

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 Gimghoul Neighborhood Historic District

other names/site number Gimghoul Piney Prospect Development

2. Location

street & number Gimghoul Road, Ridge Lane, & Glandon Drive N/A not for publication

city or town Chapel Hill N/A vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Orange code 135 zip code 27514

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 forth 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.)

William J. P... Jr.
Signature of certifying official/Title

30 June 93
Date

State of 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:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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:)

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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
42	10	buildings
		sites
1		structures
		objects
43	10	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Religion: religious structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Religion: religious structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls weatherboard

brick

roof asphalt

other stone

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/Development

Architecture

Period of Significance

1924-1942

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Atwood, Thomas C.

Barber (Barbour), Mr.

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:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 35 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [17] [676560] [3976060]
Zone Easting Northing
2 [17] [677140] [3976080]

3 [17] [6771160] [3975720]
Zone Easting Northing
4 [17] [676560] [3975680]

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 M. Ruth Little

organization Longleaf Historic Resources date Feb. 2, 1993

street & number 2709 Bedford Ave. telephone 919-836-8128

city or town Raleigh state NC zip code 27607

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

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 listings. 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 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 1

Description

The Gimghoul neighborhood is a small faculty subdivision of well-tended houses built in the 1920s and 1930s, predominantly in the Colonial Revival style. It borders the east side of the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The dense forest of Battle Park, owned by the University, forms the northern and eastern boundary of the neighborhood. The south side is bounded by institutional property along NC 54, known as the Raleigh Road. The street plan consists of two main streets, Gimghoul Road and Glandon Drive. Gimghoul Road extends along a level ridge, in a straight line, out to Gimghoul Castle, the meeting place of the secret Order of the Gimghouls, a university society. Rectangular lots with 100-foot frontages and manicured lawns flank this road. By contrast, Glandon Drive curves along the side of the hill that slopes down to Battle Creek, with large irregularly-shaped wooded lots and houses set high above the street overlooking the woods of Battle Park across the street. Glandon Drive yards have many trees and naturalistic landscaping with ivy and natural ground cover. A third street, Ridge Lane, extends north from Gimghoul Road to serve primarily as a service alley for some of the lots on Glandon Drive, while Evergreen Lane is a service alley for the rest of Glandon Drive and for the houses on the north side of Gimghoul Road.

Gimghoul contains thirty-seven houses and a church: thirty houses were built before 1942 and are contributing; three pre-1942 houses have lost their architectural integrity and are noncontributing, and four houses and a church have been built since 1942 and are noncontributing. Over three-fourths of the houses are contributing to the district. The houses are one, one and one-half and two-story frame and brick veneer houses that are overwhelmingly Colonial Revival in style. The earliest houses on Gimghoul Road exhibit Craftsman influences in their one-story massing and frame construction, while the later houses tend to be a full two-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 2

stories in height and to have brick construction. Some have detached garages and three have small stone veneer cottages, built on rear lots as studies in the 1930s or early 1940s.

Gimghoul Road is a wide street, now paved, curbed and guttered. The sidewalks along each side of the road are a Chapel Hill tradition, for they are found throughout the older sections of Chapel Hill. They are surfaced with "Chapel Hill gravel," a fine-grained gravel that looks like sand. All Chapel Hill neighborhoods had such sidewalks until the 1960s, but some have now been paved. Glandon Drive, Ridge Lane and Evergreen Lane are quite narrow paved streets without curb and gutter. Another Chapel Hill tradition that unifies the neighborhood are the fieldstone retaining walls that line the street frontages of almost every property. This tradition began on the campus itself, and is characteristic of the early residential areas in town. The walls are made of natural fieldstone, sometimes piled loosely, sometimes mortared. These walls are said to have been built by local black masons James Blacknell and Jesse Jones.¹ This network of stone walls is counted as a single contributing resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 3

Inventory

Note: The following inventory is organized geographically. All construction dates, biographical information on early residents, and data on architects and builders is taken from the manuscript history of the neighborhood written by Mary Arthur and Sterling Stoudemire in 1981, with periodic updates. The Stoudemires collected the information from interviews and correspondence with early neighborhood residents. A copy of the manuscript is in the nomination file at the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.

Gimghoul Road, south side

C 1. 698 Gimghoul Road. ca. 1939. 1-1/2 story frame Colonial Revival style house with exterior end stone chimney, front and rear dormers, transomed door, 6/6 and 8/12 window sash. Only substantial exterior alteration is aluminum siding. Built for Katherine Lackey, secretary to long-time UNC President Frank Porter Graham.

C 2. 700 Gimghoul Road. late 1930s. 1-1/2 story frame house with plain siding, interior brick chimney, pedimented entrance portico and 6/6 window sash. Built for Lucille Elliott.

C 3. 702 Gimghoul Road. 1928. 1-1/2 story brick Tudor with steep pyramidal roof, hipped dormers, a gabled entrance and metal casement windows. Built for Ernest Mackie, a math professor, and his wife Romagna. The house was built from mail-order plans by Chapel Hill contractor Brodie Thompson.

C a. Garage. ca. 1940. 1-story, front-gable, frame building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 4

C 4. 704 Gimghoul Road. Late 1920s. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house with an entrance with a transom, sidelights and a bracketed hood, double and triple wooden casement windows, exterior end brick chimneys, wood shingled walls, and flanking 1-story wings. Built for Dr. Marshall, a physician, and owned in the 1930s by Gladys & Ernest Groves, marriage authorities who taught at UNC.

NC a. Garage. ca. 1930. 1-story frame, pyramidal roof. Remodelled.

C b. Library. ca. 1935. 1-story stone cottage with pyramidal roof, built as library for the Groves.

NC 5. 708 Gimghoul Road. 1954. 1-1/2 story frame gable-end house with front gabled wing, plain siding and 8/8 window sash. The Colonial Revival entrance porch was added in 1989. Built for Ralph Rankin, head of the UNC public relations bureau.

C 6. 712 Gimghoul Road. ca. 1926. 1-1/2 story frame Dutch Colonial Revival style house with plain siding, interior end brick chimney, cross-gable over entrance, recessed dormers with 9/1 window sash and 8/8 window sash in 1st story. Built for Sterling Stoudemire, professor of romance languages and chairman of the department for many years.

C 7. 716 Gimghoul Road. ca. 1938. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with pedimented entrance surround, blind fanlight and sidelights around door, plain wood siding, 8/12 and 8/8 window sash and large central brick chimney. Built for E. Carrington and Coleen Smith. Smith was manager of the Carolina Theatre in downtown Chapel Hill.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 3

C 8. 720 Gimghoul Road. ca. 1930. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with arched, bracketed hood over central entrance, wood shingled walls, flanking 2-story wings with 1st story screened porch on one side and 2nd story screened sleeping porch on the other. Built for William F. Thrall, an English professor.

C 9. 724 Gimghoul Road. Late 1930s. 2-story brick Colonial Revival of front-gable, side-hall Federal style, with pedimented entrance portico, several three-part windows, 8/8 window sash with large concrete lintels and Flemish bond brick veneer. Built for Pearl Fishel, a public school teacher.

C 10. 728 Gimghoul Road. 1927. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with unusually refined trim, including an arched pedimented entrance portico, fanlight and sidelights, 8/8 window sash, exterior end brick chimney, plain siding, boxed eaves with pattern boards. The house has flanking 1-story side wings. Built for John S. Bennett, head of UNC physical plant for many years, and his wife Minnie.

C a. Garage. 1927. Frame side-gable 2-car garage apparently built at the same time as the house.

C 11. 734 Gimghoul Road. 1924. 2-story frame Dutch Colonial Revival, with recessed front door, plain siding, 1/1 sash, full-width front shed dormer, exterior end brick chimney, and flanking 1-story wings with 8/8 sash. This is a Sears & Roebuck house built for Howard Huse, a romance languages professor.

C a. Garage. 1924. Frame, gambrel-roofed garage built at the same time as the house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 6

C b. Rental Cottage. ca. 1940. 1-story, hipped roof, stone house with wooden casement windows. This was built as a study for Howard Huse.

C 12. 738 Gimghoul Road. Late 1930s. 2-story brick Colonial Revival, with an ornate leaded transom and pediment over the front door, 12/12 sash on the 1st story and 8/8 sash on the 2nd story, large exterior end brick chimney, and a lunette window in one gable end. Built for Mr. and Mrs. Taul White.

NC 13. 740 Gimghoul Road. Late 1930s. 2-story frame Colonial Revival, with broken pedimented entrance surround with pineapple finial, fluted pilasters and dentil moldings, 8/8 window sash, 1-story flanking wings, exterior end brick chimney and asbestos wall shingles over the original weatherboard. Built for Mr. Bolick, head of the Western Union office in Chapel Hill. The house has been remodelled several times, resulting in extensive additions to the rear that have compromised its architectural integrity.

NC a. Rental Cottage. 1960s. 1-story frame house with German siding, 6/6 sash, and concrete block rear wing. The caretaker of St. Thomas More Chapel lives here.

NC 14. Chapel of St. Thomas More. 1956. Large pink and gray rough-faced granite Neo-Gothic church. Stained glass windows, concrete trim.

Gimghoul Road, north side

C 15. 741 Gimghoul Road. Late 1930s. 1-1/2 story brick Colonial Revival, with central door with transom and surround of fluted Doric pilasters and broken pediment, patterned brick flanking the door, and 8/8 sash windows. The upper story

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page

has plain siding and 4-pane casement windows, with a scalloped cornice. Exterior end brick chimney. Off rear elevation, west side garage wing with arched entrance bays and a side dormer window. Built for UNC history professor Howard Beale.

C 16. 739 Gimghoul Road. 1939. 2-story brick Colonial Revival, 2-bays wide with 1-story side wing marked by bay window. 12/12 window sash on 1st story, 8/8 sash on 2nd. Wide frieze board, exterior end brick chimney. Designed by architect William Sprinkle and built for Benjamin and Marie Lassiter Edkins. Benjamin Edkins was a travelling salesman.

C 17. 737 Gimghoul Road. 1930s. 2-story brick Colonial Revival, with pedimented entrance stoop, 8/12 window sash on 1st story, 8/8 on 2nd story, exterior end brick chimney, and west side wing with sun porches at both levels. Built for Dr. and Mrs. James B. Bullitt. Dr. Bullitt was a professor in the UNC Medical School.

C 18. 735 Gimghoul Road. Late 1930s. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with wood shake walls, central door with transom, and an ornate latticework entrance porch with a concave metal hood. Classical eave frieze, 8/8 sash windows, and exterior end brick chimney. Built for George Lane, a professor of Germanic languages, and his wife Colette.

C 19. 733 Gimghoul Road. 1924. 1-1/2 story frame Craftsman cottage, with a front cross-gable, latticework entrance porch with an engaged bracketed hood, transom and sidelights around the front door, plain siding, and triple 4/6 and 6/6 sash windows in the main facade, 6/6 and 6/9 sash on the sides and rear. The original west side porch was enclosed with siding and large plate glass windows in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 8

the late 1940s. Built for W. E. Atkins, who worked with the architectural firm of Atwood and Nash, by contractor Barber (Barbour) from Chatham County. This is said to be the first house built on Gimghoul Road. Atkins sold the house a short time later to Earl Peacock, a professor of economics at UNC.

C 20. 723 Gimghoul Road. Late 1920s. 1-story frame Craftsman cottage of diminutive scale, with elegant tripartite floor-length fixed-sash windows flanking the front door with wide sidelights. All windows have Craftsman muntin pattern. Large segmental arched Doric entrance porch and full-length front raised patio. Buff-colored brick exterior end chimneys have arched recessed panels that accommodate lattice supports for plants. A rear addition extends on the west side. Built for James Phipps, a Chapel Hill attorney, and his wife Vivian.

C 21. 719 Gimghoul Road. 1927. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with center door with transom and sidelights and pedimented entrance portico. Plain siding, 6/6 sash windows, and flanking 2-story porch wings. One 1st story porch has been enclosed, but both 2nd story screened sleeping porches are intact. Built for Frederick John and Harriet W. Schnell by contractor Charlie Brooks from a design by H.D. Carter.

C 22. 715 Gimghoul Road. 1925. 1-1/2 story frame Classical Revival bungalow, with an engaged front porch supported by massive wooden Doric columns. Side-gable roof with a front shed dormer with 8/8 sash, plain siding, 15/15 window sash in the 1st story. A french door opens onto the large west side porch, also supported by massive Doric columns. Exterior end brick chimney. Built for Mr. and Mrs. Edward Montgomery Knox by contractor Charles Martindale. A Sunday morning chamber music group that met in this house in the mid-1930s was the beginning of the North Carolina Symphony.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9
Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

NC 23. 707 Gimghoul Road. 1920s, 1940s. 2-story frame house with central door with sidelights, plain siding and 6/6 sash windows. About 1940 a large brick east wing of 2 stories was added. The frame, west section was built for Alma Holland, assistant to Dr. W.C. Coker in the Botany Department at UNC. She is said to be the first woman in Chapel Hill to buy a lot and build a house. When she married C. Dale Beers, UNC zoology professor, they had the larger, brick wing to the east built. This house sits farther back from the street than its neighbors. Several phases of remodelling in the 1970s and 1980s, which added a wrap-around gingerbread porch and large east side sunroom, and raised the east side roof, have compromised the architectural integrity of the earlier sections.

C a. Garage. 1920s. 1-story brick, front gable garage apparently built at the same time as the original house.

C 24. 705 Gimghoul Road. 1936. 2-story brick Colonial Revival, central door with sidelights, pedimented entrance portico, 8/8 sash windows, exterior end brick chimney and lunette windows in the gables. Built for Coriden Wadsworth Lyons, UNC professor of romance languages, and his wife Mary by contractor Barber (Barbour), from a design by Durham architect George Hackney.

Glandon Drive

C 25. 208 Glandon Drive. Late 1920s. 1-1/2 story frame gable-front Colonial Revival, with 1-story gabled side wing, wood shake walls, gabled entrance portico, 6/6 window sash, exterior stone chimney. Built for Critz George, UNC professor of anatomy, and his wife Wilma from a design by Durham architect George Watts Carr.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page ¹⁰~~9~~
~~Gimghoul~~ Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County , NC

NC 26. 214 Glandon Drive. 1950s. Brick ranch built for John Blount and Isabelle MacLeod. John Blount was a UNC instructor in social sciences; Isabelle MacLeod was a secretary in the UNC records office.

C 27. 220 Glandon Drive. Late 1930s. 2-story brick Colonial Revival, with fan-light and sidelights around front door, pedimented entrance stoop, 8/12 window sash on 1st story, 8/8 sash on 2nd, and exterior end brick chimney. Built for Francis Bradshaw, Dean of Students at UNC, and his wife Marjorie.

C a. Cottage. ca. 1930. Small 1-story L-shaped stone building built as a study for Critz George and now a student rental. This faces Evergreen Lane, the service alley.

C 28. 226 Glandon Drive. Early 1930s. 1-1/2 story frame Colonial Revival, with wood shake walls, 8/8 window sash, dormer windows, exterior end brick chimney, and an east side screened porch. The front yard is densely wooded. Built for Corydon and Julia Cherry Spruill by Chatham County contractor Barber. Corydon was the Dean of Arts and Sciences at UNC; Julia was on the UNC faculty.

C a. Garage. Early 1930s. Front-gable frame.garage.

29. 232 Glandon Drive. Vacant lot that was the site of one of first houses in the subdivision, built in 1924 for Ralph and Hazel Trimble by contractor Charlie Martindale. Ralph was a professor in the School of Engineering at UNC and surveyed the lots for the original Gimghoul subdivision. Demolished in 1987.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Gimghou| Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page

C a. Garage. 1920s. Front-gable frame garage apparently built at the same time as the house.

C 30. 240 Glandon Drive. Late 1930s. 1-1/2 story brick Colonial, five bays wide, with pedimented entrance porch, 6/6 window sash, exterior brick chimney, 3 dormer windows, and recessed 1-story side wings. Built for Shipp and Kate Sanders. Shipp was a professor of history at UNC; Kate was a public school teacher and the sister of Dr. Frank Porter Graham.

C 31. 246 Glandon Drive. 1924. 2-story frame Colonial Revival, with plain siding, hipped roof, interior brick chimney, 8/8 window sash, 3-bay front porch with Doric posts and flanking 1-story frame wings that are additions. Built for Dan Grant, first UNC alumni secretary.

C 32. 250 Glandon Drive. Early 1930s. 2-story frame Colonial Revival with arched, pedimented entrance portico, door with sidelights and fanlight, plain siding, 8/12 and 8/8 window sash, and west side Doric porch with roof balustrade. Built for R.J.M. Hobbs, a professor of business law at UNC and his wife Gretchen Taylor Hobbs.

C a. Garage. Early 1930s. Frame, Colonial Revival style gabled garage built at the same time as the house.

NC 33. 260 Glandon Drive. 1978. Large, contemporary style frame house with stained siding, 2-story section on east, 1-story section on west. Built for James and Shirley Hayward by contractor Barrett, Robert & Woods, from design by architect Dale Dixon.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 12
~~Page~~ Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

C 34. 300 Glandon Drive. 1939. 2-story brick Colonial Revival with recessed side bay entrance, truncated upper story with plain siding and upper windows in wall dormers, 6/6 sash windows, lunette windows in gables, exterior and interior brick chimneys and original 1-story brick side wing. Built for William P. and Treva Richardson by contractors Tillman and Horner, from a design by architect George Hackney of Durham. William was a professor of public health at UNC.

C 35. 360 Glandon Drive. 1924. 2-story frame Colonial Revival, with door set in side bay of front, plain siding, 8/8 window sash, and flanking 1-story wings with 6/6 window sash. Three brick chimneys, full-height engaged Doric portico across central block. Built for Allan Wilson Hobbs, a professor of mathematics at UNC, and his wife Nell Blair Hobbs.

Ridge Lane, east side

C 36. 106 Ridge Lane. 1924. 1-story frame house of Colonial Revival style, with a hip roof, a mixture of window sashes (including sets of tripled 4/4, 8/8 and 6/6 sash), two interior brick chimneys, plain siding, generously proportioned cornerboards and friezeboards, and wide window and door trim. The house was built as a duplex by T. C. Atwood, the supervising architect at UNC in the 1920s, to house several of the workers of his firm, Atwood and Nash. The present entrance is located on the side facing Gimghoul Road, and is fronted by a Doric entrance stoop with paneled posts. The 1925 Sanborn Map shows two small entrance porches, one facing Ridge Lane, the other facing Evergreen Lane, which apparently have been replaced by the current entrance. The house remained a duplex until the 1970s, when it was converted to a single family house.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13
Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

C a. Garage. 1924. 1-story, side-gable, frame garage with plain siding, two auto bays and a storage bay. The southern bay is located inside the property line of the adjacent house, at 733 Gimghoul Road, and belongs to this property.

NC 37. 110 Ridge Lane. 1950s. 1-story frame house with aluminum replacement siding, a mixture of metal casement windows and 8/8 sash, gable roof, interior brick chimney, and a front entrance in the east side facing away from Ridge Lane. The original entrance faced Ridge Lane. The house has a south side addition. It was built for Mr. and Mrs. Lyon.

Ridge Lane, west side

C 38. 105 Ridge Lane. 1924. 2-story frame Colonial Revival style house, four bays wide, with flanking 1-story wings. The house has a gable roof, plain siding, an exterior end brick chimney, 6/9 sash in the 1st story and 6/6 sash in the 2nd, and a front entrance with a pedimented Doric entrance stoop. The window shutters have a half-moon design. The south wing is a screened porch with slender Doric posts. To the rear is a recent 1-story addition. The house was built for Dudley and Eleanor Elliott Carroll by Chatham County contractor Barber. Dudley was Dean of the School of Business at UNC.

C a. Garage. 1924. Frame, front-gable garage with two auto bays and plain siding built at the same time as the house.

NC 39. 111 Ridge Lane. Late 1920s. 1-story frame house with hip roof, interior brick chimneys, several shed dormers, pedimented Doric entrance stoop and rear screened porch. A major remodelling in the early 1980s that included installation of replacement windows and wood shake sheathing resulted in the loss of much of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14
Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

the original architectural integrity. It was built for Nellie Dixon Elliot and her daughters, Guelda and Lucille Elliott, who were librarians at UNC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 1

Statement of Significance

The Gimghoul Neighborhood Historic District, containing thirty-seven houses built primarily from 1924 to the late 1930s, is a faculty subdivision that was the entrepreneurial project of the secret Order of the Gimghouls, a fraternal society of undergraduates, faculty and alumni of the University of North Carolina. The Gimghouls platted the development on a portion of their land adjoining the university and sold lots in order to finance the construction of their stone Gothic Revival castle [in the adjacent Chapel Hill Historic District, National Register 1971], completed in 1927 in the woods adjacent to the subdivision. Gimghouls member and prominent real estate developer George Stephens of Charlotte supervised the project, and the area was platted by Gimghouls member T. Felix Hickerson, an engineering professor and well-known road designer. The Gimghoul neighborhood has local significance in the area of community planning/development as the first housing development in Chapel Hill built outside of the university village. The one- and two-story frame and brick houses of the Gimghoul neighborhood, predominantly in the Colonial Revival style and built primarily from popular plans by area contractors, are architecturally significant because of the quiet harmony of the streetscapes with the picturesque natural setting. The Gimghoul neighborhood has changed little since the 1930s and contributes greatly to the traditional southern ambiance of Chapel Hill.

Historical Background

The development of the Gimghoul neighborhood is entwined with the history of the Order of the Gimghouls, a secret society of University of North Carolina students, alumni and faculty which was founded in Chapel Hill in 1889. From the beginning, a wooded bluff east of the town of Chapel Hill known as Piney Prospect

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 2

had been a sacred spot to the Gimghouls, and they held their initiation ceremonies on a rock outcropping there which they named Dromgoole Rock. The Order purchased about 94 acres there in 1915 in order to keep the land from development and to build a new lodge. In order to finance construction of the lodge, the western edge of the tract, containing about thirty-five acres, was subdivided for a residential development.²

The two members of the Gimghouls who played the major role in supervising this residential project were George Stephens and T. Felix Hickerson, both statewide pioneers in real estate development and road design. George Stephens, a real estate developer who had earlier developed the exclusive, pioneering suburb of Myers Park in Charlotte, North Carolina, supervised the planning of the Gimghoul development. T. Felix Hickerson drew the plat for the subdivision and did the engineering work for sewers, roads and pipe lines. Hickerson was a professor of civil engineering at the University and a road designer of national reputation. He championed aesthetic road design, publishing in the 1920s the key college textbook for road design. One of his most innovative projects was to survey a portion of the Blue Ridge Parkway.³ Another individual instrumental to the planning of the Gimghoul subdivision was Ralph Trimble, a well-known surveyor and a colleague of Hickerson in the School of Engineering. He did the surveying of the new lots and was one of the original subdivision residents.⁴ The original subdivision plat gives the name "Gimghoul Piney Prospect Development" to the new subdivision, and was drawn in 1923 by T. F. Hickerson, Registered Engineer. It is recorded in Orange County Plat Book 1, page 51 (Figure 1).

The names of the new streets in the subdivision reflect the romantic medieval mythology developed by the Gimghouls for the area around their castle. Glandon Drive got its name from Glandon Forest, the name given to the woods around the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 3

overlook, Piney Prospect, located adjacent to the castle. In addition to standard racial restrictions of the period and setback requirements, the deed covenants attached to the subdivision include the unusual restriction that a local committee of the Order of Gimghouls shall review the exterior plans, cost, and location of any house that is to be built or altered. Another unusual restriction was the Gimghouls' option to purchase any lot that was to be resold.⁵

The first lots were sold in late 1923 and early 1924.⁶ At least five houses were completed during 1924, those of Ralph M. Trimble (now demolished), W. E. Atkins (#19), Daniel L. Grant (#31), A.W. Hobbs (#35), and H.R. Huse (#11).⁷ Four of these original owners were associated with the University. Ralph M. Trimble was an engineering professor, Daniel L. Grant was the first director of the UNC Alumni Association, A. W. Hobbs was a mathematics professor, and H.R. Huse was a romance languages professor. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s most of the new residents were UNC faculty and staff, but there were also some local businessmen, such as E. Carrington Smith, manager of the local movie theatre, Benjamin Edkins, a travelling salesman, and James Phipps, a local attorney. One of the early houses was a duplex (#36) built by Thomas C. Atwood, supervising architect for new buildings at the University, for his employees. Two of the new residents were single women. Alma Holland, assistant to Dr. William C. Coker in the Botany Department, built 707 Gimghoul Road (#23), and is said to have been the first woman in Chapel Hill to buy a lot and build a house. Katherine Lackey, secretary to University president Frank Porter Graham, built 698 Gimghoul Road (#1). Holland and Lackey were the vanguard of female academicians at the University of North Carolina. They were assistants to male professors, but contributed substantially to the academic and administrative endeavors of their bosses, Dr. W.C. Coker and President Graham.⁸

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 4

Approximately half of the thirty contributing, pre-1942 houses were built during the 1920s, and the other half were built in the 1930s. The 1920s houses tend to be more eclectic in style and form. Most are 1-1/2 story frame, with a few Craftsman style, one Tudor Revival style, and the rest of Colonial Revival style. The houses built in the 1930s are almost without exception 2-story brick veneer Colonial Revival houses with standardized three-bay facades. There are three small stone veneer cottages, set in rear yards, that were built as studies in the 1930s or early 1940s.

The history of the Gimghoul neighborhood in the past fifty years has been remarkably uneventful. On the few lots which remained after World War II, four houses and a church have been built. The houses are located at 708 Gimghoul Road, 214 Glandon Drive, 260 Glandon Drive, and 110 Ridge Lane. The stone, Gothic Revival style Chapel of St. Thomas More was built at the east end of Gimghoul Road in 1956. With the exception of the three early houses that have undergone such substantial remodellings that they have lost their original architectural character, the neighborhood remains remarkably unaltered. This calm stability is a tribute both to the thoughtful planning of the Order of the Gimghouls and to the continuity of ownership of faculty families. Many of the men and women associated with the University of North Carolina who have spent parts of their careers living in the Gimghoul neighborhood have achieved distinguished honors on a statewide and national level.

Community Planning/Development Context

Until the 1920s, Chapel Hill was a village clustered around the campus of the University of North Carolina. The Gimghoul neighborhood is the earliest residential development outside of the village. The growth of the university after 1900 led to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

the influx of more faculty families, and the Gimghouls' subdivision of a portion of their land adjoining the east side of the campus provided needed new housing. Rocky Ridge, [National Register, 1988] a faculty subdivision better known as Laurel Hill, platted in 1927 just across the Raleigh Road to the south, is roughly contemporary with Gimghoul but is very different. Rocky Ridge was the pet project of UNC botany professor W. C. Coker, a well-known planner and landscape designer who developed farmland adjacent to the campus into a golf course and large wooded residential faculty lots. The average lot size in Gimghoul is approximately one-half acre, while in Rocky Ridge the lots are generally from one to over three acres in size. Like Gimghoul, Rocky Ridge was a small subdivision, but it developed much more slowly than Gimghoul, and most of the houses date from the 1930s and later. Rocky Ridge houses, like its lots, are generally larger than in Gimghoul, although the Colonial Revival style dominates there as well. Like the Gimghoul neighborhood, Rocky Ridge has some architect-designed houses, including designs by Durham architects George Watts Carr, Hackney and Knott, and William Sprinkle. The similarity of the two neighborhoods' curvilinear roads, winding over the hilly terrain and edged almost continuously by the low stone walls that are a trademark of Chapel Hill, is quite striking. The same pair of local black masons, James Blacknell and Jesse Jones, are said to have built the walls in both neighborhoods.⁹ But nothing in Rocky Ridge resembles the strongly urban flavor of Gimghoul Road, with its smaller lots and rows of houses.

One other development, Westwood, was platted in Chapel Hill in the 1920s. Located southwest of the campus along S. Columbia Street on Westwood Drive, University Drive, and Dogwood Drive, Westwood resembles Rocky Ridge and Glandon Drive with large, hilly and wooded lots and substantial Colonial Revival style houses built in the late 1920s and 1930s as its earliest dwellings. However

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

Westwood developed even more slowly than Rocky Ridge, and the present neighborhood has a mixture of houses built during the past sixty years.

The development that perhaps most closely resembles the Gimghoul neighborhood is Duke Forest, in nearby Durham, North Carolina, because both were subdivided in the 1920s as exclusive faculty subdivisions. Duke Forest, adjacent to the West Campus of Duke University, began to be subdivided in 1929 by Duke University as an affordable housing alternative for its faculty, many of whom apparently could not afford Durham's fashionable speculative developments.¹⁰ Although the Gimghoul neighborhood was not a direct project of the University of North Carolina, the major expansion of the university in the 1920s was the impetus for Gimghoul's development. Thomas C. Atwood, supervising architect for the campus building campaign, built a duplex in the Gimghoul neighborhood to house some of his employees. W. E. Atkins, another employee of Atwood's firm, had a house built for himself at 733 Gimghoul Road. Both Duke Forest and the Gimghoul neighborhood still retain their close association with the universities. One other subdivision in Durham, Hope Valley, also served faculty at Duke University. This exclusive 1927 country club subdivision attracted numerous faculty and staff from the Duke University Medical School.¹¹

Architectural Context

The chief architectural significance of the Gimghoul neighborhood lies not in the design of its individual houses, but in the quiet harmony of the streetscapes and the uniquely picturesque landscape setting. The houses are typical examples of the popular Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles that were being built in subdivisions throughout North Carolina during the period. But the natural topography, a ridge which terminates on the east end in the Piney Prospect overlook, and the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 7

splendid forest of Battle Park which slopes down on the north side, as well as the proximity of the romantic Gimghoul Castle on Piney Prospect, create a unique setting.

Early twentieth century suburban houses in Chapel Hill are modest, reflecting faculty incomes, in comparison to the more pretentious houses built at the same time by industrial executives in Durham's suburbs, such as Hope Valley. Gimghoul neighborhood houses are generally built from popular plans by area contractors, such as a Mr. Barber (Barbour), from Chatham County, Charlie Brooks, an African-American from Chapel Hill, Charles Martindale, who was the general contractor for Gimghoul Castle, and Tillman and Horner of Chapel Hill.¹² Much of the brick masonry on the early houses was done by Lewis and Tom Booth, local black masons.¹³ One of the earliest houses, the frame Dutch Colonial style house at 734 Gimghoul Road (#11), is said to be a Sears & Roebuck house.¹⁴

A small number of the houses are architect-designed: 739 Gimghoul Road was designed by William Sprinkle from Durham; 719 Gimghoul Road was designed by H.D. Carter, a draftsman with the architectural firm of Atwood & Nash;¹⁵ 705 Gimghoul Road and 300 Glandon were designed by George Hackney of Durham; 208 Glandon Drive was designed by George Watts Carr Sr. of Durham, and 106 Ridge Lane was apparently designed by Thomas C. Atwood of the T.C. Atwood firm, since it was built by him for employee housing. This duplex, now converted to a single family house, is an unpretentious one-story frame house with generously proportioned cornerboards and eaves and a hipped roof. Yet the architect-designed houses blend easily into the streetscape, for they represent standard variations on the dominant Colonial Revival style. In fact, the architects most likely worked with stock housing plans that they customized for the client.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 8

Thomas C. Atwood was a nationally respected engineer and architect who supervised the construction of a number of campus buildings in the 1920s designed by architects McKim Mead & White of New York. Atwood had been working in nearby Durham, in association with Raymond Weeks, a Durham architect, and in 1920 he was appointed supervising architect for the buildings designed by McKim Mead & White as part of the university building campaign initiated by President Frank Porter Graham.¹⁶ In 1922 Arthur C. Nash joined Atwood's firm and the firm became known as Atwood & Nash.¹⁷ George Watts Carr, Sr., was a Durham architect who started in the late 1920s and designed a number of the elegant period revival style houses in the Forest Hills and Hope Valley subdivisions of Durham in the 1920s and 1930s.¹⁸

Gimghoul's 1920s houses are more diverse in style than the 1930s houses, with one-story Craftsman cottages and Colonial Revival cottages erected on the smaller lots of Gimghoul Road and more pretentious two-story Colonial Revival style houses going up on the larger lots of Glandon Road. The 1930s houses which filled in most of the remaining lots are much more standardized in both form and style. Almost all of them are two-story, three-bay-wide, Colonial Revival houses. As was generally true of 1930s domestic architecture, Gimghoul's Colonial Revival features are more authentic reproductions than the looser revival interpretations of the 1920s. For example, the 1920s houses at 733 Gimghoul Road and 106 Ridge Lane, both built for members of the architectural firm of Atwood and Nash, are simple one-story frame designs with colonial weatherboard and trim and Craftsman massing, while 1930s houses have such authentic colonial details as lunette windows, pedimented entrances, and fanlights.

The houses built in Durham's Duke Forest and Hope Valley subdivisions in the late 1920s and 1930s are very similar to those in the Gimghoul neighborhood. Duke

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 9

Forest houses have finely detailed period revival styling representing the popular Tudor Revival, English Cottage style, and the Colonial Revival style. Durham architects George Watts Carr, Sr. and George Hackney designed houses in both subdivisions as well as in Gimghoul. Yet Gimghoul's preponderance of Colonial Revival style houses sets it apart from the two Durham neighborhoods, where Tudor Revival and English Cottage houses occur frequently.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 10 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

Footnotes

¹ Mary Arthur Stoudemire, "History of the Gimghoul Neighborhood," manuscript in progress, 1981-present. Copy in file.

² Orange County Deed Book 70, page 143 records the purchase of this acreage by the Gimghouls from W.S. Roberson; A. H. Patterson, The New Gimghoul Castle: Report of the Building Committee, Chapel Hill: The Orange Printshop, 1926. This tiny booklet, a copy of which is in the nomination file, contains much background information on the Order of the Gimghouls.

³ Rocky Ridge Farm Historic District National Register nomination, Mary Reeb, 1988.

⁴ Stoudemire's "History of the Gimghoul Neighborhood."

⁵ Orange County Deed Book 70, page 143: Trustees of Junior Order of Gimghouls, grantors, to S.A. and Irene S. Stoudemire, 1926.

⁶ The New Gimghoul Castle: Report of the Building Committee.

⁷ Newspaper clipping from Chapel Hill Weekly, 1924, in possession of Mary Arthur Stoudemire.

⁸ Author's Interview with Mary Arthur Stoudemire, Chapel Hill, December 29, 1992.

⁹ Stoudemire's "History of the Gimghoul Neighborhood."

¹⁰ Claudia Roberts, The Durham Architectural and Historical Survey. Durham: The Historic Preservation Society of Durham, 1982, 299-301.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 ¹¹ Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page

¹¹ Roberts, 291.

¹² Cornelia Spencer Love, When Chapel Hill Was a Village. Chapel Hill: Chapel Hill Historical Society, 1976, 83. Mr. Barber built Cornelia's 1929 house in the Rocky Ridge development. She recalled that he was "a rugged old countryman" from Goldston, in Chatham County.

¹³ Stoudemire's "History of the Gimghoul Neighborhood."

¹⁴ Stoudemire's "History of the Gimghoul Neighborhood."

¹⁵ Louis Round Wilson, The University of North Carolina 1900-1930. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1957, 368.

¹⁶ Catherine W. Bishir, Charlotte V. Brown, Carl R. Lounsbury, and Ernest H. Wood, Architects and Builders in North Carolina, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990. 327; also Roberts, 30.

¹⁷ Wilson, 372.

¹⁸ Roberts, 284.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8, 10 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 12, 1

Item 8, continued--Architect/Builder:

Brooks, Charlie
Carr, George Watts
Carter, H.D.
Hackney, George
Martindale, Charles
Sprinkle, William

Item 10: Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries are shown on the enclosed portion of Orange County Tax Map 7.60.

Boundary Justification

This approximately thirty-five acre parcel is the entire subdivision of the Gimghoul neighborhood as originally platted in 1923 (see original plat in Figure 1) with the exception of the rear property lines of 724-740 Gimghoul Road and the property line of the Chapel of St. Thomas More. When the Raleigh Road (NC 54) was realigned, the rear boundaries of some of these lots were altered, and the nomination boundary reflects the current boundary with the following exceptions: the rear boundary of 734 Gimghoul Road is extended behind the current property line to include the ca. 1940 rental cottage which was originally part of the lot; the rear boundaries of 740 Gimghoul Road and the property of the Chapel of St. Thomas More are shortened as shown on the tax map in order to eliminate the large church

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 30 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 2

parking lot, with access from NC 54, from the historic district. Although boundaries are normally drawn at the inside edge of a bordering street, the boundary along Glandon Drive is its outside edge because the street design is an integral component of the significance of the district.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC
Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photos Page Gimghoul Neighborhood Hist. Dist., Orange County, NC

The following pertains to all photographs:

Gimghoul Neighborhood Historic District
Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina
Photographer: all photos are by M. Ruth Little
Date: December 1992
Negative Location: North Carolina Division of Archives and History
Raleigh, NC

- A. Streetscape of 733, 735, 737 Gimghoul Road, from southwest.
- B. Entrance to Gimghoul Road, with 698 Gimghoul Road to right, view from northwest.
- C. 702 Gimghoul Road, from northwest.
- D. 712, 716 Gimghoul Road, from northwest.
- E. 715, 719 Gimghoul Road, from southwest.
- F. 728, 724 Gimghoul Road, from northeast.
- G. 105, 111 Ridge Lane, from south.
- H. 250 Glandon Drive, from southeast.
- I. 360 Glandon Drive, from north.
- J. Chapel of St. Thomas More, from northwest.
- K. 214 Glandon Drive, from northwest.
- L. 708 Gimghoul Road, from north.

Resources keyed to inventory list
Garages: refer to inventory list for existence and status
A - L : photo direction key
Map Preparation by Longleaf Historic Resources, 1992
Being Orange County Tax Map 60, Township 7, 1"=100'

ORANGE COUNTY TAX MAP 7.60



