-0023	Morotock Plantation
19-0025	South Isle
19-0028	Ridgeway
19-0029	Roanoke Plantation
19-0043	Roxabel
19-0057	Maple Roads
19-5024	Morris House
19-5078	Overseer's House (brick)
19-5080	Cliffside Overseer's House
19-5110	Westview
19-5146	Toombs Tobacco Farm

#### *Tenant Farms:*

19-0099	House, Route 654
19-5083	Tenant House, Route 643
19-5084	Goose Bottom Log House
19-5112	Tenant House, Route 622
19-5136	Tenant House, Route 607
19-5137	Tenant House, Route 607

19-5138      Tenant House, Route 607

*Agricultural Education Properties:*

19-5096      Sylvan Hill  
19-5153      Madisonville School (cannery)

*Agricultural Properties:*

19-0002      Cottage Valley Farm (demolished)  
19-0031      The Street  
19-0040      House, off Route 637  
19-0045      Locust Grove  
19-0054      Guthrie Store and Tobacco Barn  
19-0055      Tobacco Barns  
19-0062      Tobacco Barn, Route 608  
19-0067      Farm Buildings, Route 608  
19-0072      House, Route 607  
19-0073      House, off Route 607  
19-0074      Lacks, S.L., House  
19-0075      House, off Route 611  
19-0076      House, off Route 611  
19-0077      House, off Route 611  
19-0078      House, off Route 611  
19-0079      House, off Route 611  
19-0081      House, Route 15  
19-0084      Farm, off Route 360  
19-0085      Farm, off Route 360  
19-0089      House, Route 654  
19-0090      White Farm  
19-0091      Mount Airy/Eureka Farm  
19-0095      House, Route 654  
19-0097      Eggleston Farm  
19-0100      Rodill Farm  
19-0101      Nelson House  
19-0102      Watkins, M. Lee, Home/Allen Farm  
19-5013      Captain Thornton House  
19-5034      House, Route 619  
19-5081      Log House, Route 648  
19-5083      House, Route 643  
19-5085      Sunnyside  
19-5087      Anderson House  
19-5092      Jeffress-Crews House and barn  
19-5101      Newcomb, J.E., House  
19-5111      Devin House  
19-5112      Tenant House, Route 622  
19-5116      Newcomb, S.C., House

19-5117	House, Route 611
19-5118	Boswell House
19-5120	Russell-Winn House
19-5126	Garland House
19-5127	House, Route 611
19-5135	Toombs House, Route 607
19-5149	Red Oak Grove
19-5150	Haskins, Conway, House

Besides the Domestic theme, the theme of Subsistence/Agriculture has the most surveyed sites in Charlotte County. Agriculture has historically provided the economic basis of Charlotte County, consequently, the majority of resources surveyed have agricultural outbuildings.

### *Tobacco Barns*

The most common agricultural building found in Charlotte County is the tobacco barn. Almost every dwelling outside of the main towns had such a barn. The form of this building remains relatively unchanged on the exterior. All surveyed are log or frame with gable roofs and stand approximately one and one-half stories tall with a small opening for access. The greatest evolution of this structure occurred on the inside as the methods of curing and drying tobacco changed over the years. Air drying led to a faster method of drying by direct heat, specifically with open fires which required 24-hour attention. Advancement in firing techniques resulted in tobacco barns like the ones at the **Toombs Tobacco Farm (19-5146)** (Figure 42) which use closed, internal wood-burning ovens fed from the outside. Today, many tobacco barns are equipped with propane gas tanks to produce heat without fire. The largest tobacco barn documented is the barn at **Locust Grove Plantation (19-0045)**. Built in the mid-1800s with peg construction, this structure has 11 rooms and was used for curing dark tobacco.



Dates of these barns are difficult to ascertain due to the necessary external maintenance required such as the replacement of weatherboards and roofing material. The earliest barns were constructed of log. Common notching techniques found in Charlotte County are v-notching, half-dovetail and diamond notching, a style not often seen in Virginia. Later types are frame construction with weatherboard cladding.

After drying and curing, tobacco must be packed for transportation. However, the end result of drying is brittle tobacco which breaks easily when handled. Packing houses were the solution for managing dry tobacco. The packing house at the Toombs Tobacco Farm is a long gable-roof structure that resembles a workshop from the outside. Inside there is a trap-door in the floor that opens to the moistening area which emits cool, moist air to soften the tobacco, making it more pliable for tying into bundles for transport. The packing houses at the **J.E. Newcomb (19-5101)**, **S.C. Newcomb (19-5116)** and **Russell-Winn (19-5120)** homes are taller than the Toombs Farm but most likely functioned in a similar fashion.

The tobacco barns in the county were most often found located next to the road as opposed to off the road at a distance or next to the main dwelling, often found on both sides of the road. It is apparent from the location of this barn type that it is important to keep the cured tobacco close to the transportation source. The barns at the **Charles Adams House (19-5143)** (Figure 43), **Toombs Tobacco Farm** and **Tobacco Barns (19-0055)** are located in this manner, close to the road but not immediately beside one another.



The current trend in tobacco curing and storage found in Charlotte County is the use of smaller, apparently portable metal structures that are often grouped together on the property. It appears that the larger tobacco operations are moving toward the use of these structures and away from the use of traditional frame structures located along the roadways.

### *Plantations*

The plantation system as a way of life revolved around plantations or farmsteads that were self-sufficient as well as economically viable. Most of these plantations sprawled for acres, or miles in the case of **Roanoke Plantation (19-0029)**, and were made up of domestic as well as agricultural outbuildings. Charlotte County has a number of these resources. Some of the best examples of these plantations that survive today include **Gravel Hill (19-0006)**, **Greenfield (19-0008)**, **Mapleton/Kentwood (19-0020)**, **Mulberry Hill (19-0024)** and **South Isle (19-0025)**.

Although the Staunton River did not provide ready access to markets and ports, many of the earliest and largest plantations were located along the river. These include **South Isle, Ridgeway (19-0028)**, **Roanoke Plantation, Morotock (19-0023)** and **Mapleton**. Their location in the proximity of the river could be attributed to the rich soils of the low-lying areas associated with a river plain.

Due to the expansive nature of these plantations, often the domestic slave's houses were grouped around the main house while the field hand's/slave's dwellings were located closer to the fields in which they worked. **The Street (19-0031)** is an example of this latter situation in which the field worker housing was located some distance from the main complex of **Dikeland**. **Dikeland** was divided into "quarters" for management and **the Street**, originally composed of five brick structures, is located in one of these quarters (pictured in the Ethnicity/Immigration Theme). Tobacco barns were also spread out across the property and now due to subdivision of the land are no longer associated with the original plantation.

### *Overseer's Houses*

Many steads included overseer's houses for the plantation foreman. The size and building material of the overseer's house was often a reflection of the economic success of the plantation it was associated with. The most impressive **overseer's house (19-5080)** (Figure 44) is the one associated with the extinct Cliffside plantation. The steeply-pitched central gable of this 1 1/2-story brick structure lends an architectural style to a building type that is usually more utilitarian than aesthetic. Another



**overseer's house (19-5079)** is located on Route 649 and dates to ca. 1840. This structure is also brick but is a more utilitarian style than Cliffside's overseer's house. The fact that these two houses and the servant's quarters at Mulberry Hill are constructed of brick is a reflection of the use of slave labor in construction. It could be ascertained that these buildings would most likely have been frame without servants to provide labor for brick making and laying.

### *Tenant Houses*

During Reconstruction, tenant farmers who may have been freed slaves or former overseers. The most common style of tenant house found in the county is a one-story, three-bay, gable-roof frame structure such as the **House, Route 643 (19-5083)**. The tenant house on the **S.C. Newcomb Homeplace (19-5116)** resembles this style in its unaltered form. Variations of the above-mentioned structure include a two-story version like the **House, Route 611 (19-5127)** (Figure 45). At one time, **Arcadia** had seven tenant houses.

Subsistence farming is the historical basis for the raising of crops for cash and barter. Agricultural products besides tobacco were cultivated for subsistence by the plantation and were not sold until later. Buildings for this include barns, corncribs, silos, chicken coops, granaries and smokehouses. Smokehouses are discussed in the domestic theme as this structure is more closely associated with the domestic complex.



### *Granaries*



A building used for subsistence is the granary. Constructed to hold corn, wheat or other grain, the best example of one can be found at **Westview (19-5110)** (Figure 46). This frame structure is one story with one asymmetrically-placed bay and is distinguishable from other outbuildings because of its proximity to the attached kitchen, narrow width and height, which is lower than the nearby smokehouse.

#### *Corn Cribs*

Most of the corn cribs documented in Charlotte County are small, simple frame construction with gable roofs. They are usually distinguished by the spaced slats used in their construction that allow air to penetrate the space

to dry the corn as it is on the cob. One of the oldest cribs surveyed is at **Locust Grove plantation (19-0045)** (Figure 47). Built ca. 1840, the saddle-notch logs of this structure are widely spaced, without chinking and lined with vertical slats on the interior. A later form of this building type can be found at the **Captain Thornton House (19-5013)**. The same shape and gable roof as **Locust Grove**, the wall cladding is narrow slats placed diagonally at opposing angles to give the appearance of being porous.



#### *Barns*

Unlike corn cribs, the variety of uses of barns are not



often evident by their construction because they often fill a number of niches in the agricultural complex. To accommodate storing things from equipment to hay, barns are generally large, frame and vary between one and two stories. Flanking pole sheds very often project from one or more sides to create additional shelter for equipment. Gable roofs are most common and gambrel roofs are most efficient when maximizing upper levels for storage. The best example of a gambrel-roof barn is

at **Sunnyside (19-5085)** (Figure 48). Apparently used for a dairy barn, this 2-story frame structure is covered by a low roof and has two large entrance bays to accommodate farm equipment or livestock.





The hay barn at **Mapleton (19-0020)** (Figure 49) is rare because of its dog-trot construction. The logs of this barn are held with square notching. The open space between the two sections connected by the gable is important since it allows a wagon or other vehicle to enter and be loaded or unloaded of hay by a pulley system above.

#### *Silos*

At the turn of the century, the revolution of a diversification from tobacco growth to other agricultural products occurred. These diversified endeavors included corn, wheat, oats, rye, hay, fruits and sheep, hogs, dairy cattle, horses, poultry and bee-keeping (Carrington , 100).

Silos are used to store grain for cattle and other livestock. They are engineered to function by gravity and do not require much space because they utilize height and not length. There were not many historic silos found in Charlotte County which supports the fact that other agricultural endeavors besides tobacco farming are relatively new in the history of Charlotte. The most common types of silo documented are made of concrete blocks or are prefabricated metal. The silos at the **Russell-Winn home (19-5120)** and at **Oak Hill (19-0056)** are made of concrete blocks that are approximately two-feet tall, fluted and held together by metal rings and are topped by a metal hemisphere.

#### *Agricultural Education*

**Sylvan Hill (19-5096)** became the first State Agricultural Test Farm in the United States when it was given over to the State Department of Agriculture ca. 1900 for the purpose of investigating different aspects of farming. This unique test farm explored techniques such as crop rotation, tested which species of crop would work best in the county and the type of fertilization best suited to a crop. Stock raising was studied to determine its profitability and which stock would work best in Charlotte County. The original portion of Sylvan Hill is the brick, octagonal west side onto which a Greek Revival-influenced section was added. The original barn, a large and impressive gambrel-roof structure, dated to the properties use as a test farm but has since been demolished.

Movement toward agricultural reform and realization of the economic benefits of personal canning led to the increasing popularity of schools that were equipped to teach such subsistent activities as canning. Community canneries were mentioned in existence at the turn of the century at Red Oak and at Charlotte Court House (Carrington, 72). The cannery associated with **Madisonville High School (19-5153)** (Figure 50) is a concrete-block structure with a gable roof and high running ridge vent.



## GOVERNMENT/LAW/POLITICAL

This theme relates to activities associated with governing of a locality, state or nation and administration of laws.

### Property Types Surveyed

Post Offices  
Jail  
Courthouse  
Voting Precinct  
Law office  
Clerk's Office

### *Resources Identified*

#### *Law offices on private residence or separate:*

19-0005	Edgehill
19-0019	Ingleside
19-0024	Mulberry Hill
19-0027	Red Hill (reconstructed)
19-0029	Roanoke Plantation law office
248-5001-011	Pettus and Caldwell, P.C.

#### *Post Offices or buildings with Post Offices:*

19-0009	Harvey's Store
19-5006 and 19-5007	Red House Tavern
19-5051	Jarman's Store and Cullen Post Office
19-5100	Formosa Store and Post Office
19-5103	Randolph Store and Post Office
19-5131	R.W. Moore Store and Post Office
19-5141	McMahon House
19-5147	Red Oak Grove Store
185-0021	Charlotte County Post Office (demolished)

#### *Other buildings associated with the theme:*

19-5035	Old Well Voting Precinct and Store
19-5053	Cullen Fire Department
185-0023-008/185-0002	Hagerman-Marshall House

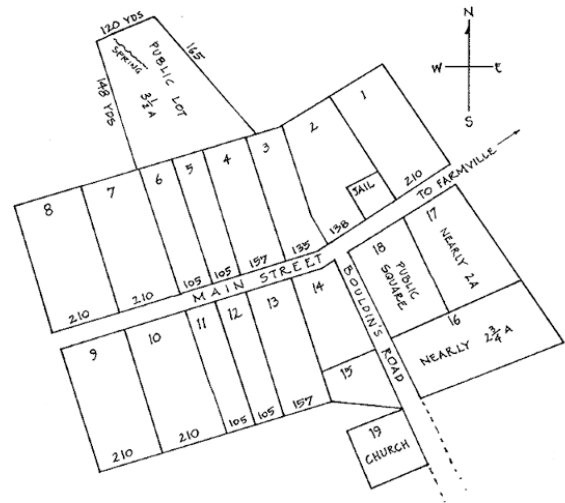
#### *Charlotte County Courthouse Square*

185-0023-003	General Registrar's Office
185-0023-004	County Clerk's Office (current)
185-0023-005/185-0007	County Clerk's Office (original)
185-0023-006	Charlotte County Jail
185-0023-007/185-0001	Charlotte County Courthouse (NRHP)

There are a total of 23 properties surveyed in Charlotte County that reflect the theme of government, law and politics in the county. The resources range in date from 1822 to ca. 1940.

The first county court was held on the first Monday of March, 1765 but the location of this first meeting is not known. A number of issues were addressed that included the creation of the county court and the swearing in of justices, the county clerk, the sheriff, lawyers and the magistrates, among other details that included the commissioning of a courthouse.

Charlotte Court House is the oldest town in the county and existed before the boundaries for Charlotte County were formed. The area began as a magazine for the storage of ammunition for Virginia Indian forts and became Dalstonburgh by a statute of the House of Burgesses in 1759 (Ailsworth et al, 304). The establishment of a post office in 1794 gave the town the name of Charlotte Court House although the area was informally known as Marysville. An 1817 plat (reprinted 1928, Figure 51) of the Court House area shows 19 lots of various sizes and uses from business to residential with allowance for a public square, church and jail. Charlotte Court House was incorporated in 1874 and the name was changed from Marysville to Smithville and finally became "Charlotte Court House" in 1901 (Ailsworth et al, 305-6).



#### *Charlotte Court House - County Seat*

The courthouse square has evolved through time. The area of the "square" was 10 acres in 1794 and included the prison space. The 1818 public square area was two acres and included the courthouse, a jail and the clerk's office. The current area is composed of the courthouse, the county jail, the original clerk's office, the present clerk's office and the General Registrar's office.

The most important governmental structure in Charlotte Court House is the **courthouse (185-0023-007/185-0001, NRHP)** which was constructed on a plan by Thomas Jefferson. Built 1822-1823 by John Percival, this two-story brick structure with temple form has a pedimented gable and Tuscan portico and is an excellent example of Jeffersonian architecture. This structure is the only remaining courthouse that can be attributed directly to him in Virginia. The courthouse building has changed over the years but its location in Charlotte Court House has not as this is the third courthouse structure on the same site. A contributing element associated with the courthouse is the **Confederate monument**. This stone obelisk is located on the front lawn of the courthouse and was dedicated in August 1901.

The original **Charlotte County Clerk's Office (185-0023-005/185-0007)** was constructed in 1840 in the Greek Revival style. This two-story brick structure is located directly behind the courthouse, facing Route 47. The present **County Clerk's Office (185-0023-004)** was constructed in 1900 in

the Romanesque Revival style. The projecting tower symmetrically-placed at the front entrance provides an interesting detail to this one-story brick structure.

The two-story brick **jail (185-0023-006)** (Figure 51) was supposedly the eighth structure built in the county that served as an incarceration facility. It was built in 1936 on the foundation of the previous jail and is behind the courthouse and clerk's office. The **General Registrar's office (185-0023-003)** is the newest building in the courthouse complex. This brick structure was built in the 1940s as a garage and later converted to the office it is now.



### *Law Offices*

Law offices play a role in the administration of justice. There are six law-related offices surveyed in Charlotte County. The **Hagerman-Marshall House (185-0023-008/185-0002)**,

was constructed of brick in 1839-1840 by Levin B. Hagerman to be his home and tailor shop. Judge Hunter Marshall most likely used the building as his office when he rented the building in 1851, bought it then sold it in 1858 when he moved to Roxabel. **Roanoke Plantation (19-0029)** (Figure 52), the home of noted lawyer, Congressman and Senator John Randolph, has a small, two-room frame office with upper and lower front entrances. The office at



**Ingleside (19-0019)** served as the first county clerk's office for a time after its construction in 1810. The **APVA museum** in Charlotte Court House is a replica of this structure. The office at **Mulberry Hill (19-0019)** was the office of distinguished justice Paul Carrington. It is unclear which part is the original structure of the restored frame law office at Patrick Henry's **Red Hill (19-0027)**. The newest law office surveyed is **Pettus and Caldwell, P.C. (248-5001-011)** in Keysville which was constructed ca.

1900. This frame structure has an intersecting gable roof over one and one-half stories.

### *Post Offices*

Many taverns crossroad stores at one time held a post office for the rural area it served since these structures were strategically placed at populated areas with traffic. **Red House Tavern (19-5006, 19-5007)** was one of the first such stores to house a post office because of its ideal location in the crossroad town of Red House. The **Formosa Store and Post Office (19-5100)** is an excellent example of a late 19th century store and post office. This two-story frame structure with parapet has a mail slot cut into the front facade. It served the areas of Mossingford, Randolph and Formosa near Saxe. The **R.W. Moore General Store and Post Office (19-5131)** served the area of Wylliesburg in a postal capacity beginning in the 1920s until its conversion to a library in 1975. This one-story frame structure has a wing on the left side that served as the post office. One of the oldest post offices and stores surveyed is the **Jarman Store (19-5051)** in the village of Cullen. As is typical with most all of the later postal styles, the post office is a wing on the side.

*Other Governmental Structures*

The only voting precinct surveyed in Charlotte County was found at the **Old Well Store (19-5035)**. The left wing of this vernacular frame store was used as the voting precinct for the Midway magisterial district in the early and mid-1900s. One fire department building has been surveyed. The **Cullen Fire Department (19-5053)** (Figure 53) is a 1940s concrete block structure with brick face. All three front bays have been converted to windows. The station siren is on top of the building at the peak of the parapet and gable roof.



## **HEALTH CARE/MEDICINE**

This theme refers to the care of the sick, elderly, and the disabled and the promotion of health and hygiene.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Drug Stores  
Hospitals  
Medical Offices  
Residences

### ***Resources Identified***

19-0043      Roxabel  
19-5189-002    Crouch-Rexall Drug Store  
185-0022      Moses Hall-nursing home  
185-5002      House, Route 47  
248-5001-005   Keeling's Drug Store

At least five properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the theme of Health Care/Medicine. These sources range in date from 1840 until 1951 and include residences, drug stores, a doctor's office, and a nursing home. The primary resources were residences and drug stores.

Early medical care in Charlotte County was limited to visits by local doctors only after home remedies were exhausted. Some services were provided from small offices usually located in the home or a nearby outbuilding. Charlotte County had a number of doctors as indicated by reports of Martin in 1835. Three resident physicians were noted in Charlotte Court House as well as ones in Red House, Rough Creek, and Wyltiesburg (County Archives: Martin, 150). By 1850, the census reported 25 physicians and one dentist residing in Charlotte County (County Archives: Nance, 117). A County Health Board existed, but tended to respond primarily to outbreaks of epidemics, such as the smallpox in 1836 and 1856 (County Archives: Gaines 1940: 88). A majority of the doctors were trained as apprentices by an already established doctor, but rarely had any further education. The advent of automobiles and trains and consequent settlement in more concentrated areas brought on changes in the medical fields such as the establishment of hospitals and offices in the towns.

Although most practices were operated directly out of the residence, some doctors had offices in outbuildings near their homes. This was the case at **Roxabel (19-0043)** located just outside Charlotte Court House. The office is a small, one-room brick building (Figure 54). Due to its strategic location at the crossroads of a community, **Red House Tavern (19-5006, 19-5007)** was used by doctors and had offices and a drug store in the early 1900s (Meyers, 1975). Those working on the tavern's medical staff include Miss Ola Barnes, druggist and nurse, Dr. Henry Williams, dentist, Dr. Emmette Walker, Dr. Beasley Snell, and Dr. Joseph Snell. The architectural description of the tavern, now separated into two single-dwellings, can be found under the Domestic theme.



## **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD**

Around the turn of the 20th century, drug stores began to appear in downtown commercial centers such as Keysville and Drakes Branch. **Crouch Rexall Drug Store (19-5189-002)**, a two-story commercial building with corbelled brick work in the cornice, was constructed circa 1900. The first floor has been augmented, but the second floor retains its original four-bay, segmental arched windows with raised brickwork and four tablets of corbelled brick between the windows and cornice. **Keeling's Drug Store (248-5001-005)** in Keysville was constructed in 1915 as a one-story building, embellished with a band of corbelled brick work. The building retains its original three-bay recessed storefront.

## 1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD

When automobiles and train access became available to most citizens, hospitals and town offices became more popular. Most everyone could receive adequate medical care, except for the African American citizens. In 1951, with the help of the Grand United Order of Moses, a black **nursing home** was erected on the site of their headquarters, **Moses Hall (185-0022)**. This Modern-style brick building features bands of stucco garnishing its stepped corners on the facade. The building was originally intended as a hospital; however, due to permit restrictions, it was opened as a nursing home and continues to operate as an adult home. A circa 1930 bungalow, **House, Route 47 (185-5002)** (Figure 55), was constructed for the resident doctor by members of the Grand United Order of Moses. The bungalow is a one-and-one-half story brick dwelling with inlaid brick patterns on the chimney and around the water table.





## **EDUCATION**

The Education theme relates to the process of conveying or acquiring knowledge or skills through systematic instruction, training or study and includes both private and public efforts to this end.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

One-room Schools  
Two-room Schools  
Boarding Schools  
Dormitories  
Field School  
Grammar School  
Secondary School  
Library

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Private Schools*

19-5004 Madison Academy dormitory  
19-5167 Bluestone-Harmony School

#### *Public Schools*

##### *One-Room*

19-5064 High Hill School

##### *Two-Room*

19-5155 School, Route 619

##### *Three-Room*

19-5012 Oakdale School  
19-5089 Saxe Schoolhouse  
19-5121 Salem School

##### *Four-Room*

19-5056 Phenix School

##### *Public High School*

19-5153 Madisonville School  
185-0023-038 Central High School  
185-5001 Central High School-black  
248-5001-012 Keysville school

##### *Other Facility*

185-0023-037 Charlotte County Board of Education Administration Building

#### *Private Properties with schools*

19-0006 Gravel Hill  
19-0022 Moldavia  
19-0044 Golden Hill  
19-5110 Westview  
19-5118 Boswell House

*Library*

185-0023-008/185-0002

Hagerman-Marshall House/Charlotte County Public Library

At least 19 structures have been surveyed in Charlotte County relating to the theme of education. It is understood that one could never know how many homes held schools that educated the children of the household and surrounded areas.

### **1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**

Education of children began in the homes of those who could afford tutors or could send their children away to school in England. Sometimes communal "field schools" were established that were led by a teacher subsidized by those attending. No field schools were found remaining from this period.

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

The position of School Commissioner was created by law in 1818 in Virginia to administer school duties by district throughout the state. Many private schools existed throughout the history of Charlotte County but due to a number of circumstances, including the advent of the Civil War, ceased operation and the buildings have since been destroyed. Examples of these include the Young Ladies' Seminary and the Charlotte Academy, both constructed in Charlotte Court House ca. 1840 and ca. 1858, respectively, although neither exists today.

The evolution of the school building as we know it began with the use of whatever structure was available to those desiring to provide an education to their children. This structure may have been a barn or may have been constructed for the purpose of education, such as "field schools", or may have been in the dwelling itself.

Private schools were often held on the property of residences including **Gravel Hill (19-0006)** and **Westview (19-5110)**. The school at Westview is unique in the county as a small, one-room, frame, pre-Civil War field school (Figure 55, at right). The private school held in Gravel Hill was begun specifically for the Hannah children in 1829.



### **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

Private tutoring and private schools continued as the primary source of education in this period. **Madison Academy (19-5004)** (Figure 56, below) was established at Red House in 1838. This one and one-half story, Greek revival-style building is a rare-surviving example of an educational building in its use of brick in construction, a contributing factor in its present-day existence.



The boarding school held in **Golden Hill (19-0044)** was known as Golden Hill Academy and was a preparatory school for young men. Begun in 1855, the old Golden

Hill dwelling was used as their dormitory (Ailsworth et al, 278).

**Moldavia (19-0022)** (Figure 13) was converted in 1858 from the former residence of David Comfort as a boarding school for girls. This Greek Revival-style dwelling resembles Gravel Hill. Due to the Civil War, it ceased operation until 1866.

## 1860-1865 THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD

Many of the schools built prior to 1860 ceased operation during this time of conflict.

## 1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD

Some of the established schools did reopen after the war, such as Moldavia. Most all of the others did not have the financial backing to recover.

In 1870, there were 36 public schools throughout the county while the 1905-1906 school year showed an increase to 86 schools, with one or more in each district. Two high schools were in place at that time, one in Keysville and the other in Charlotte Courthouse which filled the gap between graded schools (elementary) and college (Carrington 28). There were also 28 schools exclusively for and taught by African-Americans.

When the public school system was created in 1870, "log huts" were the usual type of school building. As private education gave way to a public system, field schools and log huts gave way to frame, "painted houses" (Carrington 27-28) around the turn of the century. One of these is the 1903 **High Hill School (19-5064)** (Figure 57), a simple frame structure that is an excellent example of the early one-room building form.



The typical design for schools with more than one room was to have windows all along one elevation for light and one facade with no windows to accommodate placement of the chalkboards on the interior. Interior plans featured an arrangement of separate classrooms (sometimes created by folding partition doors) and separate cloakrooms.



The only school surveyed that appears to have two rooms is the ca. 1900 **School, Route 619 (19-5155)** (Figure 58, at left) in Drakes Branch. This one-story, four-bay simple frame structure has two entrances, presumably for segregation of genders.

The **Saxe Schoolhouse (19-5089)** (Figure 59, below) is another turn-of-the-century, frame structure. This schoolhouse is an example of the larger, three-room style of schoolhouse that reflected the centralization of

educational facilities.

Of the schools surveyed, one was built for blacks using Julius Rosenwald funds in construction. **Salem School (19-5121)** (Figure 22) is a one-story, frame, three-room structure that was built ca. 1915.



Although the public school system existed, the best example of a private African-American school is the **Bluestone-Harmony Academic and Industrial School (19-5167)** near Keysville. Constructed in 1898 by an association of black Baptist churches, this boarding school served as a high school for African-Americans from locations in Virginia and beyond until 1950. This complex expanded in the early 1900s with the construction of boy's and girl's dormitories and teacher's and president's dwellings.

Another large high school in the Keysville area is **Keysville High School (248-5001-012)**, built in 1912. This two-story brick structure has arched windows and a projecting front entrance portico and a basement. It was enlarged and later converted to an elementary school.

## 1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD

The predominant building material in the county was wood. This fact makes the **Phenix School (19-5056)** (Figure 60) a rare example of a brick elementary school. This schoolhouse is also the only four-room school documented as testimony to the evolution of the building style from one-room to four.



By this time, the small rural schools had evolved to become larger structures more centrally located in the towns. Each town in Charlotte County had its own high school as a result of this consolidation. The **Keysville School** and the **Madisonville School (19-5153)** were converted from high schools to elementary schools to accommodate the centralization of these age groups. Both **Central High Schools** in Charlotte Court House remained as high schools (**185-0023-038** (Figure 21), **185-5001** (Figure 30)). The typical design of these structures is two-story, hip-roof with broad bracketed eaves. There were usually four rooms on each floor with large central stairs and cloakrooms. A gymnasium, cafeteria and/or a cannery were often associated with the schools as the facilities also served as agricultural training schools. The Madisonville School had both a cafeteria and cannery near the main building.

### *Library*

Although private libraries existed at various times throughout the county, one historic public library was surveyed. The **Hagerman-Marshall House (185-0023-008/185-0002)** was built ca. 1830 and became the Charlotte County Public Library in 1937 with the help of David K. Bruce library funds.

This colonial-style brick structure was the first David K. Bruce-funded library in Virginia and is the only one converted to a library whereas the other libraries were built as such.

## **MILITARY/DEFENSE**

This theme relates to the system of defending the territory and sovereignty of a people and encompasses all military activities, battles, strategic locations, and events important in military history.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Battlefields  
Residences

### ***Resources Identified***

19-0004      Do Well  
19-0008      Greenfield  
19-0019      Ingleside  
19-5096      Sylvan Hill

41-0115      Staunton River Railroad Bridge (not surveyed with Charlotte County)

At least five properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the theme of Military/Defense. Military-related incidents occurred at these properties during and around the time of the battle of Staunton River Bridge in June, 1864. Resources identified include residences and battlefields. The predominant resources found relating to this theme are residences.

Even though there were no well-known battles fought on her soils, Charlotte County gave much to aid in the country's defense. Troops from Charlotte fought in the French and Indian War, the War of 1812, the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and both World Wars I and II.

## **1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**

The French and Indian War (1754-1763) interrupted the settlement of the frontier, especially in the western-most regions of Lunenburg, which then extended to the Blue Ridge Mountains. The area of Charlotte supported this movement with the establishment of a magazine in 1756 at Clement Read's homeplace, Bushy Forest, near Charlotte Court House (Ailsworth et al, 39).

During the Revolutionary War, Charlotte County had several militia groups trained and helped supply food, uniforms, and other supplies. No battles were fought in the County but troops did pass through. After the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, some French troops were quartered at the magazine in Marysville (Charlotte Court House) for the winter. (Ailsworth et al, 227-228).

## **1861-1865 THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD**

During the Civil War, more of Charlotte's citizens were active troops in various companies such as the Keysville Guard, the Charlotte Rifles, Randolph's Guard, and the Staunton Hill Artillery, which was outfitted personally by Senator Charles Bruce of **Staunton Hill (19-0030)**. Altogether, the county supported three Companies, one Calvary, and two Infantries. Charlotte County was directly affected by the war in 1864 as General James H. Wilson led his troops across southside Virginia in a campaign to destroy the Richmond and Danville Railway and cut off the supply lines to General Lee's army. This campaign, referred to as Wilson's Raid, brought looting and destruction to farms and homes along its path as Union soldiers raided several of the areas more prominent homes. **Do Well (19-0004)** (Figure 8), a two-story Federal-style brick dwelling featuring a slate roof and molded brick cornice, was raided by Union soldiers who basically took up camp on the premises for a day. The soldiers stole many goods and servants, while using the women servants as their own personal cooks. **Sylvan Hill (19-5096)**, a Greek Revival wood sided and brick dwelling with pedimented gable, was also raided at the time of the battle of Staunton River Bridge. Owner Isaac Carrington lost many goods as well as 17 servants in the raid (APVA, Southsider (1989), 82-84). **Ingleside (19-0019)**, an 1810 brick dwelling featuring paired interior end chimneys and a modillioned cornice, and **Greenfield (19-0008)** (Figure 3), a two-story Georgian-style home built in 1771, were both raided during these events. Railroad tracks were destroyed and the depots at Keysville, Drakes Branch, Mossingford, and Randolph were burned. The campaign culminated in Charlotte County with the battle of the **Staunton River Bridge (41-0115)**. The battle began on June 25, 1864 when General James H. Wilson began his campaign to destroy the bridge. The bridge was the only place the railroad crossed the Staunton, and if it was destroyed, General Lee's supplies would have been cut off. During the entire battle, the Confederates drove an engine with several cars up to the bridge at full speed to give the illusion of reinforcements arriving, when in reality there



was one engine and no extra troops. Luckily the ruse worked, for the Union was never quite sure of the situation and the bridge was saved.

## **1917-1945      WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

Although Charlotte County did not experience direct threats from either World War I or World War II, it did experience the loss of men who went overseas to serve. In cooperation with the rest of the county, citizens of Charlotte County had to ration food and other commodities to provide for the war effort. The Charlotte County chapter of the American Red Cross was organized in 1917 for war relief work and continued during peace times to promote improvements in public health. The community efforts that were created out of necessity during the war continued during peace times with volunteers working together towards improving the quality of life throughout the county.

## **RELIGION**

This theme encompasses the system of beliefs, practices, traditions and settings of rituals relating to the expression of faith.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Religious structure  
Ceremonial site  
Church school  
Church-related residence

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Churches:*

19-0003	Cub Creek Church
19-0016	Hermon Presbyterian Church
19-0058	Mt. Zion Baptist Church
19-0059	Morrison Grove Baptist Church
19-0088	Eureka Baptist Church
19-5001	Concord Church
19-5003	Trinity Methodist Church
19-5015	Mt. Lyle Church
19-5016	Madisonville Methodist Church
19-5020	Centenary Church
19-5022	Salem Baptist Church
19-5027	Oak View Church
19-5037	Rough Creek Presbyterian Church
19-5040	Bethel Baptist Church
19-5043	Mount Carmel United Methodist Church
19-5047	Aspen Hill Baptist Church
19-5048	Roanoke Presbyterian Church
19-5058	Phenix Presbyterian Church
19-5060	Phenix United Methodist Church
19-5070	Roanoke Baptist Church
19-5079	Staunton River Baptist Church
19-5090	Southall Memorial Church
19-5108	Cedar Grove Community Center
19-5115	Old Friendship Baptist Church
19-5122	Salem Baptist Church
19-5124	Hebron Church
19-5128	Wylliesburg Baptist Church
19-5157	Grace Episcopal Church
19-5160	Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
19-5161	Organ Hill Church
185-0006	Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church
185-0013	Village Presbyterian Church
185-0019	Charlotte Court House Methodist Church

185-5003 Charlotte Court House Methodist Church (African-American)  
248-5001-010 Keysville Presbyterian Church

*Church-related Residences:*

19-5026 Cullen Baptist Church Parsonage  
185-0008 Village Presbyterian Church Manse  
248-5001-009 Keysville Presbyterian Church Parsonage

*Church Schools:*

19-5167 Bluestone-Harmony Academy

A total of 40 structures relating to the theme of religion have been surveyed to date. These buildings range in date from the 1820s through the 1920s and include 36 churches, three church-related residences, and one church school. The majority of the churches surveyed are of frame construction with the earliest brick churches occurring in the area of Charlotte Court House. The simple rectangular nave plan with gable roof is the predominant form. The Greek Revival style, with either a pedimented gable or gable returns, influenced most church designs in the first half of the 19th century while the Gothic-Revival and Carpenter-Gothic styles began to appear in the late 19th and early 20th century. The majority of these churches and related structures remain intact and in good condition as they continue to serve their congregations. The application of siding and the addition of front porticoes and rear wings represent the primary threat to these religious resources.

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

The site of the 1820 **Cub Creek Church (19-0003)**, which was destroyed by fire in 1937, was documented by HABS in 1958. The Cub Creek Church was originally established in 1738 by the Scotch-Irish settlers led by John Caldwell as the first organized church in the area that would become Charlotte County. The first meetinghouse was constructed of logs which was replaced in 1820 with a frame structure. Cub Creek Church figured prominently in the fight for religious freedom and the advancement of education in the state. The decision by the Hanover Presbytery to establish Liberty Hall Academy (now Washington & Lee University) and Hampden-Sydney Academy (now Hampden-Sydney College) was made at its October 1774 meeting at Cub Creek Church. In 1852, a two-story wing was added to the front facade. All that remains today of this important early church is the cemetery and an historic marker erected in 1938 by the Charlotte County Branch of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

### **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

A total of thirteen churches and one parsonage dating to this period have been surveyed. Many of these churches had been established earlier and replaced their original meeting houses with more substantial buildings during this prosperous period before the Civil War. With the exception of the brick churches constructed in Charlotte Court House, these churches are of frame construction with a simple, rectangular nave plan and a front gable roof. The influence of the Greek Revival is evident in the emphasis on the gable form, which is either pedimented or accented with molded gable returns, and the square-headed openings. **Hermon**



**Presbyterian Church (19-0016)** (Figure 61), built ca. 1855, is the best example of this simple form with its original facade intact. Other examples that have been altered with later additions of front porticoes, vestibules, and steeples include the ca. 1830 **Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church (19-5043)**, the 1834 **Hebron Church (19-5124)**, the 1841 **Charlotte Court House United Methodist Church (185-0019/185-23-42)**, the ca. 1850 **Mt. Zion Baptist Church (19-0058)**, and the 1857 **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church (185-0006)**.

The **Charlotte Court House United Methodist Church** and the **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church**, also in Charlotte Court House, are unique to this form with their brick construction. **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church** was organized in the 1830s with the present brick structure constructed in 1837 under the direction of Josiah Dabbs, a well-known master builder with the firm Dabbs and Thomas of Richmond and a member of the congregation. It was remodeled in 1859 (Ailsworth et al, 159). Although a new brick vestibule and steeple have been added to this structure, the original detailing in the molded cornice lines and the square-headed windows remain of the 1837 Greek-Revival design. Although the pedimented gable of the original structure remains intact at **Charlotte Court House United Methodist Church**, the building was substantially remodeled in the Romanesque-Revival style in the early 20th century with the addition of a crenelated entrance vestibule and tower and round-arched openings. **Concord Church (19-5001)**, a frame structure, was constructed in the popular Greek-Revival style in the 1830s and later remodeled in the Gothic-Revival style with pointed-arched windows and transom.

A variation of this same gabled form is seen in the two-story examples of the 1837 **Village Presbyterian Church (185-0013)**, the 1838 **Rough Creek Presbyterian (19-5037)** (Figure 10), the 1849 **Roanoke Presbyterian Church (19-5048)**, the 1850 **Eureka Baptist Church (19-0088)**, and the ca. 1860 **Salem Baptist Church (19-5022)** (Figure 62). These churches maintain the Greek-Revival influence in their pedimented gables and square-headed window and door openings. The form of **Eureka Baptist Church** has been slightly modified with the addition of an octagonal belfry and an entry porch. **Village Presbyterian Church**, constructed of brick in Charlotte Court House, survives as the most intact example of this two-story, Greek-Revival style church form with its pedimented gable and bull's-eye corner blocks on the square-headed openings.



Another feature common to this form is the two separate front entrances for the separate genders as seen in **Roanoke Presbyterian Church**, **Salem Baptist Church**, and **Hermon Presbyterian Church**. In many cases such as **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church**, the later addition of a front vestibule obscures the original pattern of two separate entrances.

Prior to the Civil War and the abolition of slavery, it was common for the slaves to attend church with their owners. Typically, balconies on the interior plan provided a means of separation between the races during worship. **Village Presbyterian Church** and **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church** are examples of antebellum churches that retain these balconies.

The presence of parsonages represents the growth and stability of the churches as they began to support their own ministers instead of relying on the infrequent visits of itinerant preachers. The only parsonage surveyed that dates to this period is the **Village Presbyterian Manse (185-0008)** in Charlotte Court House. This one-and-a-half story frame structure with exterior end chimneys, side-gable roof, and dormers was constructed ca. 1850. Its simple form with central-passage, single-pile

plan is typical of the area. There has been a recent discovery concerning the use of old materials in building this structure which may not reflect the old design.

## 1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD

After the Civil War, the social uncertainty and the emancipation of slaves resulted in a revival in the religious community and the establishment of a number of new churches. The congregations of established churches expanded with the formation of new churches. Most noticeable; however, was the establishment of new African-American churches by the former slaves, who had previously worshipped from the balconies of their masters' churches. Of the seventeen churches surveyed from this period, five of the churches -- **Roanoke Baptist Church (19-5070)**, **Morrison Grove Baptist Church (19-0059)**, **Charlotte Court House Methodist Church (African-American) (185-5003)**, **Aspen Hill Baptist Church (19-5047)**, and **Salem Baptist Church (19-5122)** -- were established by newly-freed black congregations. In addition to these churches, the **Bluestone-Harmony Academy (19-5167)** was established in 1890 outside of Keysville by an alliance of African-American Baptist churches to provide education for the black youth of Charlotte County and the surrounding region.



The simple, rectangular nave plan with gabled roof continued as a popular form for churches during this period. The ca. 1890 **Oak View Church (19-5027)** (Figure 63, at left) is the purest example of this form with its unaltered facade. The influence of the Greek-Revival style is still evident in its molded cornice returns and central entrance with rectangular transom. Contemporary structures at **Aspen Hill Church (19-5047)**, **Mt. Lyle (19-5015)**, **Roanoke Baptist Church (19-5070)** and **Trinity Church (19-5003)** (Figure 64, below)

feature this same form with the later addition of an entrance vestibule or portico. The ca. 1870 **Morrison Grove Baptist Church (19-0059)**, which was established by the former slave congregation of **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Church**, retains the simple front-gable form with the addition of a square corner tower with pyramidal roof. A central-ridge belfry or steeple has been added to this form at **Mt. Lyle Church** and **Roanoke Baptist Church**. Both **Morrison Grove Baptist Church** and **Trinity Church** feature the two separate front entrances that were seen in some of the earlier churches. The design of **Old Friendship Baptist Church (19-5115)** (Figure 23), built ca. 1878, introduces Victorian detailing in its board-and-batten gable front with sawtooth border and decorative, scroll-sawn brackets and woodwork in the door surround to the traditional form with its gable returns and square-headed openings.



The Gothic-Revival style began to influence the detailing of church buildings towards the end of the 19th century. The **Salem Baptist Church**, constructed of frame in 1906 with brick veneer added later, is an example of the transition from Greek-Revival to the Gothic-Revival style with its



rectangular form and molded returns on the front gabled roof combined with the triangular window heads. The **Organ Hill Church (19-5161)** adds steeply-pitched cross gables with returns at the front of its rectangular plan as well as a one-bay entrance vestibule with gabled roof with returns topped by a squared belfry with pyramidal roof. The windows in the belfry and side elevations feature pointed-arch windows.



By the turn of the century, the Gothic-Revival or Carpenter Gothic style dominated the design of churches. The **Wylliesburg Baptist Church (19-5128)** retains the rectangular, gabled form with the addition of a central tower with quatrefoil window and pointed-arch side windows. At the 1907 **Madisonville Church (19-5016)**, the tower and entrance are located to one side to allow for a large, arched, tripartite window of stained glass at the center of the gabled, rectangular form. The plans begin to vary from the traditional rectangle to more

complex cruciform plans with corner towers in the designs of the ca. 1900 **Staunton River Baptist Church (19-5079)** (Figure 65, previous page), the 1908 **Southall Memorial Church (19-5090)**, and the 1911 **Phenix Presbyterian Church (19-5058)**. The large arched window with tracery and stained glass at the gable end is a common feature to these churches. The tower at **Staunton River Baptist Church** is exaggerated with an open belfry and tall, steeply pitched pyramidal roof. The Carpenter-Gothic style is emphasized in the decorative shingles of the bell tower and the gable end at **Southall Memorial Church** and **Mt. Calvary Baptist Church (19-5160)**. While the **Phenix Presbyterian Church** features the more complex plan with corner tower and large tracery window, its detailing illustrates the influence of the Colonial-Revival style with its gable returns, square-headed windows, and round-arched transom over the entrance.

The **Keysville Presbyterian Church (248-5001-010)** (Figure 66) has a simple nave plan with steeply-pitched gable roof with gabled roof vents and a short, square belfry with low, hip roof. Large knee braces support the wide eaves. A large round window of stained glass and round-arched windows puncture the shingled walls.



The growing presence of churches and parsonages in small towns testifies to their role as an integral part of the community. The only parsonage surveyed dating to this period is the ca. 1915 **Cullen Baptist Church Parsonage (19-5026)**, a typical frame I-house. Other than their close proximity to the church, there is nothing in the design of parsonages during this period that distinguishes them from other single dwellings in the area. It is likely that other parsonages exist from this period that have not been identified.

## 1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD

By the mid-20th century, the population growth and social order of the period following the Civil War had stabilized and the expansion of churches in Charlotte County slowed down. A total of five churches and one parsonage dating to this period were surveyed. Of these, two of the churches and the parsonage are located in towns rather than rural areas, one church was constructed to replace an earlier structure, and one church was established by a black congregation. The designs and construction materials of these churches vary from simple, frame vernacular churches to accurate interpretations of the Gothic-Revival style in brick.

The persistence of the simple rectangular form with gabled roof is illustrated in the ca. 1920 **Cedar Grove Community Church (19-5108)**. Another example of this popular form is seen in the design of **Henry Church (19-5082)** (Figure 67), which was constructed in 1920 by a black congregation and named in honor of the Reverend Robert Henry, a late 18th century pastor at **Cub Creek Church** who was dedicated to teaching and ministering to the slaves of that period. (Ailsworth et al, 132) This frame church adds a vestibule and squared belfry with hip roof to the simple form. Triangular lights topping the stained-glass windows illustrate the influence of the Gothic-Revival style on the vernacular design.



The **Phenix United Methodist Church (19-5060)** (Figure 68) and **Grace Episcopal Church (19-5157)** in Drakes Branch represent the move towards more academic church designs in these urban areas. The **Phenix United Methodist Church**, constructed of brick in 1920-1922, stands as a 20th century adaptation of the Greek-Revival style with its pedimented gable, pilastered walls and segmental-arched openings with stained glass. **Grace Episcopal Church** (Figure 24), constructed in Drakes Branch in 1932, is an example of a small-scale Gothic-Revival church emulative of the picturesque chapels of rural England. The steeply-pitched gables and pointed-arch windows with lozenge and diamond-patterned lights are true to the style while the different-colored and rough-set bricks and the exposed rafters lend to its rural charm. This church, built in 1932, dates in its organization back to the 1748 Roanoke Church established by Cumberland Parish. The church was removed to Charlotte Court House in 1858 and the name changed to **Grace Episcopal Church**. In 1878, the church returned to Drakes Branch to the present location. After a fire in 1931, the present church was built.



## **SOCIAL**

This theme relates to social activities and institutions, the activities of charitable, fraternal, or other community organizations, and places associated with broad social movements.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Community Centers  
Meeting Halls  
Taverns

### ***Resources Identified***

19-0010	Harvey's Tavern
19-5028	Madison District Community Center
185-0022	Moses Hall
185-0005	Masonic Lodge
185-0016	Old Brick Tavern
19-5006, 19-5007	Red House Tavern
185-0011	Tankersley Tavern
19-5152	Wylliesburg Community Center

At least eight properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the Social theme. These sources range in date from circa 1765 until 1948, and include taverns, meeting halls, and community centers. The predominant resources found relating to this theme were taverns, followed by Community Centers and Masonic Lodges.

Early social life in Charlotte County revolved around the extended family. Weddings and extended visits by family and friends offered a welcome respite from everyday rural life. Fox hunting season was another excuse to gather with friends and neighbors. Often during these times, large dances were held in the homes or local taverns. Advancements in areas such as transportation and communication helped broaden the range of activities, allowing people to socialize outside the family unit. Movie theaters and fraternal organizations became more active during this period, starting toward the end of the 19th century.

**1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION**  
**1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**  
**1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

One of Charlotte County's first social centers, **Tankersley Tavern (185-0023-044/185-0011)**, located in Charlotte Court House, was built around 1765. The original frame building was replaced by a brick building around 1830. A favorite gathering place for travelers and locals, George Washington had breakfast at the tavern and Patrick Henry's last speech was delivered from the tavern steps in 1799 (Ailsworth et al, 422). **The Old Brick Tavern (185-0023-013/185-0016)** (Figure 69), a well-preserved Federal-style brick tavern built in 1820 is located adjacent to the Charlotte County Courthouse and served as a meeting place for many of the towns residents. Courtdays in Charlotte County also caused an increase in activity at the tavern.



Some taverns were not located in central places, but in between larger places to accommodate the traveler. The **Red House Tavern (19-5006, 19-5007)** (Figures 6 and 71) was located approximately half way between Appomattox and Charlotte Courthouse at the intersection of Route 727 and Route 615. Social events such as old fashioned square dances were held in the houses. The men's activities included fox hunting, horseback riding, jousting, and baseball (Meyers, 1975). **Harvey's Tavern (19-0010)** (Figure 5), located between Prince Edward County and Charlotte Court House, was also a common stop for the weary traveler in need of spirit. Today, Harvey's tavern continues to serve as a social gathering place in the community as a formal tea house (Ailsworth, et al, 381). The architectural descriptions of these structures are explained in further detail in the Domestic and Recreation/Arts themes.

Trips to the springs, such as Wheeler's Springs near Red House and Keysville Tonic Springs were popular retreats at the time. Many believed these springs had healing powers.

Masonic Lodges were found quite frequently in small towns starting around the middle of the 19th century. A **Masonic Lodge (185-0023-047/185-0005)** was built in Charlotte Court House around 1852. Around 1860, the Masons were very active in Red House with 53 members. In the 1880s, Keysville reconstructed its Masonic Lodge which had been destroyed in the Civil War but it would be destroyed again by fire in 1887 (County Archives: Crouch, 8). Other fraternal organizations such as the Odd Fellows and American Legion were also active groups committed to civic and social improvements (County Archives: Priddy, 28-29). Following World War II, the American Legion was formed in Keysville and purchased the Civilian Conservation Corps Camp outside of town for use as their post where they held a yearly carnival (County Archives: Crouch, 24). In 1904, J. Murray Jeffress founded The Grand United Order of Moses as a way for black citizens to obtain insurance, while at the same time forming a social order similar to the white Masonic Lodge. The organization was large and had branches in many states. **Moses Hall (185-0022)**, a two and a half story vernacular brick building in Charlotte Court House (Figure 25), served as the national headquarters for this society as well as a social gathering place for the local black community. The three-day meetings held each year were a spectacular event drawing delegates and new initiates from across the country as well as entertaining the local community with parades, speeches, and a carnival.

### **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD**

Social institutions emerged towards the end of the 19th century and thrived during this era. The Marysville Debating Society was organized in 1867 by a group of prominent Charlotte County citizens who met weekly to secretly debate a wide range of topics. Another active society was the Gravel Hill Literary Society, which was founded in the early 1900s with monthly meetings at Gravel Hill School. Topics of interest for discussion included Resolved, that hope yields greater delights than memories, and On Working in New Ground (APVA, Southsider (1983), 36-37). In the mid 1900s, Women's Clubs were formed in Keysville and Drakes Branch to promote civic improvements such as circulating libraries and academic scholarships. The county's youth followed the example of their parents by participating in the Junior Community League and agricultural clubs.

### **1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

Community centers were typical throughout rural Virginia as the experience of World War I and II and the Depression brought people together to pool their resources, contributing to the war effort abroad as well as to the welfare of the local community. Around 1940, the **Wylliesburg Community Center (19-5152)** (Figure 70) was constructed with money donated by David K. Bruce of Staunton Hill, benefactor of the County Library, and is a typical example of a circa 1940 rural community center. The one-story, side-gable roof frame building is vernacular in style, and was used as a gathering place for various community groups and activities.



The addition of vinyl siding on the boxed cornice covers the originally exposed curved rafter tails which are still visible on the rear facade. The **Madison District Community Center (19-5028)**, a one-and-one-half story, five-bay concrete block building with three gable-roof dormers was constructed in 1948. The community center was used by the Oakview Home Demonstration Club (Women's Church Auxiliary), local farmers, and the Woodmen of the World.

## **RECREATION/ARTS THEME**

This theme relates to the arts and cultural activities and institutions associated with leisure time and recreation. It encompasses the activities related to the popular and the academic arts including fine arts and the performing arts, literature, recreational gathering, entertainment and leisure activity, and broad cultural movements.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Art Studio  
Meeting Hall  
Monuments/Markers  
Taverns  
Theater  
Residences

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Associated with Recreation*

019-0010 Harvey's Tavern  
019-0028 Ridgeway  
019-0030 Staunton Hill  
019-5006 Red House Tavern, Part I  
019-5007 Red House Tavern, Part II  
185-0011 Tankersley Tavern  
185-0016 Old Brick Tavern  
185-0022 Moses Hall  
248-5001-006 New Theater

#### *Associated with Art*

019-5071 Gertrude Shook House  
185-0002 Hagerman-Marshall House/Charlotte County Public Library  
185-0024 Sculpture  
248-5003 Gertrude Shook House/Studio

At least 13 properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the theme of Recreation/Arts. These sources range in date from circa 1765 to circa 1950, and include taverns, a meeting hall, statuary, an art studio, residences, and a theater. The predominant resources found relating to this theme were taverns.

In rural areas in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, where dispersed settlement patterns made frequent travel for recreation inconvenient, many of the social activities were centered around churches, courthouses, and taverns, as well as home and family visits.

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

Court days, when the justices met to adjudicate disputes, record transactions, and dispense favors, drew crowds of residents and peddlers. The increased activity at the county courthouse led to the opening of taverns to provide entertainment near the social center of the county. **Tankersley Tavern (185-0023-044/185-0011)**, a one-story, two-bay brick building with two exterior-end brick chimneys was built in the early nineteenth century. It was granted its last license as a house of entertainment in 1822. The **Old Brick Tavern (185-0023-013/185-0016)** (Figure 69), built in 1820, is a two-story dwelling with four semi-exterior end brick chimneys connected by a parapet. These two taverns were located adjacent to the courthouse.

Taverns were also being erected along busy routes such as **Harvey's Tavern (19-0010)** (Figure 5), located on Route 47 in Madisonville. The tavern, a two-story, five-bay brick structure featuring a molded brick cornice, hosted cockfights which were held in a pit in the front yard. Madisonville was formerly called Chickentown due to the popularity of this event (Ailsworth et al, 381). Another busy location in the county was located at the intersection of Routes 727 and 615 where Martin Hancock built a tavern in 1813. He painted the tavern red, creating a landmark which would give the village and tavern its name, Red House. The **Red House Tavern (19-5006, 19-5007)**, a vernacular dwelling of frame construction, hosted square dances inside and on an open-air dance floor. In 1920, the Tavern was separated into two single dwellings. The one-and-one-half story section (**19-5006**) with a steeply-pitched gable roof and shed-roof dormer remains on the original lot while the other half, a two-story, three-bay dwelling, (**19-5007**) (Figure 71), was moved to a nearby location on the opposite side of Route 615 (Myers, 1975).



### **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD**

After the Civil War, many social groups were formed to help ease the stresses caused by the war. The African American population formed many new organizations to gain strength and stability as newly freed citizens. One such institution was **Moses Hall (185-0022)** (Figure 25), established in



1904. The present brick building with stepped parapet was constructed ca. 1925, replacing the original frame building. The Grand United Order of Moses was an African-American insurance agency and fraternal institution, headquartered in Charlotte Court House. The fraternal organization held its annual initiation and meeting in August at Moses Hall where many vendors and patrons, black and white, would gather for the festivities. The activities included lectures and sermons, games, carnival rides, vendors, and a parade. This event was attended by numerous members from across the country, providing much excitement in the community.

Following Reconstruction, a monument honoring those who died in service during the Civil War was erected in the courthouse square. The **Confederate Monument (185-23-07, 185-0001)** of stone obelisk on a granite base and topped by a Confederate infantryman, was dedicated in August of 1901.

## 1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II

Charlotte County was considered an excellent location for fox hunting locally and abroad, and was one of the counties most popular recreational activities. A hunting club was established by 13 New Yorkers in 1931 at **Staunton Hill (19-0030)**, a Gothic-Revival dwelling overlooking the Staunton River. The headquarters were soon moved to **Ridgeway (19-0028)**, a two-and-one-half story, five-bay, brick dwelling constructed in the Georgian-style. Many renovations were done to accommodate the hunt club, including a large addition and removal of the front porch and entrance foyer. Many of the original features removed by the hunt club have been recreated by the present owners.

Providing both arts and recreational opportunities, Charlotte County's first motion picture theater, **New Theater (248-5001-006)** (Figure 72) was opened around 1930 in Keysville. The theater's commercial brick building had a flat parapet and decorative brick work with stylized columns of cast concrete on each side. The building resembles the Art Deco style closely associated to movie theater architecture of the time. Everyone could enjoy popcorn and a movie at this theater, even African Americans could sit in the 10



seat balcony, a rarity for a rural southern business at the time (County Archives). Dance halls were also popular during this time. The dance halls were usually located in restaurants such as Tuck's and Sheldon's in Keysville or the Crab Orchard Dance Hall and the Ghana Club (African-American).

Although large amounts of artwork are uncommon in rural areas, Charlotte County had six **marble statues (185-0024)** placed in its library garden when the **Hagerman-Marshall House (185-23-08, 185-0002)**, two-story, two-bay brick building with Doric columns was converted to a library. The statues are busts of Roman Emperors Augustus, Claudius, Caesar, Nero, Domitian, and Trajan. The

emperors are all clothed in togas of colorful marble with their heads and faces carved from white stone. The statues were donated by David K. Bruce of Staunton Hill who had purchased them from the Rockefeller estate in New York City. They were originally placed in the Library Garden, then four were moved to the courthouse and two inside the library for preservation. Four of the statues are currently in storage while Caesar and Nero remain on display in the county courthouse.

Regionally known artist Gertrude Shook designed a **residence/art studio (248-5003)** (Figure 29) located behind Tuck's Restaurant in Keysville circa 1945. Shook worked and lived in this modern concrete block and wood-sided house until her death. Shook also designed a modern **concrete block house (19-5071)** circa 1935 (Figure 73).



## **TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION**

This theme relates to the process and technology of conveying passengers, materials, and information. Studies focus on transportation and communications networks involving roads, water, canals, railroads, and air as well as on the various structures, vehicles, equipment, and technology associated with each mode.

### **Property Types**

Property types may be generally classified as either rail-related, air-related, water-related, road-related, or pedestrian-related. Property types include: railroads, stations, engine houses, trains, airports, airplanes, landing fields, space vehicles, research facilities, boats and other watercraft, piers, wharves, ferries, lighthouses, canals, locks, roads, turnpikes, tollhouses, automobiles, streetcars, board walks, walkways, and trails.

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Rail-related:*

19-0050	Phenix Railroad Station (demolished)
19-0051	Drakes Branch Railroad Station (demolished)
19-0052	Cullen Railroad Station (demolished)
19-5055	Train Bridge
19-5093	Saxe Railroad Depot
19-5098	Randolph Depot
248-0001	Keysville Railroad Station

#### **Road-related:**

##### *Taverns:*

19-0010	Harvey's Tavern
19-5006	Red House Tavern, Part I
19-5007	Red House Tavern, Part II
185-0011	Tankersley Tavern
185-0016	Old Brick Tavern

##### *Bridges:*

19-0060	Bluestone Creek Bridge
19-0061	Bridge, Route 608
19-0086	Bridge, Route 620
19-0087	Bridge over Turnip Creek
19-0092	Spring Creek Bridge, Route 654
19-0093	Spencer Creek Bridge, Route 654
19-0096	Roanoke Creek Branch Bridge, Route 654
19-5009	Bridge, Route 727
19-5030	Bridge, Route 707

##### *Gas Stations:*

19-5031	Store, Route 760
19-5035	Old Well Store and Voting Precinct
19-5066	Harrisburg Store and Gas Station
19-5103	Randolph Country Store & Post Office
19-5131	R.W. Moore General Store

19-5139 Jones' General Store  
248-5009 Store, Route 360

**Communications-related:**

19-0074 S.L. Lacks House

A total of 29 resources relating to the theme of transportation have been documented in Charlotte County. These resources include four taverns, six railroad depots, ten bridges, seven gas stations and one telegraph office associated with a rural residence. With the exception of the early 19th century taverns, these structures date from the early 1900s and are typically utilitarian in nature and vernacular in style.

Conspicuously missing are the number of railroad depots, sidings and other related buildings that were associated with the two railroad lines that crossed the county. Unfortunately, as the railroad industry became more centralized, these local operations fell into disuse and many have disappeared. Of the six railroad depots surveyed, only three survive today. Water-related modes of transportation are also missing from the survey inventory. Based on the early history of the county and its strong ties to the Staunton River as a primary transportation route prior to the railroad, further survey work should be conducted to document evidence of ferry landings and canal systems along the river.

**1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**  
**1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**  
**1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

The development of a system of roads was one of the primary concerns of the new county in the late 18th and early 19th century as early court records are full of road orders and the appointment of surveyors. As many of the early 19th century points of destination -- such as courthouses, river crossings and towns -- have not changed, much of the early road systems still survive; however in a later, 20th century form as improvements such as paving and widening have occurred over the years. Resources related to the early 19th century road systems include some of the taverns that were established along the stagecoach lines. **Tankersley Tavern (185-0011)**, built ca. 1765, and the ca. 1820 **Watkins Tavern/Old Brick Tavern (185-0016)**, both in Charlotte Court House, are examples of structures situated around courthouses to provide hospitality to those coming to town for court business. Other taverns were established along major transportation routes between courthouses, such as the ca. 1830 **Harvey's Tavern (19-0010)** on the road leading to Prince Edward County and the ca. 1813 **Red House Tavern, Parts I and II (19-5006 and 19-5007)** on the road leading to Appomattox. These taverns were typically located close to the road and often served as the genesis and focal point of a surrounding community, as with the village of Red House and Chickentown (later renamed Madisonville).

Although the Staunton River did not provide direct access to the ports and markets of the James River and Chesapeake Bay, the river did play an important role in the development of the county as a principal means of transportation and as one of the boundaries of the county. Ferry crossings, and later bridges, dictated many of the early road systems. No resources or sites associated with the early ferry crossings have been documented, and due to the nature of the river and the damage caused by flooding, it is possible that no structural evidence of this early means of transportation survives. In addition, no resources related to the Roanoke Navigation Company, which formed in 1829 to establish a system of canals linking the Roanoke and Staunton Rivers to the James River, or the private steamships of the period have been documented.

**1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD**

By the late 1900s, the two railroad lines crossing the county provided the area with direct and convenient connections to the markets and ports of the Tidewater area that the Staunton River could not accomplish. The completion of the Richmond and Danville Railroad in the 1850s put an end to the early 18th century canal operations. Although the route of this antebellum line survives in the present Virginia Southern Railroad, the tracks and depots were destroyed by Union troops during the Civil War. The **Keysville Railroad Station (248-0001)**, the **Drakes Branch Railroad Station (19-0051)**, the **Saxe Railroad Depot (19-5093)** (Figure 74, next page), and the **Randolph Depot (19-5098)** were all rebuilt in the early 1900s along the Richmond and Danville Railroad, which later became the Virginia Southern Railroad. These railroad stations are similar in form and construction with novelty siding and gabled roofs (except for the hip roof of the **Randolph Depot**) with exposed rafters and wide eaves supported by elbow brackets. The two entrances to these stations indicated the segregated waiting rooms. The **Phenix Railroad Station (19-0050)** and the **Cullen Railroad Station (19-0052)** were built along the Virginian Railroad (later the Norfolk & Western Railroad) in the early 1900s. These railroad stations, although no longer standing, could be distinguished from the other line by their board-and-batten siding. Serving more as a freight line, these stations along the Virginian Railroad were smaller in size with less accommodations for passengers. The **Norfolk & Western Trestle Bridge (19-5055)**, located near Cullen, is the only example of a train bridge surveyed in the county. This ca. 1925 bridge features a wood frame deck supported by a trestle of steel I-beams.



Many of the later improved roads of the 20th century continue to follow the earlier paths that lead to convenient crossings of the Staunton River. The ca. 1900 double-truss steel **Bridge, Route 620 (19-0086)** is a 20th century example of negotiating the river crossing. This bridge was recommended for replacement by VDOT in 1993 because of structural deficiency.

In addition to early 19th century taverns that served as postal stops along the stagecoach lines and country stores of the 19th and early 20th century that housed post offices, the only communications-related resource identified was a telegraph office on the property of the **S. L. Lacks House (19-0074)**. This small early 20th century outbuilding is constructed of frame with weatherboard siding and has a metal side-gable roof and one exterior end brick chimney.

## **1917-1945      WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

As automobile transportation began to take over, the appearance of a new building type emerged -- the gas station. Providing service to travelers of the 20th century, these gas stations often replaced the earlier taverns and country stores along the major transportation routes and at crossroad junctions. The earliest gas stations built in the 1920s were similar in form to the country stores of the early 1900s and often simply converted or combined with an existing store. These buildings were typically of frame construction with gable roofs that often extended to create a porte-cochere or

shelter over the gas pumps. Examples include the **R.W. Moore General Store (19-5131)**, the **Store, Route 769 (19-5031)**, and the **Harrisburg Store and Gas Station (19-5066)**. The **Old Well Store and Voting Precinct (19-5035)** is a ca. 1930 example of the same gable-roofed form that retains its early sign. The ca. 1925 **Randolph Country Store and Post Office (19-5103)** illustrates the influence of the commercial style so prevalent in the towns of that time with its brick construction and flat roof with corbelled brick cornice. By the 1930-1940s, a little romanticism entered into the design of the **Jones General Store (19-5139)** with its steeply-pitched gables inspired by the Tudor-Revival style. These gas stations, with their front porches or porte-cocheres, offered a place to gather for the local community as well as servicing travelers and often served as the local store, post office and voting precinct as well.

As early court records indicate, the construction of bridges was critical to the establishment and maintenance of a good system of roads in a county filled with creeks and rivers. As automobile traffic increased and technology improved, these early bridges were eventually replaced. Many of these bridges were surveyed by VDOT in conjunction with proposed plans to widen and improve the bridges or replace them. The **Bridge, Route 620 (19-0086)** and the **Bluestone Creek Bridge (19-0060)** are examples of early 20th century steel truss bridges. Other bridges surveyed, including **Bridge, Route 608 (19-0061)**, **Bridge over Turnip Creek (19-0087)**, **Spring Creek Bridge, Route 654 (19-0092)**, **Spencer Creek Bridge, Route 654 (19-0093)**, **Roanoke Creek Branch Bridge, Route 654 (19-0096)** and **Bridge, Route 727 (19-5009)**, date from the 1940s and are examples of "simple beam" bridges consisting asphalt-covered wood-plank roadbeds supported by metal I-beam on wood post pilings and concrete abutments. These bridges typically span short distances over creek beds and are flanked by a low, horizontal wood railing. The **Bridge, Route 707 (19-5030)** (Figure 75) is similar to the above in form; however, the bridge crosses a railroad bed and is constructed entirely of wood with wood cross-beams reinforcing the posts. The roadbed of this bridge is unusual in that it has not been covered with asphalt.





## COMMERCE/TRADE

This theme relates to the process of trading goods, services, and commodities.

### Property Types

Property types include businesses, professional, organizational, and financial institutions, and specialty stores. Specific property types include office buildings, trading posts, stores, department stores, restaurants, warehouses, trade sites, warehouses market buildings, arcades, shopping centers, offices, office blocks and banks.

### *Resources Identified*

19-0009	Harvey's Store
19-0010	Harvey's Tavern
19-0035	Wyllie House
19-0054	Guthrie Store & Tobacco Barn
19-0080	Word of Faith Church
19-5002	Store, Route 615
19-5006	Red House Tavern, Part I
19-5007	Red House Tavern, Part II
19-5008	Store, Route 615
19-5011	Store, Route 672
19-5013	Captain Thornton House
19-5018	Madisonville Store, Route 47
19-5023	J.W. Carrington Store
19-5031	Store, Route 760
19-5035	Old Well Store & Voting Precinct
19-5036	Store, Route 672
19-5045	Aspen General Store
19-5051	Jarman Store & Cullen Post Office
19-5052	Garage/Store, Route 47
19-5054	Cullen General Store
19-5066	Harrisburg Store
19-5074	Store, Route 672
19-5094	M.P. Lipscomb Store
19-5095	W.H. Crews & Company Store
19-5100	Formosa Store and Post Office
19-5102	Randolph General Store
19-5103	Randolph Country Store & Post Office
19-5113	Ontario Store
19-5129	Wylliesburg Store
19-5131	R.W. Moore General Store
19-5139	Jones Store
19-5140	Barnes Junction Store
19-5147	Red Oak Grove Store
19-5163	J.C. Paulett Warehouse
19-5164	Store, Main Street

19-5189-001 Granny's Furniture  
19-5189-002 Crouch Rexall Drug  
19-5189-003 Drakes Branch Variety Store  
19-5189-004 Jackson Hardware  
19-5189-005 J.C. Paulett Warehouse  
185-0010 Store (Deaner's Store, Ferris Store)  
185-0011 Tankersley Tavern  
185-0012 Store (Tucker Store)  
185-0015 Watkin's Office (Smith Store)  
185-0016 Watkin's Tavern (Old Brick Tavern)  
185-0020 Parsons Store  
248-5009 Service Station, Route 360 Business  
248-5001-014 Newcomb's Store  
248-5001-003 W. H. Rutledge Bar  
248-5001-004 Wilson & Company General Store  
248-5001-005 Keeling's Drug Store  
248-5001-007 Hanmer Motor Car Company  
248-5005 Hamletts Barber Shop

A total of 53 resources relating to the theme of commerce and trade have been surveyed in Charlotte County. These resources range in date from the early 19th century to the 1940s and include early 19th century taverns, stores, warehouses and gas stations. The majority of the resources date to the early 20th century when towns such as Keysville, Drakes Branch and Phenix were developing as railroad centers. In the smaller crossroad communities, stores that often include post offices serve to perpetuate these small settlements as community centers. The materials and styles of these resources vary, reflecting the technology and taste of the period in which they were built. These resources, while numerous at this point, are considered threatened as the commercial practices of society continue to become more centralized and these stores become vacant. Often forming the nucleus of a town, as in Keysville, Drakes Branch, Charlotte Court House, and other communities, these commercial buildings are critical to the viability of these towns and communities.

### **1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**

With the formation of Charlotte County in 1765, the county seat of Charlotte Court House, then known as Marysville, became the political as well as social and commercial center of the county. With people traveling from all over the region to do business in Charlotte Court House on court days, it was natural that commercial establishments should appear to provide goods and services. The oldest commercial establishment in town is **Tankersley Tavern (185-0011)**, which was licensed in 1766 and associated with the settlement around the magazine. The present gable-roof brick building, which dates to the 1830s is simple in design featuring a single room with loft area and a single fireplace with mantel of plain, wide boards (APVA, Southsider (1968)).

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

As the county became more populated, Charlotte Court House as the county seat continued to grow and serve as the commercial center of the area. Many of the buildings within the Charlotte Court House Historic District, including **Deaner's Store (185-0010)**, **Tucker's Store (185-0012)**, and **Watkin's Office (185-0015)** are commercial in nature and date to this period of development. While the one-story frame **Deaner's Store** is simpler in form and scale, both **Tucker's Store** and **Watkin's Office**, are examples of the typical two-story brick commercial buildings with pedimented gable roofs. Tucker's Store originally featured a two-story columned porch, which was unfortunately removed in the 1960s when the highway was widened.

**Watkin's Tavern/Old Brick Tavern (185-0016)** (Figure 69) was built ca. 1820 by William M. Watkins to serve as another tavern in the county seat. This two-story, five-bay brick structure was designed in the Federal style with double end chimneys and parapet walls. The interior, which has a central-passage, double-pile plan, features a molded chair-rail and baseboard and simple Federal mantels. Compared to the earlier **Tankersley Tavern**, this tavern reflects the increased prosperity of the town and its residents since the founding of the county in 1765.

### **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

Charlotte County in the 18th and 19th century was primarily an agrarian society with limited commercial trade. As the population was dispersed across the region on farms and plantations, there were no towns or commercial centers at the time, only crossroad settlements, the most important of which was the county seat. Money was also scarce as the economy was directly tied to the seasonal harvest of crops which were vulnerable to uncontrollable weather conditions. The farmers and planters were therefore dependent on credit and the bartering of goods, both of which were available at the local country store.



The stage coach lines served as the principal means of public transportation during the early 1800s and taverns or ordinaries along the routes continued to provide shelter and refreshment to travelers during this period. As the stage coaches typically delivered mail on their routes, the taverns or a nearby store often became the genesis for the establishment of a community. These early taverns and stores were usually located at crossroads or along major transportation routes.

**Harvey's Store (19-0009)** (Figure 76, previous page) and **Harvey's Tavern (19-0010)** (Figure 5), built ca. 1830 by Isham Harvey along the road from Prince Edward County to Charlotte Court House, are an example of two commercial establishments in close association that served travelers as well as the local community of Chickentown (Madisonville). Although it has been altered, the one-story, side-gabled structure of **Harvey's Store** features its original cornice of diagonally-set bricks. This store also served as a voting precinct in the 1830s. Directly across the road, **Harvey's Tavern** is similar in form and style to **Watkins/Old Brick Tavern** and features a fine example of a Federal style entry with fanlight. With the exception of the Victorian porch, which survives in excellent condition, the building retains its original T-shaped form. The interior, which is single-pile, features paneled wainscoting and mantels with hand-carved sunburst detailing.

Other stores dating to this period include the **Red Oak Store (19-5147)** and the **Wylliesburg Store (19-5129)**. The **Red Oak Store**, which was originally built ca. 1830, is a frame, two-story structure with a gabled roof with returns. It has been added onto several times over the years and re-oriented to face west with the addition of a ca. 1910 store. It is believed that a Masonic lodge may have been located on the second floor of the original section. Although the **Wylliesburg Store** (Figure 77) has been moved from its original location, it survives reasonably intact as an excellent example of a ca. 1830 Greek-Revival country store with its gable returns and original pattern of openings (now boarded).



## 1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD

The period following the Civil War saw the further establishment of the railroads and the subsequent development of towns in Charlotte County. With the growth in industry promoted by the railroads and the greater concentration of people in towns, commercial centers with diverse and specialized businesses as well as financial institutions began to develop. The commercial buildings of this period were typically of frame construction, which could be attributed to the rapid building booms they are associated with. In the more concentrated areas of towns such as Keysville and Drakes Branch where fire posed a greater danger, early 20th century commercial buildings of brick construction often replaced the earlier frame buildings. The majority of the commercial resources surveyed date to this period.

The most prevalent form of commercial building during the late 19th and early 20th century is the two-story, three-bay frame structure with recessed storefront and gabled roof with parapet, such as the ca. 1899 **W.H. Rutledge Bar Room (248-5001-003)** (Figure 18) located along the railroad tracks in Keysville, and the **H.T. Guthrie Store (19-0054)** (Figure 78, at right) at Camptown. As with the earlier commercial buildings in rural areas, many of these turn-of-the-century stores housed other functions as well. The **Formosa Store and Post Office (19-5100)** (Figure 16) with its one-story, shed-roof side addition is an example.



The 1890s **M.P. Lipscomb Store and Funeral Parlor (19-5094)** in Saxe is similar in form with ornately carved, arched window surrounds distinguishing the side wing as the funeral-parlor section of the structure. The presence of the side wings is typical of the more remote commercial buildings as they provided extra room for storage, additional functions, or even a residence as in the **H.T. Guthrie Store**. Other examples of this form include the **W.H. Crews & Company General Store (19-5095)** in Saxe and the **Randolph General Store (19-5102)**. Many of the interiors of these buildings remain intact with their original counters, shelving, and beaded-board ceilings laid in geometric patterns.

A simpler version of the above form is seen in the one- and two-story frame stores with gabled roof and no parapet, such as the ca. 1900 **Store, Route 672 (19-5011)**. The two-story **Cullen General Store (19-5054)**, built ca. 1910, illustrates the influence of the Colonial-Revival style on this popular form with the introduction of gable returns to this common form.



In the more urban areas of Keysville and Drakes Branch, the danger of fire resulted in the introduction of brick as a building material for commercial structures. These structures, which are typically two-story, feature corbelled brickwork at the cornice as seen at the **Wilson & Company General Store (240-5001-004)** and the **Drakes Branch Variety Store (19-5189-003)**. The ca. 1900 **Crouch Rexall Drug (19-5189-002)** (Figure 79) in Drakes Branch is

a more elaborate example with the projecting brickwork in the corbelled cornice that emulates modillions or brackets, the panels of basket-weave panels, and the molded bricks over the segmental-arched windows. Smaller versions of this form are seen in the one-story **Operation Blessing Store (19-5162)** in Drakes Branch and the **Keeling's Drug Store (248-5001-005)** (Figure 17) in Keysville. These buildings retain their original storefronts with large-paned wooden windows over paneled bases and recessed, central double-door with transom light.

The ca. 1910 **J.C. Paulett Warehouse (19-5189-005)** (Figure 80) is a rare-surviving example of a commercial warehouse located adjacent to the railroad tracks in Drakes Branch. Historic descriptions of Drakes Branch and Keysville mention numerous warehouses in these railroad towns in the early 20th century; however, this brick example is the only one that remains today. Its large size (two stories and six bays) with side-gable roof and seven-bay porch extending across the front differentiates it from the typical commercial buildings along the main streets of town.



## 1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD

The same forms that became popular in the early 20th century continued after World War I, including the small gabled frame stores along rural roads and the brick structures with corbelled detailing and storefronts along the main streets of the towns. The primary difference during this period is the growth of smaller towns along the railroads as commercial centers and the introduction of automobile-related buildings such as dealerships and gasoline stations.



The one-story frame structure with front gable roof and porch continued as a popular form for small stores in rural areas. Examples of this type surveyed include the **J.W. Carrington Store (19-5023)**, the **Store, Route 672 (19-5074)**, the **Store, Route 615 (19-5002)**, and the **Store, Route 47 (19-5018)**. This same form for commercial building expands in the 1930s to include gasoline pumps to service automobiles as well as provide goods to the local community. Examples of the combined country store and

gasoline station with the same gabled form include the **Old Well Store and Voting Precinct (19-5035)** (Figure 81, above), the **Store, Route 760 (19-5031)** near Abilene, and the **Harrisburg Store (19-5066)**. The ca. 1940s **Jarman Store and Post Office (19-5051)** (Figure 82, below) in Cullen adds a stepped brick parapet to this popular form.

By the 1930s, country stores and gasoline stations began to take on other forms as they became influenced by the revival styles of the time. The 1930s **Jones General Store (19-5139)** and the **Store, Route 15 (19-5140)** at Barnes Junction (which reportedly served as a bus station) illustrate the influence of the Tudor-Revival style with their steeply-pitched gable roof. **Newcomb's Store (248-5001-014)** (Figure



83, next page) in Keysville is unique with its polygonal form with angled corners that respond to its strategic location at the V-intersection of two roads.



The increasing popularity of the automobile is evident in the appearance of automobile dealerships in Charlotte County. The **Hanmer Motor Car Company (248-5001-007)** (Figure 26) began in 1913 in Keysville by receiving unassembled cars by rail to assemble on the site and sell. The ca. 1923 building on King Street features a pilastered facade with patterned brickwork and large show windows. The **Store, Route 47 (19-5052)** appears to have also been a dealership located near the railroad in Cullen. This ca. 1940 two-story concrete-block building includes a roll-up garage

door and large show windows that have been altered.

A number of brick commercial buildings began to appear in the small towns located along the railroads during this period. These ca. 1920s buildings were similar in form, material, and detailing to the stores constructed in the larger towns of Keysville and Drakes Branch in the early 1900s. Examples include the **Aspen General Store (19-5045)** with its parapet roof, corbelled brick cornice, transomed storefront, and recessed, double-leaf entrance. Although the storefront of the **Ontario Store (19-5113)** has been boarded, the building retains its corbelled brick cornice and open basket-weave panels. The **Randolph Country Store and Post Office (19-5103)** with its corbelled brick cornice continues the tradition of the earliest country stores by also serving as the local post office.

The ca. 1920 **Hamlett Barber Shop (248-5005)** (Figure 84) in Keysville is another example of a different form and type of commercial building. This one-story frame structure with side-gable roof and boxed cornice features two single-leaf doors, implying that the building serves a dual function with either residential space or another business located on one side. Located within the traditional African-American neighborhood in Keysville, the **Hamlett Barber Shop** represents the need of the black community to provide its own services.





## **INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION**

This theme explores the technology and process of managing materials, labor, and equipment to produce goods and services. Included in this theme are activities related to the extraction, production, and processing of materials such as quarrying, mining, manufacturing, lumbering, technology, electronics, pottery, textiles, food processing, distilling, fuel, building materials, tools, transportation seafood, and many other industries.

### **Property Types**

Quarries, mills (grist, carding, textile, woodworking), factories, distilleries, shipyards, mines, forges and furnaces, kilns, laboratories, power plants, dams, tanneries, village shops and other small craft and industrial sites.

### ***Resources Identified***

19-0049	Wardsfork Mill
19-5038	Clay's Mill
19-5061	Phenix Fire Tower
19-5107	Crafton Gate Lookout Tower
19-5148	Red Oak Water Tower
248-5006	Crystal Ice Plant

A total of six properties relating to the theme of industry/processing/extraction have been surveyed. These properties are a small representation of a wide range of industries that emerged during the late 19th and early 20th century, including grist-milling, lumbering, the manufacturing of soft drinks and ice, and the production of electricity. Unfortunately, fire has destroyed many of the resources associated with these and other industries that have historically been associated with the development of the county.

**1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**  
**1789-1830 THE EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**  
**1830-1860 THE ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

Historically, agriculture was the most important industry in Charlotte County, but industrial concerns did have a presence in the county. The earliest industry in the county was grist-milling, which was necessary to process the agricultural products, such as wheat and corn. Early maps and court records indicate a number of grist mills across the county, both on private properties and in small communities, such as Eureka Mill and Carrington's Mill (Saxe). While the sites of these early 19th century mills still exist, and often are occupied by later mill structures, the mills themselves have not survived, due either to destruction by floods or disuse, or to replacement by improved technology. **Wardsfork Mill (19-0049)** (Figure 15) is an example of an early 20th century roller mill that was rebuilt on the foundations of a mill dating to the early 1800s. Another mill known as Hamlet's Mill, licensed in 1847, was located at the site of the late 19th century **Clay's Mill (19-5038)** near Midway (Ailsworth et al, 332).

Other early industries dating to the pre-railroad era also developed. However, they were usually small in scale and limited to serving the needs of the immediate community. These early industries included blacksmiths, bootmakers, coopers, chairmakers, cabinetmakers, wheelwrights, and saddlers, to name a few. They were typically small operations, often being conducted in the back of a dwelling or in a small outbuilding. No resources known to have been related to these industries have been surveyed.

**1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD**

With the reconstruction of the railroads after the Civil War and the advancement of the steel rail in the second half of the 19th century, it became possible for Charlotte County to begin processing and exporting some of her agricultural products and natural resources, such as tobacco and lumber. Even with the abolition of slavery and the destruction of the plantation system, tobacco continued to be the principal agricultural product of the county. In the late 19th and early 20 century, a number of tobacco factories and warehouses were located near the railroad in Drakes Branch, Keysville and Phenix. Drakes Branch became a leading market for dark tobacco sales in the region. Unfortunately, due to destruction by fire, none of these resources remain.

Grist mills continued to operate throughout the county. With the improvements in technology, such as the introduction of roller mills, these mills operated more efficiently and began to market their products to area stores. While there were several large milling operations in the county, including ones in Phenix, Saxe, Keysville and Cullen, these were all destroyed by fires. The only surviving mills documented in the survey are **Wardsfork Mill (19-0049)** and **Clay's Mill (19-5038)**. **Clay's**

**Mill**, located on Turnip Creek at the site of the 1847 Hamlet's Mill, is a simple 1-1/2 story frame building dating to the late 19th century. Stephen Clay also operated a store in the community of Midway and it is possible that the mill sold its flour there. The machinery and water wheel are no longer intact and the miller's house is no longer standing.

**Wardsfork Mill**, on the other hand, is an excellent example of an intact roller mill, complete with machinery, water wheel and two associated miller's houses. The mill, which is built on the foundations of an earlier mill with stone foundation and hand-hewn post-and-beam construction with mortise-and-tenon joints on the ground level, originally operated with a vertical burr stone. In 1916, the mill was converted as the first roller mill in the county. A third floor was added at this time to accommodate the elevator heads and other equipment. The building, which is currently being converted to a residence, survives in good condition and retains all of the original equipment.

With the demand for materials created by the railroad construction as well as the ability to ship products by rail, the lumber industry also developed in the county during the late 19th and early 20th century. The Phenix Planing Mill began operation in Phenix after the railroad was completed in 1909 and it was soon joined by other companies such as the Ward Lumber Company of Lynchburg, the Federal Lumber Company of New Jersey and M.W. Cutshall of Roanoke (APVA, Southsider (1997), 66). These mills; however, have either been destroyed by fire or the equipment was dismantled when the resources of the area were depleted.

Another industrial resource, the **Crystal Ice and Power Plant (285-5006)** was closely associated with the railroad. Located directly across the tracks from the depot in Keysville, the ca. 1910 structure was originally built to supply ice to the railroad and the town. In 1914, the plant was converted to an electrical plant to supply electricity to the progressive town of Keysville.

## **1917-1945      WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

The lumber industry continued to thrive during this period. Two resources surveyed that are related to the lumber industry are the **Phenix Fire Tower (19-5061)** and the **Crafton Gate Lookout Tower (19-5107)** (Figure 85). These ca. 1930 steel-truss towers with enclosed frame watch rooms on the top were constructed as lookout towers to monitor the timber resources of the area.



As the roads and automobiles improved, local and regional distribution of products by trucks became more feasible. Many of the local grist mills, such as **Wardsfork Mill**, began to distribute their brands across a wide region that reached as far south as Oxford, North Carolina. Another industry dependent on distribution by trucks emerged in the Red Oak Bottling Company. Founded in 1925, the Red Oak Bottling Company supplied sodas to a three-county area using two Model Ford trucks (APVA, Southsider (1989), 42). All that remains today of the Red Oak Bottling Company is the **Red Oak Water Tank (19-5148)**.

## **LANDSCAPE**

This theme explores the historic, cultural, scenic, visual, and design qualities of cultural landscapes. Features investigated include, spatial organization patterns, land use, circulation, boundaries, form, vegetation, fences, walls, paths, structures, and small-scale landscape elements.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Residences  
Library

#### ***Resources Identified***

19-0004	Do Well
19-0008	Greenfield
19-0006	Gravel Hill
19-0020	Mapleton
19-0024	Mulberry Hill
19-0025	South Isle
19-0027	Red Hill
19-0030	Staunton Hill
19-5096	Sylvan Hill
185-0002	Hagerman-Marshall House/Charlotte County Public Library

At least 10 properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the theme of Landscape. These sources range in date from circa 1800 to 1937 and include residences and a library. The predominant resources found were formal boxwood gardens associated with a residence.

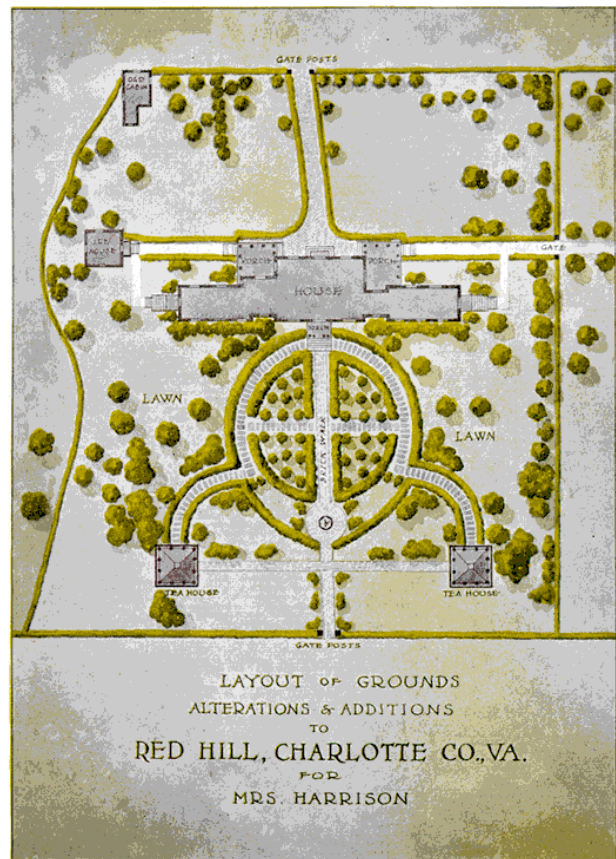
Landscaping is a method of personalization for a property owner. Each owner willing to make such an investment leaves their mark for subsequent owners with the long-term benefits of beautification. The main type of landscaping found in Charlotte County is small-scale residential as opposed to planned, formal landscape architecture. Many of the county's more prominent estates had formal gardens located on the property, of which the most popular type was the boxwood garden. In the resources surveyed, the primary gardener was usually the lady of the house who saw the garden as her pride and passion. Although, some residences employed the assistance of a landscape designer or gardener.

**Mapleton (19-0020)** had a boxwood and magnolia garden, featuring a boxwood, originally from Colonial Williamsburg, over 300 years old located on the north side of the house. Miss Martha Watkins of **Do Well (19-0004)** spent her days in its boxwood gardens perfecting its formal borders and flowers which had beautiful contrast against the dark green foliage of the English Boxwood. The garden was sited on the east side of the house while a large hedge to the north of the house helped provide definition to the residential lawn(Charlton, 4). The mid-1800s garden at **South Isle (19-0025)** was laid out by Mrs. Izard Bacon Rice whose granddaughter was married in the garden in 1902 to William Beebe, a noted naturalist and explorer. The garden was ordered by gravel walks lined with boxwood hedges. The garden featured a flower square which was surrounded by a wide walkway and enclosed by tall boxwoods limbed in conical form. **Greenfield (19-0008)** and **Sylvan Hill (19-5096)** also offer good examples of mature boxwood gardens.

The eight-acre gardens at **Staunton Hill (19-0030)** were designed around 1838 by a Scotch landscape designer known as Mr. Kirk. The semi-circular flower garden is ordered by grass walks and enclosed by dense oaks and other large trees. Outside of the manicured lawn area are stretches of park-like woods enclosed by a stone wall approximately two miles in length. One of the most notable features is a path known as the Lover's Walk. The path winds in and out of the forest, eventually returning to its starting point (Sale, 305-307). **Red Hill (19-0027)**, home of patriot Patrick Henry, had extensive landscaping throughout its grounds (Figure 86, from *Historic Gardens of Virginia* by Edith Tunis Sale). Its first garden was to the east of the house and consisted of boxwoods, flowers, and shrubs, some of which were originally from Mt. Vernon. Four large box trees made a canopy creating an entrance into the garden. The garden path, which led to the cemetery, was lined with flowering shrubs. A boxwood hedge enclosed the cemetery while its floor was lined with periwinkle. After the extensive addition to the original structure by

Henry's son John, additional formal landscaping was done in the lawn areas directly in front of and behind the house. Symmetrically formed boxwoods and a four-foot, tree-box hedge give form and create unusual designs on the lawn (Sale, 287-290). One of Red Hill's most striking features is a National Champion Osage orange tree located in the front lawn. **Gravel Hill (19-0006)** had a boxwood garden containing both American and English boxwoods. This early 1900s design features an allee of American boxwoods limbed up into tree-like forms. Gravel Hill also had an orchard and detailed layout plan for its vegetable garden.

The only non-residential landscaped garden noted was located behind what is now the Charlotte County Public Library and was the **Hagerman-Marshall House (185-0002)**. This garden was built when the residence was renovated into the county library in 1937 and consists of brick gazebos, benches and brick-lined pathways leading through various shrub-lined paths. Two brick teahouses were built at the rear of the gardens. The plans for this garden are still held in the library. Six marble busts (**185-0024**) of Roman emperors were intended for placement in this garden area.



Charles Barton Keene

## **FUNERARY**

Relating to the investigation of burial sites, the Funerary theme uses demographic data found there to study such things as population composition, health and mortality of societies.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

Cemeteries

Graves

Funeral Homes

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Church Cemeteries*

19-0003      Cub Creek Church site  
19-0006      Hermon Presbyterian Church  
19-5040      Bethel Baptist Church  
19-5001      Concord Church  
19-5003      Trinity Church  
19-5010      White's Chapel Cemetery  
19-5015      Mount Lyle Church  
19-5016      Madisonville Presbyterian Church  
19-5020      Centenary Church  
19-5022      Salem Church  
19-5027      Oakview Church  
19-5040      Bethel Baptist  
19-5047      Aspen Hill Baptist Church  
19-5048      Roanoke Presbyterian Church  
19-5070      Roanoke Baptist Church  
19-5079      Staunton River Baptist Church  
19-5122      Salem Baptist Church  
19-5128      Wylliesburg Baptist Church  
19-5160      Mount Calvary Baptist Church  
19-5161      Organ Hill Church  
248-5001-010      Keysville Presbyterian Church

#### *Public/Community Cemeteries*

185-0023-011      Town Cemetery

#### *Private Cemeteries*

19-0004      Do Well  
19-0008      Greenfield  
19-0020      Mapleton  
19-0024      Mulberry Hill  
19-0027      Red Hill  
19-0028      Ridgeway  
19-0043      Locust Grove Plantation  
19-0056      Oak Hill



19-5101      S.C. Newcomb Homeplace  
19-5120      Russell/Moseley/Winn Place  
19-5146      Toombs House and Farm

*Funeral Parlors*

19-5094      M.P. Lipscomb Store and Funeral Parlor  
248-5004      Wilson Funeral Home

### *Burial Areas*

The rural nature of Charlotte County essentially determined the locations of burials. It was not convenient to bring the deceased to a common area, therefore, family cemeteries were a common burial choice unless a church of the family denomination was nearby. Many of the oldest plantations have a family burial area which may or may not be associated with the original property or historical family now.

Most of the resources surveyed relating to the funerary theme are cemeteries associated with churches. Most every church surveyed had a cemetery or at least a few grave markers. **White's Chapel Cemetery (19-5010)** has remained even though the building it was associated with is no longer standing. This and **Cub Creek Church (19-0003)** are the only cemeteries surveyed that are not associated with a structure at this time.

There is one public or community cemetery (not private or associated with a church) documented in Charlotte County. The **Town Cemetery (185-0023-011)** was deeded in 1840 to be the "burying ground for the village" of Marysville/Charlotte Court House (Ailsworth et al, 142).

Markers of Civil War soldiers were found at **S.C. Newcomb House (19-5101)** and at the **Toombs Tobacco Farm (19-5146)**.

Artistic value of a cemetery is generally judged by the aesthetics of the enclosure, landscaping and the markers themselves. The most decorative headstones were found at **Salem Baptist Church (19-5122)** and **Salem Church (19-5022)**. There did not appear to be any formal landscaping associated with the surveyed cemeteries but the graves at **Mapleton (19-20)** were in a lovely shaded grove with a periwinkle carpet, an historically low-maintenance way to keep burial grounds.

### *Funeral Parlors*

The two documented funeral parlors are located in Saxe and Keysville. The **M.P. Lipscomb Store and Funeral Parlor (19-5094)** (Figure 87) began operation ca. 1890 in the railroad village of Saxe. One side of this 2-story, frame building served the general item needs of the population while the other, more ornate side, provided funerary services. The **Wilson Funeral Home (248-5004)** in Keysville is a 1920s American foursquare building constructed as a dwelling and converted to a funeral home in the 1940s to serve the funerary needs of the African-American community.



## **ETHNICITY/IMMIGRATION**

Ethnicity and immigration as one theme provides the investigation of the physical manifestation of ethnic diversity and also the movement and interaction of people of ethnic heritages over time and locations in Virginia.

### **Property Types Surveyed**

School  
Meeting Hall  
Domestic Buildings  
Servants Quarters  
Commercial Building  
Church

### ***Resources Identified***

#### *Associated with ethnic settlement:*

19-0003      Cub Creek (Presbyterian) Church  
19-0025      South Isle  
19-5141      Catholic Colony dwelling

#### *Associated with African-American peoples:*

19-0001      Arcadia  
19-0025      South Isle  
19-0031      "The Street"  
19-0040      House, off Route 637  
19-0057      Maple Roads  
19-0059      Morrison Grove Baptist Church  
19-5047      Aspen Hill Baptist Church  
19-5082      Henry Church  
19-5167      Bluestone Harmony School  
19-5121      Salem School  
19-5122      Salem Baptist Church  
19-5146      Toombs Tobacco Farm  
19-5167      Bluestone Harmony School  
185-0022      Moses Hall  
185-5001      Central High School  
185-5002      House, Route 47  
248-5004      Wilson Funeral Home  
248-5005      Hamlett Barber Shop  
248-5010      Wilson House 1  
248-5011      Wilson House 2

At least 19 properties have been surveyed in Charlotte County for the theme of Ethnicity/Immigration. These resources range in date from 1820 to the 1920s and include churches, houses, servant quarters, schools and a gathering hall. The predominant resources found were houses, followed by churches then schools.

### **1750-1789 COLONY TO NATION PERIOD**

The settlers of Charlotte County were of varying ethnic backgrounds and included mostly English and Scotch-Irish with some French Huguenots. Many of the large land grants of prominent families in Charlotte County date to this early settlement by the Scotch-Irish. The primary religion of these Scottish settlers was Presbyterian and from them came **Cub Creek Presbyterian Church (19-3)**. However, the structures that stand today are not architecturally influenced by this ethnic heritage.

### **1789-1830 EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD**

### **1830-1860 ANTEBELLUM PERIOD**

The introduction of indentured servants and slave labor into Charlotte County boosted the area into a higher bracket of tobacco and general agricultural production. Some of the buildings found in Charlotte County that were associated with the African-American slave population include servant's quarters and detached kitchens with living space above.

**"The Street" (19-0031)** (Figure 88) originally consisted of a row of five brick buildings that were essentially duplexes for the slave labor of Dikeland. These gable-roofed buildings were constructed in the mid-1800s and were in various states of disrepair when surveyed. Two remain standing and the ruins of the other three were seen along Route 607 near the area of Randolph. These buildings are



significant because of the use of brick in their construction. Most servant-related buildings of the time were frame construction and have consequently disappeared. Some these frame structures were free-standing, as the slave cabin at **South Isle (19-0025)**, while others were incorporated into another building, such as the kitchen with living space above at the **Toombs Tobacco Farm (19-5146)** and at **Arcadia (19-0001)**.

Servants originally worshipped in the churches of their master's in a balcony set for their use. Sometimes, these churches split for black members to form their own congregation. This was the case in 1871 when the black members of **Mt. Tirzah Baptist Lodge (185-0006)** formed **Morrison Grove Baptist Church (19-0059)**, named for James Morrison who was the land donor for the building.

### **1865-1917 RECONSTRUCTION AND GROWTH PERIOD**

The segregation that followed Reconstruction into the 20th century produced separate services for black and white merchants to provide. A large black population and the need to establish their own

social and health institutions, **Moses Hall (185-0022)** was established in the early 1900s by a prominent black minister, J. Murray Jeffress, for the black community. The present ca. 1925 building stands as a rare example of an African-American organizational building has 2 1/2-stories, a front-gabled roof and is constructed of brick laid in 6-course American bond. There are other buildings associated with Moses Hall that make up this complex for the national Grand United Order of Moses, including a dormitory, a bungalow-style dwelling built as a doctor's house (**House, Route 47 185-5002**), an administrative building and a nursing home, all of brick construction.

As discussed in the Education Theme, the **Bluestone-Harmony Academic and Industrial School (19-5167)** near Keysville was built in 1898 by an association of black Baptist churches. This school served as a boarding and high school for African-Americans from locations in Virginia and beyond until 1950. This complex expanded in the early 1900s with the construction of boy's and girl's dormitories and teacher's and president's dwellings. A dormitory remains (Figure 89).



## **1917-1945 WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II PERIOD**

Other services provided by African-Americans for their own community include among other things a barber and beauty shop building and funeral home, both surveyed in the town of Keysville. The **Hamlett Barber Shop (248-5005)** (Figure 84) is a frame structure with a side-gable roof and two entrances, presumably for the barber and beautician services. Originally constructed as a single dwelling, the **Wilson Funeral Home (248-5004)** began serving the black community in a funerary capacity ca. 1940. This ca. 1920, two-story American-foursquare structure resembles another dwelling surveyed in association with a member of the black community in Keysville, Reverend J. H. Wilson (**248-5010**). The **Wilson and Company General Store (248-5001-004)**, also associated with Reverend Wilson, is a frame commercial building located in Keysville.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **SURVEY FINDINGS**

Two hundred and twenty structures, including 20 properties surveyed at the intensive level, were surveyed in Charlotte County as part of the project. Twenty-four of these were structures that had been previously recorded, either by the Work Projects Administration (WPA), the Historic American Building Survey (HABS), or the Virginia Historic Landmark Commission (VHLC), and were resurveyed during this project to update and expand the information in the DHR files. The total number of structures recorded in Charlotte County now equals 332, representing approximately 13% of the estimated total number of historic structures in the county, based on 1940 historic population figures.

The 220 structures surveyed were selected based on a need for representation across all relevant time periods and themes, as identified by the Department of Historic Resources, as well as geographic distribution. Table 2 illustrates the composition of these resources as they represent the various themes and time periods.

The Charlotte County Comprehensive Plan and the VDOT six-year plan identified the main transportation corridors, such as Route 360, as growth areas which have historic resources that would be affected by future development. The survey information which includes a statement of potential significance should be consulted in future planning decisions for these areas in particular.

**Table 1**

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-0001	Arcadia	1847	A, C-Eligible	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D, A	House	Domestic Buildings
019-0002	Cottage Valley Farm	1859	Demolished	Saxe	Roanoke	S/A		
019-0003	Cub Creek Church	1820	Demolished	Aspen	Roanoke	R, F		Cemetery
019-0004	Do Well	1822	A, C-Eligible	Saxe	Central	D, A	House	
019-0005	Edgehill	1789-1830	A	Eureka	Walton	D, G/L/P	House	Office
019-0006	Gravel Hill	1848	A, C-Eligible	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D, A, L	House	Domestic Buildings, barn
019-0007	Green Level	1789-1830	Demolished	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D		
019-0008	Greenfield	1771	NRHP	Eureka	Walton	D, A, L	House	
019-0009	Harvey's Store	1830s	A, C	Madisonville	Madison	C/T, G/L/P	Store	
019-0010	Harvey's Tavern	1830 ca	A, C-Eligible	Madisonville	Madison	D, C/T	Tavern	
019-0011	High Hill	1830 ca	A, C-Eligible	Madisonville	Madison	D, S/A	House	Corncrib, office
019-0012	House	1820 ca	No	Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0013	House	1830-1860	Demolished	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0014	House, Route 619	1789-1830	No	Aspen	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0015	House	1789-1830	Burned	Clover	Walton	D	House	
019-0016	Hermon Presbyterian Church	1855	C	Saxe	Roanoke	R	Church	
019-0017	House, Route 620	1800 ca	Demolished	Nathalie	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0018	Old Young Place	1789-1830	No	Charlotte Court House	Walton	D	House	
019-0019	Ingleside	1810 ca		Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0020	Mapleton / Kentwood	1837	A, C	Eureka	Walton	D, L, F	House	Cemetery
019-0021	Mildwood	1838	No	Saxe	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0022	Moldavia	1852	A, C-Eligible	Eureka	Walton	D, E	House/School	
019-0023	Morotock	1855 ca	A, C	Saxe	Bacon	D	House	
019-0024	Mulberry Hill	1750-1789	NRHP	Saxe	Roanoke	D, G/L/P, L, F	House	Cemetery
019-0025	South Isle / The Oaks / Young Farm	1795/1850	A, C-Eligible	Conner Lake	Roanoke	D, A, R	House	Chapel, Domestic buildings
019-0026	Pine Grove	1830-1860	No	Eureka	Walton	D	House	Smokehouse

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

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Page 123

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-0027	Red Hill	1789-1830, 1950s	NRHP	Brookneal	Roanoke	D, F, G/L/P, L	House	Reconstructed law office
019-0028	Ridgeway	1828	No	Conner Lake	Roanoke	D, A	House	
019-0029	Roanoke Plantation Outbuildings	1789-1830	NRHP	Saxe	Roanoke	D, G/L/P	Law Office, Kitchen	House
019-0030	Staunton Hill	1848	NRHP	Aspen, Brookneal, Conner Lake	Roanoke	A, D	House	
019-0031	The Street	1855 ca	A, C, D	Saxe	Bacon	D, S/A, E/I	Servant Quarters	
019-0032	Wardsfork	1830 ca	C	Charlotte Court House	Madison	D	House	
019-0033	Woodburn	1840	A, C	Conner Lake	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0034	Woodfork	1829	A, C	Charlotte Court House	Madison	D	House	
019-0035	Wyllis/Wyllies House	1830 ca	A, C	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, C/T	House	Store, Office
019-0036	Do Better	1819-1820	C	Saxe	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0037	empty file							
019-0038	House, off Route 40	1840 ca	No	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0039	House, off Route 649	1830-1860	No	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0040	House, off Route 637	1830-1860	A, C	Saxe	Central	D, S/A, E/I	Slave Quarters	
019-0041	House	n.d.	No	Charlotte Court House	mapped?	D	House	
019-0042	House, off Route 637	1850 ca	No	Saxe	Central	D	House	
019-0043	Roxabell / Roxobel Outbuilding	1934 (rebuilt)	No	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D, HC/M	House	Domestic buildings
019-0044	Golden Hill	1810	A, C	Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0045	Locust Grove	1850	A, C	Drakes Branch	Central	D, S/A	House	Corncrib
019-0046	House, Route 15	1820 ca	No	Buffalo Springs	Bacon	D	House	
019-0047	Brick building	Discrepancy in DHR file		Conner Lake	Roanoke	D	House	
019-0048	Brookneal			Brookneal	Midway or Roanoke	D	House	
019-0049	Wardsfork Mill	1865-1917	A, C-Eligible	Madisonville	Madison	I/P/E	Mill	
019-0050	Phenix Railroad Station	1920 ca	Demolished	Phenix		T	Station	



Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 124

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-0051	Drakes Branch Railroad Station	1865-1917	Demolished	Drakes Branch		T	Station	
019-0052	Cullen Railroad Station	1908 ca	Demolished	not mapped	Madison	T	Station	
019-0053	Wheatland			Buffalo Springs	Bacon	D	House	
019-0054	Guthrie (H.T.) Store & Tobacco Barn	1890s	A, C	Aspen		C/T, D	Store, House	Tobacco barn, crib
019-0055	Tobacco Barns	1865-1917	No	Aspen	not mapped	S/A	Barn	
019-0056	Oak Hill	1858	A, C	Drakes Branch	Central	D, S/A, F	House	Cemetery, Dairy
019-0057	Maple Roads	1821	NRHP	Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0058	Mount Zion Baptist Church	1830-1860	No	not mapped		R	Church	
019-0059	Morrison Grove Baptist Church	1870	PIF 1983	Charlotte Court House	Walton	R, E/I	Church	
019-0060	Bluestone Creek Bridge	1917-1945	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0061	Bridge, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0062	Tobacco Barn, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	S/A	Barn	
019-0063	House, Route 608	1920 ca	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0064	House, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0065	House, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0066	House, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0067	Farm Buildings, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	S/A		
019-0068	House, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0069	House, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0070	House and Farm Buildings, Route 608	1917-1945	No	Clover	Bacon	D	House	
019-0071	House, Route 360			Wylliesburg	Bacon	D	House	
019-0072	House, Route 607	1870/1920	No	Clover	Bacon	D, S/A	Tenant House	Log crib, tobacco barn
019-0073	House, off Route 607	1830-1860	No	Clover	Bacon	D, S/A	Tenant House	Log outbuilding
019-0074	Lacks, S.L. House	1930	No	Clover	Bacon	D, S/A, T/C	House	Telegraph office, granary, barn, smokehouse

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 125

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-0075	House, off Route 611	1870	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-0076	House, off Route 611	1789-1830	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	
019-0077	House, off Route 611	1900-1920	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barns, packing house
019-0078	House, off Route 611	1850-1875	No	Clover	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Tobacco curing, packing and barns
019-0079	House, off Route 611	1850-1875	No	Clover	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Log tobacco sheds
019-0080	Word of Faith Church	1940	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	C/T	Store	
019-0081	House, Route 15	1930-1940	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-0082	House, Route 15	1920	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D	House	
019-0083	House, Route 15	1870	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D	House	
019-0084	Farm, off Route 360	1920	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-0085	Farm, off Route 360	1900-1920	No	Wylliesburg	Bacon	D, S/A	House	Barn, Granary
019-0086	Bridge, Route 620	1900	No	Nathalie	Roanoke	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0087	Bridge, over Turnip Creek	1932	No	Aspen	Roanoke	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0088	Eureka Baptist Church	1850	No	Eureka	Walton	R	Church	
019-0089	House, Route 654	1920s	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Agric. outbuilding
019-0090	White Farm	1920s	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	Tenant House	Tobacco barn
019-0091	Mount Airy (Eureka Farm)	1852	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Dairy barn
019-0092	Spring Creek Bridge, B177 Route 654	1940s	No	Eureka	Walton	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0093	Spencer Creek Bridge, Route 654	1940	No	Eureka	Walton	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0094	House, Route 654			Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0095	House, Route 654	1920s	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-0096	Roanoke Creek Bridge, Route 654	1940	No	Eureka	Walton	T, T/E	Bridge	
019-0097	Eggleston Farm: Hog Pen	1850	A, C	Eureka	Walton	S/A, D	Tenant house	Tobacco

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 126

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-0098	Roanoke Bridge; Elm Shade (Morton Farm)	1790	A, C	Eureka	Walton	D	House	Domestic, agric. outbuildings
019-0099	House, Route 654	1938	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	Tenant farm	
019-0100	Rodill/Rodell Farm	1875	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Barns
019-0101	Nelson House	1938	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-0102	Watkins, M. Lee, Home (Allen Farm)	1875	No	Eureka	Walton	D, S/A	House	Barns
019-0103	Meyer House	1940	No	Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0104	House, Routes 750 & 654	1940	No	Eureka	Walton	D	House	
019-0105	Vaden Farm	1820 ca	No	Keysville	Walton	D	House	
019-5001	Concord Church	1830s	No	Red House		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5002	Store, Route 615	1920	No	Red House		C/T	Store	
019-5003	Trinity Church	1888	A	Red House		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5004	Madison Academy	1830s	A, C	Red House		E	School	
019-5005	Hancock-Petty House	1838	A, C	Red House		D	House	
019-5006	Red House Tavern, Part I	1813	No	Red House		C/T	Tavern	
019-5007	Red House Tavern, Part II	1813	No	Red House		C/T	Tavern	
019-5008	Store, Route 615	1900 ca	No	Red House		C/T	Store	
019-5009	Bridge, Route 727	1934	No	Red House		T	Bridge	
019-5010	White's Chapel Cemetery	1857	No	Red House		R, F	Cemetery	
019-5011	Store, Route 672	1900	No	Red House		C/T	Store	
019-5012	Oakdale School	1912	No	Red House		E	School	
019-5013	Captain Thornton House	1789/1910	A, C	Madisonville		D, C/T, E	House	Store, School
019-5014	House, Route 691	1900 ca	No	Madisonville		D	House	
019-5015	Mt. Lyle Church	1910 ca	No	Madisonville		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5016	Madisonville Church	1907	No	Madisonville		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5017	Pugh, William T., House	1850 ca	Rural Historic District	Madisonville		D	House	
019-5018	Store, Route 47	1930	No	Madisonville		C/T	Store	
019-5019	Pugh, Dr. W.S., House	1907	A, C (Rural Historic District)	Madisonville		D	House	

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5020	Centenary Church	1849	No	Madisonville		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5021	House, Route 649	1820 ca	No	Madisonville		D	House	Kitchen
019-5022	Salem Church	1860 ca	No	Madisonville		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5023	J.W. Carrington Store	1940s	No	Madisonville		C/T	Store	
019-5024	Morris House	1883	A	Madisonville		D, A, S/A	House (overseer's house?)	
019-5025	House, Route 660	1920s	No	Madisonville		D	House	
019-5026	Cullen Baptist Church Parsonage	1915 c	No	Madisonville		R, D	Parsonage	
019-5027	Oakview Church	1890 ca	No	Madisonville		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5028	Madison District Community Center	1948	No	Madisonville		S	Meeting Hall	
019-5029	Barnes House	1865-1917	No	Aspen		D	House	
019-5030	Bridge, Route 707	1917-1945	No	Abilene		T	Bridge	
019-5031	Store, Route 760	1910	No	Abilene		C/T	Store	
019-5032	House, Route 619	1940 ca	No	Brookneal		D	House	
019-5033	House, Route 619	1880-1900	No	Brookneal		D	House	
019-5034	House, Route 619	1920	No	Brookneal		D, S/A	House	Chicken Coop, corncrib
019-5035	Old Well Store & Voting Precinct	1910 ca	No	Aspen		C/T, G/L/P	Store	Voting Precinct
019-5036	Store, Route 672	1900-1915	No	Aspen		C/T	Store	
019-5037	Rough Creek Presbyterian Church	1838	No	Aspen		R	Church	
019-5038	Clay's Mill	1847 ca	A, C	Aspen		I/P/E	Mill	
019-5039	Rough Creek Stone House	1830-1860	A, C	Aspen		D, A	House	
019-5040	Bethel Baptist Church	1929	No	Aspen		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5041	House, Route 678	1920 ca	No	Aspen		D	House	
019-5042	Longview	1880s	No	Aspen		D	House	
019-5043	Mt. Carmel U. Methodist Church	1830/1920	No	Aspen		R	Church	
019-5044	House, Route 672	1920s	No	Aspen		D	House	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 128

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5045	Aspen General Store	1920c	No	Aspen		C/T	Store	
019-5046	White House, Route 619	1900 ca	No	Aspen		D	House	
019-5047	Aspen Hill Baptist Church	1890	No	Aspen		R, F, E/I	Church	Cemetery
019-5048	Roanoke Presbyterian Church	1849	No	Aspen		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5049	Baldwin	1848-1854	No	Aspen		D	House	
019-5050	House, Route 660	1900	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5051	Jarman Store & Cullen Post Office	1930s	No	Charlotte Court House		C/T, G/L/P	Store	Post Office
019-5052	Garage/Store, Route 47	1940s	No	Charlotte Court House		C/T	Store	
019-5053	Cullen Fire Dept.	1930-1940	No	Charlotte Court House		G/L/P	Fire Dept.	
019-5054	Cullen General Store	1910 ca	No	Charlotte Court House		C/T	Store	
019-5055	Railroad Trestle, Cullen	1917-1945	No	Charlotte Court House		T	Trestle	
019-5056	Phenix School	1925 ca		Charlotte Court House		E	School	
019-5057	House, Park Street	1910	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5058	Phenix Presbyterian Church	1865-1917	No	Charlotte Court House		R	Church	
019-5059	Berkley House	1912	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5060	Phenix United Methodist Church	1920-1922	No	Charlotte Court House		R	Church	
019-5061	Phenix Fire Tower	1930-1940	No	Charlotte Court House	Madison	T/E	Fire Tower	
019-5062	Hamlett House	1900	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5063	Gilliam, J.E., Sr. House	1922-1925	A, C	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5064	High Hill School	1903	A, C	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	E	School	
019-5065	Adams, Thomas James, House	1827	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	
019-5066	Harrisburg Store	1920-1930	No	Charlotte Court House		C/T, T	Store	Gas Station
019-5067	House, Route 619 & 649	1940 ca	No	Charlotte Court House		D	House	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 129

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5068	House, Route 619	1890	No	Charlotte Court House	D		House	
019-5069	Railroad House, Rt. 671	1900-1920	A, C	Eureka		D, T	House	Well house, sheds, garage
019-5070	Roanoke Baptist Church	1870 ca	No	Eureka		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5071	Shook, Gertrude, House	1930-1940	No	Eureka		D, A	House	
019-5072	Beeckenbrook	1886	A, C	Eureka		D, A	House	
019-5073	Anchor & Hope	1930 ca	No	Eureka		D	House	
019-5074	Store, Route 672 (Bernice Collins' store)	1915	No	Red House		C/T	Store	
019-5075	House, Route 615	1930 ca	No	Red House		D	House	
019-5076	Armistead	1830 ca	A, C	Aspen		D	House	
019-5077	Armistead Log House	1830 ca	A, C	Aspen		D, HC/M	House	
019-5078	Overseer's House, Rt. 649	1840 ca	No	Conner Lake		S/A, D	House	
019-5079	Staunton River Baptist Church	1893 ca	No	Conner Lake		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5080	Cliffside Overseer's House	1830-1860	A, C	Saxe		D, S/A	House	
019-5081	Log House, Route 648	1930 ca	No	Saxe		D, S/A	House	Tobacco barns
019-5082	Henry Church	1920	A, C	Saxe		R, E/I	Church	
019-5083	House, Route 643	1900 ca	No	Saxe		D, S/A	House	Tobacco barns
019-5084	Goose Bottom Log House	1830 ca	No	Saxe		S/A, D	House	Privy, stable
019-5085	Sunnyside	1912	No	Saxe		D, A, S/A	House	Stable (barn)
019-5086	House, Route 746	1880 ca	No	Saxe		D	House	
019-5087	Anderson House	1850-1870	No	Saxe		D, S/A	House	Tobacco barns
019-5088	Edgewood	1920s	No	Saxe		D	House	
019-5089	Saxe Schoolhouse	1910	A, C	Saxe		E	School	
019-5090	Southall U. Methodist Church	1908	A, C	Saxe		R	Church	
019-5091	Lipscomb-Tucker House	1900 ca	No	Saxe		D	House	
019-5092	Jeffress-Crews House	1880s	No (Rural Historic District)	Saxe		D, S/A	House	Barn
019-5093	Saxe Railroad Depot	1902	A, C (Rural Historic District)	Saxe		T/C	Depot	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 130

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5094	M. P. Lipscomb General Store	1890	A, C-Eligible (Rural Historic District)	Saxe		C/T, F	Store/ Funeral Parlor	
019-5095	W.H. Crews and Co. Store	1890	A, C (Rural Historic District)	Saxe		C/T	Store	
019-5096	Sylvan Hill	1815/1890	A, C	Saxe		D, S/A, A, L	House	Boxwood garden
019-5097	Millbrook	1860 ca	No	Saxe		D	House	
019-5098	Randolph Depot	1910 ca	A, C	Saxe		T/C	Depot	
019-5099	St. John House	1900 ca	C	Saxe		D	House	
019-5100	Formosa Store and Post Office	1890s	A, C	Saxe		C/T, G/L/P	Store/ Post Office	
019-5101	Newcomb, J.E. House	1900	A, C	Saxe		D, S/A	House	Barns, carbide shed
019-5102	Randolph General Store	1890s	No	Saxe		C/T	Store	
019-5103	Randolph Store and Post Office	1920s	No	Saxe		C/T, G/L/P	Store, Post Office	
019-5104	Foster House, Route 710	1820 ca		Drakes Branch		D	House	Kitchen (attached)
019-5105	Log House, Route 710	1830 ca	A, C	Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5106	Wallace, William M., House	1842	No	Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5107	Crafton Gate Lookout Tower	1930-1940	No	Drakes Branch		T/E	Fire Tower	
019-5108	Cedar Grove Community Church	1920 ca	No	Drakes Branch		R	Church	
019-5109	House, Route 606	1865-1917	No	Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5110	Westview	1785/1820	A, C	Drakes Branch		D, E, S/A	House	School, Tobacco Barns, Granary
019-5111	Devin House	1910s	No	Drakes Branch		D, S/A	House	Barns
019-5112	Tenant House, Route 622	1920 ca	No	Fort Mitchell		D, S/A	House	Barn
019-5113	Ontario Store	1920 ca	No	Fort Mitchell		C/T	Store	
019-5114	House, Route 622	1830s		Fort Mitchell		D	House	
019-5115	Friendship Baptist Church	1878	No	Fort Mitchell		R	Church	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 131

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5116	Newcomb, S.C. Homeplace	1900 ca	A, C	Clover		D, S/A, F	House	Barns, Cemetery, Blacksmith shop
019-5117	House, Route 611	1820	No	Clover		D, S/A	House	Tobacco barn
019-5118	Boswell House (and School)	1850s	A, C	Clover		D, E, S/A	House	School, barns
019-5119	Griles, J.D., House	1820s	No	Clover		D	House	
019-5120	Russell-Winn House	1857	No	Clover		D, S/A, F	House	Tobacco barns, grave
019-5121	Salem School	1923-1924	A	Clover		E, E/I	School	
019-5122	Salem Baptist Church	1906	No	Clover		R, E/I, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5123	Atkins House	1820	A, C, D	Clover		D	House	Smokehouse
019-5124	Hebron Church	1834	No	Wylliesburg		R	Church	
019-5125	Log House, Rt. 360	1870-1890	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5126	Garland House	1870-1880	No	Wylliesburg		D, S/A	House	Tobacco barns
019-5127	House, Route 611	1915	No	Wylliesburg		D, S/A	Tenant House	
019-5128	Wylliesburg Baptist Church	1880-1900	No	Wylliesburg		R	Church	
019-5129	Wylliesburg Store	1830-1840	A, C	Wylliesburg		C/T	Store	
019-5130	Devin, J.A., House	1910	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5131	Moore, R.W., Store	1920s	No	Wylliesburg		C/T, T, G/L/P	Store	Gas Station, Post Office
019-5132	Devin, Tune, House	1915	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5133	Jackson, J.C., House	1910 ca	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5134	House, Route 607	1920s	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5135	Toombs House, Route 607	1925-1930	No	Wylliesburg		D, S/A, F	House	Barns, Cemetery
019-5136	House, Route 607	1917-1945	No	Wylliesburg		S/A, D	House	
019-5137	House, Route 607	1917-1945	No	Wylliesburg		S/A, D	House	
019-5138	House, Route 607	1920s	No	Wylliesburg		S/A, D	House	
019-5139	Jones Store	1930	No	Wylliesburg		C/T	Store	Gas Station
019-5140	Store, Route 15 (Barnes Junc.)	1930s	No	Wylliesburg		C/T	Store	
019-5141	Catholic Colony Dwelling	1865-1917	No	Wylliesburg		D, SP, G/L/P	House	



Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 132

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5142	Bruce, John N. House	1819	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5143	Adams, Charles House	1920	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5144	Rutledge House	1830s	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	Kitchen
019-5145	Adams House	1920 ca	No	Wylliesburg		D	House	
019-5146	Toombs Tobacco Farm	1830-1860	A, C-Eligible	Wylliesburg		D, S/A, F	House	Barns, Cemetery
019-5147	Red Oak Grove Store	1830	A, C (Rural Historic District)	Wylliesburg		C/T	Store	
019-5148	Red Oak Water Tank	1927	A (Rural Historic District)	Wylliesburg		I	Water tank	
019-5149	Red Oak Grove Farm	1908	A, C (Rural Historic District)	Wylliesburg		D	House	Stable
019-5150	Haskins, Conway, House (House, Rt. 632)	1920s	No	Buffalo Springs		D, S/A	House	Barns
019-5151	Log House, Route 640	1930 ca		Buffalo Springs		D	House	
019-5152	Wylliesburg Community Center	1940s	B	Wylliesburg		S	Meeting Hall	
019-5153	Madisonville School Complex	1915-1920	No	Madisonville		E	School	Cannery, Cafeteria
019-5154	Payne House	1882	A, C	Drakes Branch		A, D	House	
019-5155	School, Route 619	1900	No	Drakes Branch		E	School	
019-5156	Allen House	1930 ca		Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5157	Grace Episcopal Church	1932	A, C	Drakes Branch		R	Church	
019-5158	Harvey House	1890 ca		Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5159	House, Route 619	1917-1945	No	Drakes Branch		D	House	
019-5160	Mt. Calvary Church	1890	No	Drakes Branch		R, F	Church	Cemetery
019-5161	Organ Hill Church	1910 ca		Drakes Branch		R	Church	
019-5163	Payne House	1910 ca	No	Saxe		D	House	
019-5164	Store, Main Street (Operation Blessing)	1910 ca		Drakes Branch		C/T	Store	
019-5165	Pettus, William House	1900 ca	A, C	Drakes Branch		D	House	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 133

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
019-5167	Bluestone Harmony School	1923	A, C- Eligible	Keysville		E/I, E	School	
019-5189	Drakes Branch Historic District		Eligible	Drakes Branch				
019-5189-001	Granny's Furniture	1920	Drakes Branch Historic District	Drakes Branch		C/T	Store	
019-5189-002	Crouch Rexall Drug Store	1900 ca	Drakes Branch Historic District	Drakes Branch		C/T, HC/M?	Store, Pharmacy	
019-5189-003	Drakes Branch Variety Store	1910 ca	Drakes Branch Historic District	Drakes Branch		C/T	Store	
019-5189-004	Jackson Hardware	1894	Drakes Branch Historic District	Drakes Branch		C/T	Store	
019-5189-005	J.C. Paulett Warehouse	1910 ca	Drakes Branch Historic District	Drakes Branch		C/T	Warehouse	
185-0004	House, Charlotte Courthouse	1750-1789	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D, C/T	House	
185-0006	Mt. Tirzah Baptist Lodge	1857		Charlotte Court House	Walton	R	Church	
185-0017	House, Charlotte Court House	1830-1860	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	D	House	
185-0018	House, Charlotte Court House	1830 ca	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Walton	D	House	
185-0021	Charlotte County Post Office		Site is in Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Demolished	G/L/P	Post Office	
185-0022	Moses Hall	1904	A, C- Eligible	Charlotte Court House	Madison	E/I, S, HC/M	Meeting Hall	
185-0023	Charlotte Court House Historic District		NRHP	Charlotte Court House	Madison			
185-0023-005 & 185-0007	First County Records Office	1840	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Walton	G/L/P	Office	
185-0023-006	Charlotte County Jail	1936	Charlotte Courthouse Historic District	Charlotte Court House		G/L/P	Jail	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 134

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
185-0023-007 & 185-0001	Charlotte County Courthouse	1823	NRHP	Charlotte Court House	Walton	G/L/P	Courthouse	
185-0023-008 & 185-0002	Hagerman-Marshall, House (Public Library)	1810/1840	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D, G/L/P		
185-0023-011	Town Cemetery	1840s	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	F	Cemetery	
185-0023-012 & 185-0013	Village Presbyterian Church	1835-1840	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	R	Church	
185-0023-013 & 185-0016	Watkins Tavern (Old Brick Tavern)	1820 ca	Eligible	Charlotte Court House	Madison	C/T	Tavern	
185-0023-023 & 185-0008	Presbyterian Manse	1830-1860	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	R, D	House	
185-0023-032 & 185-0014	Ville View	1812/1825	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	D	House	
185-0023-036 & 185-0009	Rose (Wynard)	1830 ca	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	D	House	
185-0023-037	Charlotte Co. Board of Educ. Admin. Bldg.	1918	A, C-Eligible; CCH Historic District	Charlotte Court House		E	School	
185-0023-038	Central High School (w/ Bd. of Ed.)	1908	A, C-Eligible; CCH Historic District	Charlotte Court House		E	School	
185-0023-041 & 185-0003	Diamond Hill	1840 ca	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Roanoke	D	House	
185-0023-042 & 185-0019	Methodist Church	1841 ca	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	R	Church	
185-0023-044 & 185-0011	Tankersley Tavern	1765 ca	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	C/T	Tavern	
185-0023-045 & 185-0010	Store (Deaner's Store, Ferris Store)	1800	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	C/T	Store	
185-0023-047 & 185-0005	St. John's Masonic Lodge	1852	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	S	Meeting Hall	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 135

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
185-0023-048 & 185-0012	Store (Tucker Store)	1825	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	C/T	Store	
185-0023-049 & 185-0015	Watkins Office (Smith Store)	1825	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	Madison	C/T	Store/Office	
185-0023-050 & 185-0020	Parsons Store	n.d.	Historic District	Charlotte Court House	not mapped	C/T	Store	
185-5001	Central High School (colored)	1907 ca	A, C-Eligible	Charlotte Court House	Madison	E/I, E	School	
185-5002	House, Route 47 (with Moses Hall)	1930-1940	No	Charlotte Court House		D, HC/M	House	
185-5003	African-American Methodist Church	1870 ca	A (Historic District)	Charlotte Court House		R, E	Church	
248-5001	Keysville Historic District		Eligible	Keysville				
248-5001-001	Charlotte Hotel	1907 ca	Eligible; Keysville Historic District	Keysville		D	Hotel	
248-5001-002 & 248-0001	Keysville Railroad Station	1865-1917	A, C-Eligible; Keysville Historic District	Keysville	Walton	T/C	Depot	
248-5001-003	Rutledge, W.H., Bar Room	1899 ca	A, C; Keysville Historic District	Keysville		C/T	Store	
248-5001-004	Wilson & Company General Store	1893	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		C/T	Store	
248-5001-005	Keeling's Drug Store	1915 ca	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		C/T	Store	
248-5001-006	New Theater	1937	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		R/A	Movie theater	
248-5001-007	Hanmer Motor Car Company	1923	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		C/T	Car Dealer	
248-5001-008	Baker, Williams and Green Attorneys	1890 ca	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		D	House	

Historic Architectural Survey of Charlotte County, Virginia

Hill Studio, P.C.

Page 136

VDHR Survey Number	Resource Name	Date of Construction	Potential Significance	Quad Map	Magisterial District	Theme	Primary Resource	Significant Secondary Resources
248-5001-009	Keysville Presbyterian Church Parsonage	1938	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		R, D	House	
248-5001-010	Keysville Presbyterian Church	1916 ca	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		R	Church	
248-5001-011	Pettus and Caldwell, P.C.	1910 ca	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		G/L/P	Office	
248-5001-012	Keysville School	1912	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		E	School	
248-5001-013	House, King Street (blue)	1900 ca	A, C; Keysville Historic District	Keysville		D	House	
248-5001-014	Newcomb's Store	1930s	Keysville Historic District	Keysville		C/T	Store	
248-5002	Morton Hall	1894	Eligible	Keysville		D	House	
248-5003	Shook, Gertrude, House/Studio	1950 ca	No	Keysville		D, A	House, Studio	
248-5004	Wilson Funeral Home	1900-1920	No	Keysville		D, F	House	
248-5005	Hamlett Barber Shop	1900-1920		Keysville		C/T, E/I	Barber shop	
248-5006	Crystal Ice and Power Plant	1900 ca	No	Keysville		I/P/E	Ice Plant	
248-5007	Owens, H.B., House	1920 ca	No	Keysville		D	House	
248-5008	White House	1870-1890	No	Keysville		D	House	
248-5009	Service Station, Route 360 Business	1930 ca	No	Keysville		C/T	Store	
248-5010	Wilson House 1	1920s	No	Keysville		D, E/I	House	
248-5011	Wilson House 2	1920 ca	No	Keysville		D, E/I	House	

## **Summary of Surveyed Properties**

For most all historic themes, the actual survey findings closely paralleled the expected findings as outlined in Chapter 2. Charlotte County remains rural with many farms with tobacco-related outbuildings. The large land-holdings of the tobacco plantations have become subdivided over time and reflect a diversification of farming and other uses for historic domestic dependencies. Pre-Civil War crossroad settlements and post-Civil railroad communities and towns, which include stores, schools, post offices, railroad stations, churches and urban dwellings, are still viable and identifiable. In these areas and throughout the county, vacant buildings that have lost their use are threatened such as schools, railroad-related buildings and small crossroad stores. Very few slave cabins remain considering the large slave population; however, good resources related to the freed-black population of late 19th and early 20th century have taken their place, such as Moses Hall, Bluestone-Harmony Academic and Industrial School and the Hamlett Barber Shop, to name a few.

## CHAPTER 5

### EVALUATION

Each surveyed property was evaluated according to the criteria of the National Park Service through the National Register Criteria for Evaluation administered by the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers. These criteria are outlined in National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and were used by Hill Studio to determine a property's relation to defined historic contexts, its period and areas of significance, as well as its level of integrity. In order to qualify for listing on the National Register (NRHP), a property or district must be determined to be significant through its association with an important historic context and it must retain its historic integrity. Based on this evaluation, a statement of significance is included in each site file.

#### Significance

In order for a property or district to be considered for National Register listing, it must be shown to be significant for one or more of the four NRHP Criteria for Evaluation. Significance of a property or district is determined through its association with an important historic context (historical pattern). Historic contexts relate to the 18 historic themes developed by the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) as follows: architecture/landscape architecture/community planning, commerce/trade, domestic, education, ethnicity/immigration, funerary, government/law/political, health care/medicine, industry/processing/extraction, landscape, military/defense, recreation/the arts, religion, social, settlement patterns, subsistence/agriculture, technology/engineering and transportation/communication. Properties and districts can be determined to be significant within more than one historic context. These could also be deemed significant on one or more geographic levels, that is, local, state and national.

The Criteria describe how properties or districts are significant for their association with important event or persons (Criteria A or B, respectively), for their importance in design or construction (Criterion C) or for their potential to provide information (Criterion D) (U.S. Department of the Interior, 1991). The following is a brief description of each of the four NRHP Criterion for Evaluation (excerpted from National Register Bulletin 15: "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation").

#### ***Criterion A: Event***

Properties can be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

#### *Types of events*

A specific event marking an important moment in American prehistory or history.

A pattern of events or a historic trend that made a significant contribution to the development of a community, a state or a nation.

#### *Association of the Property with the Event*

The property must be documented to have existed at the time of the event or pattern of events and to have been associated with those events. A property is not eligible if its associations are speculative.

#### *Significance of the Association*

Mere association with historic events or trends is not enough, in and of itself, to qualify under Criterion A. The property's specific association must be considered important as well.

#### ***Criterion B: Person***

Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

#### *Significance of the Individual*

The persons associated with the property must be individually significant within an historic context. A property is not eligible if its only justification for significance is that it was owned or used by a person who is a member of an identifiable profession, class or social or ethnic group. It must be shown that the person gained importance within his or her profession or group during the time period associated with the property.

#### *Association with the Property*

Properties eligible under Criterion B are usually those associated with a person's productive life, reflecting the time period when he or she achieved significance. The individual's association with the property must be documented. Speculative associations are not acceptable. Properties associated with living persons are usually not eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

#### ***Criterion C: Design/Construction***

Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Resources that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction, such as districts, are defined within the context of this criterion. Districts must be a unified entity and possess a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development (U.S. Department of the Interior, 1991: 5).

#### *Distinctive Characteristics of Types, Periods and Methods of Construction*

To be eligible under this portion of Criterion C, a property must clearly illustrate, through "distinctive characteristics", the following:

- The pattern of features common to a particular class of resources;
- The individuality or variation of features that occur within the class;
- The evolution of that class; or
- The transition between classes of resources.

#### *Work of a Master*

A master is a figure of generally recognized greatness in a field, a known craftsman of consummate skill, or an anonymous craftsman whose work is distinguishable from others by its characteristic style and quality. The property must express a particular phase in the development of the master's



career, an aspect of his or her work, or a particular idea or theme in his or her craft. A property is not eligible as the work of a master; however, simply because it was designed by a prominent architect.

#### *Properties Possessing High Artistic Values*

High artistic values may be expressed in many ways, including areas as diverse as community design or planning, engineering and sculpture. A property is eligible for its high artistic values if it so fully articulates a particular concept of design that it expresses an aesthetic ideal. A property is not eligible; however, if it does not express aesthetic ideals or design concepts more fully than other properties of its type.

#### ***Criterion D: Information Potential***

Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### *Archaeological Sites*

Criterion D most commonly applies to properties that contain or are likely to contain information bearing on an important archaeological research question.

#### *Buildings, Structures and Objects*

Criterion D can also apply to buildings, structures and objects that contain important information. In order for these types of properties to be eligible under Criterion D, they themselves must be, or must have been, the principal source of the important information.

#### *Integrity*

Integrity is the ability of a property or district to convey its significance. To be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, a property or district must not only be shown to be significant under the National Register Criteria, but it also must have integrity. The Criteria recognize seven aspects that define integrity as follows: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association (U.S. Department of the Interior, 1991). The following is a brief description of each of the seven aspects of integrity (excerpted from the National Register Bulletin 15: "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation").

#### *Location*

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.

#### *Design*

Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation and materials.

#### *Setting*

Setting is the physical environment of an historic property. Setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historic role. It involves how, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.

*Materials*

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form an historic property.

*Workmanship*

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

*Feeling*

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular time period.

*Association*

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and an historic property.

## Properties Determined Eligible for National Register Listing

The scope of the project provided for 20 properties to be surveyed on the intensive level. These properties were selected based on their potential eligibility for meeting National Register Evaluation Criteria. They were presented to the DHR Evaluation Team to determine their eligibility for listing on the registers. Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs) were also prepared for potential historic districts in Drakes Branch and Keysville and presented for a determination of eligibility by the DHR Evaluation Team (See Appendices G and H).

The following properties, which were surveyed on an intensive level, were determined to be eligible for listing on the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers by the DHR Evaluation Team at its October 8, 1997 meeting.

19-0001	Arcadia
19-0004	Do Well
19-0006	Gravel Hill
19-0010	Harvey's Tavern
19-0011	High Hill
19-0022	Moldavia
19-0025	South Isle
19-0049	Wardsfork Mill
19-5094	M.P. Lipscomb Store
19-5146	Toombs Tobacco Farm
19-5167	Bluestone Harmony Academy
185-0016	Brick Tavern
185-0022	Moses Hall
185-0023-037	Board of Education Building
185-0023-038	Central High School (185-0023-037 and -038 were surveyed as one at the time)
185-5001	Central High School (African-American)
248-0001	Keysville Railroad Depot (also 248-5001-002)
248-5002	Morton Hall
248-5001-001	Charlotte Hotel

In addition to the 18 properties determined eligible for listing on the registers, the Charlotte County Jail was surveyed on the intensive level and upon evaluation, was confirmed to be a contributing and integral structure to the **Charlotte Court House Historic District (185-0023)**. **Ridgeway (19-0028)** was also surveyed on the intensive level and although it is a significant property in the area of architecture, the extensive remodeling compromises the integrity of the architecture within the defined period of significance. The recent work, however, was executed at such a high level of craftsmanship and complements the original structure in such a way that once this work is considered historic (50 years old), the property should be reconsidered in its entirety for listing on the National Register.

The historic districts of **Drakes Branch (19-5189)** and **Keysville (248-5001)** were also determined eligible for listing on the registers. The Preliminary Information Forms (PIFs), which provided the information for this determination and include proposed boundaries for the districts, are provided in the Appendices.

## **Properties Potentially Eligible for National Register Listing**

Other properties, which were surveyed on the reconnaissance level, are identified as potentially eligible for listing on the registers and recommended for further study. Table 1 in Chapter 4 is a summary of these properties surveyed and their potential significance.

As a result of the field survey, the following properties and potential districts are identified as potentially eligible for listing on the registers and recommended for further investigation and/or intensive-level survey:

### *Individual Properties*

(Please see Table 2, Chapter 4)

These will appear as having a letter designation of A, B, C or D under the “Potential Significance” column.

### *Historic Districts:*

African-American neighborhood, Charlotte Court House  
Saxe  
Wylliesburg

### *Rural Historic Districts:*

Red Oak Store and Red Oak Grove House  
Madisonville

## **CHAPTER 6**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the survey and evaluation of 220 properties in Charlotte County, Hill Studio, P.C. recommends that the following actions be taken in planning for future survey work and the stewardship of the historic resources already identified.

#### **National Register Listing**

- Prepare National Register nomination forms for all properties determined eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers by the DHR Evaluation Team.
- Prepare National Register nomination forms for the potential historic districts of Drakes Branch and Keysville that were determined eligible for listing by the DHR Evaluation Team.
- Preliminary Information Forms should be prepared and presented to the DHR Evaluation Team for those properties identified as potentially eligible for National Register listing to determine their eligibility.
- Multiple Property Submission Forms should be developed to aid in the nomination of properties with similar historic contexts.

Workshops sponsored by the county could be conducted by DHR or private preservation consultants to assist property owners and communities in the preparation of these nomination forms.

#### **Further Survey Work**

Further survey work should be conducted to gain a comprehensive knowledge of all historic resources in Charlotte County. The survey of additional resources could be achieved partially through the training of local volunteers who already have a knowledge of the resources, so that their information could be integrated into the IPS data system used by DHR. In the course of the field survey, many structures were identified as historic (over 50 years of age) in addition to the 220 that were actually surveyed. These structures, as circled on the USGS topographical field maps, provide the basis for future survey work.

Hill Studio recommends investigation into possible structures and sites along the Staunton River related to early water transportation, such as ferry landings, boat landings and canal works.

As further survey work is conducted, it is recommended that the properties identified as potentially eligible for listing on the National Register should be surveyed on an intensive level to determine eligibility. In addition, building-by-building surveys should be conducted in the eligible historic districts of Drakes Branch and Keysville as part of the National Register nomination process.

#### **Archaeological Survey**

- Conduct a comprehensive archaeological assessment to determine potential survey needs.
- Conduct archaeological survey work focusing on areas identified by the assessment.

The scope of this project did not allow for an archaeological survey. It became evident during the course of the project that Charlotte County has a potential for unidentified archaeological resources

including prehistoric, Native American, Antebellum, Civil War and post-Civil War industrial time periods. Particularly the areas along the Staunton River should be investigated for potential archaeological sites related to the Indian settlements, early river transportation (canals, bateaux and steamboats) and the Battle at Roanoke Bridge during the Civil War.

## **Documentation**

### *Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)*

### *Historic American Engineering Survey (HAER)*

It is recommended that all threatened properties and properties whose significance is particularly associated with their construction techniques or means of operation should be documented with measured drawings by HABS or HAER. In particular, Wardsfork Mill (19-0049) is recommended for this level of documentation.

### *Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF)*

The Multiple Property Submission Form is a method of nominating groups of properties that are related by one or more common historic themes. The Multiple Property format is an effective way of organizing information collected in surveys of potentially eligible properties for registration purposes and in preservation planning. The format provides for properties to be evaluated as part of historic themes and patterns. The thematic approach allows the preservation specialist to address more than the unique resources, but to deal with resources having like characteristics and associations. It makes possible a comparative basis for examining a group of related resources to determine the relative importance among members of the group. For National Register registration, the multiple property submission streamlines the nomination and designation of groups of eligible properties (National Register Bulletin 16 B). Based on the survey of the project area, multiple property submissions are recommended for the following thematic groups:

Antebellum Tobacco Plantations 1800-1861  
Railroad-related Structures and Sites 1855-1947  
Schools 1800-1947

## **Preservation Action**

The following actions are recommended as ways to foster good stewardship of these resources through a general awareness, understanding and appreciation of the county's history by its residents. These actions are also recommended to integrate the historic resources that have been identified by the survey into the economic development of the county by promoting Charlotte County as a unique place and experience.

### *Preservation Planning*

- Charlotte County now has roughly 332 surveyed historic resources. It is recommended that a county-wide preservation plan be prepared to integrate an awareness of these resources into the county planning initiatives. This plan should include an assessment of existing survey data as well as identify preservation issues, concerns and goals. A preservation plan would serve the county by integrating historic preservation with economic development, heritage tourism, education, conservation, and community development efforts.

- Actively pursue further grants like the one that resulted in the award of this survey project grant. Funds are available through a number of publicly-funded organizations such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation. A number of incentives and other preservation tools are outlined in the booklet by Marya Morris entitled, "Innovative Tools for Historic Preservation", a Planning Advisory Service Report Number 438 produced through the Research Department of the American Planning Association. The County Planner will have information relating to more specific programs.

### *Education*

- Support the great efforts of the Charlotte County Chapter of the APVA as it promotes the preservation of historic resources. Their publication, "The Southsider", is a valuable education tool that should be made available to all those interested in Charlotte County. If possible, create a compilation of articles written about Charlotte County resources and people and publish it as a separate volume.
- Develop a local history curriculum in the local schools that incorporates information available through DHR and the APVA. It should be recognized that an understanding of the architectural and historic resources within the county is essential to the proper and successful stewardship of these resources and the heritage they represent. An educational curriculum should be devised that uses field trips to take advantage of the local resources that depict aspects of the local, state and national history. Some programs used in other counties that could be implemented include an ABC book of county resources and a calendar depicting historic sites in Charlotte County as produced by an art-oriented group from the local schools.
- An oral history program should be created to collect the knowledge of places, times and events as recalled by the older residents of the area. In particular, groups that have not previously been included in recorded histories of the county should be recognized and documented, such as the African-American culture of Charlotte County.
- Expand access to the APVA museum and publicize its existence as a resource.
- Develop programs to focus on the history of tobacco farming and small industries (such as Red Oak Bottling, stave mills, grist mills).

### *Tourism*

- Convene a Tourism Committee to create and implement events.
- Create Historic Resources Week - An Annual Affair.
- Set aside a week to focus on the historic aspects of Charlotte County and involve the schools, libraries, churches and any other social organizations that will promote the special resources available for appreciation in the county. For example, begin having Tavern Days, tobacco plantation tours, and railroad excursions from Keysville on the spur line. Pick one historic resource for that year's focus/mascot and market it with fund-raising items such as a souvenir painting by a local artist.
- Promote community gatherings at country stores featuring oral history, local industries and other folklore relating to Charlotte County.
- Develop driving tours.
- Create one or a series of driving tours that focus on different thematic aspects of resources around the county. For example, commence a driving tour of National Register properties or a tour that focuses on crossroad settlement stores or a tour of churches with their history interpreted.
- Continue to develop a connection with Lee's retreat and Wilson's Raid, Jefferson Davis's retreat to Danville over Roanoke Bridge.
- Coordinate with other tourist attractions in the vicinity such as Appomattox and market Charlotte County, if nothing else, as a place to stay while visiting these tourist destinations.
- Support the Staunton River Battlefield State Park and encourage the Park's emphasis on the role of Charlotte County as a neighboring county.
- Move forward on relocating the Randolph Depot (19-5098) to a tourist-attracting area. Recreate the historic period and setting of the building.



- Create a walking tour of the Court House Historic District with period costumes and interpretation of the history. Candlelight walking tours have proven successful in other towns that are also fortunate to have so many valuable resources closely related in location.

## **GLOSSARY**

### **Styles**

#### ***Craftsman***

The Craftsman style became popular in the early-20th century as an American extension of the British Arts and Crafts movement that was a reaction against the mass-production associated with the Industrial Revolution. It championed traditional handcraftsmanship and natural materials. It was typically applied as detailing to the 1-1/2 story bungalow house form. Characteristics of the style include: a mixture of natural materials, such as stone, wood shingles, stucco, and cobblestones; gently-pitched broad gable roofs with dormers and exposed rafters; porches supported by battered columns on piers; and multi-paned window and door glazing in a variety of geometric shapes.

#### ***Federal***

The Federal style was the dominant style in the United States from circa 1780 to the early-19th century. It was a development and refinement of the earlier Georgian style based on more accurate studies of ancient Rome and Greece. This style is characterized by a low-pitched roof and smooth facade with elaboration typically confined to the entrance. Door and window openings are delicately scaled and articulated, often using fans and oval forms. Columns and moldings are slender and more delicate compared to the Georgian period. The interior plan featured rooms of varying sizes and shapes and decorative detailing consisted of delicate rosettes, urns, swags, fans, and oval sunbursts.

#### ***Georgian***

The period of the Georgian style in architecture generally refers to the early-18th century Colonial period in America, ending with the Revolutionary War. Based on Classical design principles of Rome, this English style came to the colonies through pattern books and immigrant artisans. As a departure from the earlier medieval architecture, this style is characterized by rigid symmetry, balanced proportions, and Classical detailing.

#### ***Greek Revival***

The Greek-Revival style became popular in the early 19th century as the young country wanted to associate itself with the ideals of Greek democracy. Characterized by a columned portico and pedimented-gable roof that alluded to the Greek temple. Other details associated with the style include bold, simple moldings, heavy cornices with a wide, adorned frieze, horizontal transoms, fretwork, and the lack of any arches, which were so prevalent in the Federal style.

#### ***Italianate***

The Italianate style was introduced to America through pattern books in the 1830s and dominated architectural design through the mid-19th century. It can be picturesque like an Italian villa with towers and cupolas, or classically restrained as an urban Italian palazzo. Features include wide, overhanging eaves with cornice brackets, arched window and door openings with ornate hoods or surrounds, and grouped windows.

### ***Queen Anne***

The Queen-Anne style became popular in the late-19th century and is closely associated with the development of the railroad as it made the mass-produced, scroll-sawn detail elements of the style widely available. This style is characterized by an asymmetrical composition with a variety of forms, textures, materials, and colors. This is achieved through the use of towers, turrets, bays, tall chimneys, and wrap-around porches. Contrasting materials, decorative brickwork or wood siding and colored glass in the windows add to the texture. Scroll-sawn detailing, particularly in the porches, are a trademark of this style. In the “free-classic” interpretation of the style, classical detailing such as columns with capitals, dentils, Palladian-motif window and door openings were added to the asymmetrical Queen-Anne form.

### ***Vernacular***

Refers to local building practices as traditions, function, materials, and craftsmanship guide the construction of buildings. Although such buildings are not designed in the academic styles, they are often influenced by the popularity of these styles. Typically, buildings that are vernacular in form may feature detailing that reflects a current style.

## **Detailing**

### ***Ashlar***

Hewn or squared stone.

### ***Chair Rail***

Interior wall trim located at chair height.

### ***Chimney Breasts***

The stone or brick structure that projects into the room and contains the chimney flue.

### ***Christian Doors***

Six-panel doors whose pattern is said to depict a cross over an open Bible.

### ***Corbelling***

Brick or masonry work in courses built with one row projecting slightly beyond the other to create a stacked effect, like a series of corbels.

### ***Cornice***

In classical architecture, the upper projecting section of an entablature. The projecting ornamental molding along the top of a building at the roof-to-wall juncture.

### ***Denticulated***

Detailing consisting of dentils, small square blocks used in a row in classical cornices.

### ***Entablature***

In classical architecture, the part of a structure between the column capital and the roof, comprising the architrave, frieze, and cornice.

***Fretwork***

A geometrical ornament of vertical and horizontal lines repeated to form a band. Characteristic of the Greek-Revival style, it is also known as a key pattern or meander.

***Frieze***

The middle division of an entablature, between the cornice and the architrave. The decorated band along the upper part of a wall below the cornice.

***Modillions***

An ornamental bracket used in series under the cornice in classical entablatures.

***Oriel Window***

A bay window on the upper floor only.

***Palladian Window***

A tripartite window opening with a large arched central light and flanking rectangular side lights.

***Portico***

A major porch, sometimes two stories in height. Typically it has a pedimented roof supported by classical columns.

***Quatrefoil***

Four-leaf tracery of Gothic windows.

***Stop-fluted Pilasters***

Fluted pilasters (engaged flat columns) that form the vertical ends of a mantel and often serve to support the mantel shelf.

***Transom***

A horizontal light above a window or door.

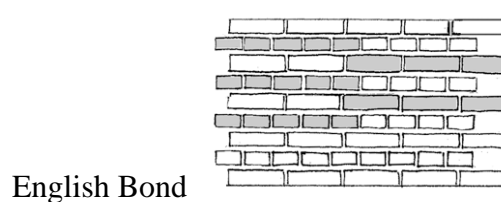
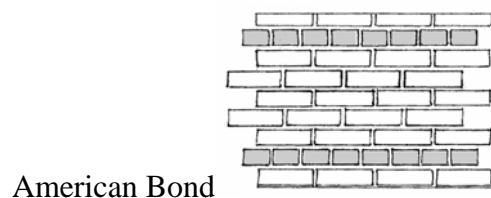
***Vergeboard***

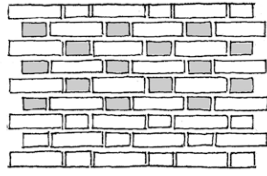
A board, often ornately carved, attached to the end gables of a roof. Also called a “bargeboard.”

***Wainscoting***

Wooden paneling on interior walls.

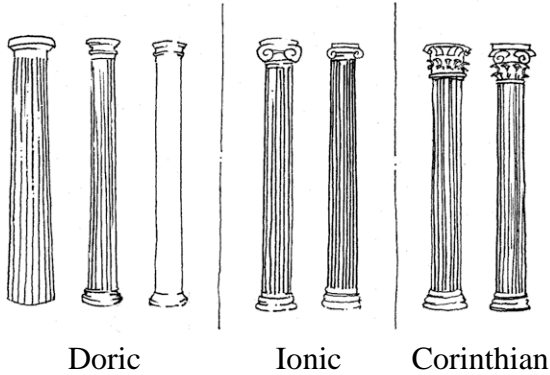
**Brick and Stone Patterns**





Flemish Bond

## Column Styles



## Roof Forms

### *Front Gabled*



The entrance to the structure is on the gable end of the house.

### *Side Gable*

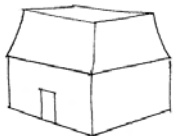


The entrance to the structure is on the non-gable part of the structure.

### *Jerkin-head/Clipped Gable*

A gable roof with the gable end clipped back at the ridgeline.

### *Mansard*



A roof that has two slopes on all four sides.

### *Pedimented*

A pediment formed at the gable end of the roof by a wide band of trim around all three sides of the gable, which continues around the other three sides of the building.

## **Building Forms**

### ***I-House***

A 2-story, 3-bay dwelling that is 1-bay deep and has a side-gable roof. It is single pile with a central passage floor plan.

### ***Single and Double-pile Plans***

When describing the plan of a building, “pile” refers to the number of rooms deep the building contains, with “single” meaning one room deep and “double” meaning two rooms deep.

### ***Side Gable Central Peak***

A side gable house with a small gable centered over the porch.

### ***L-Shape/Intersection Gable***

An intersecting gable house with a partial porch inset in the L.

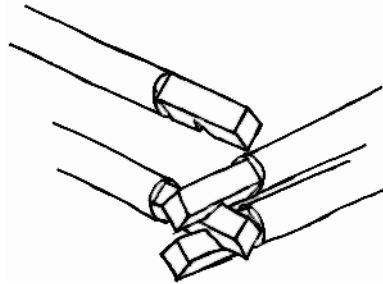
### ***Y-shape House***

An intersecting gable house where the entrance and porch is located diagonally across the intersection of the two wings.

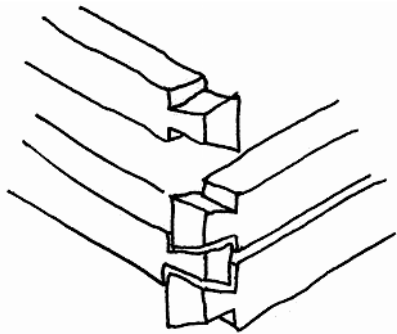
### ***Bungalow Form***

A side gable house with central dormer. The porch extends across the width of the house and is covered by an extension of the roof.

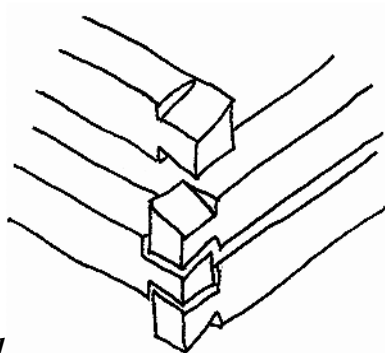
## Log Structure Corner Notching Systems



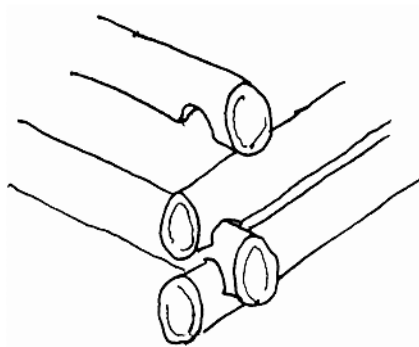
*Diamond-shape*



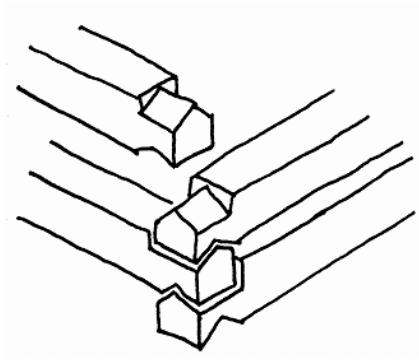
*Full Dove-tail*



*Half Dove-tail*



*Saddle-notch*



*V-notch*



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