

Ailey Young House LL
320 N White St 1875

The Ailey Young House was designated a local historic landmark property on June 19, 2012. The c. 1875 saddlebag house consists of two frame pens flanking a very large stone chimney with a brick stack. Large fireplaces served the main room of both pens. In the right front corner of the west pen, a stair ascends to the second floor. A similar stair accessed the second floor on the west pen but these were destroyed in the fire. The right pen has horizontal sheathed walls and a mantel. Each pen has a front door that opened onto a shed-roofed porch that has collapsed. Window openings have lost their sashes with the exception of one 4-pane upper sash surviving on the rear. Apparently some of the larger openings held 6-over-6 sashes. Its sills and the boards of the walls are circular sawn. Visible nails include square, machine-cut nails, finish nails, and wire nails. Its apparently original board-and-batten siding, with beveled battens, is in sound condition.

Battle-Purnell House LL
1037 N Main St 1802

The Battle-Purnell House was designated a local historic landmark property on August 20, 2002. This house was built by Josiah Battle in 1802-1803. It is a 2-story, T-shaped house, unusually large for its time. The Battle-Purnell House is perhaps the largest and best-preserved late Georgian-style dwelling in rural Wake County. Both the five-bay main block and the rear ell of the house are 2-stories tall. Set on a high stone basement, the house is clad in plain weatherboards and displays raised-panel doors with panels, 9-over-9 and windows, and window and door surrounds with three-part moldings. The three double-shouldered Flemish hood chimneys are hand-molded finished with paired shoulders and glazed headers. The kitchen addition was built out of old materials in keeping with the original structure.

Forestville Baptist Church NR
1350 S Main St 1860

The Forestville Baptist Church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 25, 1994. While the congregation organized in 1839, this church was built in 1850, at a cost of \$2100, using both Greek Revival and Italianate architecture. This is one of the few churches associated with noted Warrington contractor, Jacob W. Hall, and his eclectic Greek Revival/Italianate building style. The corner posts are fluted in Greek Revival style but capped with small Italianate style brackets. The most distinctive feature of the exterior is the panels between the sanctuary and balcony windows, featuring a shield device copied from a design in William Raimler's "The Architect" (1849). This is one of the best preserved antebellum churches in the county.

Heartsfield House LL
9737 Ligon Mill Rd 1803

The Heartsfield House was designated a local historic landmark property on December 20, 2011. Heartsfield House is one of the oldest and most prominent homes in the Wake Forest area. Built in 1803, it still has stables, in the basement and attic, the heavy mortise-and-tenon frame that is consistent with this date. The foundation was built of large stacked granite blocks, a material commonly used for foundations in northeastern Wake County. The Flemish bond double-shouldered chimneys rank among the county's finest displays of early 19th century brick work. Originally the house was built in the federal style, a two-story house with a rear 1-story shed. Then, around 1830 the style received a Greek Revival makeover, including the addition of the wide 1-story front porch, the interior floor plan was altered, and portions of the woodwork were replaced.

I.O. Jones House LL
538 S Main St 1903

This Queen Anne style house was designated as a local historic landmark on March 14, 1991. The I. O. Jones House is a large 2-story house with a pyramidal roof, interior chimney, and a front-gabled 2-story wing with a canopy bay window. The pedimented gable has an oval Adamesque-style window. The 1-over-1 sash windows are apparently original. The wraparound 1-story porch has a gabled entrance bay turned posts with swan-neck brackets, and a simple railing. About 1925 a Craftsman-style entrance vestibule was added in front of the original entrance, and a small sunroom above it, perhaps in place of an original open upper-story porch. At this time the side section of the porch was enclosed as a sunroom. The I. O. Jones House was constructed c. 1903 by Robert Freeman and his wife, Genoa Rox Hunter Freeman as a wedding gift for their daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Ira Otis Jones.

Lea Laboratory NR
121 W North Ave 1888

The Lea Laboratory (now Broyhill Hall of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary) was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 29, 1975. This is the oldest and most architecturally significant building on Seminary campus. Built in 1886 as Lea Laboratory, it was designed by John A. Wilson of Winston-Salem and was one of the first chemical laboratories constructed on a Southern college campus. This building is the earliest known example of the Colonial Revival style in North Carolina, although with Victorian spirit. Gabled end blocks were added in 1920. In 1980, it was renovated for offices and renamed Broyhill Hall.

Oakforest NR LL
9958 Seawell Dr 1807

Oakforest was designated as a local historic landmark property on October 21, 2008. This c. 1807 house stands on a stone and cinder block foundation, and originally was a Federal style hall and parlor house. The original south-facing porch with hand-hewn columns is still in use. The slender, round columns are unique to the capitals and bases were carved in one piece with the columns. An addition in the style of Greek Revival gave the house a double-pile, center hall plan. At that time the front door was changed from south facing to west. The double doors were centered in a rectangle of horizontal boards, and the veranda was covered as seen in a 1867 photograph. A 1894 photograph shows an added porch. In 1895, a returned-oven pediment roof, four Doric columns, and a sawn work balustrade to the front were added to the west porch.

Wake Forest Municipal Building

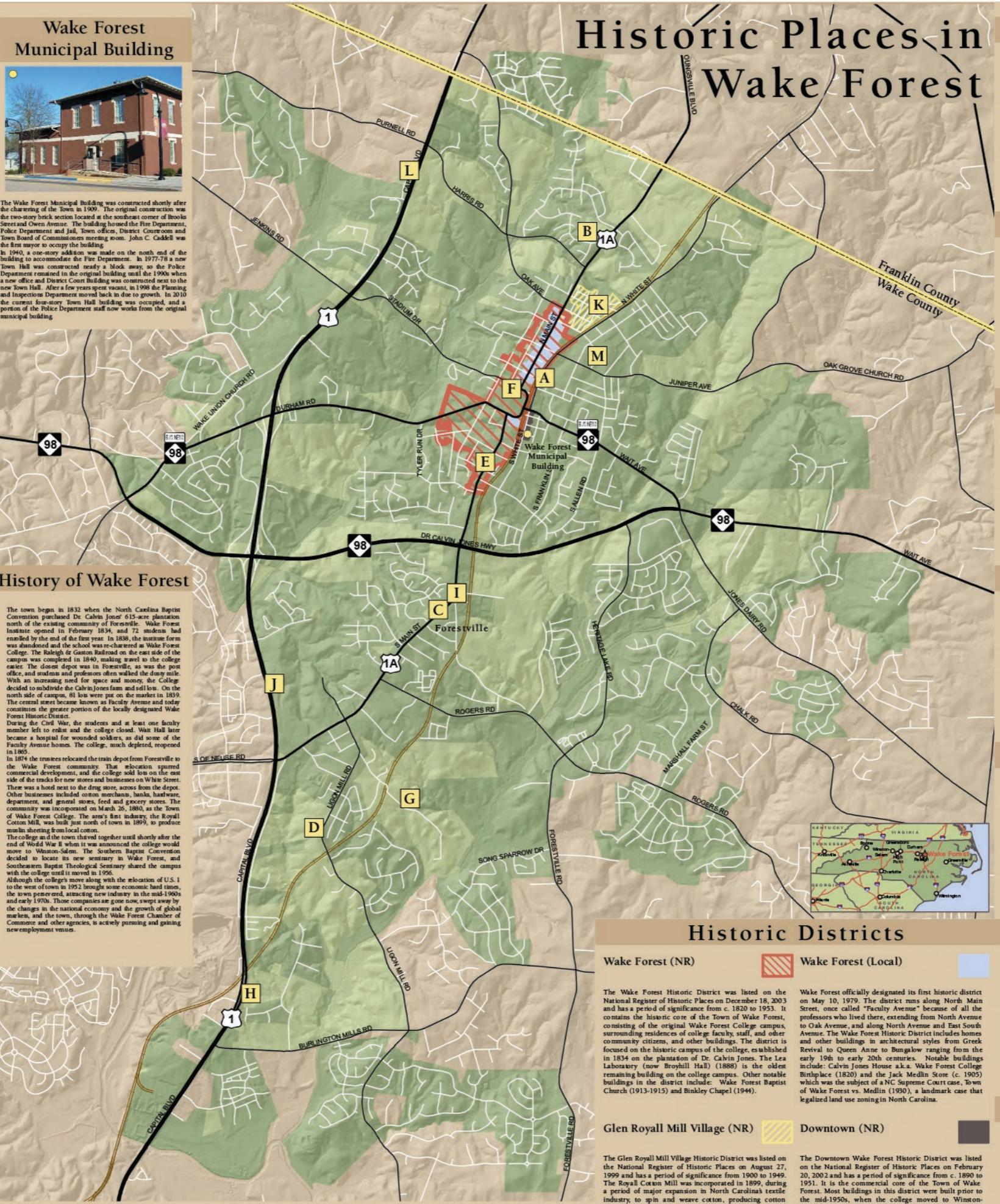


The Wake Forest Municipal Building was constructed shortly after the chartering of the town in 1909. The original construction was the two-story brick section located at the southeast corner of Brooks Street and Owen Avenue. The building housed the Fire Department, Police Department and Jail, Town offices, District Courtroom and Town Board of Commissioners meeting room. John C. Caddell was the first mayor to occupy the building. In 1940, a one-story addition was made on the north end of the building to accommodate the Fire Department. In 1977-78 a new Town Hall was constructed nearly a block away, so the Police Department remained in the original building until the 1990s when a new office and District Court building was constructed next to the new Town Hall. After a few years spent vacant, in 1998 the Planning and Inspection Department moved back in due to growth. In 2010 the current four-story Town Hall building was occupied, and a portion of the Police Department staff now works from the original municipal building.

History of Wake Forest

The town began in 1832 when the North Carolina Baptist Convention purchased Dr. Calvin Jones' 615-acre plantation north of the existing community of Forestville. Wake Forest Institute opened in February 1834, and 72 students had enrolled by the end of the first year. In 1838, the institute form was abandoned and the school was re-chartered as Wake Forest College. The Raleigh & Gaston Railroad on the east side of the campus was completed in 1840, making travel to the college easier. The closest depot was in Forestville, as was the post office, and students and professors often walked the dusty mile. With an increasing need for space and money, the College decided to subdivide the Calvin Jones farm and sell lots. On the north side of campus, 81 lots were put on the market in 1839. The central street became known as Faculty Avenue and today constitutes the greater portion of the locally designated Wake Forest Historic District. During the Civil War, the students and at least one faculty member left to enlist and the college closed. Wait Hall later became a hospital for wounded soldiers, as did some of the Faculty Avenue homes. The college, much depleted, reopened in 1865. In 1874 the trustees relocated the train depot from Forestville to the Wake Forest community. This relocation spurred commercial development, and the college sold lots on the east side of the tracks for new stores and businesses on White Street. There was a hotel next to the drug store, across from the depot. Other businesses included cotton merchants, banks, hardware department, and general stores, feed and grocery stores. The community was incorporated on March 26, 1880, as the Town of Wake Forest College. The area's first industry, the Royal Cotton Mill, was built just north of town in 1899, to produce muslin sheeting from local cotton. The college and the town thrived together until shortly after the end of World War I when it was announced the college would move to Winston-Salem. The Southern Baptist Convention decided to locate its new seminary in Wake Forest, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary shared the campus with the college until it moved in 1926. Although the college's move along with the relocation of U.S. 1 to the west of town in 1952 brought some economic hard times, the town prospered, attracting new industry in the mid-1960s and early 1970s. Those companies are gone now, swept away by the changes in the national economy and the growth of global markets, and the town, through the Wake Forest Chamber of Commerce and other agencies, is actively pursuing and gaining new employment venues.

Historic Places in Wake Forest



Powell House NR
10200 Capital Blvd



The Powell House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1974. Construction of this house took place between 1790 and 1810. The architectural style is a transition between a Colonial plan and Federal woodwork. Around 1800, a single story East Lake style front porch was added with French doors as well as a kitchen and small porch at the rear of the house. The two-story front porch was constructed in the late 1840s or early 1850s. Dempsey Powell owned a large amount of land in this area; his son Jesse Powell inherited the property and likely built this home. Later the home was sold to a South family who used the home as a boarding house for the school across the road. In 1912 the property was sold to William Monroe Fuller and has been in the family ever since. Legend has it that Sherman's Army camped in the farm's tobacco fields during their return travels after Sherman's March to the Sea.

Purefoy-Chappell House NR LL
1895 1255 S Main St



The Purefoy-Chappell House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 22, 2008 and designated as a local historic landmark property on December 16, 2008. As an early nineteenth century 1-room house with a rear shed room, the Purefoy-Chappell House represents an early common, vernacular regional house type found in North Carolina. The house is comprised of 4 major sections: a c. 1838, 1 1/2-story side gable, single pile main block with a rear shed wing; a c. 1895, 2-story, gable, single pile addition built onto the south gable end of the original house; a 2-room side gable kitchen/adding building dating to c. 1838 that was connected to the main block and the 1895 addition by a 1-story hyphen containing a modern kitchen added in 1974. A small 1-story shed roof addition was built c. 1960 onto the rear of the c. 1895 addition to house a small bath room.

Purefoy-Dunn Plantation NR
1814 11300 Capital Blvd



The Purefoy-Dunn Plantation was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 24, 1988. Built in 1814, The Purefoy-Dunn Plantation was the residence of Reverend John Purefoy a founder and member of the first board of trustees of Wake Forest College. The Plantation was originally a small Federal style dwelling. In the mid-19th century the plantation was purchased by Samuel H. Dunn, who extended the main house and remodeled in the Greek Revival Style. On either side of the front door with side-panels is a pair of Greek Doric pilasters, the remains of a one story portico that was removed. Samuel Dunn donated the bell for the new Forestville Baptist Church. At times owned by the Fox, then Holding families - ownership eventually came to the Cavness family.

Royal Cotton Mill Commissary NR
1900 811 Brewer Ave



The Royal Cotton Mill Commissary was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 16, 1991. W.C. Powell and his brother-in-law Robert E. Royal, incorporated the Royal Mill with the establishment of the mill in October 1899; it was the first major industry in town. By September 1900, the mill, commissary and houses for the mill operatives had been built. By 1908 the mill and village had become one of the largest cotton mills in NC. The commissary, which sold food and dry goods to mill operatives, played important commercial and industrial roles in Wake Forest history; a office space and storage for the mill. The commissary exemplifies turn-of-the-century industrial design adapted for commercial purposes. While the commissary closed in 1934, it has remained basically intact and has retained the integrity of its central location and visual prominence within the mill complex.

Wakefields (The Sutherland) NR
1786 13371 Wake Union Church Rd



The Wakefields house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 6, 1974. The estate's rich history dates back to 1786 when Colonel Ransom Sutherland, an officer in the Fourth Regiment, North Carolina Continental Line and a member of the Council of State, purchased this property from John Medaris. Colonel Sutherland is said to have built the rear portion of the main house. As early as 1807 the Sutherlands called the house Wakefields. The front block of the present main house was built in 1831 by John and Mourning Penon Harris, descendants of Ransom Sutherland. Members of the Harris family owned the home until 1946. Since that time the property has had several owners. Over the years additions were constructed to complete the final home as it stands today.

W.E.B. DuBois School NR
1926 518 N Franklin St



The W.E.B. DuBois School was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 5, 1993. The school was built between 1926 and 1942. The original school building was built with assistance from the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, a fund critical to the construction of 21 schools for black students in Wake County during the 1910s and 1920s. Additional buildings were constructed with financial assistance from the Public Works Administration during the Depression. The school was renamed several times as different groups of students received their education at this site, the name W.E.B. DuBois School is still recognized locally. This school, which closed in 1989, is a revered landmark for the black community in Wake Forest. It is the only tangible remaining architectural evidence of the history of the black community in Wake Forest and is the source of great pride for its alumni.

Historic Districts

Wake Forest (NR) Wake Forest (Local)

The Wake Forest Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on December 18, 2003 and has a period of significance from c. 1820 to 1953. It contains the historic core of the Town of Wake Forest, consisting of the original Wake Forest College campus, surrounding residences of college faculty, staff, and other community citizens, and other buildings in architectural styles from Greek Revival to Queen Anne to Bungalow ranging from the early 19th to early 20th centuries. Notable buildings include: Calvin Jones House aka Wake Forest College Birthplace (1820) and the Jack Medlin Store (c. 1905) which was the subject of a NC Supreme Court case, Town of Wake Forest vs. Medlin (1930), a landmark case that legalized land use zoning in North Carolina.

Wake Forest officially designated its first historic district on May 10, 1979. The district runs along North Main Street, once called "Faculty Avenue" because of all the professors who lived there, extending from North Avenue to Oak Avenue, and along North Avenue and East South Avenue. The Wake Forest Historic District includes homes and other buildings in architectural styles from Greek Revival to Queen Anne to Bungalow ranging from the early 19th to early 20th centuries. Notable buildings include: Calvin Jones House aka Wake Forest College Birthplace (1820) and the Jack Medlin Store (c. 1905) which was the subject of a NC Supreme Court case, Town of Wake Forest vs. Medlin (1930), a landmark case that legalized land use zoning in North Carolina.

Glen Royall Mill Village (NR) **Downtown (NR)**

The Glen Royall Mill Village Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 27, 1999 and has a period of significance from 1900 to 1949. The Royal Cotton Mill was incorporated in 1899, during a period of major expansion in North Carolina's textile industry, to spin and weave cotton, producing cotton sheeting skein yarn, becoming one of North Carolina's premiere textile concerns. Construction on the mill and village began in 1900 as the Royal Cotton Mill management began to build housing for its mill operatives and their families.

The Downtown Wake Forest Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 20, 2002 and has a period of significance from c. 1890 to 1951. It is the commercial core of the Town of Wake Forest. Most buildings in this district were built prior to the mid-1950s, when the college moved to Winston-Salem. Most are of brick construction but a few built during the 1940s are of cinder block. Many buildings were built in the mid-1910s after a devastating fire.

