

1. Harden House

109 E. Harden Street

Mid-nineteenth century

C

Two-story frame mid-nineteenth century house built by merchant Peter R. Harden. Weak tradition maintains that the Ohio carpetbag judge, Albion Tourgee (1835-1905) resided here while serving as a member of the state constitution conventions of 1868 and 1875. The house has interior chimneys, symmetrical façade with long and narrow paired window openings, and simple paneled door with glass in the upper half, flanked by long, narrow sidelights. The center hall plan interior has been altered but plain Greek Revival doors and frames survive as does the early framing in the cellar.



2. Pen Point Studios

105 E. Harden Street

Early-twentieth century

C

One-stepped roof once used as the office of the Gleaner. The windows on the side elevation, now bricked in, were arched with decorative brickwork above.



6. Exxon Station

100 E. Harden

Twentieth century

F

Triangular shaped station with s-shaped "hypotenuse." Sheathed with enamelized tiles.



7. Gift Shop

133 N. Main Street

1923

C

Two-story brick building with flat roof built by R. N. Cook and Dr. O. J. Paris. The building has round arches on the second story similar to those on the Vestal Hotel. It also has corbelled cornice and pilasters. The first story displays a modern glass store front.



10. Theatre and Barber Shop

117 and 119 N. Main Street

1928

C

Two-story theatre with simplified Art Deco style stucco on brick and an adjoining barber shop. The first story, which has been reworked, displays a modern glass store front with enamelled tiles. The structure was gutted by fire and somewhat rebuilt in 1935.



11. North State Legal Services

113 N. Main Street

Twentieth century

C

Flat roofed two-story brick building with reworked first story glass front and metal flat roofed awning extending from the building southward to include buildings #11-12. Notable decorative brickwork on the second story.



12. Graham Flea Market

111 N. Main Street

Ca. 1940

C

Two-story brick with black and grey glass tile façade on first story and glass entrance and store windows.



13. R. A. "Bob" Moore Groceries

109 N. Main Street

Early twentieth century

C

One-and-a-half story brick structure with first story glass front.



14. Scott Building 101 N. Main Street

Ca. 1900

P

Two-story common bond commercial building with decorative brickwork built circa 1900 by James Sidney Scott and W.C. Donald. The modern first story renovation contains a west (front) elevation with picture windows, a recessed entrance containing glass double doors and a flat roof overhang. The second story front elevation consists of three single sash windows on either side of a center double window and semi-circular arched windows. The connecting arches spring from pilaster strips that separate second story bays on the front elevation. Yellow brick distinguished the building where it is employed in the semicircular arches, in the string course below the brick patterned entablature and along the roof's ledge. Yellow brick is also used in monumental pilasters which appear at the building's corners and side elevations.



15. City Barber Shop/Court Square Engineering

8 Court Square, NE

Ca. 1903

C

Two story-brick with yellow brick façade. Decorative brickwork over second story windows and cornice. First story store front contains modern glass entrance. The interior is also modern. The building was built by Z. T. Hadley and Dr. W. R. Goley.



16. The Dog House

10 Court Square, NE

Ca. 1903

C

L-shaped single story brick building with shed roof built by Z. T. Hadley and Dr. W. R. Goley. Two rows of brick corbelling carry along the front façade. Display windows are set in plain surrounds. The entrance is composed of a single door with side lights. "Z.T. Hadley Jeweler" is set in title at the entrance.



17. (Former) Vestal Hotel

14, 20, 22 Court Square, NC

Ca. 1904

P

Long, rectangular, building of brick lay in one-to-five common bond. The structure was built as a hotel in 1904 by W. S. Vestal to replace a previous hotel which burned the preceding year. The second story has pilastered parapets, numerous string courses and connecting semicircular arches above a pattern of single and narrow, paired window openings. The first story contains four separate commercial establishments with picture windows and glass entrance doors under modern awnings along the front (west) elevation. The entire building formerly operated as a hotel for salesmen, and judges, and out-of-town lawyers during court sessions. It was last used as a hotel in 1928.



20. J. T. Hunter House

126 E. Elm Street

Ca. 1860

C

Rectangular two-and-a-half story frame house sheathed with asphalt shingles, two gable and stucco brick chimneys and one rear brick chimney. The house has two over two fenestration, paneled central entrance door flanked by divided sidelights and an entrance porch with turned, paired posts and pilasters flanking the entrance. The core of this building is a two-story frame building of mid-nineteenth century vintage with simple—even crude—Greek Revival woodwork.



21. (Former) Trollinger Hotel

140 E. Elm Street

Ca. 1850

C

Single story stuccoed brick structure that was part of the hotel built by John Trollinger in 1850. The renovated interior retains a pressed metal ceiling and a few plain Greek Revival surrounds and doors. Originally the hotel extended to the courthouse from the northeast corner of Elm and Marshall. Historian Dr. Durward Stokes believes the hotel was three stories originally named the "Orange Hotel;" it was subsequently renamed the "Union Hotel" and later the "Brick Hotel." The hotel served visitors during their stay in Graham, including North Carolina Governor Zebulon Vance during his campaign of 1876. The more modern Vestal Hotel was built in 1904. Since then, this structure has been reduced to its present size and converted to a private residence.



22. Farm Services Equipment

125 E. Elm Street

Early twentieth century

C

Much altered single story brick structure with double arches on bricked window and an arched entrance. Present remodeled façade has casement windows. At the rear is a two-bay garage.



23. Dry Cleaners

123 E. Elm Street

Early twentieth century

C

Single story building with flat roof and modern façade. Awning over the entrance on north elevation.



25. Gas Station

21 Court Square, SE

Twentieth century

C

Rectangular, brick building with L-shaped brick wall extending off northeast corner to form garage. Reworked modern store front on west elevation. The structure stands on the property listed as lot no. 5 in the original town plan.



26. Eric, Inc.

13 Court Square, SE

Ca. 1916

C

Two-story brick structure with decorative arches and patterned brickwork on second story. The building has had a number of uses in its history including retail establishments and mills. In 1923, its second floor was used as a courtroom during construction of the new courthouse. The building displays decorative stucco molding between the first and second stories and has a modern first story storefront. Pilasters ornament the corners and the spaces between each set of three bays on the upper story.



27. (Former) Dispensary

7-11 Court Square, SE

Early twentieth century

C

Two-story brick building with permastone façade. Windows on the second story are arched with 2/2 sash. The lower story has modern store fronts. The building, which was built by W. J. Nicks, was originally used as the town dispensary, the predecessor for our modern day alcoholic beverage packaging stores.



28. W. J. Nicks Store

102 S. Main Street

Ca. 1851

P

Two-story brick building, laid up in common bond, built for Hannah and McLean Trading Company ca. 1851. The oversized bricks were reportedly made by slave labor. The building features two-panel doors with simple molded frames and a porch which carries across the entire front (west) elevation supported by cast iron columns with decorative capitals. Originally a three-story building, the top floor was destroyed by Hurricane Hazel in 1954. Sash is 6/6. When Hannah and McLean went out of business in 1857 the building was sold to James D. Bason for retail businesses. Then in 1892, the property was again sold to W.J. Nicks. Nicks expanded the building and lived on the second floor. Part of the retail space was utilized by Sing Lee for Graham's only Chinese laundry. The third floor was rented out for various meetings, etc. Nicks died in 1952, but the business continued to be operated by members of his family until 1964. Restoration of the 3rd floor was started in 2000.



29. Captain James White House

213 S. Main Street

1871

P

This rectangular, two-story frame house is an early Victorian house of faintly villa form with a 1900 addition to the south elevation. The dominant feature of the front (east) elevation is a projecting entrance bay and a one-story façade porch. Oversized unusually curvilinear brackets appear under the wide eaves of the gable roof and accent the side, paneled frieze. A triangular arch surmounts the second story central window. A neoclassical doorway was added in 1950. The house was built by E. M. Holt (1807-1884), prominent textile manufacturer, for his daughter, Emma, and his son-in-law, Confederate Captain James White (?-1887), also a textile owner.

31. Captain J. N. Williamson House

141 S. Main Street

1878

P

This two-story frame Victorian mansion is an excellent and well preserved example of the Second Empire style of architecture. The Williamson House is an asymmetrical composition of bay windows, porches and corbelled and paneled chimneys. An off-center tower with mansard roof and elegant cresting dominates the front façade. Bold decorative woodwork occurs on eaves, brackets, and odd tapered porch columns. Fenestration consists of rectangular double sash windows with rounded corners flanked by handsome louvered shutters, some of which have decorative, irregular sawtooth hoods. The interior features plaster medallions and cornices, heavy applied moldings, marble mantels and tooled-leather wainscoting. The house was built by textile businessman E. M. Holt for his daughter, Mary Elizabeth (1844-1935) and her husband, James N. Williamson (1842-1921). Williamson was a commanding officer in the Confederate Infantry and the founder of Ossipee Textile Mill.



34. Holt-Scott General Store

38 Court Square, SW and 105 S. Main Street

Ca. 1850-1860

P

Two-story rectangular stuccoed brick structure built as two separate but connected sections. The courthouse façade features a notable corbelled corner and broad molded cornice. The lower corner has had recent “colonial” alternations. Second story wide double sash windows are flanked by louvered shutters. The only original features remaining are two cornices and one original mantel. Originally the building, built by E.M. Holt for his son Alfred, operated as a general store. Estimates of the building age vary but some local residents, including Graham’s historian, believe the store is the town’s oldest business establishment; all agree it is at least the second oldest commercial structure in Graham. Presently, the building serves as a lawyer’s office and realty office.



35. National Bank of Alamance

36 Court Square SW

Ca. 1906

P

Spectacular two-story building with a combination of a Renaissance Revival and Neo-classical style storefront. Bounded by structures on both sides, only the front (north) elevation is visible. The first story granite façade is Neo-classical (probably added in the 1920s) with entablature and Corinthian pilasters—relating the façade to the classical style of the county courthouse. The first floor interior contains richly molded classical plasterwork ceilings. The second story, though somewhat altered, is executed in Renaissance Revival style laid in common bond with rich red pressed bricks, a popular material for commercial buildings at the turn of the century. The second story features a projecting cornice, several pronounced string courses and semi-circular arched windows with connecting compound arches. The building displays copper door and window work. The former bank is one of the few which did not close during the Depression.



36. Attorney's Office

10 Court Square, SW

1902

C

Single story brick with light birch veneer façade and windows with marble jack arches with keystones and lintels. Marble forms the wainscot and frames the doorway.



38. Holt-Nicholson Block

20-26 Court Square SW

1905

C

Two-story concrete building with stone façade and stepped side elevations. A rough stone façade (similar to the fire station) with smooth stone pilasters around narrow paired one-over-one sash windows was added to the second story of this structure and to the buildings next to it which now read as one building. The structure, built by W. H. Holt and A. B. Nicholson, was the first concrete building in town.



40. Factory Suits Center

106 W. Elm Street

1940s

C.

Single story brick with two shades of brick in decorative patterns at corners, above metal overhang and around modern store front entrance.



41. Printing Shop

108 and 110 W. Elm Street

1940s

C

Single story brick with two shades of brick in decorative patterns and in borders around building's fenestration. Modern glass store front.

42. Alamance News

101, 112 and 114 W. Elm Street

1940s

Single story brick building containing three store fronts. The fenestration of 101 W. Elm has been covered with plywood. The other two store fronts display decorative brick work above the metal awning and over the tile and glass store front. Brick pilasters are located at the corners and between the two bays.



44. (Former) City Hall and Fire Department, now Graham Historical Museum

135 W. Elm Street

1911-1912

C

Two-story, concrete block structure with façade of rusticated concrete block erected to house Graham's Fire Department. The cornerstone lists S. T. Johnston as the contractor and builder. The building later served as Graham's town hall and now functions as the Graham Historical Museum. Smooth-surfaced pilasters of concrete frame the façade, which is unaltered at the second story. A major renovation in 2001 restored many of the original features that were removed over the years.



45. (Former) Christo Cola Bottling Works (now Quality Klean)

131 W. Elm Street

1915

C

Simple, one-story brick commercial building originally built to house Graham's first soft drink manufacturing plant. The enterprise was only in business a short time before being succeeded by a second local soft drink firm, the Chero Cola bottling Company. The former Christo Cola building eventually became a dry cleaning establishment, its present use. The building has a simple corbelled panel above a mid-twentieth century plate glass storefront; the storefront is sheltered by a metal awning. The eastern wall of the building, which was exposed when the adjacent structure was demolished for a parking lot, displays a mural which depicts a scene of early Graham including the original Courthouse, the W. J. Nick Store, a grist mill, and some early dwellings.



48. Paris Building

23 Court Square, NW

Ca. 1912

C

Three-story brick commercial building with blond brick façade and corbelled cornice, erected by Dr. O. J. Paris shortly after he purchased the lot on which the structure stands in 1912. The Paris Building, considered one of the finest commercial structures in Graham at the time of its construction, housed such tenants as Citizen's Bank, the Alamance Independent Phone Company, and the U.S. Post Office during its early years. A major restoration of the building was complete in 2001.



49. Moon Building

17 Court Square, NW

Ca. 1912, remodeled mid-twentieth century

F

Two-story brick commercial building with remodeled. Building probably erected by Thomas C. Moon shortly after he purchased the lot on which the structure stands in 1912.



50. 12 Court Square, NW

Ca. 1912

C

Simple, two-story brick commercial structure erected about the same time as the Moon and Paris buildings following sale of land on which the buildings stands. Altered plate glass and permastone storefront with relatively unchanged upper floor with corbelled cornice and three segmental-arched windows.



51. The Gipper Club

8 Court Square, NW

Mid-twentieth century

F

Two-story, brick commercial building with pilaster strips and corbelled cornice. Plate glass storefront west side of façade with separate entrance to upper floor on east side. Row of four casement windows and plastic sign on second story façade.



52. Patterson Building

106 N. Main Street

1898

P

Three-story brick commercial building with elaborate corbelled cornice. Erected in 1898 by three brothers, L. L., George W., and John S. Patterson, the building was the most spacious in Graham at the time of its construction. The building housed such commercial tenants as the Graham Drug Company, the Graham Hardware Company, and Citizens Bank during its early years; the second floor contained office space and the third floor, known as "Patterson's Hall" was frequently used for civic and social meetings and for professional and amateur performances. The building had a five-bay façade facing N. Main St., a six-bay façade facing Court Square, NW, and a one-bay cut-away corner facing the Alamance County Courthouse. Due to extensive deterioration, the building was demolished and used as parking for several years. In 2001, a downtown park was created commemorating the 150th anniversaries of the incorporation of Graham and Alamance County.



53. Alamance County Courthouse

Center of Court Square

1923

P

An imposing three story, Neo-classical Revival building located on a hexagonal plot in the center of Graham's commercial district. The courthouse is dominated by a hexastyle portico carrying an entablature which bears the inscription "Alamance County Courthouse." The flat roof is concealed by a parapet wall above the entablature of the building. Windows are linteled and capped by stone cornices and lintels with keystones. Tall stone columns with acanthus and palmetto capitals appear on each elevation, unifying the building's four sides. The courthouse entrances, one on each side, have elaborate entablatures resting on scroll consoles decorated with a crest of anthemion and palmetto antefixes. A brick courthouse and jail were erected on this site when Graham became the county seat in 1849. It was replaced by the present structure which was built in 1923 by Northeast Construction Company of Charlotte. The present courthouse, Graham's most impressive structure, is individually listed in the National Register of Historical Places.



54. Confederate Memorial

Center of Court Square just north of Courthouse

1914

C

Stone monument to Confederate war soldiers of Alamance County, erected in 1914 by the Graham Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The monument rests on two rectangular slabs of rusticated stone and a pair of pedestals with inscriptions praising the heroism and devotion of the county's Confederate troops. Above the pedestals a pillar rises to a statue of a Confederate private at attention.



56. Wrike Drug Store
114 N. Main Street
Ca. 1901
P

Three-story brick structure with blond brick façade and fine, decorative cast-iron cornice. Dr. J. C. Simmons erected the building for his drug store and to house offices and fraternal meetings after a fire destroyed the previous building on the site in 1901. Slender pilasters and corbelling frame the second and third stories; the four façade windows on each floor have metal lintels above double-hung sash. The altered first story consists of plate glass windows and a glass entrance door beneath a metal canopy.



58. Commercial Block

122-134 N. Main Street

Ca. 1914

C

Typical row of early twentieth century one-story brick stores with simple paneled and corbelled detail above altered plate glass storefronts. The row was built by the sons of James Sidney Scott, who operated an earlier store on the site and who founded with his sons the Sidney Cotton Mill. The Sidney Mill, founded in 1885, was Graham's second textile operation.



59. Graham Sporting Goods

142 N. Main Street

1933

C

Two-story, brick, simplified Art Deco style building with decorative concrete pilasters at corners and patterned brick pilasters and other decorative brickwork at second store. Structure erected in 1933 by the Graham Drug Company. An especially notable feature is the unaltered display window at the building's northeast corner facing W. Harden Street, which has a frosted glass transom and an apron of black enamel tiles. A broad decorative course of diagonal brickwork carries across the front and side of the building just above the storefronts.



60. Mont-White Theatre

200 N. Main Street

1906

P

Richly detailed, three-story brick building erected for the Mont-White Theatre, which for two decades after its construction was the center of Graham's cultural life. The Mont-White Theatre Company built the structure in 1906 with mercantile space on the first floor, stage and orchestra pit on the second story, and a balcony on the third floor. When no professional performances were scheduled, the theatre was opened for civic functions, fraternal meetings, and plays by amateur groups. The building is one of the most striking commercial buildings in the district, with blond brick on the east (N. Main Street) elevation and on the cutaway corner facing the Main-Harden intersection, and red brick on the south (W. Harden Street) elevation. Contrasting shades of brick and rusticated stone accentuate the building's numerous decorative features, including round-arched transoms at their first and second stories, belt courses between the floors, and the elaborate corbelled.



61. Commercial Block

103-107 W. Harden Street

Ca. 1900

C

Typical row of early twentieth century one-story brick stores with simple paneled and corbelled detail above altered plate glass storefronts. A metal awning shelters the storefronts.



64. Thomas F. Cole Real Estate and Insurance Office

121 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, possibly ca. 1940

F

Tiny, single-story brick store/office building attached to Western Auto (inventory #65). Two rooms deep.



66. Filling Station

131 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, ca. 1930

C

T-shaped, flat roofed, brick filling station with handsome classical detail, including dentil cornice. Brick posts with molded capitals shelter service area in front of station office, with two bay garages to east. Rectangular wing on north (rear) elevation.



67. Graham Presbyterian Church

200 W. Harden Street

1855, remodeled and expanded 1897-1908, addition 1920, interior remodeled 1950s

P

Deeply set in a broad lawn facing W. Harden Street, Graham Presbyterian Church is a fine, cruciform sanctuary of Gothic-inspired design whose varied exterior detailing is enriched by the use of two types of red brick, terra cotta, and rusticated stone. The present sanctuary was produced by a complete remodeling and expansion during 1897-1909 of the congregation's second church, which had been erected in 1855. The remodeling and expansion were designed by architect Charles L. Reade of Richmond, Virginia. The principal element of the church's main façade is the square, two-stage, castellated tower, which is trimmed by buttresses capped with rusticated stone. Smooth-surfaced, glazed brick seen on the tower and are filled with stained glass installed under Reade's direction. There is a gable-roofed vestibule at the eastern end; both are trimmed buttresses capped by rusticated stone. The vestibule gable is decorated with small squares of molded terra cotta set in a checkerboard pattern. The 1920 Sunday school wing is separated from the sanctuary by a pleasant courtyard and an arcade that was erected at the time of the addition. The interior of the sanctuary underwent a major remodeling during the 1950s, but retains the strikingly large wooden brackets resting on stone corbels that were undoubtedly among the most distinctive features of Reade's design.



68. Graham Post Office

128 W. Harden Street

1935

C

One and two story brick building of simplified Works Progress Administration classical design with decorative bands of molded concrete around buildings. Simple entrance with concrete steps, wrought iron rail and pilasters with stone capitals flank entrance. Interior has simple oak paneling and no mural.



70. Bank of Alamance

118 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, mid-twentieth century

F

Single-story, brick and concrete structure with modern glass storefront. Drive-in window with metal overhang on west side adjoining parking lot.



71. (former) Office Machines

116 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, possibly ca. 1930

C

One-story, flat store building with slightly recessed plate glass storefront.



72. Erwin Block

114 W. Harden Street

1946

C

Two-story, flat-roofed brick building with stone façade. Second story has seven-bay division and is faced with rough-cut stone blocks. Centered over the second floor is a tablet with the inscription "Erwin 1946". The first story is faced with smooth-surfaced stone framing two recessed storefronts and an entrance to the second story at the east end of the façade. The storefronts have double doors with four-pane transoms. A large, centrally placed granite column supports the two light transoms that project over the recessed storefronts.



73. Women's Clothing Store

112 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, possibly ca. 1930

C

Two-story, flat-roofed brick structure with modern glass display windows with wooden panels above set in wooden surrounds.



74. Pope's Variety Store

108 W. Harden Street

Undetermined age, possibly ca. 1930, remodeled mid-twentieth century

F

Brick structure originally erected as two-story building with one story now in use. Upper portion of façade occupied by sign, corbelled brickwork along roofline. Modern, reworked glass and plastic tile front.

