

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 122-502 Fifth Street SE, 506-514 Fifth Avenue SE, 324-509 Third Avenue Drive SE, 336-410 Second Avenue SE N/A not for publication

city or town Hickory N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Catawba code 035 zip code 28602

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Stephen Brown SAPO 3/24/05
Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
31	4	buildings
0	0	sites
2	3	structures
0	0	objects
33	7	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

21

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

RELIGION: Church-related Residence

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

RELIGION: Church-related Residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Bungalow/Craftsman

Colonial Revival

TUDOR REVIVAL

OTHER: Minimal Traditional

OTHER: Ranch

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

STONE

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

STONE

BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other SYNTHETICS: Vinyl

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development

Architecture

Period of Significance

1915-1952

Significant Dates

1915

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Asbury, Louis (architect)

Blair and Drane (civil and landscape engineers)

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

previously listed in the National Register

Previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

Kenworth Historic District Boundary
Expansion
Name of Property

Catawba County, NC
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 13.09 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>470180</u>	<u>3953800</u>	3	<u>17</u>	<u>470260</u>	<u>3953580</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>470040</u>	<u>3953700</u>	4	<u>17</u>	<u>470340</u>	<u>3953180</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heather Fearnbach

organization Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc. date 6/15/04

street & number 3334 Nottingham Road telephone 336-765-2661

city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27104

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Multiple Owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

7. Narrative Description

The Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion encompasses 13.09 acres of the area originally platted as the Kenworth subdivision in 1913. This nomination expands the boundaries of the Kenworth Historic District, which includes twenty-one contributing resources on Fifth Avenue SE, Third Avenue Drive SE and Second Avenue and was listed in the National Register in 1984. The boundary expansion contains properties south of the original district on both sides of Fifth Street SE, the south side of Fifth Avenue SE and on both sides of Third Avenue Drive SE. The expansion area also extends west of the original boundary on the south side of Second Avenue to include one residence and north on the west side of Fifth Street SE to incorporate one residence.

The Charlotte firm of Blair and Drane planned the Kenworth neighborhood, designing a picturesque system of streets that was a complete departure from the grid development pattern of older neighborhoods in downtown Hickory. Lots in the boundary expansion area range in size from one-fifth of an acre to one-and-one-half acres, with the majority of lots being approximately one-quarter-acre. The houses are set back at least twenty feet from the road and many share driveways, as mandated in the subdivision covenants. The principal roads in the district are Fifth Street SE and Third Avenue Drive SE, the primary north/south corridors in the neighborhood, although a few resources are located on Second Avenue SE and Fifth Avenue SE, which run east/west. Fifth Street SE was originally named Sixth Street, Third Avenue Drive SE was Kenworth Terrace, Second Avenue SE was Eighth Avenue and Fifth Avenue SE was Fourth Avenue. The change in street names first appears in the 1950 Hickory City Directory. A steep, wooded ravine on the east side of Third Avenue Drive SE hindered development on that side of the road, but contributed to the scenic nature of the subdivision. The boundary expansion area slopes gently downhill from north to south. Paired stone columns at the entrance to Fifth Street SE from Second Avenue South mark the entrance to the Kenworth neighborhood.

The residences in the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion were constructed from 1915 to 1981. The locally-significant district contains an eclectic mix of nationally popular styles and vernacular forms common to suburbs that developed in North Carolina in the first half of the twentieth century. Charlotte architect Louis Asbury designed the 1915 Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House (#9), a two-story Foursquare that is one of the earliest and most imposing buildings in the expansion area. A few bungalows, such as the Claude S. and Iva A. Abernethy House (#21) and the Everett C. and Ethel H. Johnson House (#22), exhibit Craftsman influences that are in keeping stylistically with the houses in the existing Kenworth Historic District. The majority of the resources in the expansion area, however, were constructed from the 1940s to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

1952. Dwellings executed in the Colonial Revival, Period Cottage, Minimal Traditional and Ranch styles are the predominant property types.

The Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion contains a few examples of the Colonial Revival style. The 1930 Christ Lutheran Church Parsonage (#28) and the P. Cephus and Laura J. Setzer House (#26) are side-gable-roofed houses with Colonial Revival entry porches. Period Cottages in the neighborhood include the 1947 Fred M. and Frankie P. Mull House (#8), rendered in brick, and the 1935 Walter J. and Clara C. Williams House (#16), which was executed in stone veneer complete with a crenellated stone façade chimney. The Jason C. and Nellie S. Jones House (#20) is a rambling brick Minimal Traditional complete with an attached garage. Modest Ranch houses such as the James C. and Dorothy J. Barker House (#11) line Fifth Street SE. The Barker House features the same brick soldier course water table as several Period Cottages in the neighborhood in addition to a rectangular stone chimney that accentuates the façade.

The outbuildings in the boundary expansion area are primarily one-story, mid-twentieth-century garages and carports situated behind or adjacent to residences. The brick, hip-roofed, two-bay garage behind the Willard House (#9a) dates to 1915. Sheds, garages and carports of recent vintage stand throughout the neighborhood.

In summary, the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion contains a substantially intact collection of historic resources reflecting the development of the area from 1915 through the early 1950s, with the majority of the contributing buildings dating from 1945 to 1952. Twenty-eight primary and twelve secondary resources constitute the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion, eighty-three percent of which are contributing. The noncontributing resources, modest Ranch houses built after the period of significance and recently constructed sheds, garages and carports, do not overwhelm the contributing resources.

Inventory List

The inventory list for the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion begins with the northernmost property on the west side of Fifth Street SE and moves to the southern end of Fifth Street SE, then turns back up the east side of Fifth Street SE. Three properties on the south side of Fifth Avenue SE are next, followed by two resources on the east side of Third Avenue Drive SE. The inventory continues north on the west side of Third Avenue Drive SE, and ends with two properties on the south side of Second Avenue SE.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Each resource is designated as contributing or noncontributing to the historic significance and integrity of the district. The designation criteria were based on age, condition and degree of alteration. Buildings pre-dating 1952 were considered contributing if they retained architectural integrity. Noncontributing buildings were constructed after 1952 and lack architectural and historical significance. Vacant lots are noted. Each resource is assigned a number and each secondary resource within a property is assigned a letter. These number and letter designations are keyed to an overall map of the district.

The methodology utilized in the completion of the nomination included field survey, research and interviews with property owners. Whenever possible, the original owner or earliest long-term owner's name (based on deed and city directory research) was given to a property.

West Side Fifth Street SE

1. R. E. and Laura McCall House
122 Fifth Street SE
1930
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, wide weatherboard siding, front-gable roof, replacement 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, partially enclosed engaged front porch with square posts, brick piers infilled with brick to form a continuous foundation, triangular eave brackets, exposed rafter ends, rear addition, handicapped ramp off south side of porch. The house was renovated in 2000. There is no occupation listed for either of the McCalls in city directories. Subsequent owners include Boyce L. and Merle Huffman Ford, who sold the property to Willa Boyd Singleton, a widow, in 1941. Mrs. Singleton remarried and lived in the house with her husband Harrell T. Beeker for many years. She still owns the property, but does not reside there.

2. Leonard A. and Beatrice M. Ridenhour House
338 Fifth Street SE
1951
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, vinyl siding with narrow brick veneer under porch, hip roof, 2/2 horizontal sash, single-leaf entry, partial-width engaged porch with metal canopy on metal posts and concrete floor, brick foundation, one interior brick chimney, wood deck at rear. Leonard

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 4

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Ridenhour was a policeman for the Southern Railway. Subsequent owners include John F. and Minnie R. Earnshaw, who sold the property to the current owners, Hague C. and Rachel B. Justice, in 1979.

3. Paul H. and Rosa H. Burns House
346 Fifth Street SE
1940
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Period Cottage, brick with soldier course water table, side-gable roof with projecting front gable central bay, 6/6 sash, arched front gable window, shed-roofed entry vestibule with single-leaf door, partial-width shed-roofed porch with metal posts, two interior brick chimneys, vinyl siding in porch soffits, gable vents, shed-roofed rear addition with German siding, 1/1 sash and wood deck. Paul Burns was a salesman at Hickory Auto Works; Rosa Burns was a nurse. Subsequent owners include Earl L. and Margaret Baynard, who sold the property to George A. and Marsha F. Arrowood in 1986. Marsha Arrowood still resides in the house.

4. Albert G. and Melba Bowman Miller House
410 Fifth Street SE
1952
Contributing Building

One-story, Ranch, brick, side-gable roof, paired 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, projecting entry bay with engaged porch supported by paired, slender, square wood posts on south elevation, brick entry stoop and stairs with metal railing on north elevation, board-and-batten siding in gable ends, gable vents, one interior chimney, roof patio over attached carport at rear. The house was remodeled in 1971. There is no occupation listed for either of the Millers in the city directory. Melba Miller still lives in the house.

- 4a. Shed
410 Fifth Street SE
circa 1980
Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, wood panel siding, side-gable roof, metal sash, double-leaf entry sheltered by shed-roofed hood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

5. Harold H. and Inez Price Sigmon House II
422 Fifth Street SE
1951
Contributing Building

One-story-on-basement, Minimal Traditional, frame, weatherboard siding with brick end walls, side-gable roof, metal casement and multi-pane picture windows, single-leaf entry, recessed front porch, gable vents, brick foundation, one interior chimney, roof patio over attached carport at rear. Harold Sigmon served in the U. S. Navy during World War II and was a superintendent at Catawba Furniture Company upon his return to Hickory. Inez Sigmon worked at the emergency hospital during the polio epidemic of 1944. Mrs. Sigmon still resides in the house.

6. Harold H. and Inez Price Sigmon House I
430 Fifth Street SE
circa 1944
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, weatherboard siding, hip roof, multi-pane picture window, single-leaf entry sheltered by metal awning, brick foundation, one interior chimney. Harold and Inez Sigmon purchased their land from the Hickory Land Development Company in 1944. Arthur Thomas Morentz of Bethlehem (just outside Hickory) built this modest house for Inez Sigmon while her husband was serving in the Navy. Mrs. Sigmon said that since building materials were hard to come by and she was not supposed to be building a house during the war years, she set it way back off the street and made it look like a garage. The Sigmons built a larger house next door (#5) in 1951, and Mrs. Sigmon's brother and his wife, Arthur J. and Rachel D. Price, lived at 430 for a short time after Arthur returned from World War II service. Subsequent residents include Jason M. and Pansy Thomas. Jason Thomas was a department manager at the Coca-Cola bottling Company. Inez Sigmon later sold the house to her neighbors, Dan and Martha Espey.

7. Lucy Councill Harrington House
434 Fifth Street SE
1945
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Colonial Revival, frame, asbestos shingle siding, side-gable roof with projecting front gable bay at southern end of facade, 6/6 and 8/8 sash, two front gable dormers with 8/8 sash, single-leaf entry, partial-width shed-roofed porch with paired square posts, brick

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 6

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

foundation, end and interior brick chimneys, gable vents, gable-roofed rear sunroom addition over two-car garage, wood deck with metal railing over carport supported by round metal posts. Lucy C. Harrington, a widow, sold real estate and general insurance. Subsequent owners include E. Mack and Georgia M. Browne and Tommy Willfong, who sold the property to the current owners, Dan and Martha K. Espey, in 1959.

7a. Shed
434 Fifth Street SE
late 1940s
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, flush board siding, standing-seam metal side-gable roof, single-leaf entry, deep eave overhang. The Willfongs constructed this building to serve as a barn for their house. It is now used as storage shed.

8. Fred M. and Frankie P. Mull House
502 Fifth Street SE
1947
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Period Cottage, brick with soldier course water table, side-gable roof with projecting front gable entry bay, 6/6 sash, arched front gable window, arched single-leaf door sheltered by metal awning, brick and concrete stoop with metal rail, hip-roofed porch with metal posts on north elevation, brick façade and interior chimneys, vinyl siding in soffits, large hip-roofed brick addition on south elevation with 1/1 sash. Fred Mull worked for W. F. Tallant at the Fresh Air Market while he was a student at Lenior-Rhyne College. After graduation he became a manager. He served in World War II and married Frankie Lee Probst upon his return to Hickory. Fred was promoted to Secretary-Treasurer of the Fresh Air Market, where Frankie also worked as a clerk. Fred's brother Calvin, also a World War II veteran, and his wife Lorene lived with Fred and Frankie at 502 Fifth Street SE until they moved into a new house at 409 Fifth Street SE (#12). Fred and Frankie Mull had one son, Richard Knolan Mull, who still resides in the house.

8a. Carport
502 Fifth Street SE
circa 1990
Noncontributing Structure

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 7

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Detached metal carport with low front-gable roof supported by metal posts.

East Side Fifth Street SE

9. Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House
443 Fifth Street SE
1915
Contributing Building

Two-story, brick, Foursquare, hip roof, 1/1 and 6/1 sash, single-leaf entry, hip-roofed wrap-around porch with brick corner posts, tapered wood posts on brick piers and wood railing, paneled entry vestibule, gable-roofed porte cochere with brick posts on north elevation, hip-roofed dormer with diamond-paned sash on west elevation, gable dormers on north and south elevations, one-story enclosed porch on rear elevation, eave brackets, brick interior and end chimneys. Notable interior features include original oak paneling and mantels, as well as light fixtures, bathroom fixtures, and an intercom system and central vacuum that were installed when the house was built.

Charlotte architect Louis Asbury designed this house for Josiah J. Willard, a prominent local businessman and civic leader. Willard (1878-1970), a native of Georgia, moved to Hickory from Philadelphia in 1909 and became president of the *Hickory Daily Record* (started in 1915) and Clay Publishing Company. Willard's uncle, Asa C. Chandler of Atlanta, owned the Coca-Cola Company from 1891 to 1918. Josiah Willard edited and published the *Coca-Cola Bottler* magazine for thirty years. By 1930 he was also the Vice-President of First National Bank and First Security Trust Company. The Willards moved to Baltimore in 1943 and used their Hickory house as a vacation home until 1959, when they sold it to Joe and Margaret Hazelwood. In 1967, the Hazelwoods swapped houses with Calvin and Lorene Mull, who had lived at 409 Fifth Street SE (#12) since January of 1951. The Mulls enclosed the rear porch in 1967, and have improved the kitchen and bathrooms, but the house retains all other original interior features. Calvin Mull and his brother Fred operated the Fresh-Air Market one block east of the post office in Hickory.

- 9a. Garage
443 Fifth Street SE
1915

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 8

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Contributing Building

One-story, brick, hip roof, single-leaf entry on south elevation, 6/1 windows, two-bay garage, deep eave overhang.

10. Hugh E. and Ada Mae Fritts House

431 Fifth Street SE

1923

Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, frame, Bungalow, vinyl German siding with brick veneer kneewall under front porch, side-gable roof, replacement 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry with sidelights, shed-roofed front porch with grouped square wood posts, shed-roofed dormer, projecting shed-roofed bay on south elevation, exposed rafter ends, eave brackets, brick foundation, corbelled brick interior chimney. Hugh Fritts was the Secretary-Treasurer of Carolina Land Company. The Frittses sold the house to Josiah Willard in 1928, and he used the house as his printing office. The Willards gave the house to their son Samuel, who lived in Philadelphia. He sold the property to William D. and Gladys Wofford Browne in 1954. The Brownes sold the house to Dwight and Menola Wilson around 1958, and they lived there through the 1980s. Their son Tim and his wife Lynda Henline Wilson were the next occupants. Lynda Wilson sold the house to the current owner, Ola Maye Williams, in 1992.

11. James C. and Dorothy T. Barker House

417 Fifth Street SE

1951

Contributing Building

One-story, Modernist Ranch, brick with soldier course water table, side-gable roof, casement and picture windows, single-leaf entry, brick stoop with metal railing, gable vents, rectangular stone chimney that extends from façade towards roofline, stone planter box across north end of façade. The house was remodeled in 1970. James Barker was a department manager at First National Bank. The Barkers sold the house to Howard Lee and Peggy Vaughn in 1959. Their son, Micheal Lee Vaughn, still resides in the house.

11a. Carport

417 Fifth Street SE

circa 1951

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Contributing Structure

Detached metal carport with flat roof supported by metal posts.

12. John Calvin and Lorene W. Mull House
409 Fifth Street SE
1950
Contributing Building

One-story, Ranch, brick with soldier course water table and cornice, side-gable roof, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, single-leaf entry sheltered by metal awning, brick and concrete stoop with metal railing, gable vents, interior brick chimney, shed-roofed rear addition with German siding. The Mulls moved into the house in January of 1951, and resided there until 1967, when they swapped houses with Joe and Margaret Hazelwood who lived down the street (#9). Calvin Mull worked at the Fresh Air Market. The Hazelwood's daughter, Sandra, and her husband, D. Alan Spencer, sold the house to the current owners, Christopher E. and Michelle Laney Revis, in 2001.

- 12a. Carport
409 Fifth Street SE
circa 1950
Contributing Structure

Detached metal carport with flat roof supported by metal posts.

13. Harold A. and Marjorie G. Newton House
403 Fifth Street SE
1950
Contributing Building

Two-story, Modernist, brick, hip roof, 2/2 horizontal windows at second-story corners, single-leaf entry, partially enclosed hip-roofed front porch with square posts and a picture window, hip-roofed side porch with square posts and metal railing on north elevation, one-story hip-roofed wing on south elevation, interior chimney. Harold Newton was an employee of Puritan Furniture Manufacturing Company. Subsequent owners include Franklin Eugene and Nadine Stewart McNight, who gave the property to their son Arthur W. McNight, in 1978. He still resides in the house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

14. John F. and Georgia L. Beatty House
339 Fifth Street SE
1940
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, vinyl siding, side-gable roof, replacement 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, shed-roofed front porch with square wood posts and wood railing, gable vents, one end and one interior chimney, brick foundation. The house was remodeled in 1996. John Beatty was a clerk at the Community Store. Subsequent owners include Isaac Rex and Lizzie C. Lockhart, who sold the house to Gwendolyn Louise Derr in 1977.

15. Richard D. and Joyce M. Berry House
333 Fifth Street SE
1951
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, vinyl siding, hip roof with projecting central hip-roofed bay, 2/2 horizontal and picture windows, engaged entry porch with single-leaf door, brick stoop and steps with metal railing, metal-roofed side porch with metal posts and railing, end chimney, brick foundation. Richard Berry was an employee of Hickory Tavern Furniture. Subsequent owners include Janice P. Thompson, who sold the property to Robert L. Killian in 1995.

- 15a. Garage with Carport
333 Fifth Street SE
circa 1951
Contributing Building

One-story, concrete block, front-gable roof, 2/2 horizontal sash, single-leaf entry, single-bay garage door, attached flat-roofed metal carport supported by metal posts.

South Side Fifth Avenue SE

16. Walter J. and Clara C. Williams House
506 Fifth Avenue SE
1935
Contributing Building

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 11

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

One-and-one-half-story, Period Cottage, stone veneer, side-gable roof with front gable, 10/1 and 6/6 sash with concrete sills, arched windows in front and side gables, arcaded front gable entry porch, single-leaf door, arcaded corner porch, crenellated stone façade chimney, interior stone chimney, gable-roofed dormer on north side, exposed rafter ends, eave brackets, flat-roofed rear addition with rolled asphalt siding and 2/2 horizontal windows, rear deck with metal railing. Walter Williams worked at Grand Rapids Varnish Corporation; Clara worked at Hickory Studio. Williams's second wife, Menola Smith Williams, still resides in the house.

17. Marie Grove Sides House
510 Fifth Avenue SE
1981
Noncontributing Building

One-story, Ranch, brick, side-gable roof, single and paired 6/6 sash, single-leaf entry with fluted pilasters, gable vents. Charles H. and Edith B. Grove gave this lot to his sister, Marie Grove Sides, in 1981, and she soon built a house on the property.

18. Peter N. and Helen C. Kovachi House
514 Fifth Avenue SE
1941
Contributing Building

One-story, Craftsman/Colonial Revival, brick with soldier course water table, clipped-side-gable roof, single and paired 3/1 sash, single-leaf entry with sidelights, front-gable entry porch supported by paired colonettes on brick piers, brick terrace with wood railing on either side of entry porch, beadboard in porch gable, end chimney, gable vents, wood deck at rear. The house was remodeled in 1994. Helen Kovachi worked at the Catawba Restaurant. Subsequent owners include Edwin L. and Evelyn C. Hoyle, Glen P. and Lena R. Hoyle, Clyde Roy and Goldie Mae Wilson and Patricia D. and John White. The Whites sold the house to Jeffrey M. Luetkenhaus in 1998.

Vacant Lot Pin No. 370212867626

East Side Third Avenue Drive SE

19. Albert L. and Alvena H. Deal House

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 12

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

509 Third Avenue Drive SE
1935
Contributing Building

One-story, frame, German siding, side-gable roof, 9/1 and paired casement windows, engaged and screened-in corner porch with single-leaf entry, large brick façade chimney, interior chimney, eyebrow dormer vent, gable vents, rear ell over basement garage, flat-roofed garage addition and wood deck on north elevation. Albert L. Deal was the manager of Deal Typewriter Exchange. Subsequent owners include Karen D. Patterson, who sold the house to Joseph Allen and Anita B. Lackey in 2001.

20. Jason C. and Nellie S. Jones House
449 Third Avenue Drive SE
1949
Contributing Building

One-story, Minimal Traditional, brick, side-gable roof with central front gable, 4/4, 6/6, 8/8 and picture windows, single-leaf entry with fluted pilasters and denticulated cornice, interior brick chimney, gable vents, front-gable-roofed single-bay garage connected to house by glassed-in hyphen, lunette windows in front gables of house and garage. Jason Jones was a manager at Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Subsequent owners include Garth C. and Virgie W. Friday, who sold the property to Robert A. and Carolyn W. Sinclair in 2000.

West Side Third Avenue Drive SE

21. Claude S. and Iva A. Abernethy House
450 Third Avenue Drive SE
1930
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Bungalow, frame, wide weatherboards, cross-gable roof, 3/1 sash, single-leaf entries, shed-roofed corner porches with truncated wood posts on brick piers, gable-roofed dormer on rear elevation, exposed rafter ends, eave brackets, stone foundation and steps, interior stone chimneys, two sets of French doors on rear elevation at wood deck, gable-roofed addition with 4/1 windows and single-leaf entry on north end of rear elevation. The house was remodeled in 1988. Claude Abernethy owned the Abernethy Hardware Company and the Abernethy Motor Company and was the Vice-President of the Hickory Merchants Association in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 13

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

1930. In 1950 he worked at Kenworth Hosiery Mills. The current owners, Mary M. and Charles A. Lail, purchased the house in 1991.

21a. Shed
450 Third Avenue Drive SE
circa 1990
Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, wide weatherboards, side-gable roof, 1/1 sash, single-leaf entry, exposed rafter ends.

22. Everett C. and Ethel H. Johnson House
436 Third Avenue Drive SE
1915
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, frame, Bungalow, wood shingle siding, cross-gable roof, 3/1 and 4/1 sash, single-leaf entry with sidelights, shed-roofed front porch with colonettes on brick piers and wood railing, exposed rafter ends, eave brackets, brick foundation, brick interior chimney, large two-story rear addition with single-bay garage. The house was remodeled in 1991. Everett Johnson owned Johnson's Garage and was an auto salesman. In 1930, Ethel was living in the house alone after the death of her husband and working as a bookkeeper at Paramount Chevrolet Company. In 1950 her son Everett C. Jr., the owner and manager of the Hotel Service Station, and his wife Kathyrn lived in the main house, and Ethel Johnson lived in the studio that stands in the back yard. Ethel was then the office secretary at Barringer Brothers and Gaither Inc., car and truck dealers. Ed Lunow, a Hickory architect, and his family now own the property.

22a. Garage
436 Third Avenue Drive SE
circa 1990
Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, side-gable roof, one-bay garage, exposed rafter ends.

22b. Johnson Studio
436 Third Avenue Drive SE
1920s

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 14

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Contributing Building

One-story, L-shaped, frame, German siding, gable roof, single-leaf entry sheltered by front-gable hood, 6/1 windows, exposed rafter ends, stone end chimneys, stone foundation.

23. Dr. Henry H. and Hallie L. Menzies House
422 Third Avenue Drive SE
1920
Contributing Building

Two-story, frame, stucco on first floor, vinyl siding on second floor, hip roof, hip-roofed dormer, 1/1 and fixed replacement sash, arched single-leaf entry, arcaded hip-roofed corner porch on north elevation, entry porch on south end of façade, brick foundation, brick interior chimney. Henry Menzies was a physician and surgeon with an office at 1019 Thirteenth Street. John J. and Helen P. Wilkinson lived in the house in 1950. Subsequent owners included Walker and Jettie Lyerly and O. L. and Ruth Davis. Ruth Davis sold the house to Robert Lawrence and Dorothy H. Bolick in 1963. Robert Bolick still resides in the house.

Vacant Lot (same Pin No. and ownership as 422 Third Avenue South)

24. Richard C. and Terreisa R. Hefner House
404 Third Avenue Drive SE
1951
Contributing Building

One-story, Ranch, frame, vinyl siding, hip roof, 2/2 horizontal windows, bay window addition on north side of façade, single-leaf entry, brick foundation, brick interior chimney, attached two-bay carport with side-gable roof supported by square brick posts on concrete pad. Richard Hefner was an employee of Century Furniture Company. Subsequent owners include David A. and Peggy Hane Corpening, whose children inherited the property and sold it Sarah C. Lopes in 2000.

- 24a. Shed
404 Third Avenue Drive SE
circa 1951
Contributing Building

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 15

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

One-story, frame, wood panel siding, shed roof, single-leaf entry, single-pane sash.

25. William M. and Blanche Busby House
346 Third Avenue Drive SE
1939
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Period Cottage, brick with soldier course water table, side-gable roof with two front gables (north front gable is stuccoed and half-timbered), projecting front gable entry bay, 6/6 sash, 4-pane windows in front gables, single-leaf entry, arcaded corner porch on north end of facade, gable vents, brick interior chimney with corbelled stack. William Busby worked at the Standard Garage and Sales Company.

26. P. Cephus and Laura J. Setzer House
334 Third Avenue Drive SE
1930
Contributing Building

One-and-one-half-story, Colonial Revival, frame, German siding, side-gable roof, large shed-roofed dormer on facade, 4/1 and 6/1 sash, single-leaf entries, front-gable-roofed entry porch supported by Tuscan columns, shed-roofed side porch with Tuscan columns and wood railing, gable vents, brick foundation, brick interior chimney, one-story hip-roofed wing on south elevation, shed-roofed rear garage addition. P. Cephus Setzer was the manager of Russell & Setzer and an alderman for the City of Hickory. Subsequent owners include D. A. and Faye K. Hutto and Lewis A. and Donna P. McCain. The McCains sold the property to the current owner, Joyce Ann Mease, in 1986.

27. Duplex
324-326 Third Avenue Drive SE
1964
Noncontributing Building

One-story, Ranch, brick, side-gable roof, 3/1 sash, single-leaf entries, replacement front-gable-roofed entry porch with columns and metal railing, gable vents, gable-roofed, frame gable-roofed rear addition with single-leaf doors and wood deck. The duplex was remodeled in 1999. Mrs. Nancy P. Hayworth, a waitress at Howard Johnsons, and Scott H. and Nancy S. Smith lived in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 16

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

the duplex in 1966. Scott Smith was a salesman at Radio Station WIRC. Jeff and Jane Vierra own the duplex, which is occupied by her mother.

27a. 324-326 Third Avenue Drive SE
Shed
circa 2000
Noncontributing Building

One-story, frame, wood panel siding, shed roof, 6/6 sash, double-leaf entry sheltered by shed-roofed hood.

South Side Second Avenue SE

28. (former) Christ Lutheran Church Parsonage
410 Second Avenue SE
1930
Contributing Building

Two-story-on-basement, Colonial Revival, brick, side-gable roof, 6/6 sash, single-leaf entry with sidelights, front-gable-roofed entry porch supported by square posts, gable vents, brick end chimney, steps with metal railing to rear entry. The Trustees of Christ Lutheran Church sold the parsonage (along with the church building) to the Trustees of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in 1978.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 17

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

8. Summary Statement of Significance

The Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for architecture. The period of significance begins in 1915—the year the Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House (#9) and the Everett C. and Ethel H. Johnson House (#22) were built—and extends to 1952, encompassing the majority of the resources in the neighborhood. The boundary expansion contains properties south of the original district on both sides of Fifth Street SE, the south side of Fifth Avenue SE and on both sides of Third Avenue Drive SE. The expansion area also extends west of the original boundary on the south side of Second Avenue to include two residences and north on the west side of Fifth Street to incorporate one residence. The locally-significant district contains an eclectic mix of nationally popular styles and vernacular forms common to suburbs that developed in North Carolina in the first half of the twentieth century. Charlotte architect Louis Asbury designed the Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House, which is one of the earliest and most imposing buildings in the district. The bulk of the resources were constructed from 1940 to 1952. Dwellings executed in the Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Period Cottage, Minimal Traditional and Ranch styles are the predominant property types.

The Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion is also eligible for listing under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning and Development. The Hickory Land and Development Company, formed in response to an urgent need for housing created by Hickory's rapid increase in population during the first decades of the twentieth century, acquired fifty acres in southeast Hickory and planned the city's first subdivision. The company engaged the Charlotte civil and landscape engineering firm of Blair and Drane to design the Kenworth subdivision. Holmes Blair and Brent Drane, who had been involved in the expansion of the Dilworth subdivision in Charlotte, laid out a picturesque system of streets which conformed to the irregular topography of the area but allowed for 150 building lots of near equal size. The expansion area encompasses a portion of the Kenworth subdivision which was platted in 1913 but not heavily developed until the years following World War II.

There are twenty-eight primary and twelve secondary resources in the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion area, eighty-three percent of which are contributing. The noncontributing resources, which are modest Ranch houses and recently constructed sheds, garages and carports, do not overwhelm the contributing resources.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 18

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Historical Background; Community Planning and Development Context

As the new century dawned, Hickory, like the rest of the state, was poised for growth and expansion. Most residents worked in the growing number of furniture, textile and hosiery mills or in auxiliary service enterprises. Furniture manufacturing provided the most jobs in Hickory by World War I, with a steady stream of new businesses including Hickory Furniture Company (1901), Martin Furniture (1902), Hickory Manufacturing Company (1903), Hickory Novelty Company (1906), Hickory Chair Company (1912) and Southern Desk Company (1913). Piedmont Wagon Company, textile mills such as the Hickory Spinning Company and A. A. Shuford Mills, Hickory Hosiery (1906), Elliot Hosiery (1910) and The Best Hosiery (1913) were also big employers. The population of Hickory doubled in the first two decades of the twentieth century – growing from 2,535 residents in 1900 to 5,076 in 1920.¹

Hickory was not alone its rapid growth, nor in the fact that much of the development was occurring in newly platted subdivisions. The majority of North Carolina's cities saw their populations double or triple between 1900 and 1930. People moved to Charlotte and Greensboro to work in the textile mills, to Winston-Salem and Durham for textile and tobacco manufacturing jobs, to Wilmington for shipping and railroad work and to Raleigh to work in state government or at State College. Following these primary economic engines were banks, construction firms, restaurants and retail outlets that created even more opportunities for a regular paycheck.²

Most people inundating towns and cities during this time were from rural areas: farmers and farm laborers tired of scratching a living from poor land. Newcomers had to adjust to the noise, pollution, and rigid working hours that accompanied urbanity. Furthermore, the ancient notion of the city as a "den of iniquity" and the countryside as healthy became more firmly entrenched every time a technological advance increased the pace of city life. In reaction, urban planning that idealized separation of commercial and residential uses—as well as the separation of classes and races—took on an unprecedented importance, particularly once it was facilitated by transportation improvements. Industry, commerce, and homemaking were each given their own

¹ Gary R. Freeze, *The Catawbans: Crafters of a North Carolina County, 1747-1900* (Newton: Catawba County Historical Association, 1995), 364; *Twelfth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1900, Population, Part II* (Washington, D. C.: United States Census Office, 1902), 652; *Fourteenth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1920, Volume III, Population* (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1922), 747.

² Catherine W. Bishir, "Introduction," In *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, edited by Catherine W. Bishir and Lawrence S. Earley, (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1985), 3.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 19

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

sector of town, with homes preferably built along winding, tree-lined streets. Suburban lawns and shade were meant to create a sanctuary for the urbanite and bring a bit of the country to those newly relocated from a farm or crossroads town. Planners based "rural" residential retreats that were within or close to a city in large part on nineteenth-century cemeteries and parks: their curving drives, trees, flowers, planned vistas, and sculpture were meant to provide relief from the city's gray stone, steel, and concrete. Towards the end of the nineteenth century and in the early twentieth century, better transportation made it possible for developers to build houses in similar park-like settings carved from outlying open land previously inconveniently distant from downtown.³

Kenneth C. Menzies, William B. Menzies, J. L. Riddle, J. D. Elliot and H. E. Elliot formed the Hickory Land and Development Company in 1913 in response to the urgent need for housing created by Hickory's rapidly growing population. They acquired a fifty-acre parcel of land in southeast Hickory and hired the Charlotte firm of Blair and Drane to design Hickory's first subdivision, Kenworth. Blair and Drane was involved in the extension of the Dilworth subdivision in Charlotte, designed by the Olmsted Brothers, so they were well aware of the national trend toward subdivisions with winding roads and naturalistic landscaping that created a picturesque, park-like setting.⁴

The Hickory Land and Development Company derived the name of their newly created subdivision from the names of two key developers: Kenneth Menzies, president of First National Bank of Hickory and Worth Elliot, president of Elliot Building Company. They targeted the middle and lower middle class with modest houses on relatively small, inexpensive lots. Six houses were constructed in the subdivision prior to World War I. Hickory, like most of the nation, saw little development during World War I, but the population grew from 5,076 in 1920 to 7,363 in 1930, once again creating the need for additional housing.⁵

³ Margaret Supplee Smith, "The American Idyll in North Carolina's First Suburbs: Landscape and Architecture," In *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, 21-22.

⁴ Catawba County Book of Corporations, Book 2, 138 Catawba County Register of Deeds Office, Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina; Catawba County Book of Plats, Book 1, 23, Catawba County Register of Deeds Office, Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina; Thomas W. Hanchett, "Charlotte's Neighborhood Planning Tradition," part of an unpublished manuscript prepared for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, 1984, 12.

⁵ City of Hickory, *Kenworth Neighborhood Plan* (Hickory: City of Hickory Planning and Development, 1997), 11; *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, Volume III, Part 2* (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1932), 369.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 20

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Although building costs remained high in the early 1920s, the Hickory Land and Development Company actively promoted Kenworth as “the most attractive residential section of Hickory...a community of pretty houses, on good streets, with water, lights and other modern improvements and in easy reach of the South graded school.”⁶ The company offered to sell lots or erect homes for prospective buyers and provide financing through the building and loan association. The northwest corner of the subdivision, encompassed in the original boundaries of the Kenworth Historic District, was developed first. This section of the neighborhood contains finely detailed bungalows, a few Colonial Revival-style houses, the (former) Christ Lutheran Church and the Kenworth School. Subdivision covenants mandated that houses in Kenworth should be set back at least twenty feet from the road, share driveways where necessary to facilitate off-street parking and be worth at least \$3,000.⁷

The Kenworth subdivision experienced its greatest period of expansion from the 1940s through the early 1950s, when the GI Bill helped returning World War II veterans like Harold Sigmon, Fred Mull and Calvin Mull pay for houses. The post-war population influx expanded neighborhoods and resulted in rapid growth in Hickory’s size and urban nature. The majority of properties in the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion—roughly fifty-five percent—were constructed during this time, easing an apparently severe housing shortage. Interviews revealed that some families doubled up and shared single-family homes during the period. Nationally, housing shortages—common in this era—generally resulted from years of slow development during the Depression.

In the decades since, the character of the Kenworth neighborhood has remained remarkably stable, maintaining a mix of homeowners and renters, young professionals and retirees. The relatively few buildings that post-date the period of significance are of the same type as those constructed during the period and have been rendered in compatible scale. The Kenworth neighborhood still retains its early-to mid-twentieth century suburban character.

⁶ “Opportunity for Builders,” *Hickory Daily Record*, February 4, 1921.

⁷ *Ibid.*; Catawba County Deed Books, Catawba County Register of Deeds Office, Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 21

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Architecture Context

The dwellings and small outbuildings in the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion represent the architectural styles and forms that were common in Hickory and throughout Piedmont North Carolina from the early twentieth century through the post-World War II era. During this period, architecture reflected the social and economic changes occurring as Hickory transformed from a quiet town to a bustling industrial center. As the population of Hickory grew and neighborhoods adjacent to downtown filled, residents began moving farther from the central city. With the advent of the automobile in the twentieth century, development continued to move into more suburban areas of North Carolina's town and cities. In cities such as Hickory, this push outward from the central downtown often translated into the construction of houses on streets only one or two streets beyond main arteries and commercial areas. As the twentieth century got under way, it was common for bank presidents and prosperous merchants to live only one street away from store clerks and carpenters. While professionals and workers continued to live in relative close proximity to their work places and each other, the differences in the two groups' income and social standing were made clear by the size of their houses and the lots they occupied.

As the automobile allowed for increased mobility, national trends in architecture began to exert a greater influence on house styles in the Kenworth neighborhood. The earliest houses in the boundary expansion area are bungalows and Foursquares with Craftsman details. The 1915 Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House (#9) is one of the earliest and most imposing houses in the neighborhood. Situated on a rise at the corner of Fifth Street SE and Fifth Avenue SE, the two-story, brick, Foursquare has a hip-roofed wrap-around porch with brick corner posts, tapered wood posts on brick piers and a wood railing as well as a gable-roofed porte cochere with brick posts.

The bungalow enjoyed national popularity in the late 1910s and 1920s and architects designed fine examples for clients from coast to coast. Scaled-down versions of the style proved immensely popular in towns and suburbs across North Carolina into the early 1930s. Building plans for these houses, with their wide overhanging eaves, open arrangement of rooms, and inviting porches, appeared in national magazines and catalogs. The bungalow was inexpensive and easy to construct and appealed to families' desires for a modern house.

The Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion contains only three bungalows, as most dwellings of this style were included within the original district boundaries. The 1915 Everett C. and Ethel H. Johnson House (#22) was one of the first houses constructed in Kenworth. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 22

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

one-and-one-half-story, frame bungalow manifests Craftsman details including wood shingle siding, a cross-gable roof, a single-leaf entry with sidelights, a shed-roofed front porch with colonettes on brick piers and wood railing, exposed rafter ends and eave brackets. The Claude S. and Iva A. Abernathy House (#21), built on the corner of Third Avenue Drive SE and Fifth Avenue SE in 1930, is a one-and-one-half-story, frame bungalow with wide weatherboards, a cross-gable roof, shed-roofed corner porches with truncated wood posts on brick piers, exposed rafter ends, eave brackets, a stone foundation and steps and interior stone chimneys. Hugh E. Fritts, the Secretary-Treasurer of Carolina Land Company, and his wife Ada Mae built a one-and-one-half-story, frame bungalow with a side-gable roof, a shed-roofed front porch with grouped square wood posts, exposed rafter ends and eave brackets at 431 Fifth Street (#10) in 1923.

The fifteen bungalows in the original section of the Kenworth Historic District are similar to those in the boundary expansion in size, scale, form and massing. They are predominantly frame, one or one-and-one-half-story dwellings with gabled roofs and porches. The 1923 Frederick O. Bock House at 445 Second Avenue SE reflects a combination of Craftsman and Asian influences in its engaged corner porch with tapered posts on brick piers spanned by a brick kneewall that support a lightly flared roof, wood-shingle siding on the shed dormer and the gable ends and exposed rafter ends. The Nicholson-Abernathy House, built at 206 Fifth Street NE in 1922, is a one-story, brick-veneered bungalow with a front-gable roof and a gabled porch supported by paired posts on brick piers spanned by a brick kneewall. Half-timbered and stuccoed gable ends lend a Tudor Revival flavor to the dwelling. The 1921 Speas-Duval House at 252 Fifth Street SE is a one-story, front-gable-roofed bungalow with weatherboards and wood shingle siding, a stone foundation and interior and end stone chimneys. Its porches are supported by truncated post on stone piers spanned by a wood balustrade.⁸

By 1930, the population of Hickory had grown to 7,363.⁹ Some construction occurred in the Kenworth Historic District expansion area during the 1930s, despite the Great Depression. The buildings from the period were modest dwellings with classical or Colonial Revival nuances. The 1930 P. Cephus and Laura J. Setzer House (#26) at 334 Third Avenue Drive SE is a two-story, frame house with German siding, a side-gable roof, a large shed-roofed dormer on facade, single-leaf entries, and a front-gable-roofed entry porch supported by Tuscan columns. The

⁸ Kirk F. Mohney, "Kenworth Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1984.

⁹ *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, Volume III, Part 2*, 369.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 23

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Christ Lutheran Church Parsonage (#28), built in 1930 adjacent to the church on Second Avenue SE, is a two-story-on-basement, brick house with a side-gable roof, a single-leaf entry with sidelights, a front-gable-roofed entry porch supported by square posts and a brick end chimney. The 1941 Peter N. and Helen C. Kovachi House (#18) at 514 Fifth Avenue SE is a transitional Craftman/Colonial Revival dwelling. The one-story, brick house has a soldier course water table, a clipped-side-gable roof, a single-leaf entry with sidelights, a front-gable entry porch supported by paired colonettes on brick piers and an end chimney.

There were only three Colonial Revival houses in the original Kenworth Historic District, and, like those in the boundary expansion, they are relatively modest expressions of the style. The Annie McDowell Ervin House, built around 1920 at 253 Fifth Street SE, is a two-story, three-bay, hip-roofed dwelling with a single-leaf entry flanked by sidelights and hip-roofed entry and side porches supported by square posts. The 1921 Kennedy-Setzer House at 306 Third Avenue Drive SE is a bit more elaborate, two-story, three-bay, hip-roofed dwelling with entry and side porches supported by Tuscan columns, a single-leaf entry with sidelights, a modillion cornice and an end chimney. The John N. Bohannon House, built in 1923 at 311 Third Avenue SE, is a one-story, five-bay, frame house with a side-gable roof, a single-leaf entry flanked by narrow sidelights, a gabled dormer and German siding.¹⁰

Period revival styles appeared throughout the South in the 1920s and in the Kenworth neighborhood in the 1930s and 1940s. Inspired by English or Tudor cottages, Period Cottages were typically small, side-gabled dwellings with steep front gables and facade or end chimneys. The 1935 Walter J. and Clara C. Williams House (#16), was executed in stone veneer complete with a crenellated stone façade chimney. The one-and-one-half-story Period Cottage had a side-gable roof with front gable, arched windows in front and side gables, and an arcaded front gable entry porch. The 1939 William M. and Blanche Busby House (#25) is the only Period Cottage in the neighborhood with a stuccoed and half-timbered gable typical of the style. The one-and-one-half-story, brick house has a soldier course water table, a side-gable roof with two front gables, a projecting front gable entry bay and an arcaded corner porch on the north end of the façade. World War II veteran Fred M. Mull and his wife Frankie built another brick Period Cottage at 502 Fifth Street SE (#8) in 1947. The one-and-one-half-story house has a brick soldier course water table, a side-gable roof with a projecting front gable entry bay, an arched front gable

¹⁰ Kirk F. Mohney, "Kenworth Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1984.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 24

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

window, an arched single-leaf door, a hip-roofed side porch with metal posts and brick façade and interior chimneys.

When World War II war ended, Hickory's population rose to 14,755 as soldiers returned home.¹¹ As construction revived after the war, some North Carolina families sought the comfort and reassurance of building in styles of the past such as the Colonial Revival, but, more commonly, new houses took on a decidedly modern appearance. The Minimal Traditional style began appearing just before the war and proved very popular in the last half of the 1940s. In the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion, Minimal Traditional houses took several forms including a side-gabled dwelling with or without a front-facing gable or a one-story L-shaped form. The 1949 Jason C. and Nellie S. Jones House (#20) is a rambling brick Minimal Traditional complete with an attached garage. The one-story house has a side-gable roof with a central front gable, a single-leaf entry with fluted pilasters and a denticulated cornice and an interior brick chimney. Harold H. and Inez Price Sigmon built a one-story-on-basement Minimal Traditional house at 422 Fifth Street SE (#5) in 1951. The frame house has weatherboard siding with brick end walls, a side-gable roof, metal casement and multi-pane picture windows, a recessed front porch and a roof patio over an attached carport at the rear.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, the Ranch house, with its low-pitched roof and open floor plan, enjoyed popularity throughout Hickory and in the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion. The Ranch style originated in California in the 1930s and by the middle of the century it had been adapted throughout the country to meet the needs of families who desired a low-cost dwelling with living area on one level and enough space for all its members to enjoy their privacy. Ranch houses in Kenworth Historic District have brick and synthetic siding exteriors with broad chimneys, minimal detailing and rear patios. The 1952 Albert G. and Melba Bowman Miller House (#4) at 410 Fifth Street SE is a long, low, brick Ranch distinguished by a side-gable roof that faces the street. The James C. and Dorothy J. Barker House (#11) features the same brick soldier course water table as several Period Cottages in the neighborhood in addition to a Modernist rectangular stone chimney that accentuates the façade.

¹¹ *Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950, Volume II: Characteristics of the Population, Part 33: North Carolina* (Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1952), 33-13.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 25

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Two one-story, low-side-gable-roofed Ranch houses were built in the district in 1964 and 1981. Due to their lack of architectural and historical significance, these buildings have been classified as noncontributing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 26

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

9. Bibliography

- Catawba County Book of Corporations, Book 2. Catawba County Register of Deeds Office, Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina.
- Catawba County Book of Plats, Book 1. Catawba County Register of Deeds Office. Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina.
- Catawba County Deed Books. Catawba County Register of Deeds Office. Governmental Center, Newton, North Carolina.
- City of Hickory. *Kenworth Neighborhood Plan*. Hickory: City of Hickory Planning and Development, 1997.
- Espey, Dan and Martha. Interview with the author, June 10, 2004.
- Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, Volume III, Part 2*. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1932.
- Fourteenth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1920, Volume III, Population*. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1922.
- Justice, Rachel B. Interview with the author, June 10, 2004.
- “Fred Mull.” *Hickory Daily Record Service League Edition*, Spring 1962.
- Freeze, Gary R. *The Catawbans: Crafters of a North Carolina County, 1747-1900*. Newton: Catawba County Historical Association, 1995.
- Hanchett, Thomas W. “Charlotte’s Neighborhood Planning Tradition.” Part of an unpublished manuscript prepared for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, 1984.
- Hickory City Directories, 1920-1981*.
- Hickory, North Carolina*. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1925, 1931, 1945.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 27

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

Mohney, Kirk F. "Kenworth Historic District." National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1984.

Mohney, Kirk F. and Laura A. W. Phillips. *From Tavern to Town: The Architectural History of Hickory, North Carolina*. Hickory: City of Hickory, 1988.

Mull, Calvin and Lorene. Interview with the author, May 7, 2004.

"Opportunity for Builders." *Hickory Daily Record*. February 4, 1921.

Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950, Volume II: Characteristics of the Population, Part 33: North Carolina. Washington, D. C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1952.

Sigmon, Inez. Interview with the author. June 10, 2004.

Supplee Smith, Margaret. "The American Idyll in North Carolina's First Suburbs: Landscape and Architecture." In *Early Twentieth-Century Suburbs in North Carolina*, edited by Catherine W. Bishir and Lawrence S. Earley. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 1985.

Twelfth Census of the United States, Taken in the Year 1900, Population, Part II. Washington, D. C.: United States Census Office, 1902.

"Willard Persuaded Uncle to Acquire Business: Edited Coca-Cola Publication 30 Years." *Hickory Daily Record Service League Edition*, Spring 1962.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 and photos Page 28

Kenworth Hist. District Boundary Expansion
name of property
Catawba County, NC
county and state

10. Geographical Data

UTM's continued

5. 17 470060 E 3953220 N
6. 17 470100 E 3953420 N

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion are indicated by the bold line on the enclosed map. Scale 7/8"=200'

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Kenworth Historic District Boundary Expansion are drawn to include as many contributing resources within the southwest section of the Kenworth subdivision as possible.

Photograph Catalog

All photographs by Heather Fearnbach and Clay Griffith, Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., 3334 Nottingham Road, Winston-Salem, NC, on May 7, 2004. Negatives located at the North Carolina SHPO.

1. Josiah J. and Cecelia Willard House (#9), looking east
2. Claude S. and Iva A. Abernethy House (#21), looking west
3. (former) Christ Lutheran Church Parsonage (#28), looking southwest
4. Walter J. and Clara C. Williams House (#16), looking south
5. Jason C. and Nellie S. Jones House (#20), looking east
6. James C. and Dorothy T. Barker House (#11), looking northeast
7. Albert G. and Melba Bowman Miller House (#4), looking southwest
8. East Side Fifth Street SE, looking south





TATEBLVD SE

5TH ST SE

6TH ST SE

7TH ST SE

8TH ST SE

3RD AVE

28

410

122

306

324

333

334

338

339

346

346

4a

NC 410

403

404

409

12a

11a

417

422

430

22b

22a NC

7a

434

431

436

443

9a

NC 21a

450

8a

NC 8

514

502

506

510

514

509

449

NC

19

County
NORTH CAROLINA
Resource

300
Feet