ORDINANCE NO. 2020 - 162

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE **MCADAMS HOUSE** IN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC LANDMARK

WHEREAS, the property located at 2214 Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC, is owned by B Alice Bracey; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission for the City of Raleigh and otherwise provided for the preservation of certain historic sites and buildings by the passage of Part 4, Chapter 160D, Article 9 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Development Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has made an analysis and recommendation regarding the proposed historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, on the 4th day of November 2020, a joint public hearing was held before the City Council of the City of Raleigh and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 4, Chapter 160D, Article 9 of the North Carolina General Statutes, preceding the adoption of this ordinance, have been complied with.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA THAT:

<u>Section 1</u>. The property designated as McAdams House, in the planning jurisdiction of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is declared a Raleigh Historic Landmark. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

The property located at 2214 Wheeler Road, Raleigh, NC, owned by B Alice Bracey, that property described in deed book 11216, page 1163 recorded in Wake County Registry, comprising approximately .69 acres.

<u>Section 2</u>. Those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological and/or cultural significance or any combination thereof are as follows:

The McAdams House, located at 2214 Wheeler Road, was built in 1954. The McAdams House is significant an extant example of architect Leif Valand's custom designed, single-family homes in Raleigh. Valand moved to Raleigh in his 30s and practiced architecture here into the 1970s. Valand was not associated with the School of Design. His architecture was less academic, and more pragmatic. He primarily used an earthy, Wrightian approach, of low-slung buildings with heavy horizontal emphasis, and a generous dose of stone accents. In addition to multi-family and speculative subdivision housing, Valand designed a number of single family, client-specific houses, such as this one.

The McAdams House was designed as a side-gabled house with a projecting cross-gabled rear ell and a projecting, front-gabled carport wing. The carport was enclosed in 2009. With this exception, the exterior changes are on secondary elevations and not visible from the facade. Valand's use of orchard stone veneer at the corners of the facade and at the entrance and the inclusion of a stonefaced integrated planter are hallmarks of his style as is the horizontal emphasis of the house as a whole.

A detailed architectural description and history is found in the 2020 Raleigh Historic Landmark Designation application and report and is hereby referenced.

<u>Section 3</u>. No portion of the exterior features of any building, site, structure, or object (including windows, doors, walls, fences, light fixtures, signs, steps, pavement, paths, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be altered, restored, moved, remodeled, or reconstructed so that a change in design, material or outer appearance occurs unless and until a certificate of appropriateness is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Development Commission or its successors; provided however that the Raleigh Planning Director or designee may approve certificates of appropriateness for minor works as listed in the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission.

<u>Section 4</u>. No building, site, structure, or object (including windows, doors, walls, fences, light fixtures, steps, pavement, paths, signs, or any other appurtenant features), trees, nor above ground utility structure located on the hereinbefore described property that is designated in this ordinance may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Development Commission or a period of three hundred sixty-five (365) days has elapsed following final review by the Commission of a request for demolition (or any longer period of time required by N.C.G.S. 160D-949 as it may be amended hereafter); provided however, that demolition may be denied by the Raleigh Historic Development Commission in the event that the State Historic Preservation Officer determines that the building, site, or structure has statewide significance as provided by N.C.G.S. 160D-949.

<u>Section 5</u>. The Raleigh Historic Development Commission shall have no jurisdiction over the interior features of the property.

<u>Section 6</u>. All owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence shall be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

<u>Section 7</u>. This ordinance shall be indexed after the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

<u>Section 8</u>. City administration and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have erected an appropriate sign on the site hereinabove described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic landmark by action of the Raleigh Historic Development Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh provided, should the owners of the hereinabove described property not consent to the erection of said sign on the described premises, City administration and the Raleigh Historic Development Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

<u>Section 9</u>. In the event any building, site, structure, or object designated by this ordinance is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 10. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Section 11. This ordinance has been provided to the North Carolina Capital Commission as required by law.

Adopted:	December 1, 2020
Effective:	December 1, 2020
Distribution:	Department of Planning and Development
	Raleigh Historic Development Commission
	Wake County Tax Assessor
	Property Owner and Occupant (if not the owner)
	Registrar of Deeds

Raleigh Department of City Planning One Exchange Plaza 3rd floor Raleigh, NC 27602 919-516-2626

Fee		
Amt Paid		
Check #		
Rec'd Date:		
Rec'd By:		
Completion	Date:	-

www.raleighnc.gov/planning

(Processing Fee: \$266.00 - valid until June 30, 2011 - Checks payable to the City of Raleigh.)

RALEIGH HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION APPLICATION

This application initiates consideration of a property for designation as a Raleigh Historic Landmark by the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission (RHDC) and the Raleigh City Council. It enables evaluation of the resource to determine if it qualifies for designation. The evaluation is made by the Research Committee of the RHDC, which makes its recommendation to the full commission which in turn makes its recommendation to the City Council. Procedures for administration by the RHDC are outlined in the Raleigh City Code, Section 10-1053.

Please type if possible. Use 8-1/2" x 11" paper for supporting documentation and if additional space is needed. All materials submitted become the property of the RHDC and cannot be returned. Return completed application to the RHDC office at One Exchange Plaza, Suite 300, Raleigh or mail to:

Raleigh Historic Districts Commission PO Box 829 Century Station Raleigh, NC 27602

1. Name of Property (if historic name is unknown, give current name or street address):

Historic Name:	McAdams House
Current Name:	

2. Location:

Street	2214 Wheeler Rd.
Address:	Raleigh, NC 27607
NC PIN No.:	0795-73-0505-000
(Can be obtain	ed from http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/)

3. Legal Owner of Property (If more than one, list primary contact):

Name:	Alice Bra	acey							
Address:	2214 \	Nheeler Rd.							
City: I	Raleigh		State:	NC`			Zip:	27607	7
Telephor	ne No:	(919) (623)-	(2366)		Fax No.	() ()-()
E-Mail:	abrace	y@tcnc.biz							

4. <u>Applicant/Contact Person</u> (If other than owner):

Name:	John Hodges							
Address:	2214 Wheeler Rd.							
City: Ra	aleigh	State:	NC		Zip	2760)7	
Telephone	No: (919) (271)-	(0065)		Fax No.	()()-()	
E-Mail:	jhhodges52@gmail	.com		-				

7/10

5. General Data/Site Information:

Date of Construction and major additions/alterations: Land was purchased from Coley Forest Development Inc. in Nov.1954 and original drawings for the house are dated 1954. The first main renovation which affected the exterior was 1996, the second was 2000, the third was 2009 and the fourth and final was 2011. For details about each of these renovations (see pages 4 & 5).

Architect, builder, carpenter, and/or mason: The architect was Leif Valand. We have been unable to determine who the builder or mason was, but we are fairly certain that the stone for the house was probably quarried just down the hill at the corner of Glenwood and Oberlin. (See page 16)

Number, type, and date of construction of outbuildings: ca. 1990 utility shed

Approximate lot size or acreage: .69 acres

Original Use: Single family residence

Present Use: Single family residence

6. Classification:

Α.	Category (check all	that apply):			
	Building(s)	Х	Structure		Object 🗌	Site	
В.	Ownership						
	Private	Х					
	Public		Local		State	Federa	al 🗌

C. Number of contributing and non-contributing resources on the property:

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	1	
Structures		1
Objects		

- D. Previous field documentation (when and by whom):
- E. National Register of Historic Places Status:

Check One:

Entered Date:	Nominated
Determined Eligible Date:	Determined Not Eligible Date:
Nomination Not Requested X	Removed Date:
Significant changes in integrity since listing	should be noted in section 10.C. below.

7. Reason for Request: The original architectural drawings, which we have, (see pages 9 - 11) introduced us to Leif Valand, a Raleigh architect who had significance in our community from 1945 thru the late 1960s. There are few buildings, residential or commercial, designed by Valand still standing and our home is one of them. We believe it should be recognized as a surviving example of his architecural achievements in the Raleigh area.

- 8. Is the property income producing? Yes No X
- 9. Are any interior spaces being included for designation? Yes 🗌 No X
- 10. <u>Supporting Documentation</u> (Attach to application on separate sheets. Please type or print):
- A. Photographs/Slides:

At least two sets of current exterior archival-grade photographic prints (minimum print size 5"x7") of all facades of the building and at least one photo of all other contributing and noncontributing resources. If interior spaces of the property are being considered for designation, please include two sets of photos for these features. Prints may be created by using archivalgrade black and white film photography and processing or digital photography. The minimum standard for a digital print is 5x7 at a resolution of 300 pixels per inch (ppi). This translates into a pixel dimension of 1950 x 1350. Digital images must be printed with an acceptable ink and combination determined by the National Park Service Go paper as to: http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolicy/index.htm. All photographs must be labeled with the name of the structure, address and date the photograph was taken with pencil or archival-approved photo pen. In addition to prints, all digital images should be submitted on a CD-R in TIF format. Any additional exterior or interior views and views of other structures on the property (color, black and white, or slides) will be helpful.

B. Boundary Map:

Please include a map showing the location of the property. A sketch map is acceptable, but please note street names and number. Any other structures on the property should also be shown. Please include a "North" arrow. Map should be no larger than 11" x 17". A tax map with boundaries marked is preferred, which can be found at: <u>http://imaps.co.wake.nc.us/imaps/</u>.

C. Architectural Significance:

Describe the property, including exterior architectural features, additions, remodelings, and alterations. Also describe significant outbuildings and landscape features. If the owner is including interior features in the nomination for the purpose of design review protection; describe them in detail and note their locations. Include a statement regarding the architectural significance of the property.

D. Historic Significance:

Note any significant events, people, and/or families associated with the property. Include all major owners. Note if the property has ever been recorded during a historic building survey by the City of Raleigh or by the NC State Historic Preservation Office. If so, who and when? (See application item 6.D.) Please include a bibliography of sources. Information regarding prior designations can be found by contacting the Survey and Planning Branch of the NC State Historic Preservation Office (NCSHPO) at 919-807-6570, 919-807-6573 or at: *http://www.hpo.dcr.state.nc.us/spbranch.htm*.

E. Special Significance Summary:

Include a one to two paragraph summary of those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, prehistorical, architectural, archaeological, and/or cultural importance.

Special Significance Summary

The McAdams House, located at 2214 Wheeler Road, was built in 1954. The McAdams House is significant an extant example of architect Leif Valand's custom designed, single-family homes in Raleigh. Valand moved to Raleigh in his 30s and practiced architecture here into the 1970s. Valand was not associated with the School of Design. His architecture was less academic, and more pragmatic. He primarily used an earthy, Wrightian approach, of low-slung buildings with heavy horizontal emphasis, and a generous dose of stone accents. In addition to multi-family and speculative subdivision housing, Valand designed a number of single family, client-specific houses, such as this one.

The McAdams House was designed as a side-gabled house with a projecting cross-gabled rear ell and a projecting, front-gabled carport wing. The carport was enclosed in 2009. With this exception, the exterior changes are on secondary elevations and not visible from the facade. Valand's use of orchard stone veneer at the corners of the facade and at the entrance and the inclusion of a stone-faced integrated planter are hallmarks of his style as is the horizontal emphasis of the house as a whole.The McAdams House is one of seven remaining, single-family, custom designed houses designed by Valand in Raleigh. It is one of six that are in his signature "Wrightian Modernist Ranch" style that includes the Peden, York, Case, Richards, and Vial houses. Of those the York, Case, Richards, and McAdams houses retain the most significant design elements.

Architectural Significance of the McAdams house 2214 Wheeler Rd., Raleigh , NC 27607

The McAdams house was designed by Leif Valand, and constructed in 1954/55. The house was a 4 bedroom 2 bath single story house with carport and screened porch. What gave the house a 1950s contemporary style was the single story shallow roof with large overhanging eaves, and Valand's ashlar stone facades. The architect used this particular stone pattern on other commercial and residential buildings he designed during the same time period. (Please note page 16). The 2200 square foot house is located on a three-quarter acre lot between Ridge Road and Glenwood Avenue. The relative size of the house and lot was not unusual in the late 1940s and 1950s, but the façade and roofline represent Valand's style of simple modernism which he established in the Cameron Village Shopping Center and surrounding homes he designed. Because we have Valand's original drawings for the house (see pages 9-11) we have determined that little if any renovations took place between the time McAdams built the house and it was sold to its second owner, Alice Bracey, in 1993.

Renovations

Since we are not including the house's interior as part of our application, only renovations that have affected the exterior are being submitted. Because the house had not been updated from1954 to 1993, some windows were replaced and exterior painting was done after the house changed owners, but nothing significantly changed the house exterior. (see tax photos 1995 & 2008, pages 12 & 13).

1996

While making repairs required after Hurricane Fran, the screen porch on the back was converted to an enclosed sun room inserting glass where screen had been. The size of the room did not change and the exterior appearance remained relatively unchanged.

2000

In 2000 a wood deck 28' wide by 14' deep and 20" tall was added behind the sun room. (see drawing as of 2008, page 15)

2009

In 2009 during exterior maintenance for the house including exterior painting and new roof, the carport was converted to a garage. (See drawings page 17) The exterior of the garage included wood siding and corner stone columns in an ashlar pattern to extend the Valand design elements to the garage exterior. Valand's original carport had incorporated open spaces above front and side privacy walls and to carry that look into the garage exteriors, clerestory windows were added between the top of the exterior walls and roof line. These windows add light to the interior of the garage and give a similar appearance to the original carport. The original local stone quarry which was used for the front facades was long since closed and replaced by Glenwood Village shopping center. It was challenging to find building stone that was a close match both in color and style to use in the corner columns and center side wall pilasters. With the help of our stone mason, Jeff Behringer, we found a a close facsimile from a Pennsylvania quarry.

2010

We hired Cindy Rice, a local landscape architect, in 2010 to help us redefine the front landscape spaces. We incorporated a low landscape wall that followed the natural terrain of the front yard to help define the upper plateau where the house is located and steps leading down to natural areas centered by old red oaks. The steps lead down to a path, defined by 3 x 3 slate stone on small gravel, to an oval gravel walkway with stepping stones to the street. Grass is used to border the natural areas, center the lower oval walkway and to create a green area between the house and the new landscape wall. (see page 18)

2011

In 2011 we started an extensive interior renovation to update the rear master bedroom – bathroom area. (see page 19) To introduce more light into the bedroom the original windows were replaced by five casement windows as indicated in the drawing and evident in the exterior photos. We also created a small bump out on the back wall of the bedroom within the roof line to provide space for a washer and dryer. The old furnace was replaced and relocated in the attic and the original furnace room was incorporated into the new bathroom. A new leaded glass window was added to the bathroom area and two glass block windows were added to the water closet space which previously functioned as the furnace room. We replaced siding to correspond with the original. In all renovations since 1996, never has the outside roofline been altered and the front exterior of the house has remained intact except for the conversion of the carport to the garage in 2009.

Leif Valand designed this house as a single family home in 1954 and for 64 years it has continuously functioned as a single family home with just two owners. We believe the house today still represents his design style and a style that was characteristic of residential architectural construction from the mid 1940s thru the 1950s, but the real significance is the architect. His insertion into the Raleigh area in the 1940s had a very positive change on the city's architectural landscape. With the declining number of his projects still in existence in the area, our home is one of the few remaining structures representative of his architectural legacy. We have included a bio of Leif Valand, originally created by the NC Modernist Homes and part of their researched archive. (see pages 6 - 8). Valand's impact on Raleigh warrants recognition, and landmark designation of our home acknowledges his significance. The information below is provided by NCModernist.

www.ncmodernist.org/ valand.htm



LEIF VALAND (1911-1985)

Leif Valand was born in Norway and came to Jersey City NY as a boy. He attended the Pratt Institute in New York City earned a BArch from New York University. He practiced architecture in Scarsdale NY. He moved to Raleigh in the late 1940s to design the Cameron Village Shopping Center for developers J. Willie York and R. A. Bryan. The vision was massive for that time, comprising 65 stores, 112 offices, 566 apartment units, and 100 private homes. During his heyday, he was one of the most prolific architects in Raleigh. With just a few employees, his extensive contacts with Raleigh's business and real estate elite gained incredible commissions. Cameron Village Shopping Center was just the beginning. Later came Cameron Village Office Buildings, Cameron Village Apartments (St. Mary's, Smallwood, Nichols, Daniels), Enloe High School, The Federal Building on New Bern Avenue, North Ridge Country Club, North Hills Shopping Center, the Central Raleigh YMCA, the Velvet Cloak Hotel, the State Administration Building, the Raleigh Women's Club, and St. Michael's Episcopal Church. By 1984, Valand was very ill and retired. Shortly after the firm was closed. Few records remain. According to Nelson Benzing, his partner, Valand's blueprints were lost by his executors.

Projects researched by Mary Ruffin Hanbury. All projects in Raleigh, North Carolina unless otherwise

noted. 1947 Cameron Village 1950 Washington Terrace Apartments 1951 College View Apartments, Greenville North, Carolina 1951-1954 Various Ridgewood houses 1953 Apartments, Goldsboro, North Carolina at Beech and Daisy 1954 Forest Hills houses, Garner, North Carolina 1954-6 Longview Shopping Center, Commercial Buildings 1954 Tri-City Shopping Plaza, Shopping Center Gary, Indiana 1954 Sweet Gum School, Caswell County, North Carolina 1954 W.T. Grant Store, Goldsboro, North Carolina 1954 Western Union Building 1955 Raleigh Farmers Market / Wholesale Produce Market

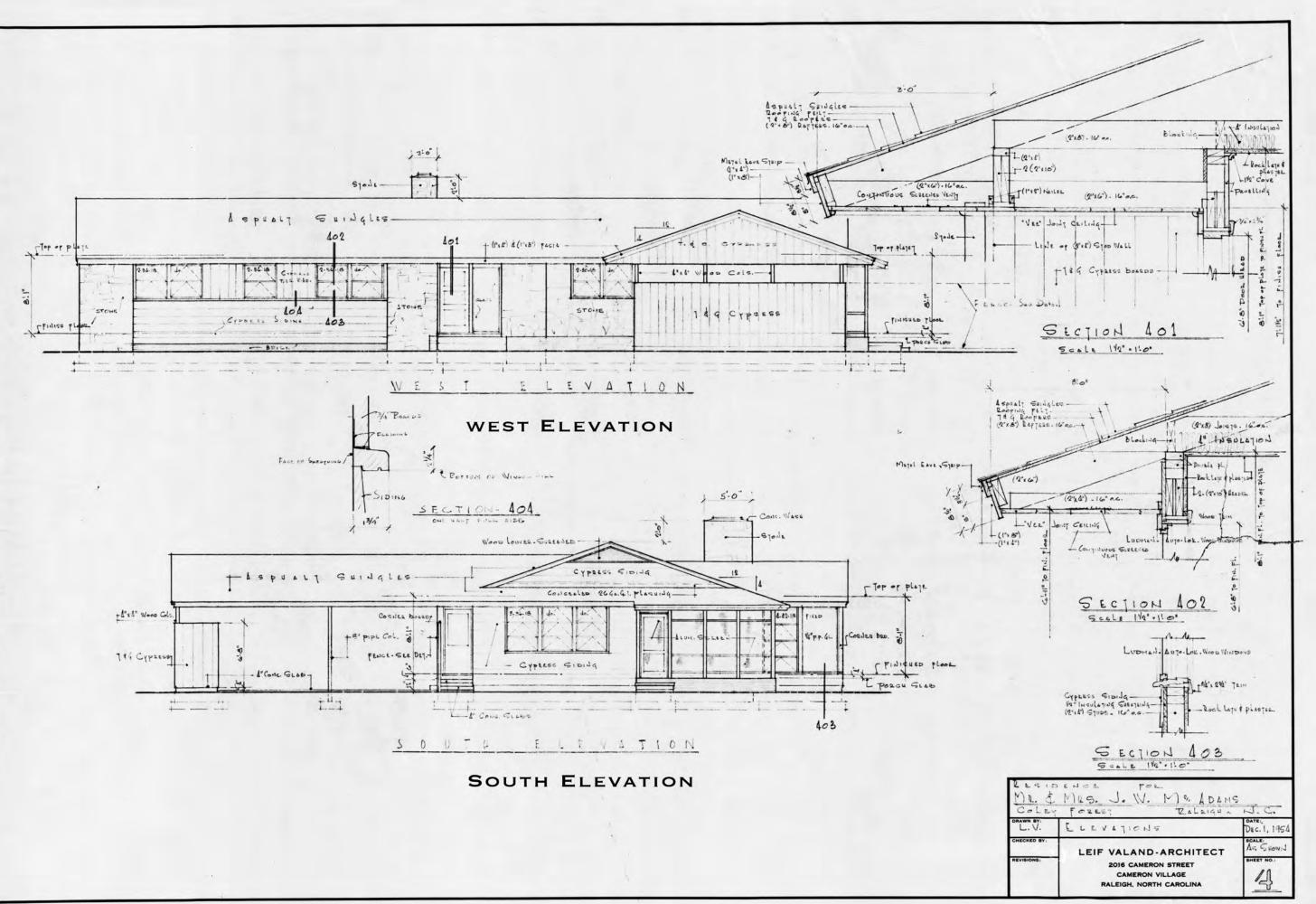
1955 St Michaels Church 1956 McCracken Supply Co 1957 Lions Club "Dream Home" exhibited at State Fair 1957 Kraft Foods Company 1957 (New) St Saviors aka St Timothy's 1957 Ridge Road Baptist Church 1958 First Federal Branch, New Bern Ave 1958 Hillsborough St YMCA 1958 Enloe High School 1958 Kellogg Switchboard and Supply co 1958 College Inn Motor Lodge 1958 Citation Model Homes in Lakewood and Woodcrest 1960 Presbyterian Synod HQ 1961 Camp Seafarer Arapahoe, North Carolina 1961 North Carolina Bar Center 1961 First Citizens Branch Bank Downtown Blvd 1961 Norfolk Southern Railroad Offices 1962 North Carolina Military Center and Armory Building, location unknown 1962 Gateway Plaza Shopping Center 1963 North Hills Shopping Center 1963 Peden Steel 1964 Charles Aycock Junior High School 1964 Pepsi Cola Bottling Plant 1965 First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina, Farmville, NC 1965 Velvet Cloak Inn 1965 St Ambrose 1966 Ray Bryan House Goldsboro, North Carolina 1966 Low Income Housing Chapel Hill, North Carolina 1967 Public Service of North Carolina Building 1968 Warren and Northampton County State Welcome Centers 1968 Thomas Woods, Tire Sales and Service 1968 Raleigh Woman's Club 1970 North Ridge Country Club **1972 Northaven Apartments** 1975 Northgate Shopping Center Durham **Ridgewood Shopping Center** Eastgate Shopping Center Four Seasons Mall Greensboro, North Carolina University Mall Chapel Hill, North Carolina Holly Hill Mall Burlington, North Carolina **Country Club Homes** WPTF Building Salisbury Street **Quail Corners Shopping Center Cameron-Brown Headquarters** The Lakes Apartments Rehabilitation/Additions

1957 NCSU YMCA 1958 Jeans Department Store Interiors 1963 Addition to Mary E. Phillips School 1963 Raleigh Little Theater Improvements 1967 Mayview Convalescent Home new wing 1968 Apex Elementary School Cafeteria Addition 1969 Downtown Parking Deck 1970 Meredith College Cate Center **1971 Timberlake Apartments** 1972 State Highway Patrol Heliport Hangar and Landing Pad 1972 Manley Street United Church of Christ **1972 North Haven Apartments** 1972 Park Buildings at Carolina Pines, Biltmore Hills and Millbrook Collaborations 1950 Camp Lejune Housing with Edwards, Pugh and McKinnon 1956 Occidental Building with Kemp, Bunch and Jackson 1961 Recreation Buildings at Lions, Jaycee, and Chavis Park; and Arts Building at Pullen Park with **Charles Graves** 1965 State Archives Building with F. Carter Williams 1965-7 Department of Administration Building with F. Carter Williams 1967 Federal Building with Lowenstein- Atkinson Valand and his wife Wymene and three sons lived in a 1952 house at <u>706 Woodburn Road</u>, Raleigh, designed by Charles Davis of Cooper Haskins. Valand would later adapt the one-level house for his wheelchair.

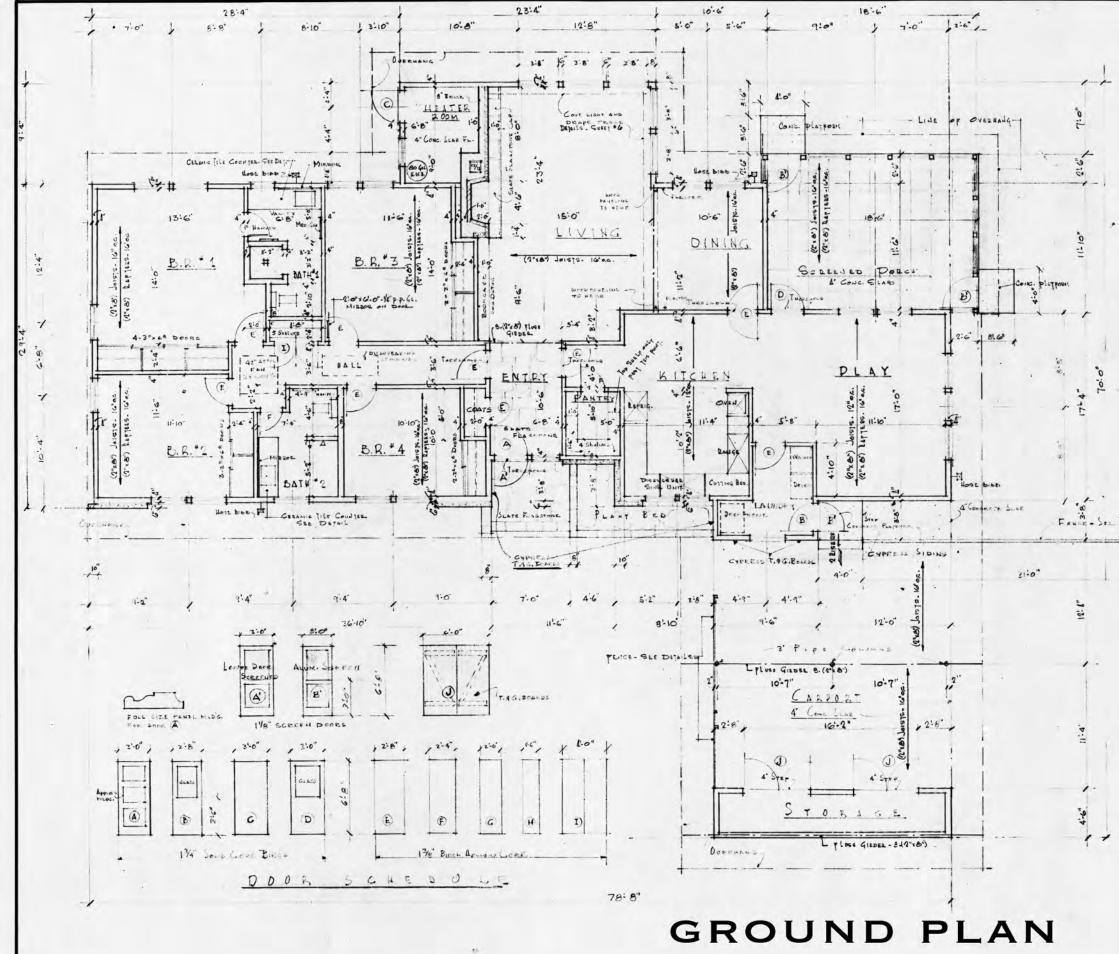
The information above is provide by NC Modernist Homes.



NC Modernist Houses (NCMH) is part of Modernist Archive, Inc., a North Carolina 501C3 nonprofit educational archive providing donors, volunteers, and advocates the information and organization they require to passionately document, preserve, and promote residential Modernist architecture.



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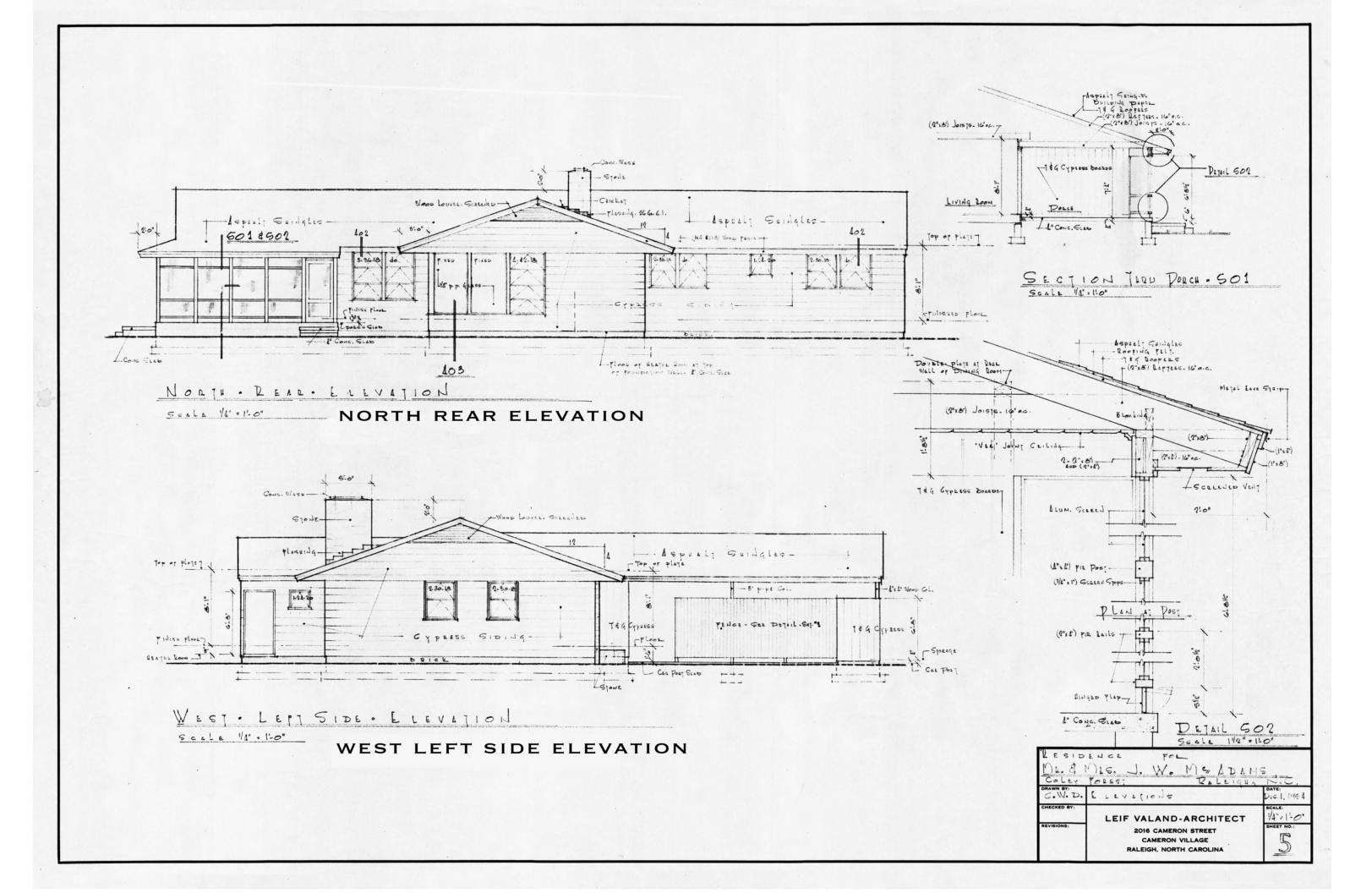
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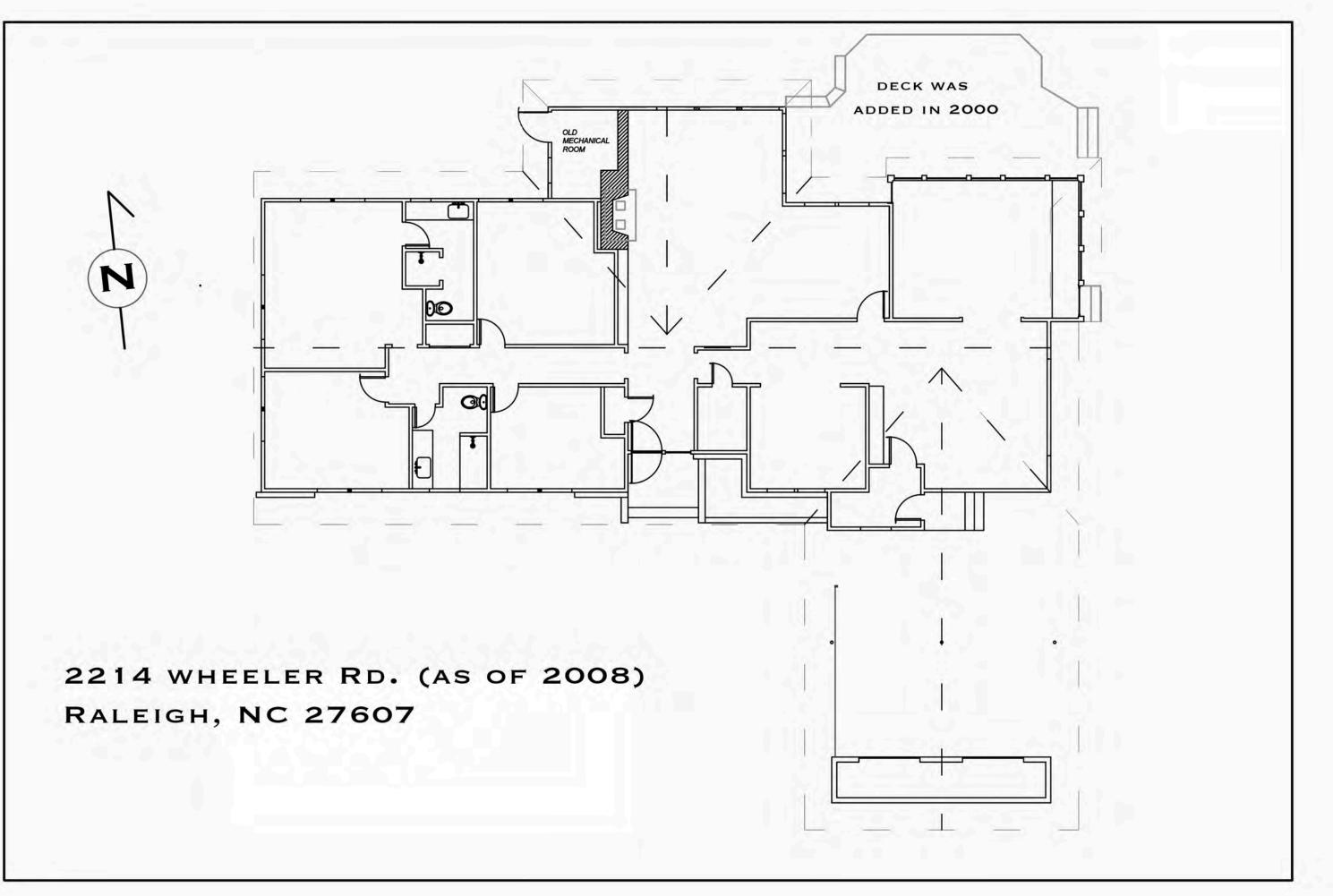
2214 WHEELER RD. IN 1995



2214 WHEELER RD. IN 2008



2214 WHEELER RD. IN 2017







Glenwood Avenue at Oberlin Road

History: Glenwood Village Shopping Center is the site of a granite quarry that operated in the early 20th century. March 2004.

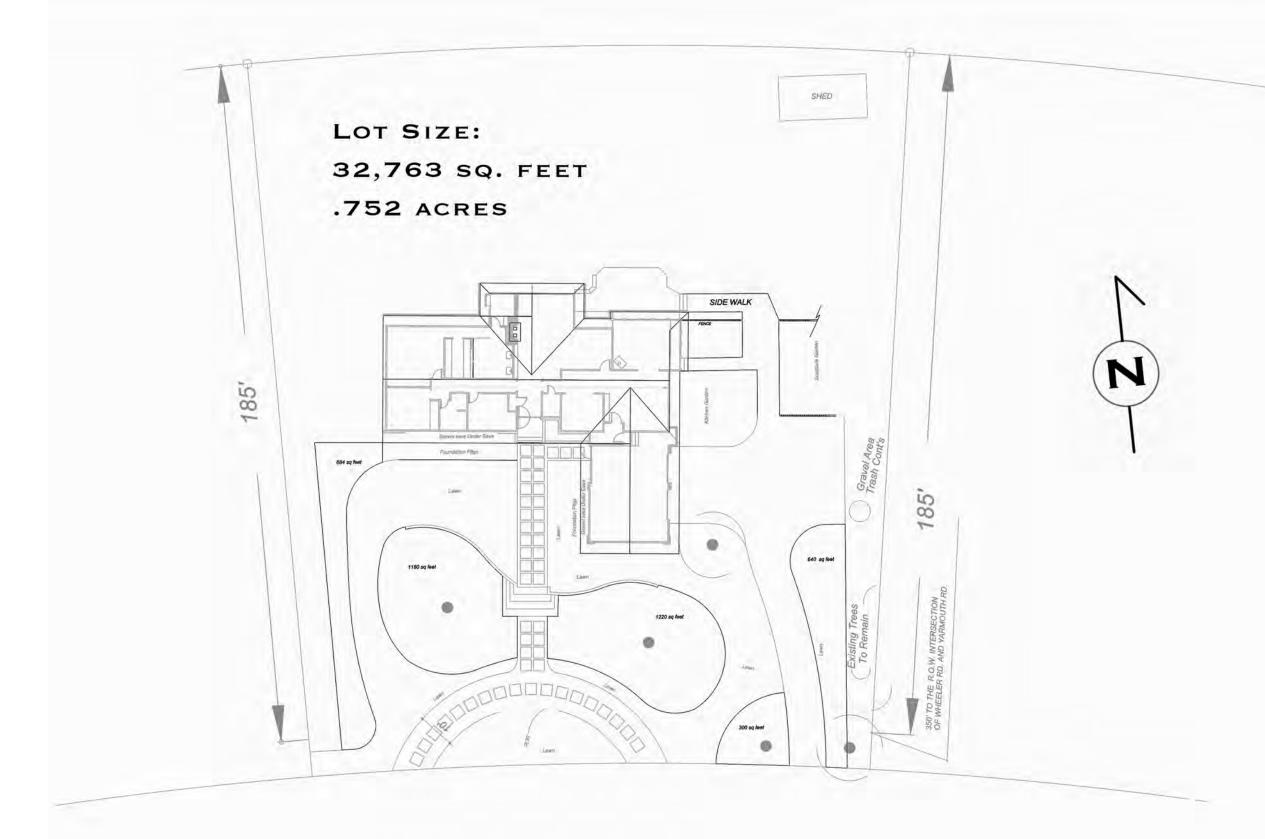
POST OFFICE OBERLIN RD.



IT IS VISIBLE THAT VALAND USED A SIMILAR STYLE ASHLAR STONE PATTERN ON MULTIPLE COMMERCIAL AND **RESIDENTIAL FACADES. IT IS ALSO LIKELY** THAT THE SAME QUARRY WAS USED TO PROVIDE THAT STONE FOR HIS BUILDINGS AROUND RALEIGH.

WHEELER RD RESIDENCE



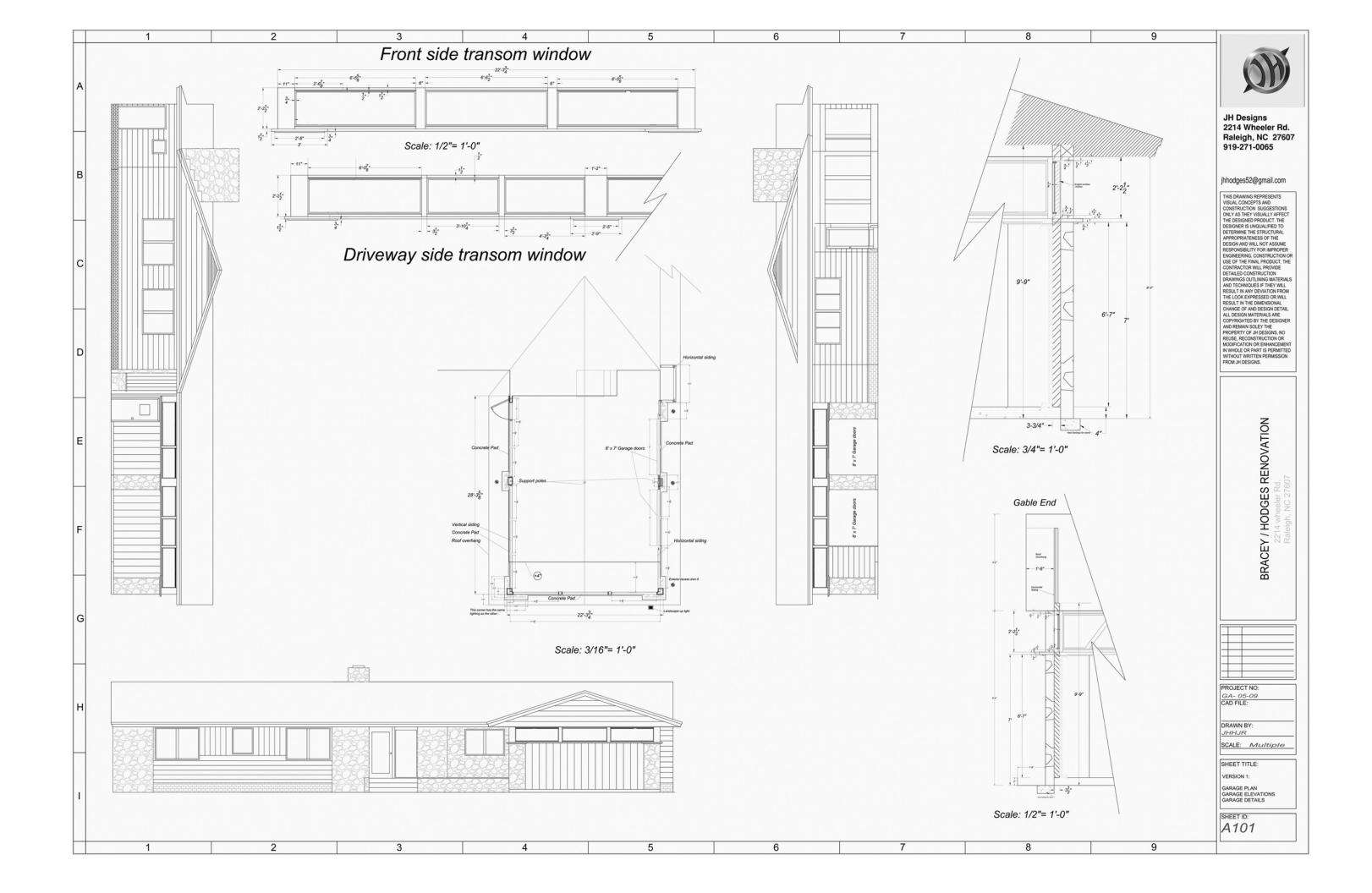


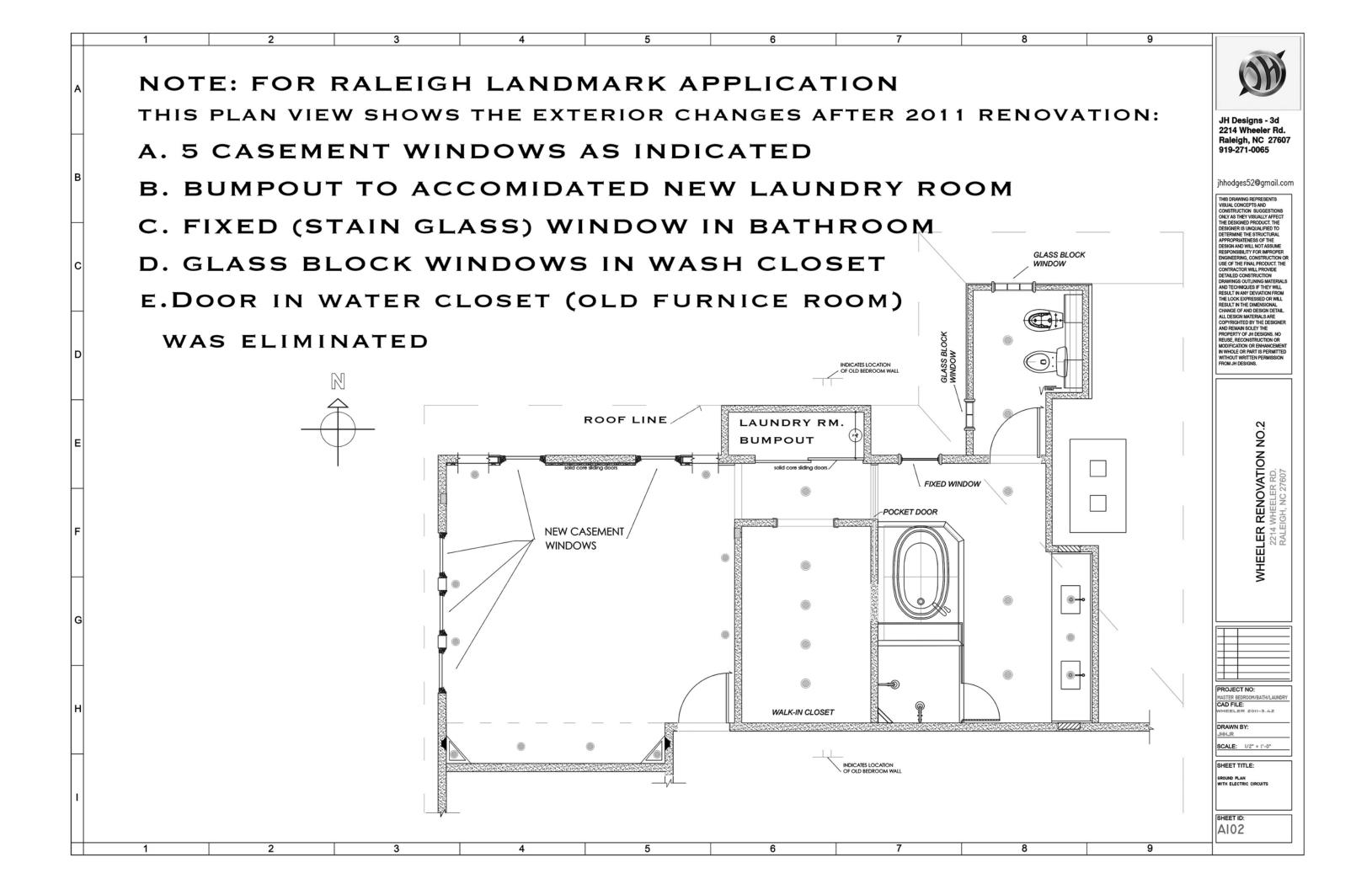
WHEELER ROAD

FRONT LANDSCAPE CONCEPT

CYNTHIA RICE LANDSCAFE ARCHITECTURE PLANNING, PLLC 2600 GLEN BURIGE DR. F.G.ERGH, NC 27697 816-331-7937 RESIDENCE LANDSCAPE DESIGN 2214 WHEELER ROAD BRACEY 9/30/09 issued for LANDSCAPE RENOVATION PLAN item drawn by RW/CSR checked by CSR sheet title FRONT BEDS Intel no. -Copyright © 2009. By: Cynthia Rice, Landscope Architecture & Planning, PLLC All Rights Reserved Full Size Plot @ 24" x 36"

NORTH SCALE 1"=10'-0"







MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18 FRONT VIEW



RIGHT SIDE VIEW #1

MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18



RIGHT SIDE VIEW #2

MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18



MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18 REAR VIEW #1

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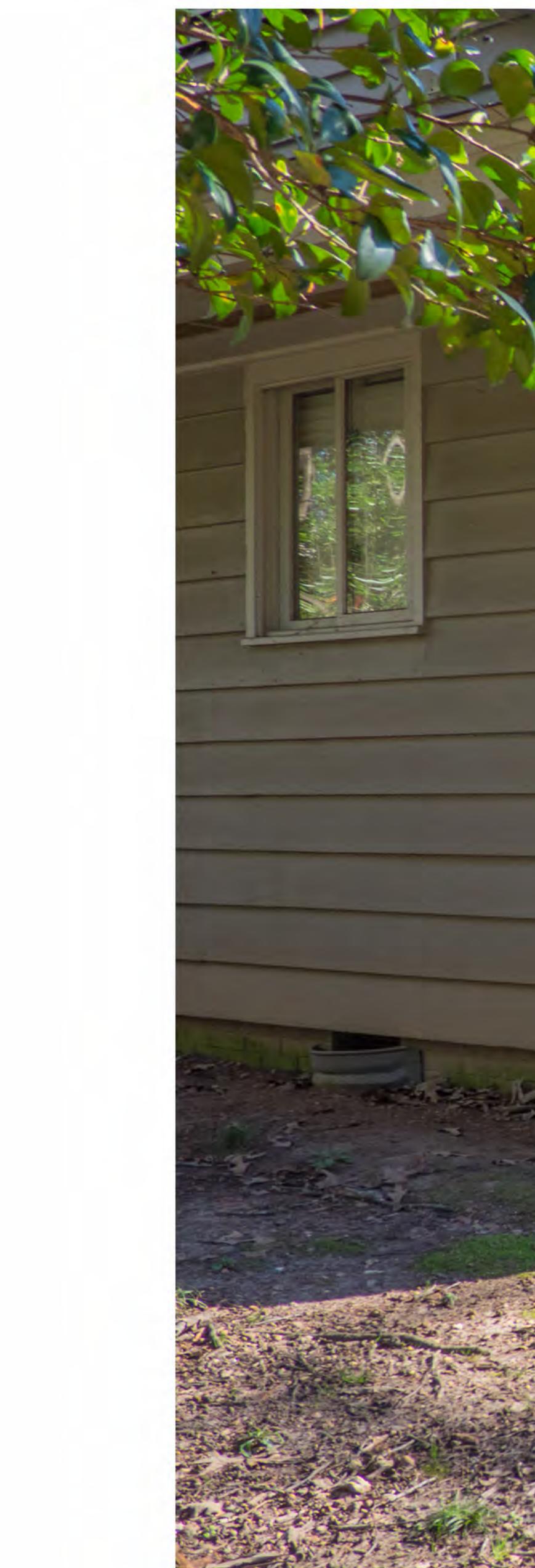


MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18 REAR VIEW #2

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MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18 LEFT SIDE VIEW #1



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MCADAMS HOUSE. 2214 WHEELER RD., RALEIGH 12-26-18 LEFT SIDE VIEW #2



McAdams House Supplemental Information – November 2020

Provided by applicant.

ca. 1990s storage structure at the back-right corner of the property along the property line. A prefab/ some assembly required type. Wood with shingle roof.





McAdams House local landmark nomination, additional information

Prepared by Hanbury Preservation Consulting

The McAdams house is significant as an extant example of architect Leif Valand's customdesigned, single-family homes in Raleigh. Valand (1911-1985), who immigrated to the United States as a child, grew up in New Jersey, and received his architectural education in New York and is thought to have practiced there and to have been employed by American Homes Corporation. He moved to Raleigh in his 30s and practiced architecture there into the 1970s.

A prolific architect, he got his start in North Carolina designing the Cameron Village Complex developed by J. W. "Willie" York and built by the T. A. Loving Corporation, led by R. A. Bryan. His association with these men as well as developer Ed Richards, led to many of his commissions. Most of his work was in the Raleigh area, though he had projects in other parts of North Carolina, as well as in Indiana and New Jersey.

Valand was not associated with the nascent School of Design and eschewed the academic architecture espoused there. His work tended to be more client-focused and pragmatic. If any modern architect's design was an inspiration to Valand, it would appear to be Frank Lloyd Wright's. Valand often designed low-slung buildings with a horizontal emphasis. His use of natural materials, specifically stone in rough faced ashlar, and the centrality of the hearth in domestic architecture, echoes many of Wright's aesthetics.

While his work did not garner the same attention as some others' iconic buildings, Valand's more modest buildings are also notable. Additionally, when considering the work he did in the design of multifamily residential complexes and stock designs for the burgeoning residential subdivisions of the post-War era (much of which is still being discovered) it is not an overstatement to say that he, more than any other architect, shaped the look of Raleigh in the mid-century era. His professional practice employed and trained many of the architects who worked in Raleigh at the end of the 20th century.

The text that follows, adapted from a forthcoming context for Valand, outlines what is known of his early life; describes his efforts at Cameron Village, the ground-breaking project that changed development patterns in Raleigh and established Valand's career; observations about Valand's practice and design ethos; and a review of his known client- specific, single family residences in Raleigh (in order to put the McAdams house in context). Additionally, a bibliography and a list of known projects (as of this date) is attached.

Early Life

Leif Valand was born September 8, 1911 in Norway. His father moved to the United States and once he had found employment sent for his family in 1917. They lived in Jersey City, New Jersey. Valand's father worked at a shipyard and fell from a ship and drowned leaving his wife and young children. Somehow Leif was able to attend Pratt Institute where he received a degree in Architectural Construction in 1932 and later a degree from New York University. In 1941 he married Wymene Smith, a nurse who was originally from Ohio. Valand practiced architecture in Westchester County, New York. Little is known about his early professional life. Former employee Edwin "Abie" Harris noted that he has had some experience in designing retail interiors in New York which served him well in his later work in North Carolina.¹ He was associated with a company called American Homes where he met Edward "Ed" Nelson Richards (1910-1987) who had been involved in military housing construction during Work War II. This association would bring Valand to North Carolina to work on Cameron Village.

Cameron Village

J.W. "Willie" York was the son of C.V. York, Sr. who in 1910 started the York Building company, later the York Construction Company. Willie had been involved in home building in Raleigh prior to World War II. During the war years he worked with Raymond Bryan of the T. A. Loving company of Goldsboro on military construction projects in eastern North Carolina. During this period York bought pre-fabricated houses from Ed Richards to erect in Morehead City. After the war, York returned to home building in Raleigh working with his former boss, now partner, Raymond Bryant. In the late 1940s York developed a mixed use property, modeled on Kansas City's Country Club Plaza, that changed the pattern of development in Raleigh.

Cameron Village revolutionized development practices in the city in terms of a master- planned, mixed- use community of shops and housing at a scale previously unimagined. It also employed a vertical integration where design, construction, and property management were all controlled within a series of inter-related businesses and ownership. It also brought together York, Richards, and Valand who was hired in 1947 shortly after the final zoning for the project was approved. Valand's designs for Cameron Village included retail, office, and housing. Indeed, the vision must have been compelling for an architect to leave the New York City market for Raleigh, North Carolina.

The project began with multifamily units--the Cameron Village Garden Apartments in 1948, followed by Clark Avenue Apartments, the Smallwood Apartments and the Daniels Street Apartments. The shopping center was a product of negotiations to secure tenants in advance of construction including the anchor store, Sears, a grocery store and a drugstore. Though the retail area grew over time the initial shops opened in November 1949. Construction of single family residences in the northern portion of the development began in the early 1950s.²

¹ Abie Harris, interview with author

² Nan Hutchins, Cameron Village A History 1949-1999 Raleigh: Spirit Press, 2001.

The shopping center area of Cameron Village has been altered substantially over the years. While the site plan and building footprints have changed little the elevations and interiors have very little resemblance to the original design. Some of the garden apartments along Smallwood, Sutton, Nichols, St Marys, and Oberlin remain with notable recent demolitions along upper Smallwood. A small portion of the Clark Avenue units remain near West Peace Street, the others having been demolished for a series of commercial buildings, mainly banks. The lower Smallwood apartments remain as of early 202 but are slated for demolition for a higher density development. The Daniels Street units remain but have been altered.

Later commercial development on the periphery of Cameron Village, designed by Valand has also been demolished or highly altered. Commercial buildings on the north side of Oberlin Road have all been demolished as has the Ballentine's Cafeteria building on the south side which housed Valand's office. Likewise, a handful of office buildings along Wade Avenue have been highly altered save for the Occidental Insurance Building for which Valand was the local but not the design architect.

The single-family housing north of the shopping area is reported to have all been designed by Valand though neither written documentation nor drawings have been found. Many of these original homes have been demolished and replaced with larger buildings incongruous with the size, scale, amassing, and materials of the originals.

Though Valand designed many projects for York and for Richards, he always maintained a private architectural practice that was separate from the various corporations formed to develop, manage, and sell properties.

Professional Practice

Valand had a private architectural practice in Raleigh starting circa 1947. Former employees noted that in terms of staff, it was one of the larger, if not the largest firm, in the city of Raleigh. Employees over the years included Ben Taylor, Wayne Taylor, Edwin Freeland "Abie" Harris, Ray Sparrow, James Scovil, Russell White, Gilbert "Gil" Slack, Karina McCourt, Ed Mogelnickie, Pete Jarrell, Reggie White, Nelson Benzing, Norman Eugene "Bart" Bartholomew, William Robert "Bob" Wakeham, David Lee, and Charles Davis. Many of these men continued with other firms, or started their own, but gained significant experience working with Valand. In an oral history interview, landscape architect Henry Hammond observed that, "his (Valand's) office is responsible for more designers in the City of Raleigh than anybody else's because he would give them work."³ In Valand's obituary in the News and Observer, former employee Ed Mogelnickie noted, "The majority of people who have architectural firms today in Raleigh worked for Mr. Valand at one time."⁴

³ Henry Clayton Hammond, interview SCRC Series: Lewis Clarke Oral Histories Project

⁴ Ed Mogelnickie as quoted in "Leif Valand, Architect in Raleigh, dies at 73," *The News and Observer* February 13, 1985 p 3C

By all reports, Valand had a large personality. He had a quick temper and was demanding. Yet he was also generous. More than one former employee noted their decision to work for Valand, as opposed to a competing firm, was partially based on his generous salary offers. landscape architect Geoff McLean noted in an interview, "Somebody else said this that he [Valand] probably worked more architects than anybody else in this town and he paid pretty well, in spite of his Norwegian temperament. He was hell on wheels, but he was also good as gold." ⁵

Valand was also notable for giving his younger colleagues significant responsibilities, and the opportunity to explore their own design vocabularies. One architect noted that he had an offer from a competing firm but turned it down as he knew with Valand he could explore his own design ideas and not merely execute the vision of the senior partner at another firm. Former employees note that he travelled often to look at works in other parts of the country and often brought junior staff members along to see projects and to learn from them.

The exact dates of changes in the firm's composition are not entirely clear, but by examining plans and specifications, Valand practiced as Leif Valand, Architect through 1959. From 1960 to at least 1965 the firm was Leif Valand and Associates. By 1969 it was Valand, Benzing and Associates and in 1974 Valand and Nelson Benzing formed Valand-Benzing and Associates.⁶

With the rise of corporate architecture firms, the question of design attribution becomes more difficult, and often various junior architects and draftsmen contributed parts of the overall design. Abie Harris remembers designing the interior stair at the Peden Steel Headquarters, for example. Nonetheless, most drawings that have been found contain Valand's professional seal and with his responsibility for the drawings comes the design attribution.

Valand worked closely with other professionals including landscape architects. Though most of his firm's records have been lost, many drawings survive as part of the special collections at North Carolina State University in collections of others--architects who used Valand drawings to design later additions and landscape architects working contemporaneously and collaboratively using site plans and footprints as a basis for their work. Henry Hammond's first solo practice project was with Valand on the Woman's Club in Raleigh, "I did all the site work on that including the driveway and the connections to Glenwood Avenue and that's the first project for me on my own."⁷ Geoff Mclean did work with Valand at Quail Corner Shopping Center and the Cameron Brown building at North Hills.

A constant thread throughout Valand's professional career was his ability to translate personal connections into commissions. His association with Willie York, and Ed Richards translated into direct commissions and perhaps some indirect ones. St Michael's Church was built on land given to the parish by Willie York. Richards and Valand were both parishioners. Willie York was on the board of the YMCA when the new branch was built on Hillsborough Street. Willie York moved his sizeable corporate accounts from Wachovia to First Citizens in 1960 and in 1961 Valand designed a branch bank on what is now capital Boulevard. In the mid-1960s York

⁵ Geoffrey McLean interview SCRC Series: Lewis Clarke Oral Histories Project

⁶ Valand-Benzing and Associates, Articles of Incorporation

⁷ Henry Clayton Hammond, interview SCRC Series: Lewis Clarke Oral Histories Project

was appointed to the Board of Conservation and Development after which point Valand designed a number of state welcome centers. Valand's wife Wymene became involved in Democratic politics at the state and national level, and Valand received commissions for several state buildings as well as the federal building in Raleigh.

Valand worked closely with developers during a period when they began to form numerous corporations to separate various individual developments thus shielding some projects from liability if other projects foundered. This is now a common practice. And while Valand's name has yet to emerge as an incorporator in any of these ventures, tax court filings that involve Washington Terrace, shed some light on the possibility that Valand may have been creative in developing compensation agreements for his work.

Washington Terrace Apartments Inc was incorporated in 1949 by J. W. York, James Poyner and Marshall Hartsfield.⁸ Federal Tax Court Reports show that Valand had received Class B stock in the corporation for architectural services which he later sold to Ed Richards for \$3,750.⁹ Generally only incorporators and initial Class A shareholders are public record so we may not be able ascertain how frequently Valand negotiated ownership interests and their potential revenue stream in lieu of cash payments for design services. Nonetheless the one documented case of it shows a willingness to be creative in fee negotiations with compensation more directly tied to the success of the overall project.

Design ethos

Valand's practice in Raleigh coincided not only with a period of growth, expansion and construction, but also with a growing sophistication in the field of architecture. The School of Design (now College of Design) at North Carolina State College (now University) under the leadership of Henry Kamphoefner, who arrived in Raleigh around the same time as Valand, grew in size and in influence. Kamphoefner was a vocal proponent of modernism and brought prominent faculty and lecturers to Raleigh who championed modernism. Valand was not associated with the School of Design. His architecture was less academic, and more pragmatic. While he could employ traditional styles and there are a few examples of his more traditional designs, most of his work was modernist. However, it was generally not the attenuated, Miesian, glass-box aesthetic of many Raleigh architect. It was, more of an earthy, Wrightian approach, of low-slung buildings with heavy horizontal emphasis, and a generous dose of stone accents. Often, he made use of integrated external planters.

Valand was noted for his customer orientation--generally building to suit client less and less with an eye to publication. Working closely with developers, he was conscious of cost and profit

⁸ Washington Terrace Apartments Inc. Articles of Incorporation

⁹ Ella C. Thomas (reporter) Reports of the Tax Court of the United States – United States. Tax Court October 1955-March 1956 vol 25 Washington: US Government Printing Office 1957

margins. In the case of some of the Cameron Village houses, he adapted designs to respond to metal shortages during the Korean War.¹⁰ Client-specific, single family residential projects

In addition to multi-family and speculative subdivision housing, Valand designed a number of single family, client-specific houses. Those described below are in Raleigh and are likely not a definitive list. Two additional houses known to have been designed by Valand are the Richard Hurd House (1955 Rumson, New Jersey) and the R. A. Bryan House (1966 Goldsboro, North Carolina). The dates of the known Raleigh houses range from 1946 to 1970, and coincidentally the first and last known houses were both designed for Willie York, for whom he also designed a house in 1963. Not included in this list are several houses built for specific clients but that appear to have been designs that Valand repeated elsewhere, notably **the Banks Kerr house (1952)** and **William King house (1952)**, both in Cameron Village, and the **Marion Fike House (1957)** in Longview Gardens. **The Fred and Mary Dixon House (WA5352 1952)** is cited by Triangle Modern houses to have been designed by Robert Hall in Valand's office who did live at that address, though the most recent owners claim it is by Thomas Cooper. **The Lief Valand House (WA6608 1952)** house would presumably be by Valand, though some sources attribute it to Charles Davis.

Of the thirteen known and confidently attributed custom-designed houses, six have been demolished: the Poyner House (1950), the George Vial House (1952), the Kidd Brewer House (1956), the Ira Green House (1953), the Willie York House #2 (1963) and the Willie York House #3 (1970).

Of those extant, the only one designed in a traditional style is the 1959 **the Sanderford House** (1959) at 1520 St Marys Street. It is a one-story, brick, minimal traditional house that is side-gabled with projecting cross-gabled wing on the facade.

The Peden Guest House (1950) was not built as a single family residence, rather as an additional structure on the Peden property for use as the children's recreational space. Originally rectangular in footprint, it was adapted to a residence with a master bedroom ell addition, the enclosure of a screened porch enclosed and the construction of an interior partition wall at the central interior fireplace. Thus, much of Valand's original design intent has been obscured.

As of the last survey, **the Willie York house (WA4619, 1946)** is a low-slung ranch house with a hipped slate roof clad in crab orchard stone, weatherboard, and board and batten siding. It has wooden casement windows. The entrance is via a stone, landscaped terrace. Access to the house was denied.

The Poyner House (WA4657 1950), no longer extant, was a one-story, low slung house with a gable roof clad in vertical board siding and crab orchard stone. A covered breezeway with a flat roof supported by metal posts provided protected exterior circulation. It had an interior stone chimney, single-light casement windows, and double-leaf entrance doors flanked by sidelights.

¹⁰ Edmisten, Linda Harris J.W. Willie York: His First Seventy-Five Years in Raleigh Privately printed 1987, p 84

The Everett Case House (WA4603 1951) is a one-story, low-slung, gable-roofed house with an attached carport. Drawings by Valand in the special collections at North Carolina State University do not include the projecting southern wing, which aerial photographs suggest may have been added later. The integration of the roof of the later wing with an exterior breezeway suggests that Valand may have designed the addition. Plans show a four bedroom house. The fourth bedroom and bath are below grade at the southwest with a separate entry. The main floor was designed with an open central core with the entrance hall leading to a living room and dining room with a screened rear porch (later enclosed) beyond. Elevation drawings show the living room with a Roman brick southern wall with redwood bookcases, an integrated planter and a flagstone hearth.

To the north of the central core is a kitchen to the west and a bedroom and bath to the east. Both the kitchen and bedroom have an exterior door. South of the entry hall is a small den accessed from a hall at its west that services a bedroom and bath at the southeastern corner of the house and a master suite at the southwest. The master bedroom has an exterior door to the south. The entrance porch supported by pipe columns with a section of exposed outriggers is in the original drawings as is the planter at the exterior that continues to the interior. The drawings call for exterior vertical fir board siding and stone cladding which remain. The scored concrete at the entrance appears original. The single- leaf entrance has a narrow transom that extends to also top the large sidelight north of the entrance.

The Ed Richards house (WA4658 1951), built for the developer who was Valand's frequent business partner. Irregular in footprint, this house has a central two-story core surrounded by one-story projecting wings. Despites its two-story mass, broad eaves with thick fascia painted in a light color, contrasts with the darker paint of the mass of the house, creating a horizontal emphasis. The facade is clad on the first story in stone up to the sills of bands of single-light windows interspersed with wood panels. The primary entrance is via double-leaf doors flanked by sidelights set within a porch with a flagstone deck and supported in part by a stone wall. The rest of the house is clad in vertical wooden siding. A rear glazed sun porch appears to be original.

The George Vial House (WA4481 1952) in Country Club Hills is a more modest ranch house designed by Valand who assisted the original owners in enclosing a garage and adding additional rooms along the facade soon after construction.¹¹ The additional rooms create a recessed entrance and set the exterior chimney behind the front plane of the house. A projecting rear wing with a glazed wall affords a sweeping view of the golf course beyond

The Ira Green House (1953) in Forty Acres, though demolished, appears in Wake County tax records to have been a typical Valand house, one-story, low-slung, side-gabled with stone veneer and broad eaves extending to a breezeway to an attached carport.

McAdams House (1954) in Coley Forest was designed as a side-gabled house with a projecting cross-gabled rear ell and a projecting, front-gabled carport wing. As with many Valand houses

¹¹ Melinda Knowles interview with author, February 25, 2020

the primary entrance leads to flagstone foyer/hall that moves directly into the living room, featuring a stone-clad wall with a prominent fireplace and hearth, and generous glazing to afford a rear view. Kitchen, dining room, playroom and a screened porch (now enclosed) were on one side of the central entrance-to-living-room axis. The kitchen has moved to the playroom area and the dining room to the kitchen. Originally four bedrooms and two baths (now two bedrooms and a master suite) were located on the other side of this main axis.

Additional alterations include renovated kitchen and bathrooms, full enclosure of the carport wing, and small "bump-out" addition off the rear master suite, and a wooden rear deck.¹² On the interior the main elements of the plan, including the segregation of public and private spaces, and the main entrance procession to the central living room area, remain, as does the prominent stone wall and fireplace. Most of the exterior changes are on secondary elevations and not visible from the facade. Valand's use of orchard stone veneer at the corners of the facade and at the entrance and the inclusion of a stone-faced integrated planter are hallmarks of his style as is the horizontal emphasis of the house as a whole.

Willie York House #2 (1963) and Willie York House #3(1970) were both demolished with little documentation.

The McAdams House is one of seven remaining, single-family, custom designed houses designed by Valand in Raleigh. It is one of six that are in his signature "Wrightian Modernist Ranch" style that includes the Peden, York, Case, Richards, and Vial houses. Of those the York, Case, Richards, and McAdams houses retain the most significant design elements.

¹² John Hodges, interview with author February 26, 2020

Project List

all projects in Raleigh, North Carolina unless otherwise noted. Those in bold are demolished.

New Construction

1946 Willie York House. 1904 Craig Street

1947- Cameron Village Shopping Center (highly altered)

1948 Cameron Village Garden Apartments

1950 Clark Avenue Apartments Cameron Village (partially demolished)

(1951 Leif Valand House 706 Woodburn Rd attribution uncertain)

1950 Washington Terrace Apartments

1950 Poyner House

1950 Peden Guest House

1951 Smallwood Apartments Cameron Village (partially demolished)

1951 Ed N. Richards House

1951 College View Apartments, Greenville North, Carolina

1951-4 Ridgewood houses

1951 Everett Case House

1952 William King house

1952 George Vial House

(1952 Fred and Mary Dixon House attribution uncertain)

1952 Banks Kerr House

1953 Ira Green House

1953 Apartments, Goldsboro, North Carolina at Beech and Daisy

1950s American Machine and Foundry

1954 Forest Hills houses, Garner, North Carolina

1954 McAdams House

- 1954-6 Longview Shopping Center, Commercial Buildings
- 1954 Tri-City Shopping Plaza, Shopping Center Gary, Indiana
- 1954 Sweet Gum School, Caswell County, North Carolina
- 1954 W.T. Grant Store, Goldsboro, North Carolina
- 1954 Western Union Building
- 1955 M/M Richard M. Hurd House Rumson, New Jersey
- 1955 Raleigh Farmers Market / Wholesale Produce Market (altered)
- 1955 St Michael's Episcopal Church (addition)

1956 Kidd Brewer House

1956 McCracken Supply Co

1957 Lions Club "Dream Home" exhibited at State Fair

1957 Sunrise Shopping Center Goldsboro, North Carolina

1957 Kraft Foods Company (altered)

1957 (New) St Saviors aka St Timothy's Episcopal Church

1957 Ridge Road Baptist Church

1958 First Federal Branch, New Bern Ave

1958 Hillsborough St YMCA

1958 Enloe High School

1958 Kellogg Switchboard and Supply Co

- 1958 College Inn Motor Lodge (highly altered)
- 1958 Citation Model Homes in Lakewood and Woodcrest
- 1959 Sanderford House
- 1960 Presbyterian Synod HQ

1961 Camp Seafarer Arapahoe, North Carolina (highly altered)

- 1961 North Carolina Bar Center (altered)
- 1961 First Citizens Branch Bank Downtown Blvd
- 1961 Norfolk Southern Railroad Offices
- 1962 Grace Lutheran Church
- 1962 North Carolina Military Center and Armory Building
- 1962 Gateway Plaza, shopping center
- 1962-1964 Four Seasons Mall Greensboro, North Carolina
- 1963 North Hills Shopping Center
- 1963 Peden Steel

1963 Willie York House 2

- 1963 Elkin Gymnasium (Elkin, N.C)
- 1963 Channel 28 TV Station
- 1964 Charles Aycock Junior High School

1964 Pepsi Cola Bottling Plant

1965 First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina, Farmville, North Carolina

1965 Velvet Cloak Inn

- 1965 St Ambrose Episcopal Church
- 1966 Ray Bryan House Goldsboro, North Carolina
- 1966 Low Income Housing Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- 1967 Public Service of North Carolina Building
- 1968 Warren and Northampton County State Welcome Centers
- 1968 Thomas Woods, Tire Sales and Service
- 1968 Raleigh Woman's Club

1969 Downtown Parking Deck

- 1970 Meredith College Cate Center
- 1970 North Ridge Country Club
- 1970 Willie York House 3
- 1971 Timberlake Apartments
- 1972 State Highway Patrol Heliport Hangar and Landing Pad
- 1972 Manley Street United Church of Christ
- 1972 North Haven Apartments
- 1972 Park Buildings at Carolina Pines, Biltmore Hills and Millbrook
- 1972 Northaven Apartments
- 1975 Northgate Shopping Center Durham

No Date, Secondary Attribution

Ridgewood Shopping Center Four Seasons Mall Greensboro, North Carolina Eastgate Shopping Center University Mall Chapel Hill, North Carolina Holly Hill Mall Burlington, North Carolina Country Club Homes WPTF Building Salisbury Street Quail Corners Shopping Center Cameron-Brown Headquarters The Lakes Apartments Ballantine's Cafeteria Building, Cameron Village Bensen House (unbuilt)

Collaborations

1950 Camp Lejune Housing with Edwards, Pugh and McKinnon

1956 Occidental Building with Kemp, Bunch and Jackson

1961 Recreation Buildings at Lions, Jaycee, and Chavis Park; and Arts Building at Pullen Park with Charles Graves

1965-7 Department of Administration Building with F. Carter Williams

1967 Federal Building with Lowenstein-Atkinson

Croasdaile Country Club with Archie Royall Davis

Rehabilitation/Additions

1957 NCSU YMCA

1958 Jeans Department Store Interiors

1963 Addition to Mary E. Phillips School

- 1963 Raleigh Little Theater Improvements
- 1965-7 Mayview Convalescent Home new wing

1968 Apex Elementary School Cafeteria Addition

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