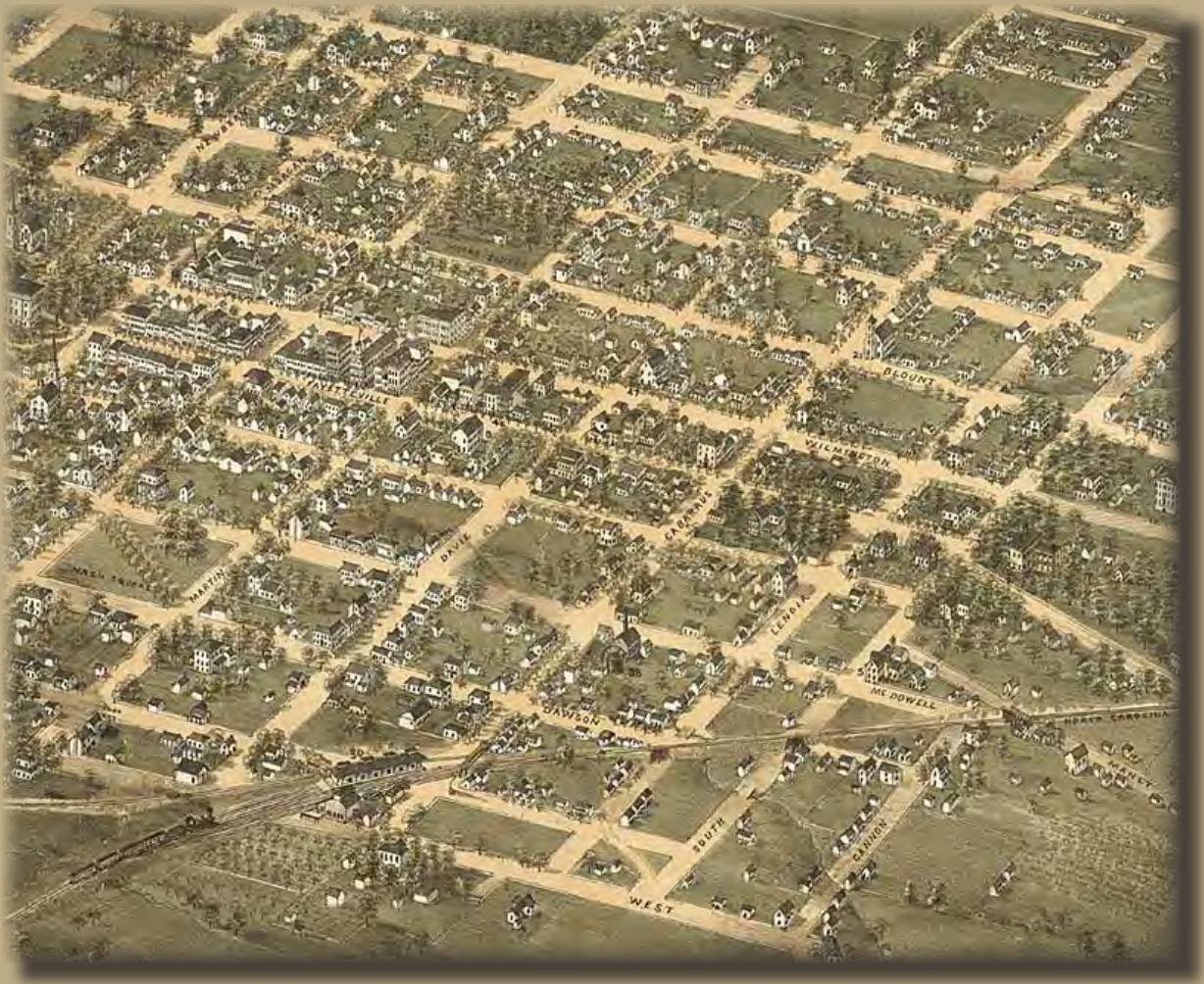


# Historic Context for Stronach's Alley City Block

Raleigh, North Carolina



**New South Associates, Inc.**



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## INTRODUCTION

New South Associates, Inc. prepared this historic context for the Raleigh Historic Development Commission, Inc. (RHDC). It will be incorporated into a larger illustrated report, being created by RHDC and the City of Raleigh. Suggested figures are referenced throughout the report and can be found in Appendix A. The final report will be produced with a number of objectives in mind including its use as a tool for public education and as a foundation research document for any future archaeological studies that may occur in the area.

This historic context explores the Stronach's Alley City Block, located in the locally zoned Prince Hall Historic District. It focuses on the alley's development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries so we can begin to understand how socially complex these alleys were, especially during the Jim Crow era. The Stronach's Alley block, while now mostly vacant, will likely be developed in the future. Thus, the work done by RHDC may represent the last opportunity to study the area before it is affected by future development.

## BACKGROUND HISTORY

In 1792, at the direction of the North Carolina General Assembly, surveyor William Christmas laid out a plan for the capital city consisting of one square mile of gridded streets oriented to the compass points (Figure 1). The streets intersected to create blocks with the future site of the Capitol occupying an entire block near the center of the plan. Four, four-acre public squares were situated northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest of the Capitol Square. Each city block was roughly one-acre in size and contained four building lots.

## DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS CIRCA 1865 THROUGH CIRCA 1900

Throughout the nineteenth century, dwellings and outbuildings, churches, shops, factories, warehouses, and institutional buildings were erected in the city. Almost 100 years after Christmas surveyed the city and drew his plan, A.W. Shaffer's 1872 bird's eye map (published in 1881) shows Raleigh's street plan, buildings, and streams and other topographical features (Figure 2). By the early 1880s, Raleigh had expanded well beyond Christmas' original one-square-mile plan to encompass less densely developed areas beyond the city center. A commercial corridor emerged along Fayetteville Street, south of the Capitol. Foundries, factories, and warehouses were concentrated near the railroad tracks on the north and west sides of town.

After the Civil War ended on May 10, 1865, displaced people, both black and white, flooded from the countryside into cities across the South. Freedmen arrived in Raleigh searching for jobs

and refugee assistance from the federal Freedman's Bureau (Mattson 1988). In 1860, Raleigh's population of both free and enslaved African Americans was approximately 2,100. That number almost doubled to 4,094 by 1870 and by 1890, half the population was African American (6,000 of a total of 12,000) (Mattson 1988). This influx of people changed the size and layout of the city. The African American residents lived either in clustered communities downtown or in outlying freedman's villages such as Oberlin, Brooklyn, Method, Lincolnville, the Cannon tract, Watson's Field, Hungry Neck, and Hayti (Figure 3). By the 1890s, residential dead-end and through-alleys began to appear on city maps.

Shaw University, established in 1865 on 10 acres on the south side of South Street, exerted a powerful influence on the growth and development of south Raleigh. These areas became a "cultural and intellectual hub of the city," and the streets adjoining the co-educational institution became a desirable location for African American professionals to live (Mattson 1988). Fostered by a growing populace, black institutional growth accelerated in the late nineteenth century as churches, schools, hospitals, and fraternal halls were erected in the areas southwest, south, and east of the Capitol. Unlike the white subdivisions within the city, which were segregated by economic and social class and therefore did not contain a range of housing options, there was less of a social divide in African Americans neighborhoods. In the predominantly African-American neighborhoods of south Raleigh, doctors, nurses, lawyers, teachers, ministers, and other professionals lived in close proximity to citizens who worked in typical "negro jobs" such as domestics, and laborers.

While the trend in downtown residential patterns was strongly racially segregated prior to 1900, there were streets in the predominantly African American neighborhoods where white residents lived. Downtown streets, such as Martin and East streets, were documented as having both black and white families living next to each other from the 1850s through the first years of the twentieth century (Mattson 1988; Wright et al. 1990). White newspaper editor and U.S. ambassador Josephus Daniels occupied the Greek Revival-style dwelling at 125 East South Street across from the Shaw campus between 1888 and 1919, in an area known as the university's faculty row. The home belonged to Daniel's mother-in-law, Adelaide Worth Bagley, who acquired it with her husband William H. Bagley in 1873. The home remained in the Bagley/Daniels family until it was sold to Shaw University professor Albert W. Pegues. Born in 1902, Jonathan Daniels, the son of Josephus Daniels and Adelaide Worth Bagley (who shared her mother's name) recalled the home as being situated near "a slum on one side and of the eroded campus of a small Negro college on the other" (Parham 1979). City directories show Raleigh's alley dwellers were predominantly African American renters, but there were small numbers of whites and immigrants as well. It should be noted that no matter what race they were, all alley residents were members of the lower and working classes.



## POST-1900 DEVELOPMENT AND THE ERA OF JIM CROW

The politics of the early twentieth century had a distinct impact on daily life in Raleigh. In 1898, conservative Democrats came into power locally and pushed an agenda of white supremacy, segregation, and the disenfranchisement of black citizens. Though legal residential segregation did not come to Raleigh until 1906, the effects of the White Supremacy Campaign of the late 1890s had taken its toll, and black and white residents lived in increasingly segregated communities (Zogry 1999).

One result of the Jim Crow segregation laws was that East Hargett Street, west of Moore Square, emerged as Raleigh's "Negro Main Street." While the number of African American-owned businesses on East Hargett Street grew from nine to 50 between 1900 and 1925, in other sections of downtown, African American-owned businesses dwindled. By 1920, only two black-owned businesses were operating outside of the area (Mattson 1988). There was also a shift in clientele during this time for the African American-owned businesses. Before, it was not uncommon for African American businesses to have white patrons. Then, starting circa 1900, not only did the white population stop buying products at black-owned businesses but they also stopped leasing the black shop owners.

Segregation was not limited to the area's commercial and financial districts, the residential neighborhoods also changed. During this time, those white residents who had previously lived in the African American areas began migrating from the downtown vicinity to the newly constructed suburbs, while Raleigh's African American citizens stayed in and greatly expanded the downtown neighborhoods that had been established in the preceding decades. Mattson (1988) described an explosion of the presence of "cramped alleys lanes and rows that consumed previously open space."

## ALLEYS IN RALEIGH

Raleigh's alleys were an important and distinct feature of the city during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Yet, many of these are long gone, overbuilt and removed from the urban landscape. There were two main types of alleys of this time. The first were the *rear service alleys*. These alleys functioned as a way to hide the more mundane activities of running middle and upper class households. Deliveries of coal or groceries and the comings and goings of domestic help were done out of view of the public thoroughfare.

*Residential alleys*, on the other hand, did not function in direct support of the prominent homes that fronted city streets. These hidden communities of modest worker housing were unpaved and often did not have running water. They were found in abundance in the working-class African American communities of Smokey Hollow north of downtown near the Raleigh and Gaston

Railroad roundhouse and maintenance complex, and in the Third and Fourth wards around Shaw University. Raleigh City Directories tell us that alley residents worked mostly in low-skilled domestic and manual labor jobs and that the alleys were often in proximity to their place of employment. For example, many of the male residents of the Smokey Hollow alleys were employed by the railroad. The city's cramped and quickly erected alley dwellings provided much needed, low-cost housing for the growing population of urban African Americans.

Stronach's Alley was a residential through-alley occupied exclusively by service workers of the lower classes. The alley was located at the intersection of several neighborhoods: the predominantly African American Third and Fourth wards south of East Cabarrus Street, and the predominantly white residential and commercial areas north of East Cabarrus Street and west of South Wilmington Street. South Wilmington Street was the dividing line between white and black neighborhoods although that distinction is blurred somewhat as one heads south on Wilmington Street. Stronach's Alley was close to the African American "cultural and intellectual hub of the city" and the homes of middle class and professional blacks, the lower-class residents of Stronach's Alley occupied an urban environment they were both a part of and apart from.

Although the houses that lined Stronach's Alley are no longer standing, the alley pathway remains evident and is an important part of the city's history. Study of the Stronach's Alley and the people who lived there contributes to an understanding of one element of the broad pattern of African American life in Raleigh.

## STRONACH'S ALLEY

### Origin of the Name

Stronach's Alley is named after Raleigh businessman William Carter Stronach (1844-1901). From about 1864 until the year of his death, Stronach lived on a 15-acre pleasure farm known as Geranium Valley north of Bloodworth Street (Stronach 1956). Stronach dabbled in many businesses but was best known locally for his long-term ownership of grocery stores at 213 Fayetteville Street, on Market Square and on East Hargett Street. He also owned a very successful wholesale grocery business and affiliated tenant farms in Harnett and Johnston Counties. Stronach was a founder of the Raleigh Savings Bank and served on the board of directors of the North Carolina Railroad and the Seaboard Air Line, and for a short time was part owner a tobacco warehouse on the west side of South Wilmington Street, between East Cabarrus and East Davie Streets, one block north of the Stronach's Alley block. The tobacco warehouse is shown on the 1888 Sanborn maps, but the maps indicate that by 1896 the building had been converted to a livery.

Stronach bought and sold many parcels in downtown Raleigh, including at least two on the Stronach's Alley block in the late 1880s. A deed dated May 8, 1885 records the sale of part of "lot number 17 on the plan of the City of Raleigh," at the southwest quadrant of the block bounded by East Cabarrus, South Blount and East Lenoir and South Wilmington Streets, from Catherine Poole to W.C. Stronach for \$1,000 (Wake County Deed Book 84, page 566). After Catherine Poole's death around 1887, her holdings on Stronach's Alley block were subdivided by the court and sold at auction and Stronach acquired a second parcel north of his existing one in August of 1887 (Wake County Deed Book 100, page 197). In December of 1887 and January of 1888, the remainder of Poole's lots were sold to Lucy Jenkins (Wake County Deed Book 100, page 288), Alfred A. Thompson (Wake County Deed Book 100, page 592), W.Z. Blake (Wake County Deed Book 101, page 111) and Henry Mahler (Wake County Deed Book 104, page 116). The exact location and size of Stronach's parcels was not determined during this study due the numerous real estate subdivisions and recombinations that have occurred on the block since the 1880s. However, a detailed examination of historical real estate transactions could determine which parcels belonged to Stronach.

It was a common practice to name streets and alleys after an adjacent landowner. It is not known for certain if Stronach had a hand in erecting the alley dwellings or the alley was named after him as a nearby landowner. In a 1956 family history Stronach's son, Alexander Stronach, recalled how Stronach's Alley got its name describing the alley as:

"A piece of land in southeast Raleigh to which egress and ingress are afforded by "Stronach Alley," a not too highly thought of thoroughfare, named in honor of father by Bibb Matthews, a colored carpenter often employed by him—not a great thing but well-meant and may serve to perpetuate the name when bigger and worthier achievements are forgotten."

1881

A plat map from 1881 shows the city block bounded by East Cabarrus, South Blount, East Lenoir and South Wilmington streets (Figure 4a). At this time there is alley bisecting the block, which was owned almost entirely by Mrs. Catherine Poole, with the exception of the narrow parcel at the southwest corner fronting South Wilmington at the East Lenoir intersection that was owned by "M.H. Brown." This block was comprised of lots 16, 17, 32 and 33 of Christmas' original city plan. The 1881 plat shows the west side of the block, fronting South Wilmington Street, with seven square or rectangular structures, likely dwellings, on five parcels. Six of the structures fronting Wilmington Street correspond in size and placement with those shown on Shaffer's bird's eye map of 1872 (Figure 4b). The 1881 plat also depicts a complex of seven structures denoted as the "Thos G. Jenkins Carriage & Wagon Factory" spanning the entire east

side of the block. The plat shows that by the 1880s on this particular block in downtown Raleigh both industrial and residential uses coexisted.

1896

The late nineteenth century was an era of intense population growth in Raleigh, and Sanborn maps from the period show residential alleys being carved out of city blocks throughout the city's rapidly developing downtown. Housing speculators cut alleys, either all the way or partially through existing city blocks, to create compact lots on which to erect low cost rental worker cottages. An unnamed alley passage that would become known as Stronach's Alley first appears on Sanborn Fire Insurance maps in 1896 (Figure 5).

The 1896 Sanborn map shows an unnamed 18-foot-wide alley connecting South Blount and South Wilmington streets running east-west through the center of the block. The block is now primarily residential, a change since the early 1880s when the east half of the block was occupied by the wagon factory. At the northeast corner of South Blount and East Cabarrus streets is the block's only industrial building, the Taylor & Moore Tobacco Factory. One, one-and-half, and two-story frame dwellings, several with dependent outbuildings, line Cabarrus, Blount and Lenoir streets. On the alley's north side are four frame dwellings, one of which is a duplex, and a building denoted as the "(colored) Mission Rm." The city directories identify this building as the meeting place of the Royal Knights of King David, an African American fraternal organization.

The **Royal Knights of King David** was an African-American fraternal organization incorporated in 1883 by John Merrick, a successful black businessman from Durham. Organized as a fraternal and social group with religious overtones, one of the primary purposes of the Royal Knights was to provide insurance for members, particularly burial insurance. In 1899 Merrick built upon the insurance activities of the Royal Knights to organize the business that became the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, the first black-owned insurance company in North Carolina and the largest in the nation (Powell 2006; *The Afro-American Ledger* 1911).

On the south side of the alley are six, one-story, frame "shot gun" houses. All but one of the houses on the alley possessed a front porch.

A second unnamed alley south of Stronach's Alley runs parallel with it. The south alley begins at the east side of South Wilmington Street and terminates in a dead end halfway through the block. There are three small dwellings on the north side of this alley whose rear elevations face the backs of the houses on the south side of the parallel alley to the north. The 1896-1897 city directory listings suggest the residents of this unnamed alley were assigned "Stronach Avenue" addresses suggesting that all of the dwellings on the interior of the block were considered part of the alley despite not being contiguous with one another.

### **Alley Architecture**

Depicted on period maps as "negro shanties," "tenements," or "negro cabins," alley dwellings were erected in two primary forms: narrow shotgun houses and duplex houses called saddlebags (Figure 6). Most alley dwellings were inexpensively constructed by speculators for rental housing, therefore it is unlikely that they were decorated in the latest architectural styles. These simple and unadorned houses were often one-story, although the Sanborn maps show one-and-half and two-story dwellings on the alleys as well.

#### *Shotgun Houses*

The term "shotgun" house refers to the narrow and elongated form of this particular building type rather than an architectural style. Stylistic details were often limited to decorative gable vents and the front porches, which may have displayed turned or bungalow-influenced porch posts depending on the date of construction. Built with the "short" gabled side facing the street, shotgun houses were suited for tight fitting, urban lots. Inside, the shotgun house is one-room wide and two or three-rooms deep. Hallways were omitted to maximize interior living space. Porches shaded the front of the house providing a cooling effect. They also served as a transitional indoor/outdoor space and a way for residents to socialize with one another and keep an eye on street activities. The majority of Raleigh's shotgun dwellings were built between 1900 and 1918.

#### *Saddlebag Duplex*

Duplex dwellings were constructed to house two families in separate quarters under the same roof. However, city directories suggest that unrelated adults often occupied each room of the house. Raleigh's alley duplexes were one story with two front entries, each accessing one side of the dwellings. Shed additions for sleeping rooms or kitchens often spanned the rear elevations.

City directories list the residents their occupations. Female residents were employed in the homes and businesses of middle and upper class whites as “chambermaids”, “cooks”, and “washerwomen.” Chambermaids cleaned and maintained bedrooms while cooks prepared food. Washerwomen often retrieved clothes from their employers, washed them off site, and then returned them. It is unknown if the washerwomen of Stronach’s Alley worked in their employer’s homes and businesses or if they did their wash on the alley. Men worked as laborers, farm hands, porters, masons, plasterers, waiters, and drivers. These jobs were typical of the types of work available to working-class African Americans in the late nineteenth century. It is important to keep in mind that the city directories did not typically list minor children and babies living within households, so it is almost certain that the modest dwellings along the alley housed many more individuals than are identified by name. Three of the households are listed in the directory with additional unrelated occupants in addition to the primary resident, implying that it was not uncommon for poor families to “double up” by taking in boarders or hosting relatives relocating to the city from the countryside.

The residents of South Wilmington Street held higher status jobs than those of the mostly unskilled workers that lived along the alley, reflecting a typical pattern in African-American urban communities where residents were segregated within the neighborhood by income level. A carpenter, nurse, and schoolteacher were listed in the larger homes on the east side of South Wilmington Street. It is important to note that the homes of African Americans along South Wilmington Street faced the backs of the grand homes of white citizens that fronted Fayetteville Street. This arrangement was a physical manifestation of the city’s racial hierarchy.

### 1903

The physical arrangement of the dwellings lining Stronach’s Alley (now identified on the map by name), the unnamed alley to the south, and East Cabarrus, South Blount and South Wilmington streets appear virtually unchanged (Figure 7). The tobacco factory, now the Raleigh Leaf Tobacco Company, at the block’s northeast corner remains, as does the Mission Room on the north side of the alley. The southeast quadrant of the block remains undeveloped. On the block’s northwest corner, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church and a separate school building have been constructed. The church and school remained standing into the 1950s. Just south of the church, around 1900, Dr. Manassas Thomas Pope built a two-story brick dwelling on South Wilmington Street immediately north of Stronach’s Alley.

**Manassas T. Pope**

Dr. M.T. Pope was an African American physician and entrepreneur (Figure 8). Born to free black parents in Rich Square, Northampton County, North Carolina in 1858, Pope graduated with a degree in medicine from the Leonard Medical School at Shaw University in 1885. He moved to Charlotte and, with several partners, established the Queen City Drug Company in 1892. The company grew to be one of the city's most successful African American businesses. In 1898 Pope enlisted in the North Carolina Volunteer Infantry and served as an officer and a surgeon in the Spanish-American War. By 1899 he had returned to Raleigh and established his medical practice.

Pope built the two-story brick dwelling at 511 S. Wilmington Street around 1900, after Stronach's Alley was established. The house would have been a convenient distance to his medical practice located a few blocks north at 13 East Hargett Street in Raleigh's "Negro Main Street" business district. Pope was one of nine African American doctors practicing in Raleigh in 1925.

Pope died in 1934. His house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a Raleigh Historic Landmark property. The structure is one of two historic buildings that remain on the Stronach's Alley block. The M.T. Pope house is significant as the home of a prominent African American citizen and as one of the last remaining structures associated with the African American neighborhood north of Shaw University.

(Adapted from M.T. Pope House National Register nomination.)

Although much of the block's physical fabric remains unchanged, most residents listed in the 1896 city directory no longer lived in the area and other names were now associated with the addresses. There were a few exceptions. On Stronach's Alley, one resident, Dock Lassiter, a woodworker, is listed in both the 1896 and 1903 directory. Thomas Price, a driver residing at 118 South Wilmington Street and Frank Johnson, a carpenter who made his home at 521 South Wilmington Street, were also still listed. No white residents are identified in the city directory on the Stronach's Alley block in 1903.

## 1909

On the 1909 Sanborn map, the block appears very similar to the previous map dated 1903. The southeast quadrant of the block remains undeveloped (Figure 9). The tobacco factory is now vacant. All of the people residing on the alley block are African American. Susan Austin, Dock Lassiter, Richard Macklin and Tom Carr continue to reside there. Tibroe Medlin remains on the south side of Cabarrus Street, although he has relocated from #110 to #102. On the east side of Wilmington Street, a janitor George Fleming remains at #527. The short-term nature of residency in the Stronach's Alley block suggests that majority of the housing was not owner occupied.

## 1914

The 1914 Sanborn maps and city directories record significant change on the Stronach's Alley block, although there is little change to the alley way itself but for a few small rear additions to the dwellings on the south side of the alley (Figure 10). At the block's northwest corner, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church remains; however, the former school building situated northeast of the church has been converted into a dwelling. At 108 East Cabarrus Street, a two-story commercial building has been erected, possibly occupied by the Raleigh Confectionary and Toy Company, and shotgun dwellings have been built at 116 and 118 East Cabarrus Street. At the east end of East Cabarrus Street, the tobacco factory building has been converted to a meeting hall for the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, suggesting that the alley was now a destination for social events such as meetings, parties and dances. West of the meeting hall at 132 East Cabarrus Street, a one-story duplex has been built, as have two new one-story dwellings with rear ells south of the hall on South Blount Street. One of the new houses, #508, is occupied by Hubert Parris, the reverend at St. Ambrose Church. The southeast corner of the block remains vacant but the large Barbee and Company Cotton Warehouse stands at the southwest corner and spans half of the East Lenoir Street frontage. East of the warehouse is a cotton platform and associated outbuildings. The north wall of the warehouse is built on the south edge of the unnamed alley at the south end of the block. While three frame dwellings remain on the south alley, the two shotguns to the east were either constructed after 1909 or were moved from a south facing to an east facing orientation.

Gus Masouras first appears in the city directory in 1911. Mr. Masouras was born in Greece and moved to Raleigh from New York City to work in food service. He is the first white resident recorded living on Stronach's Alley. After he passed away in 1919, his widow, Catherine, and their sons, George and James, remained in the house through the 1940s. Descendent of Gus Masouras continue to own a parcel along the alley to today (Regina Kledaris, personal communication 2013).



## 1950-1958

The 1950 Sanborn map shows several significant changes to the Stronach's Alley block since 1914; however, the block remains predominantly residential (Figure 11). A one-room house on the south side of the alley has been removed, as have the three houses along the unnamed alley. A narrow two-story house has been erected on the south side of the alley at the west end. A shotgun house at the east end of the alley's north side has also been removed, as has the "negro hall." This lot now contains three masonry buildings occupied by the Lincoln Theater, a billiards hall, and an ABC liquor store (Figure 12). Commercial buildings have been built at the north and south corners of South Blount Street as well, although the five South Blount Street dwellings shown on the 1914 map remain. At the north end of South Blount Street are three African American-owned businesses: the Third Ward Service Station; the Chavis Electric Shoe Shop; and the Booker T. Theatres Corp. At the south end of the block, facing East Lenoir Street, are two white-owned businesses, the Helms Motor Express terminal and Garrett, Fuller, and Johnson Auto Repairs. These automotive businesses are the first buildings to appear on the block's southeast corner. The former Barbee Warehouse at the southwest corner of South Wilmington and East Lenoir streets is now the Parker Bonded Warehouse. On the east side of South Wilmington Street, the dwelling formerly at #521 has been demolished and replaced with a commercial building that houses an auto parts store. The house immediately south of the alley, 513 North Wilmington Street, has been converted to a private hospital serving "colored" patients. Dr. Pope's house remains, as does St. Ambrose Church, although a new dwelling has been erected north of the church.

## THE END OF STRONACH'S ALLEY AS A RESIDENTIAL ENCLAVE

A 1959 aerial photograph of the alley shows significant changes to the Stronach's Alley block (Figure 13). Seven dwellings on the south side of East Cabarrus Street and four of the five dwellings on the north side of the alley have been demolished. A building has been erected behind the auto parts store on South Wilmington Street and the building that housed the Helms Motor Express terminal in 1950 is gone. By the early 1980s, all or most of the alley dwellings are no longer standing bringing to an end to a 100 years of residential occupation.

## CONCLUSION

Stronach's Alley is an important vestige of a lost element of Raleigh's urban fabric. From the 1890s through the 1910s, real estate developers cut alleys through city blocks and erected low cost rental housing. Citywide, alley residents were predominantly, although not exclusively, African American, which makes the study of alley life important to the understanding of Raleigh's African-American history. City directories indicate the residents of Stronach's Alley were virtually all African American, worked mostly at unskilled jobs, and often did not reside on the alley for more than a few years.

Stronach's Alley was set within a larger city block, and that block was positioned within an even larger urban setting. The history of the entire block is important because it tells us about the community in which the alley residents lived and provides glimpses into what their daily lives may have been like. Sanborn maps reveal that the block was a dynamic one. Buildings were erected, expanded, demolished and rebuilt with some frequency, and parcel and building uses changed over time as well. The block contained a variety of land uses. In addition to residences, the block at times contained meeting places for African Americans, such as social halls, fraternal organizations, a theater, religious and educational facilities, and a private "colored" hospital. The south end of the block, sparsely developed until the 1910s, was populated thereafter by both African American and white-owned businesses. These factors, along with its position at the nexus of the African American Third and Forth wards and the white neighborhoods to the north and west, made for a socially complex setting.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

City directory research provided the identities of the some of the alley residents; however, U.S. Population Census data could reveal more specific information about the residents of Stronach's Alley, which could contribute to a more complete picture of the alley community. In addition, oral histories of local citizens may add to the alley narrative, as could a review of material in the Pope family archive. Raleigh's Community Development Department or other city departments may possess records about urban renewal plans and projects that may characterize the Stronach's Alley Block in the 1970s and 1980s. Geophysical and traditional archaeological studies may be able to locate building foundations, utility corridors, privies, trash pits and period artifacts and other features. A study that looked broadly at more of the city's alleys would contribute to the knowledge of African American life during the Jim Crow era.

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## Sanborn Fire Insurance

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- 1903 *Map of Downtown Raleigh*. Electronic document, <http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/search/collection/ncmaps/searchterm/Raleigh!Sanborn/field/placen!publis/mode/all!all/conn/and!and/order/date/ad/asc/cosuppress/1>, accessed February 2013.
- 1909 *Map of Downtown Raleigh*. Electronic document, <http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/search/collection/ncmaps/searchterm/Raleigh!Sanborn/field/placen!publis/mode/all!all/conn/and!and/order/date/ad/asc/cosuppress/1>, accessed February 2013.
- 1914 *Map of Downtown Raleigh*. Electronic document, <http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/search/collection/ncmaps/searchterm/Raleigh!Sanborn/field/placen!publis/mode/all!all/conn/and!and/order/date/ad/asc/cosuppress/1>, accessed March 2013.
- 1950 *Map of Downtown Raleigh*. Electronic document, <http://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/search/collection/ncmaps/searchterm/Raleigh!Sanborn/field/placen!publis/mode/all!all/conn/and!and/order/date/ad/asc/cosuppress/1>, accessed March 2013.

## USDA

- 1938 *Aerial Photograph of Stronach's Alley*. On file at City of Raleigh Historic Development Commission.
- 1959 *Aerial Photograph of Stronach's Alley*. On file at City of Raleigh Historic Development Commission.



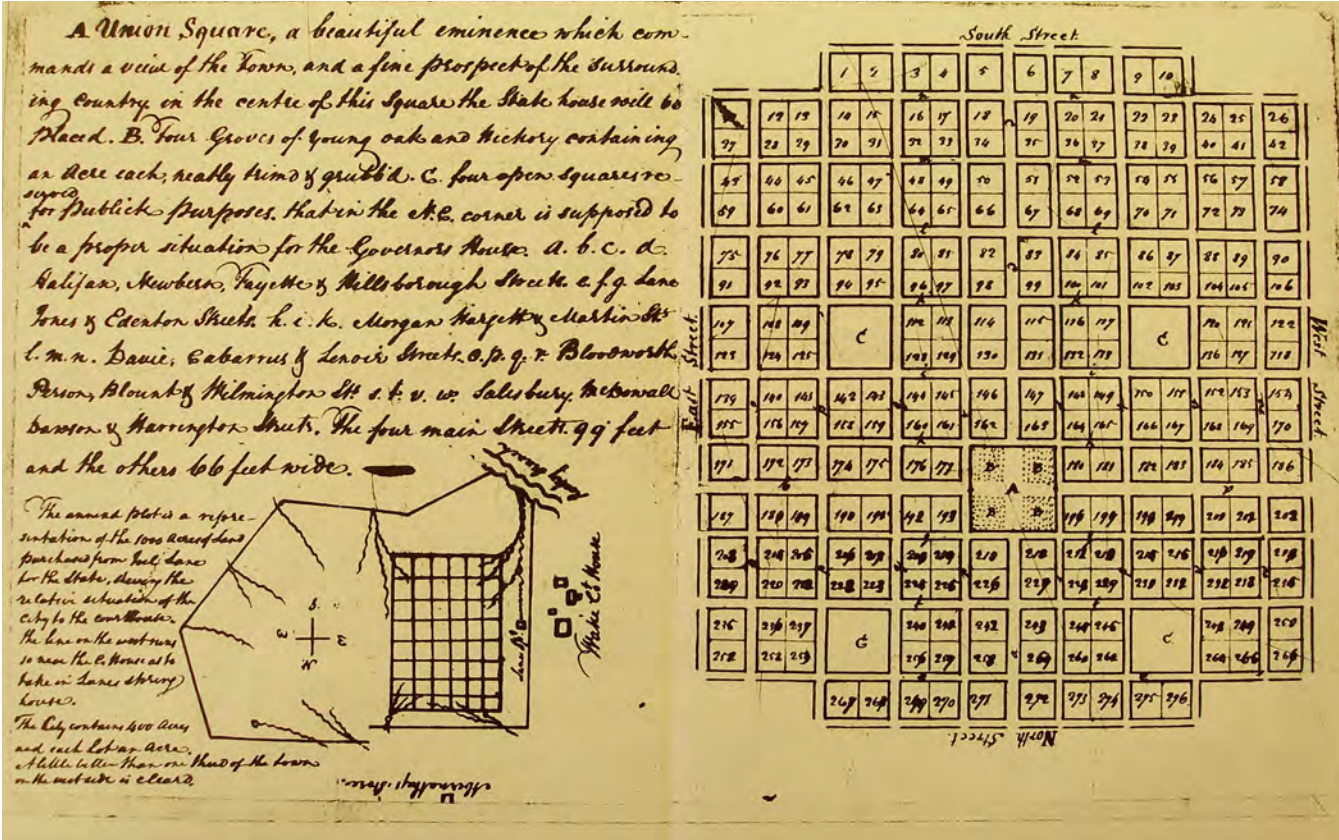
## APPENDIX A: LIST OF SUGGESTED FIGURES





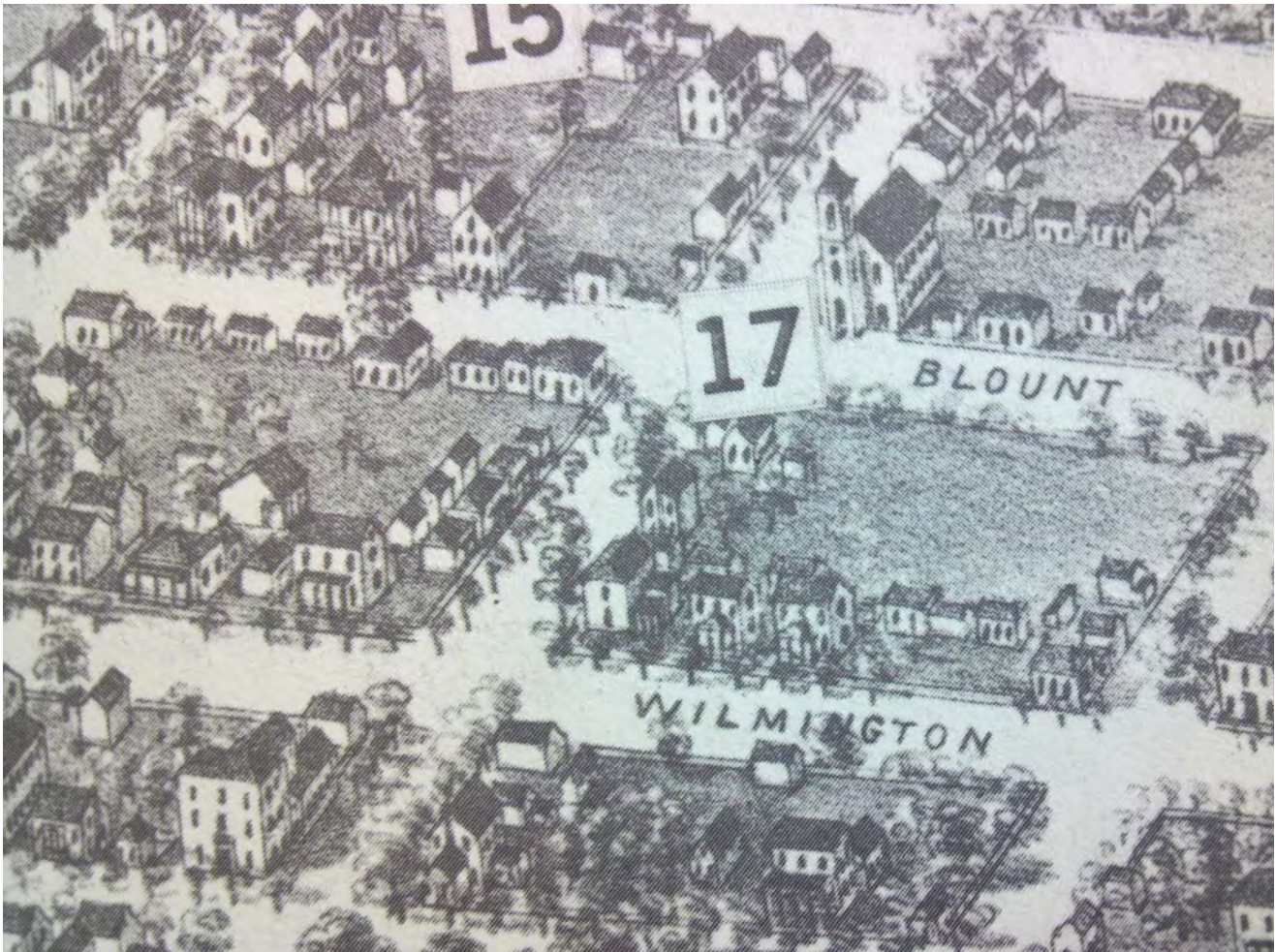
- Figure 1. 1792 William Christmas Plan for the City of Raleigh
- Figure 2. 1872 Birdseye Map
- Figure 3. City Map Showing Locations of Freedman's Communities
- Figure 4. 1881 Plat Showing the Poole Property Next to 1872 Birds Eye View for Comparison
- Figure 5. Color-Coded 1896 Sanborn Map
- Figure 6. Photographs Illustrating Examples of Shotgun Houses and Saddlebag Duplexes that Still Stand in Raleigh
- Figure 7. Color-Coded 1903 Sanborn Map
- Figure 8. Photograph of the MT Pope House
- Figure 9. Color-Coded 1909 Sanborn Map
- Figure 10. Color-Coded 1914 Sanborn Map
- Figure 11. Color-Coded 1950 Sanborn Map
- Figure 12. Photograph of the Lincoln Theatre
- Figure 13. 1959 USDA Aerial Photograph

Figure 1.  
1792 William Christmas Plan for the City of Raleigh



See Suggested Graphics Folder: Christmas Plan.jpg

Figure 2.  
1872 Birdseye Map



See Suggested Graphics Folder: Full map called Raleigh1872 Birdseye map.jpg

This one above is where it needs to be zoomed to.  
Here is the source information: Shaffer 1872

Figure 3.  
City Map Showing Locations of Freedman's Communities

Map located at RHDC - Point out Freedman's Communities such as Oberlin, Brooklyn, Method, Lincolnville, the Cannon tract, Watson's Field, Hungry Neck, and Hayti

Figure 4.  
1881 Plat Showing the Poole Property Next to 1872 Birds Eye View  
for Comparison

See Suggested Graphics Folder:  
Full map called Raleigh1872  
Birdseye map.jpg  
and  
Plat Mrs C Pool Property 1882.  
jpg

Here is the source information:  
Shaffer 1872  
City of Raleigh 1881

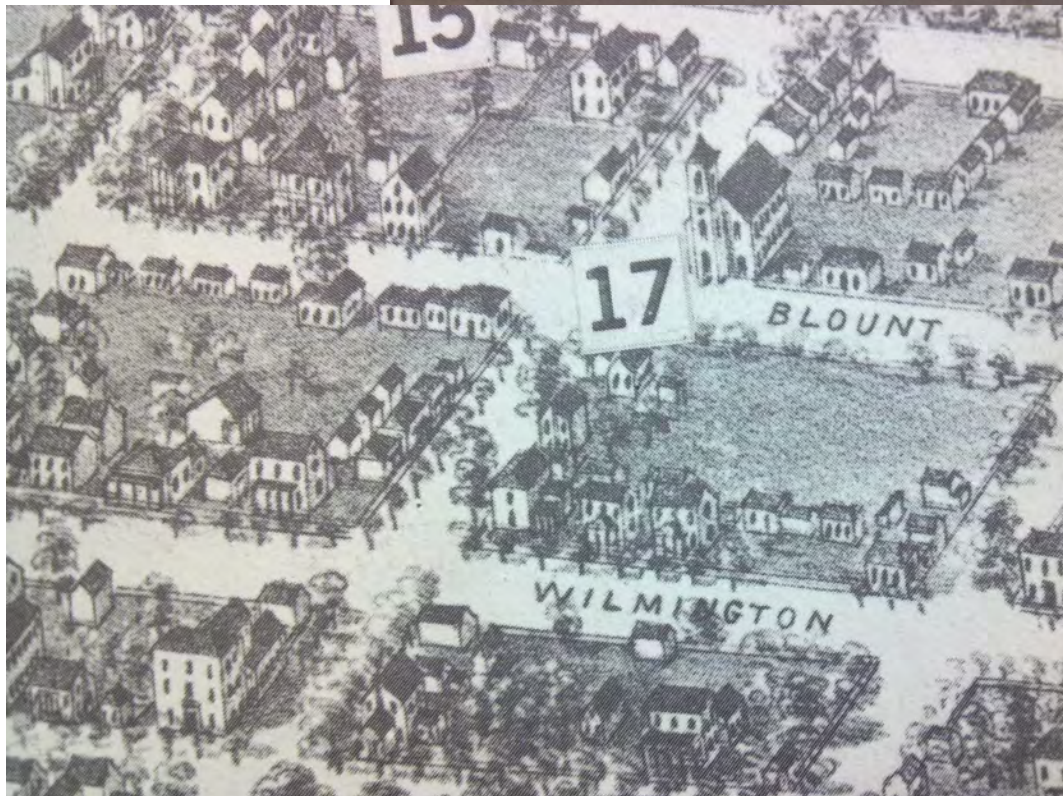
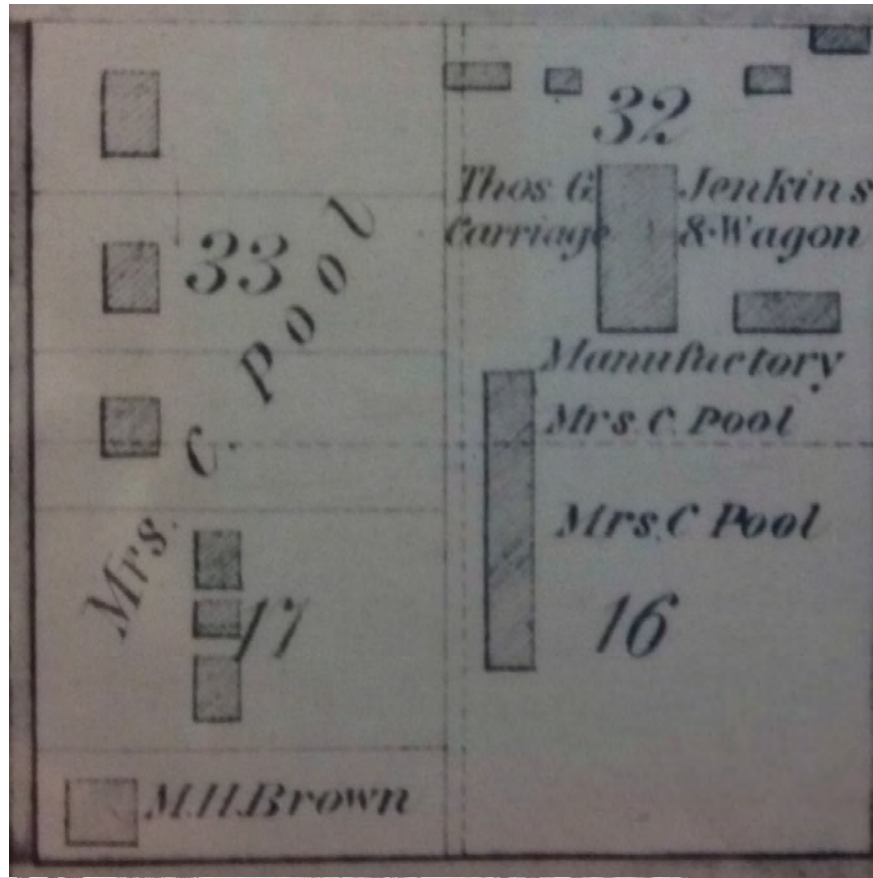
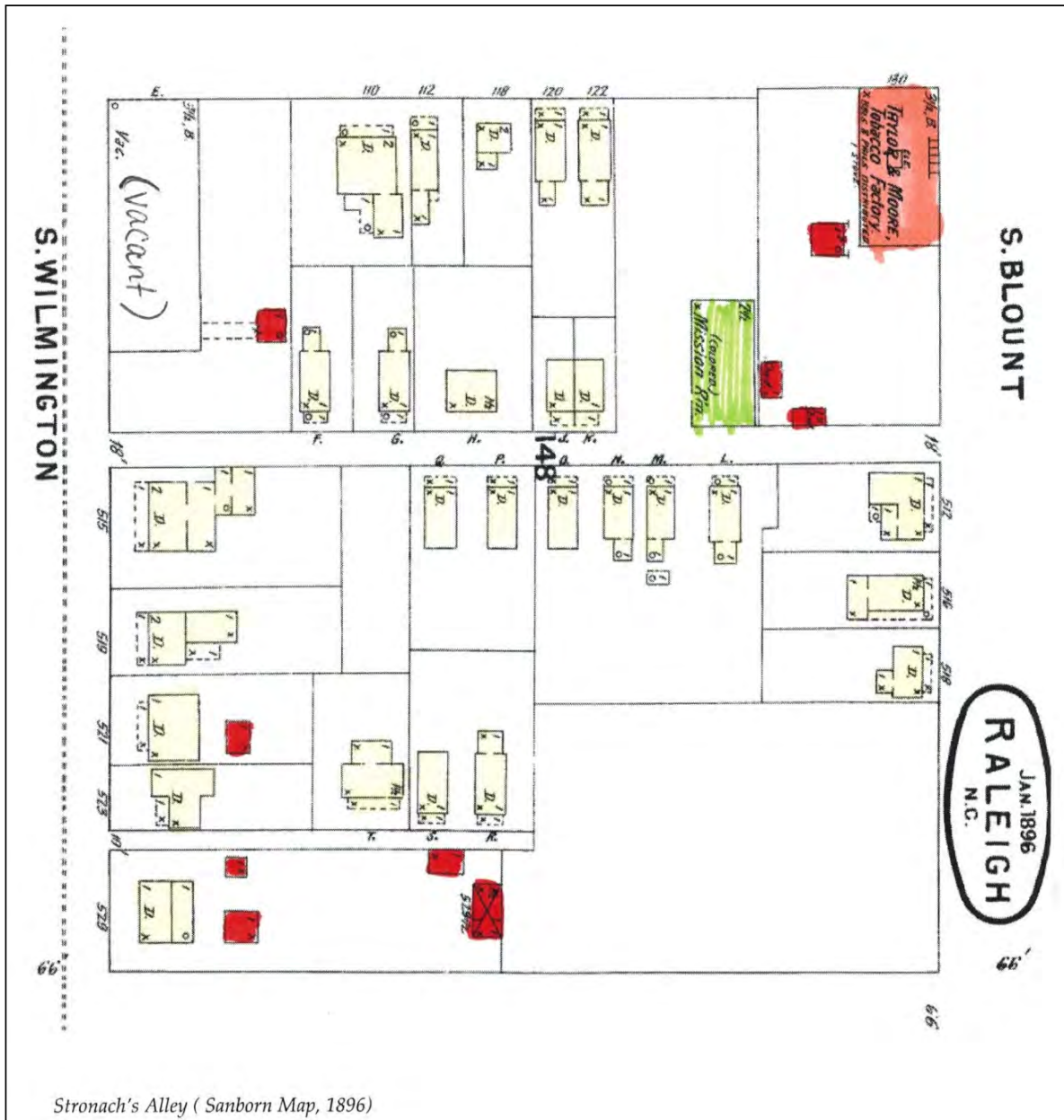


Figure 5.  
Color-Coded 1896 Sanborn Map

**1896 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Showing  
Stronach's Alley, E. Cabarrus (N), S. Wilmington (W), S. Blount (E), and E. Lenoir (S)**



Note: On the 1896 Sanborn, Stronach's Alley is not denoted. In the City Directory of the same year, it appears as "Stronach Ave." In addition, the dwellings on Stronach are assigned letters (F-Q) and in the City Directory, the houses are assigned numbers (found on the table below). It is unknown which letters on the Sanborn Map correspond with the housing numbers found in the City Directory.

Figure 6.  
Photographs Illustrating Examples of Shotgun Houses and Saddlebag Duplexes  
that Still Stand in Raleigh

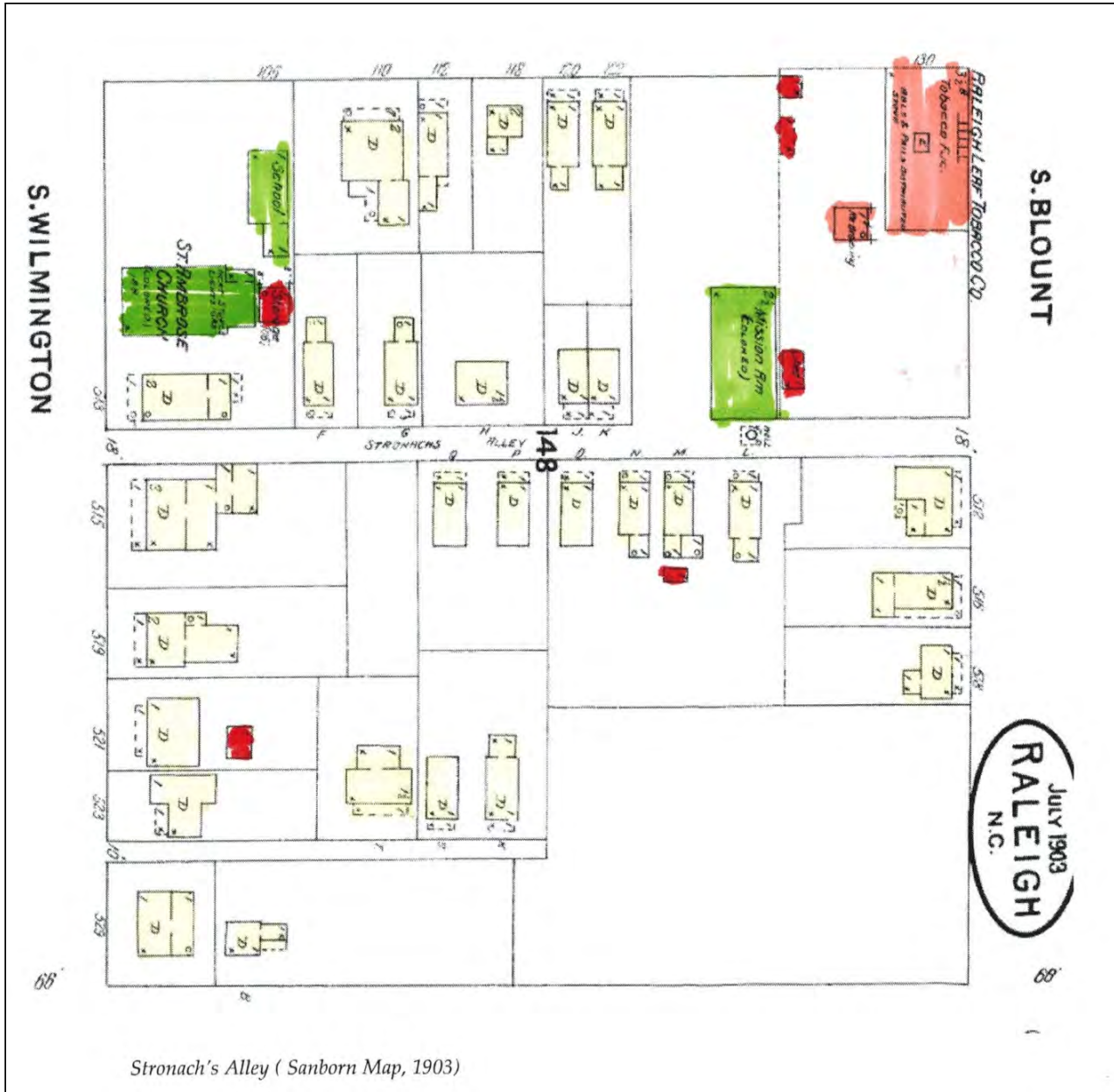
Figure 8.  
Photograph of the MT Pope House

Figure 11.  
Photograph of the Lincoln Theatre

All of these should be current  
photographs

Figure 7.  
Color-Coded 1903 Sanborn Map

1903 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Showing  
Stronach's Alley, E. Cabarrus (N), S. Wilmington (W), S. Blount (E), and E. Lenoir (S)



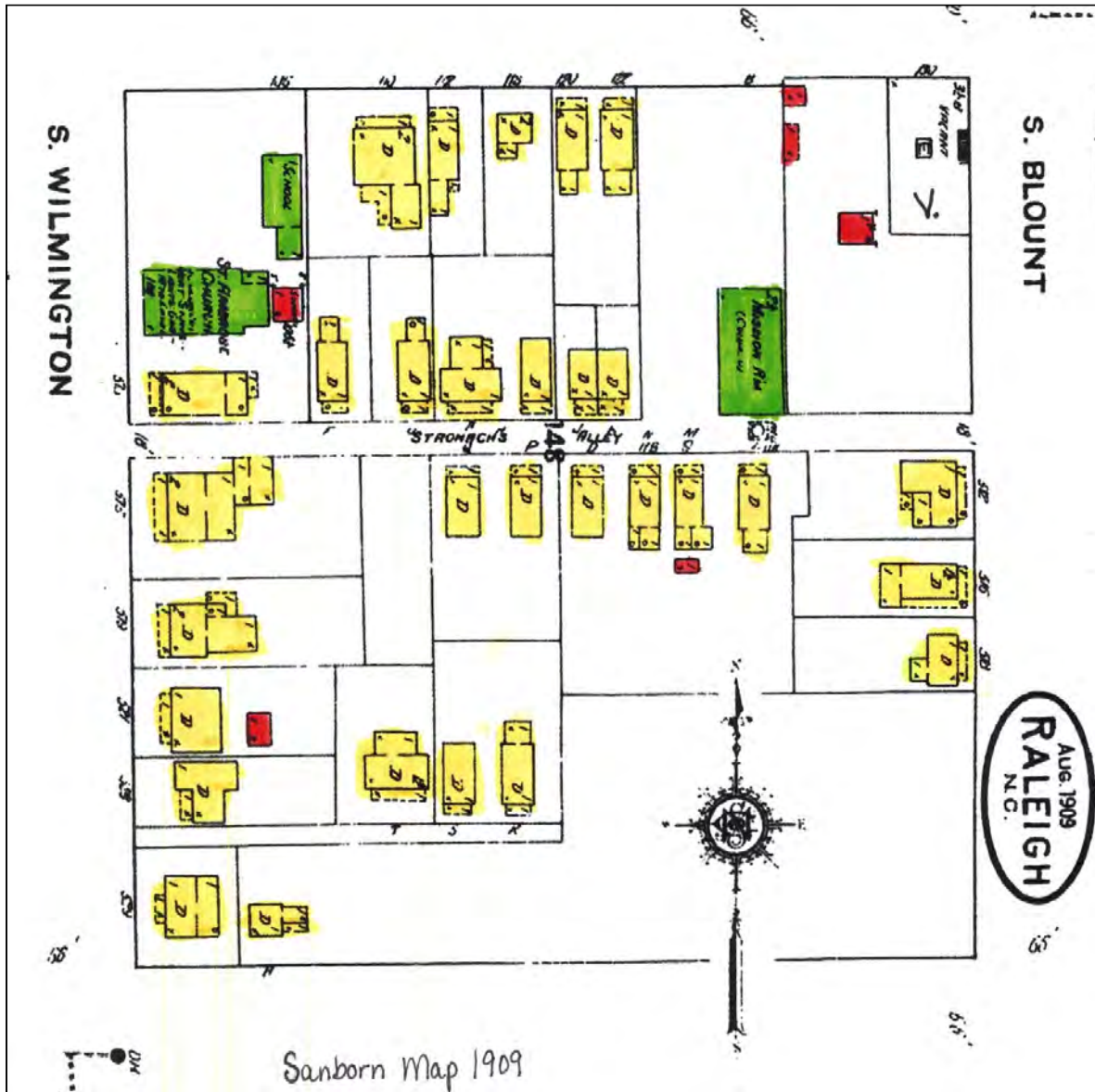
Stronach's Alley ( Sanborn Map, 1903)

Note: On the 1903 Sanborn, Stronach's "Alley" appears, in the City Directory of the same year, it still appears as "Stronach Avenue." In addition, the dwellings on Stronach are assigned letters (F-Q) and in the City Directory, the houses are assigned numbers (found on the table below). It is unknown which letters on the Sanborn Map correspond with the housing numbers found in the City Directory.



Figure 9.  
Color-Coded 1909 Sanborn Map

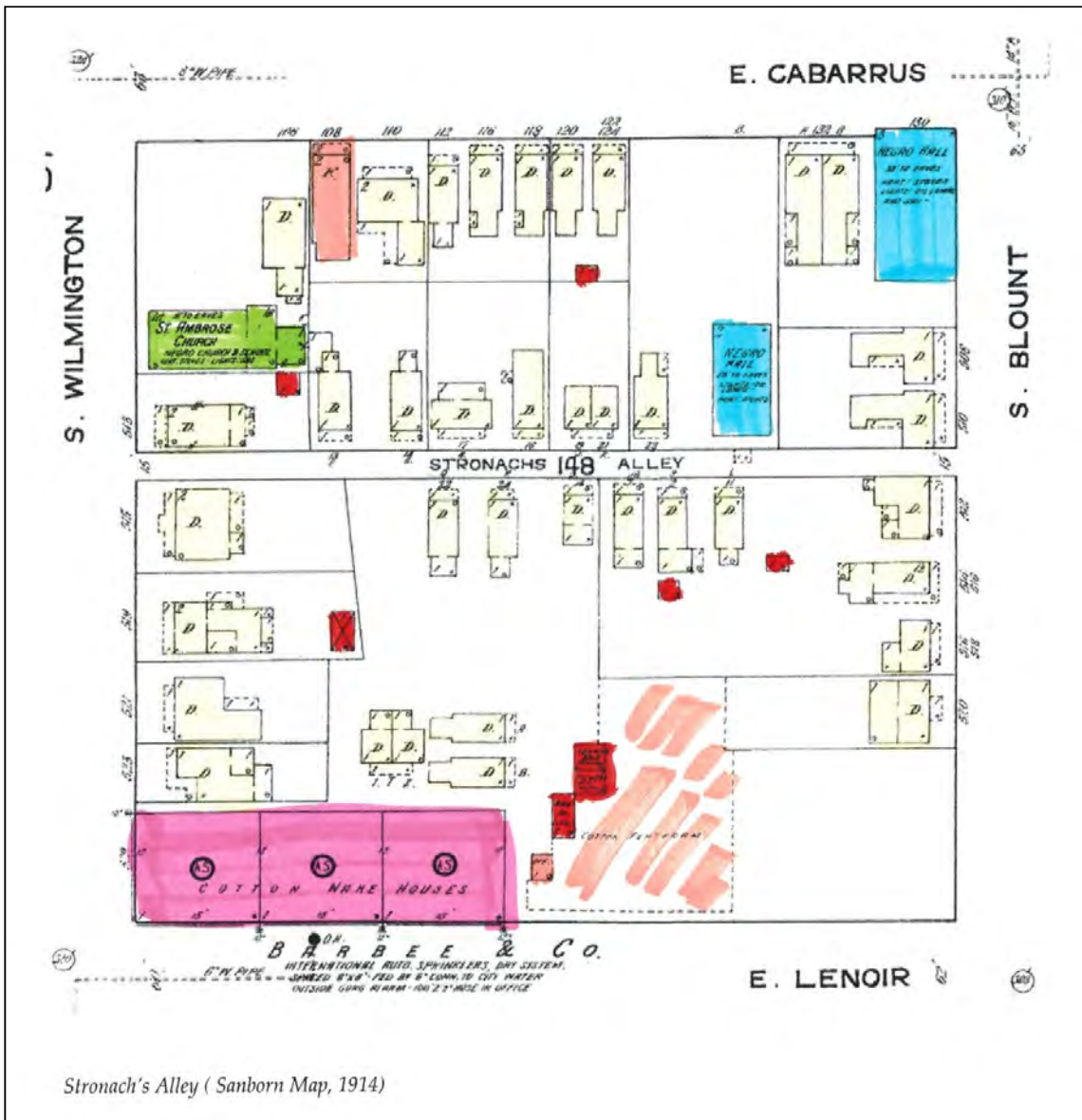
1909 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Showing  
Stronach's Alley, E. Cabarrus (N), S. Wilmington (W), S. Blount (E), and E. Lenoir (S)



Note: On the 1909 Sanborn, both the Sanborn Map and the City Directory bear the name “Stronach’s Alley.” The dwellings on Stronach continue to have a letter assignment (F-Q). The City Directory, continues to assign numbers to the houses (found on the table below). It is unknown which letters on the Sanborn Map correspond with the housing numbers found in the City Directory.

Figure 10.  
Color-Coded 1914 Sanborn Map

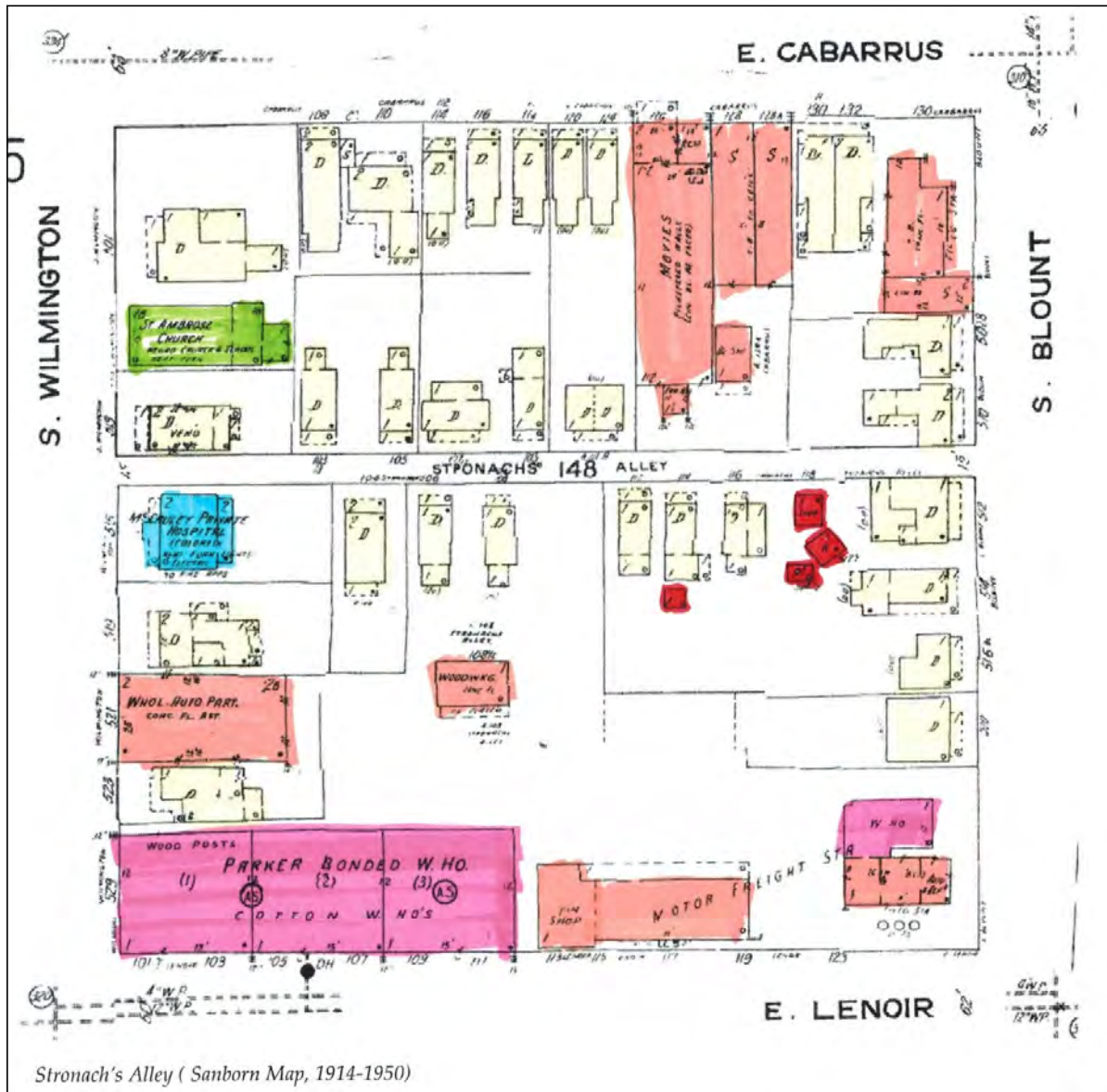
1914 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Showing  
Stronach's Alley, E. Cabarrus (N), S. Wilmington (W), S. Blount (E), and E. Lenoir (S)



Note: On the 1914 Sanborn, both the Sanborn Map and the City Directory bear the name “Stronach’s Alley.” The dwellings on Stronach have been assigned house numbers, but they do not always correspond with the house numbers in the City Directory (found on the table below). The area is now becoming more mixed use, with the appearance of the Barbee Cotton Warehouse on the corner of S. Wilmington and E. Lenoir Streets. According to the City Directory data, this area was beginning to become racially mixed in 1914.

Figure 12.  
Color-Coded 1950 Sanborn Map

1914 - 1950 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Showing  
Stronach's Alley, E. Cabarrus (N), S. Wilmington (W), S. Blount (E), and E. Lenoir (S)



Note: On the 1914-1950 Sanborn, both the Sanborn Map and the City Directory bear the name “Stronach’s Alley.” The dwellings on Stronach have been changed from low numbers (2-24) to numbers in the 100s. The numbers mostly correspond with the Sanborn Map. The area now has a movie theater, a restaurant, a private hospital, warehouses, and small businesses. Some of the businesses are denoted as African-American businesses. According to the City Directory data, this area continues to become more racially mixed. Some of the early homeowners in this area are noted in the “Occupation” field on the table.

Figure 13.  
1959 USDA Aerial Photograph



See Suggested Graphics Folder: Aerial Stronach\_1959.tiff