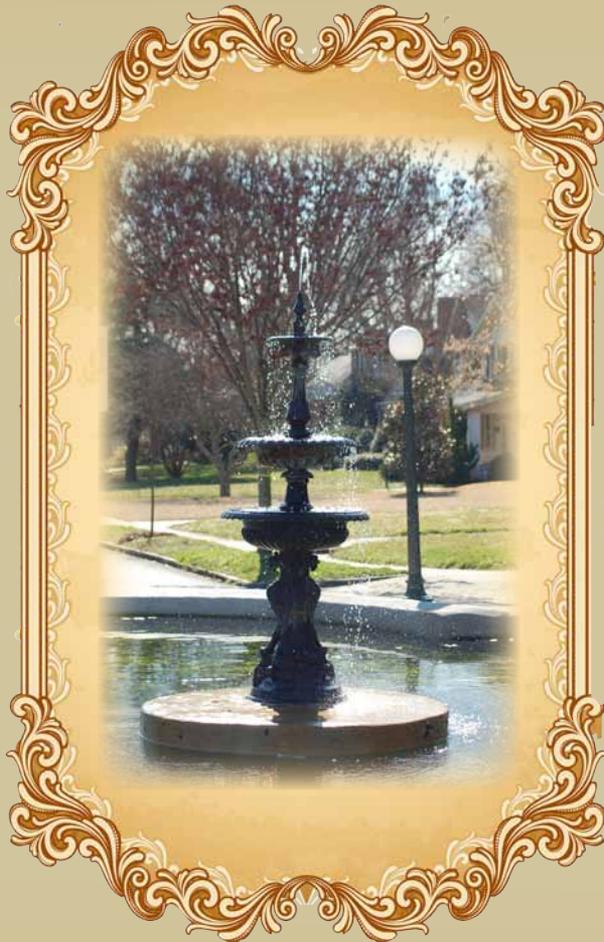


Burlington
Historic District



Walking Tour

About The District

The Historic District is made up of 154 houses and buildings, which represent an era of growth and prosperity from the 1890s-1930s. The architecture of the district represents an impressive cross-section of early 20th century residential architecture. The establishment of a historic district represents a community's response to its loss of historic structures and its commitment to preserve the remaining vestiges of its heritage. The West Davis-West Front-Fountain Place Historic District is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a locally regulated historic district. Designation as a local historic district regulates any exterior alterations that would deny the historic dignity of the property. Some architectural styles you will see include:

Victorian Style

Late-Victorian style housing is featured in several locations. The Victorian Era includes Queen Anne, stick, shingle, Richardsonian, Romanesque, and folk Victorian styles. These examples feature asymmetrical plans, protruding wings and gambles, elaborate porches with gingerbread, and various millwork. Examples of Queen Anne and shingle styles of the era are found in the Burlington Historic District.

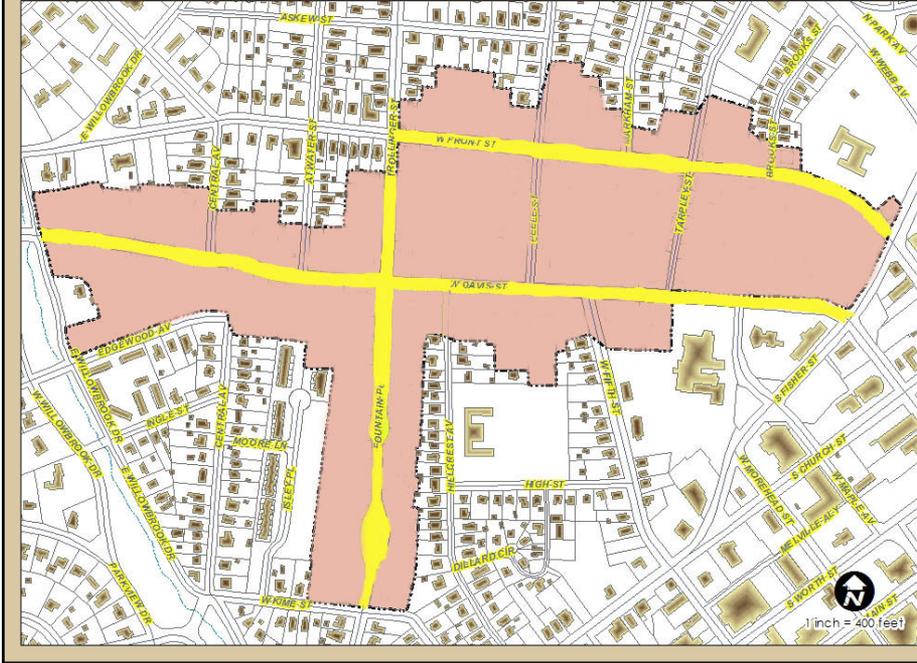
American Foursquare

Another predominant style found in the historic district is the American Foursquare. Like the Bungalow, the American Foursquare was extremely popular in the early 20th century as it reflected a national trend toward simplicity. American Foursquare was also practical in that it could provide a large amount of living space on its two floors and yet take up a minimum amount of land. Staples of the American Foursquare include a square or rectangular shape and a low-hipped roof. Roofs are characterized by overhanging eaves with exposed rafters. A full front porch is often common.

Other Revival Styles

The Neo-Classical style, also present in the District, reflects a fascination with Greek and Roman architecture. Characterized by symmetrical facade arrangements, it is distinguished by decorative elements of monumental proportions. A number of houses reflect a romantic notion, prevalent during the 1920s, about the historic architecture in Europe. Together these various architectural styles represent the forms of residential architecture used in early 20th century American neighborhoods.

W. Davis / Fountain Place Historic District



1. Beginning at the Front Street United Methodist Church, walk west down West Front to the traffic light at Trollering Street.
2. Turn left on Trollering, then right on West Davis to the bottom of the hill at Willowbrook Park.
3. Cross the street to come back up the south side of West Davis to Fountain Place.
4. Take a right on Fountain Place to Kime Street and walk up the other side of Fountain Place to West Davis.
5. Turn right on West Davis and continue to Fisher Street.

Your tour will end one block south of where you began. Thank you for taking the time to enjoy our architectural treasures.

West Front Street

407 West Front Street

Roy W. Malone House

This two story bungalow marks the entrance into the West Front Street neighborhood. It was built in the 1920's for Roy W. Malone, a local businessman. This double-pile house rests on a stone foundation. The one-story wraparound porch features battered posts, stone piers and a stone balustrade. The porch extends into a porte cochere and exhibits a front entrance gable.

426 West Front Street

Morrow-Barnwell House

Dr. Robert Morrow, a prominent dentist who was influential in city business and civic affairs, had this residence constructed in 1892. This large Queen Anne style house features a wraparound porch with a porte cochere, a slate roof, and a polygonal pavilion supported by classical columns on brick piers.



504 West Front Street

Thomas Sellars House

Dating back to the early 1890s, this home was constructed for Thomas L. Sellars, son of Dr. B. A. Sellars and an executive of Sellars' Department Store on Main Street. The department store was established by his father

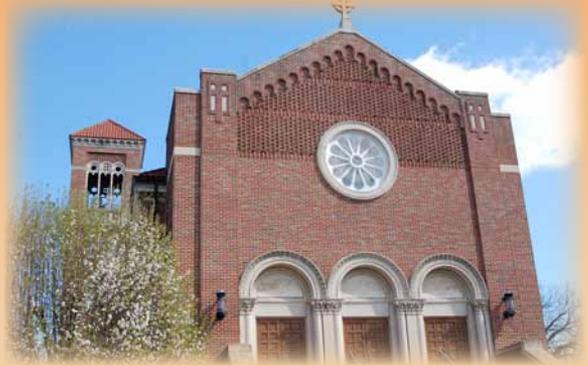
in the 1870s, and was one of the leading department stores in Burlington. This substantial dwelling reflects the beginning of prosperity for the rising middle class. The Queen Anne style house features a pedimented entrance. A one-story porch extends to the left of the entrance and wraps the east side. Decorative bargeboards and fishscale wood shingles embellish the gables of this T-shaped structure.



513 West Front Street

First Reformed United Church of Christ

Among the most distinctive religious edifices in Burlington, the church's education building was erected in 1925, and the sanctuary was constructed from 1940-1941. Benton and Benton, a Greensboro architectural firm, designed both buildings.



Elements of the Romanesque style are evident in the facade. There is a three-part entrance with twelve paneled double doors set in carved stone arched openings. The engaged columns feature Corinthian capitals. The semi-circular transoms are marked with the Greek cross, which is repeated in stone at the peak of the gable.

A rose window is exhibited above the middle door. The windows repeat the rounded arches found at the entrance openings. The church features a notable bell tower.



609 West Front Street

This traditional cottage of the late nineteenth century is a prime example of a house form typically found in textile mill villages. The one-story, rectangular residence features a pressed tin gable roof, original weatherboard siding, simple

interior and exterior moldings, and interior brick chimneys. The turned porch posts are connected with sawnwork balustrades.

715 West Front Street

Dr. T. W. Patterson House

Built in 1894, this structure is built in Queen Anne style. Significantly intact architectural elements include a multitude of late nineteenth century millwork features, such as turned porch post ballisters, sawn brackets, and sunburst eave treatments, all of which embellish the two-tier porch.



724 West Front Street

Tingen-Long House

This two-story frame structure was built in 1923 for Jesse Tingen, the Alamance County Registrar of Deeds. This square box style was very popular for the first three decades of the 1900s. A one-story porch spans the three-bay facade. Square wooden posts on

brick piers are joined by the simple slat balustrade. Mr. L.E. Long, a local businessman, purchased the home in the mid-1930s.

West Davis Street

903 West Davis Street

L.E. Atwater House

This significant turn-of-the-century Colonial Revival house was built for Luther E. Atwater, who established the Burlington Auto Company around 1914. Damaged by fire in 1920, the original two-story structure was brick veneered to its current appearance. Identifying features include the pedimented, projected central bay, the one-story wraparound porch with classical columns and a simple balustrade, and the dentil course and modillions, which adorn the cornice.



911 West Davis Street

Atwater-Walker House

This Colonial Revival, two-story frame structure was built by J. Wilson Atwater around 1902. Within two years, Dr. Walker Levi purchased the home. It remains in the Walker family today. The house features a projecting central bay of the three-bay facade.



1004 West Davis Street

Robert A. Sharpe House



Built for Robert Sharpe, a local businessman, this two-story brick veneer house reflects the boom in residential construction that occurred during the 1920s. The growing textile industry had created a substantial housing shortage during that period. The square main structure features a bellcast, hipped roof and a front

entrance with transom and sidelights. The one-story porch extends to a porte cochere on the east. A sunroom on the west side balances the structure's facade.

1007 West Davis Street

W.T. Cheatham House

Built in 1925, this International style home is certainly one of the more unusual houses found in Burlington today. It was built by Edwin C. Holt, a textile industrialist, for his daughter and son-in-law, W.T. Cheatham.



Outstanding features include a two-story core bracketed by one-story wings, all of which feature flat roofs. Turned balustrades ornament the side wing roof lines. The smooth textured stucco exterior is characteristic of the style.

1011 West Davis Street

Holt-McEwen House

Constructed in 1925, this significant Georgian Revival home was owned by Edwin C. Holt until 1929. At this time, it was acquired by James H. McEwen of the May McEwen Kaiser Corporation. The home is a magnificent, two-story

brick structure featuring a one-story sunroom wing juxtaposed to a port cochere wing. At the center of the five-bay facade is a one-story, elliptical portico with Ionic columns. The entrance features a fanlight and sidelights. Keystones accentuate the window openings.



1022 West Davis Street

Allen Gant House

This well articulated Tudor Revival home reflects an expressive awareness in Burlington of the major architectural trends during the 1920s. This home was built in 1929 for Allen Gant, youngest son of Mr. John Q. Gant, founder of the textile dynasty known today as Glen Raven Mills. The house represents an elaborate architectural collage of materials including stone, stucco and exposed half-timbers.



1016 West Davis Street

Roger Grant House

Symbolic of textile prosperity, this 1924 Georgian Revival residence was the home of Roger Grant, also a son of John Q. Grant. There are notable features such as the projecting portico at the center of the first story five-bay facade, the two story frame wings at each end, and the classical dormer windows in the central bay.

916 West Davis Street

M.J. Hunt House

One of the few structures in the Davis Street area to date pre-1900, this home was constructed circa 1892 for Reverend Moses Jackson Hunt, a Methodist minister. Features of this two-story frame residence include a side gable roof with a central facade gable and a one-story porch with turned and sawn ornaments.



906 & 810 West Davis Street

Isley Houses

These homes are also among the few pre-1900 residences surviving on West Davis Street. They were built circa 1893 for Christian and Joseph A Isley of the Joseph A. Isley and Brothers Company, a general store on South Main Street. Both of these homes were erected on large, shaded lots and were built as mirror images of each other. Originally, the homes were built in ornate Queen Anne styles; however, they have both been substantially altered over the years.



Fountain Place



518 Fountain Place

James Atwater House

Built circa 1925 for James Atwater, President of the Alamance Lumber Company, this two-story home exhibits hallmarks of the Colonial Revival style of architecture. A side gable roof features a simple box cornice. At the gable ends, Palladian windows provide illumination for the attic level. The flat balustraded roofs

over the side wings create a Georgian configuration. Paired Roman columns support the gable-roofed entrance porch.

514 Fountain Place

Henry Atwater House

Tudor Revival accents mark the style of this period house. Erected circa 1925 for Henry Atwater of the Alamance

Lumber Company, the facade of this one-story, brick structure has five bays. The projecting two-bay section

features a gable roof, an open vestibule, and a tripartite window. Cut stone quoin surrounds accent the window and door openings on this bay. The fifth bay is a screened porch. The sweep of the front gable is a distinguishing feature of the Tudor style.





422 Fountain Place

Dr. C. W. McPherson House

Eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, Dr. C. W. McPherson had this one-and-one-half story, frame bungalow built in the late 1920s. The three-bay facade exhibits an entrance with triple windows ornamented with decorative

upper sashes. An attached porch spans the facade and extends into a porte cochere, both supported by brick piers.

411 Fountain Place

Walker-Love House

This brick Tudor cottage was constructed during the mid-1930s. The narrow facade features a steeply pitched gable roof with a sweep to a kick roof which covers a side sunroom. The dormers, which are clad with stucco, extend on either side of the roof ridge. The front facade features an exposed chimney and a projecting vestibule with a gable roof and a circular window above the round-arch door opening.



517 Fountain Place

Dr. Raymond Troxler House

In 1926, this brick home was constructed for Dr. Raymond Troxler, a general practitioner and county coroner during the 1930s. This Colonial Revival style house exhibits symmetrical composition with side wings, hip roof and sidelights flanking the entrance. A one-story porch with brick posts and balustrade spans two of the facade's three bays with an unroofed section fronting the left wing.

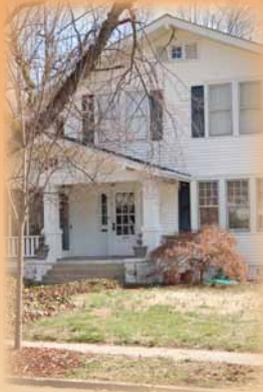


609 Fountain Place

Jame Lee Love House

James Lee Love, father of J. Spencer Love and distinguished former Harvard University mathematics professor, designed this home and had it constructed in 1924. This two-story frame structure displays a wide eave overhang on the front gable roof. The ridge beans of the roof are exposed, and square paneled porch posts top brick piers on the porch, relating the house to the bungalow style. The two-bay facade consists of a sidelighted entrance and a triple window. Numerous additions at various levels give

the rear of the house a highly unusual appearance.



613 Fountain Place

J. Spencer Love House

This house was constructed in the mid-1920s for J. Spencer Love, a founder of Burlington Mills after his return from WWI. Burlington Industries, as it was renamed in 1955, was one of the first adopters of rayon textiles. Love's home is a two-story frame structure clad in wide German siding with a gambrel roof, a three-bay facade and a wide shed

dormer. The central entrance has a single-bay, gable-roofed porch on slender columns, and the double-shouldered brick exterior end chimney is flanked by small six-light windows.



West Davis Street

728 West Davis Street

Pollard-Neese House

Located on a corner lot adjacent to the stone gates leading into the fountain place development, this home is one of the most unusual in the area. Harold C. Pollard, a local realtor, had this two-story stone structure built by J.W. Long. The granite used on the structure was quarried in Mount Airy, NC.



The classical elements include heavy stone ballustrades which crown the flat roof of the central bay, the one-story entrance bay porch, the side porch and the sunroom. The home was purchased in 1924 by C. Freedman Neese, more popularly known as “Diamond Pete”. Neese opened the first jewelry store in Company Shops during the 1890s. “Diamond Pete” was born the same day that the name Company Shops was changed to Burlington.

727 West Davis Street

William Manley Baker House

Considered to be one of the earliest bungalows in Burlington, this residence was built in 1916 for W. Manley Baker, an official of the F.L. Williamson Company. Cedar shingles clad this one-story frame structure which features a front gable roof with intersecting side gable. The windows are the most notable feature, depicting a Gothic influence.



703 West Davis Street

J.W. Murray House

A pivotal structure in the Historic District, this impressive Greek Revival house was built shortly after the turn of the century for J.W. Murray, President of the Piedmont Bank and Trust Company. In its commanding corner location on a terraced rise, the two-story frame residence has a prominent one-story hip roof porch supported by Doric columns. A widow's walk once topped the hip roof. Paired Ionic columns frame first and second floor entrances.



623 West Davis Street

Sharpe-Somers House

This structure has had a most curious history. The home was formerly a Victorian cottage, but around 1910 it was transformed into a large Tudor Revival style house by Walter Sharpe, developer of Fountain Place.

Claude Somers acquired the house in the 1930s. He was an organizer of the Community Federal Savings and Loan., and was a primary backer of the Westerwood section during the late 1920s. The house is a rambling two-story frame structure clad in weatherboard on the first floor of the half-timbered stucco on the second. Its gable and clipped-gable roof is covered with slate. One-over-one double-hung windows are found on the first floor while multi-pane casements typical of the Tudor style are found on the second.

622 West Davis Street

A.L. Davis House

The land for this two-story home was purchased in 1901 by A.L. Davis. The large Colonial Revival structure seems to have been constructed shortly thereafter. The double-tier portico is one of the most notable features of the structure. Massive square paneled columns frame the entrance of the projecting center of the three-bay facade.





617 West Davis Street
Harold Eaton House

This residence is believed to have been built in the mid-1920s for the King Cotton Mill superintendent. It was purchased in 1935 by Harold Eaton, who became president and general manager of the Burlington Coffin Factory. This home is a typical two-story square box with Colonial Revival details.

The house features a high hip roof with an attic dormer. The porch is supported by short Tuscan columns on brick piers.

607 West Davis Street
R. Edward L. Holt House

This significant Colonial Revival structure was built prior to 1910 for Edward Holt, President of the Burlington Hardware Company. The two-story frame residence is deceptively large, with a narrow facade but great depth. Pedimented gables top several of the projecting bays. A second-story balcony accentuates the entrance below. Classical columns on brick piers support the brick porch which wraps the structure on the east side.



507 West Davis Street

Dr. J. W. Page House

This turn-of-the-century house was built by Dr. John W. Page. It represents the substantial residences built by the growing professional and business community as a result of the textile boom, which began in the last two decades of the 19th century. A high, slate hipped roof with pedimented gable covers the bays on the facade and side elevations. A projecting elliptical portico is a notable expansion of the wraparound porch that is supported with Roman Doric columns. The symmetry of the entrance is mirrored about the portico, and the dormer above exhibits the same symmetry.



415 West Davis Street

W. W. Lasley House

This frame residence built circa 1890 for W.W. Lasley is a significant early West Davis Street Structure. Mr. Lasley served as President of the First National Bank. This two-story structure combines elements of mid-nineteenth century architecture with Queen Anne

style ornamentation. There are both side and front gable roofs exhibited. Elaborate sawnwork adorns the gables. The one-story porch features a spindled frieze and a sawn balustrade.

Glossary

Appurtenant Features - Those structures which define or surround the site of a building.

Architrave - The molded frame surrounding a door or window.

Arts and Crafts Movement (1900 - 1930) - A modern movement in domestic architecture which deliberately turned away from historical precedent for decoration and design. Ornamentation was modernized to remove most traces of its historic origins. Low pitched roofs with wide eave overhangs were favored.

Balustrade - A series of short pillars or turned uprights with a rail.

Bandboard - Any flat horizontal member that projects slightly from the surface of which it is a part; often used to mark a division in a wall.

Bargeboard - A wooden member, usually decorative, suspended from and following the slope of a gable roof.

Bay - 1) An opening or division along a wall of a structure, as a wall with a door and two windows is three bays wide; 2) A projection of a room, usually with windows and angled sides but sometimes rectangular.

Board-and-Batten - Vertical exterior siding with the joints between the siding (boards) covered with narrow strips (battens). The battens are used to conceal the gaps between the siding boards.

Bracket - Projecting support member found under eaves or other overhangs; may be plain or decorated.

Bungalow (1890 - 1940) - An architectural style characterized by small size, overall simplicity, broad gables, dormer windows, porches with large square piers, and exposed structural members or stickwork.

Casement Window - A window sash that opens on hinges fixed to its vertical edge.

Casing - The finished visible framework around a door or window.

Clapboard - A narrow board usually thicker at one edge than the other used for siding.

Colonial Revival (1870 - 1950) - An architectural style characterized by a balanced facade; use of decorative door crowns and pediments, sidelights, fanlights, and porticos to emphasize the front entrance; double hung windows with multiple panes in one or both sashes; and frequent use of string courses on decorative cornices.

Corbelling - A series of projections, each stepped out further than the one below it; most often found on walls and chimney stacks

Cornice - The exterior trim of a structure at the meeting of the roof and wall usually consisting of bed molding, soffit, fascia, and crown molding.

Craftsman Style (1905 - 1930) - An architectural style featuring low pitched gable roofs with wide, unenclosed eave overhang, roof rafters usually exposed, decorative beams or braces commonly added under the gables, porches with roof supported by tapered square columns and columns frequently extending to ground level.

Dentil - A row of small blocks at the base of a classical cornice, resembling a row of evenly spaced teeth.

Dormer - A vertical window projecting from the slope of a roof; usually provided with its own roof.

Eave - The part of a sloping roof that projects beyond a wall.

Facade - The front of a building.

Form - The style of a building.

Foursquare - Two-story, box-shaped house style prevalent during the early twentieth century.

Gable - The triangular end of an exterior wall in a building with a ridged roof.

Gable Roof - A sloping (ridged) roof that terminates at one or both ends in a gable.

Gambrel Roof - A roof having a double slope on two sides of a building

Hipped Roof - A roof formed by four pitched roof surfaces.

Palladian Window - A window with three openings with the large arched central light flanked by rectangular sidelights.

Pediment - A triangular section framed by horizontal molding on its base and two sloping moldings one each of its sides; used as a crowning element for doors, windows, and niches.

Pier - Vertical supporting member that is part of the foundation.

Portico - A covered walk or porch supported by columns or pillars entrance way, multi-paned narrow windows, tall chimneys (often with chimney pots), masonry construction, and decorative half-timbering in many cases

Queen Anne (1800 - 1910) - An architectural style characterized by irregularity of plan and massing, variety of color and texture, variety of window treatment, multiple steep roofs, porches with decorative gables, frequent use of bay windows, chimneys with corbelling, and wall surfaces that vary in texture and material used.

Sash - The framework into which panes are set.

Sawnwork - Ornamentation in cut-out planking, formed with a bandsaw, popular in the 1880's and 1890's. This decorative detailing is flat.

Side Light - A usually long fixed sash located beside a door or window, often found in pairs.

Transom - A small window or series of panes above a door, or above a casement or double-hung windows.

Tudor (1890 - 1940) - An architectural style characterized by steeply pitched and gable roofs, gabled

Weatherboards - Exterior wood siding consisting of overlapping boards usually thicker at one edge than



This brochure was created by the Office of Public Information in conjunction with the
Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Burlington.

Please direct questions to (336) 513-5416 or visit
www.BurlingtonNC.gov/ for more information.