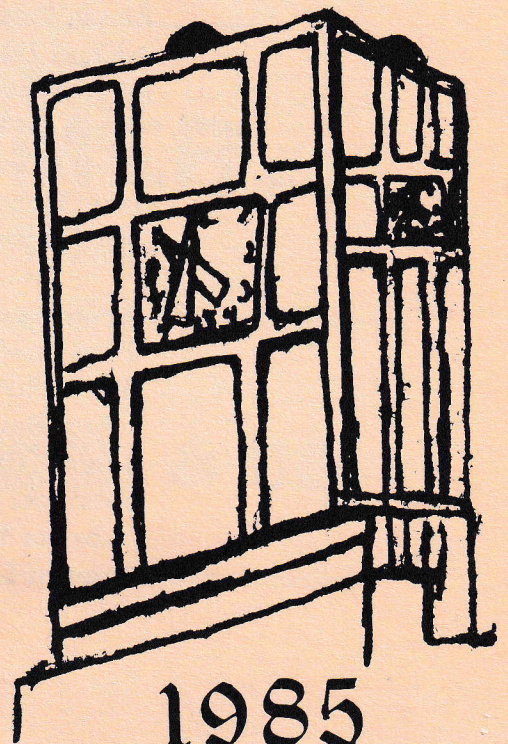




1907

MAIN STREET  
WILLIAMSTON



1985



# MAIN STREET WILLIAMSTON

Researched and produced by  
"THE SKEWARKIANS"  
Junior Historian Club  
Williamston Junior High School  
Williamston, North Carolina  
Adviser: Elizabeth Roberson  
1985

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# MAIN STREET, WILLIAMSTON

## *Every Building Tells a Story of Our Town*

**A**s you stand on Main Street in Williamston today it's hard to imagine how different it looked a few years ago. In 1860, it only extended west to what is now Elm Street and east to the top of the river hill. There were two large posts standing in the middle of the street marking the boundaries.

As late as 1923, the street lay deep in mud in the winter and the only crossings were made by burned coals from the stoves in the various stores along the street. Both sides of the street were bordered with tall shade trees and the sidewalks were made of wooden planks. Many of the stores had roofs extending out over the sidewalks and some had porches on the top level. At various places along the street you would have seen an occasional watering trough for your horse or an old hand pump where you could get a refreshing drink of water after your long journey into town.

Merchants of the town went to New York to purchase their merchandise for the stores. Sometimes they would leave by steamboat and go as far as Franklin, Virginia and then board a train to New York. The goods were then shipped into this area by sailing vessels.

The kinds of stores have changed quite a bit since that time also. At one time there were several general merchandise stores, 5 & 10¢ stores, several grocery stores, bakeries, a bowling alley, pool room, and several barrooms. Somewhere on the street was an "eating establishe-

ment" whose menu was quite simple; whiskey and barbecue!. After you had eaten, you could then go in the "Nags Head Room" for a little game of poker.

Today, the town looks quite serene with its neat stores and treelined squares. Williamston is small in comparison with other towns of eastern North Carolina, but it has a good variety of quality merchandise for sale in its stores which provide

most of the needs of the community. As they will tell you, "If we don't have it, we'll get it!" We should be proud of the progress we've made in the past century and we hope you will enjoy your trip back in time as we walk down Main Street-Williamston ca. 1900.

*Elizabeth Roberson  
Adviser  
THE SKEWARKIANS  
Junior Historian Club*

## SPRING :-: OPENING

We will have next week a full line of

## **. SUMMER .**

DRESS GOODS

Anything to suit the most fastidious.

Give us a call

**N. S. PEEL & CO.**





Main Street Williamston, looking East - ca. 1890. Notice the absence of cars on the street.



Main Street Williamston, looking East - ca. 1907. Notice a few cars are now seen in town.

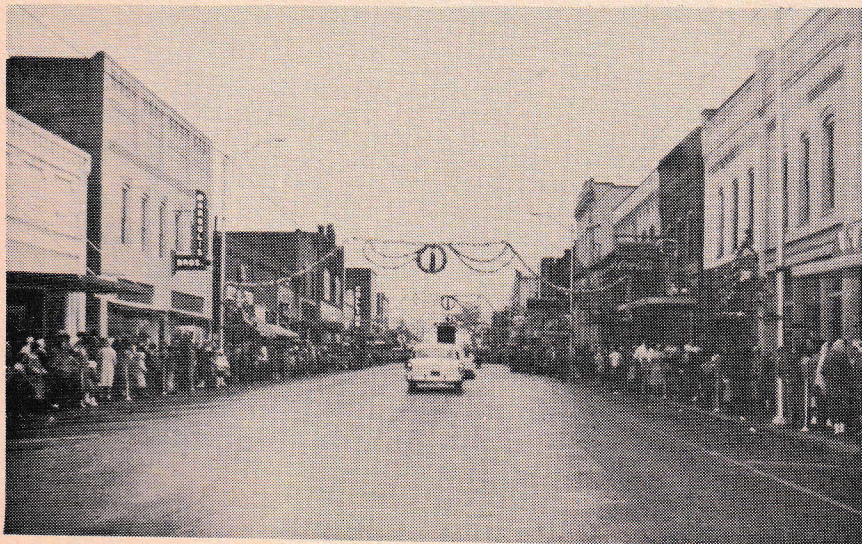




Main Street, Williamston, North Carolina



Main Street Williamston, looking East - 1948



Main Street Williamston, looking West - 1962

## Williamston Post Office

Docton Warren Bagley, one of the county's most prominent citizens and leader of the Confederate Secret Service, was born in 1801 and died in 1878. He lived most of his life in the house that once stood where the post office is today. This house is now located on Watts Street and is owned by Reverend Joe Peterson.

The postal service in Williamston has undergone many changes in the past 100 years with the post office moving to many different locations in town. In 1938, this building was completed and is still serving the people of this area.

## The Bagley Building

The Bagley Building, built sometime before 1830, is thought to be the oldest commercial building left in Williamston.

The original building had three small offices. No nails were used in the frame of the building and the floor sills were hand-hewn logs. The plaster laths are identical to those found in the Hope House in Windsor and are all hand hewn.

This building has served many purposes having been a mercantile store, a commercial office, a doctor's office, a dress shop, a magistrate's office, a cobbler shop, and even a home.

The mercantile business was run by Doctor Warren Bagley, who entered the business in 1820. He soon became the leading merchant in town. A few years later, when the building was used as a commercial office, it was ransacked by Yankee soldiers who had invaded the town.

In later years, Dr. J. H. Saunders practiced medicine here, and many a person in Williamston remembers having his tonsils removed there in the morning and be back at home by night!

After Dr. Saunders' death, the building was used by Anna Harrison for her dress and hat shop.

In 1971, the Martin County Economic Development Commission, under the supervision of Percy A. Price, directed its renovation and used it for several years as their office.

Timmy Peele  
Bryan Mohn





The Bagley Building as it appeared when it was occupied by Miss Anna Harrison's Dress Shop in the 1940's.

**W. H. BIGGS,**

*MERCHANT TAILOR*

Invites you to call  
and inspect his

Spring + and + Summer

**CLOTHING**

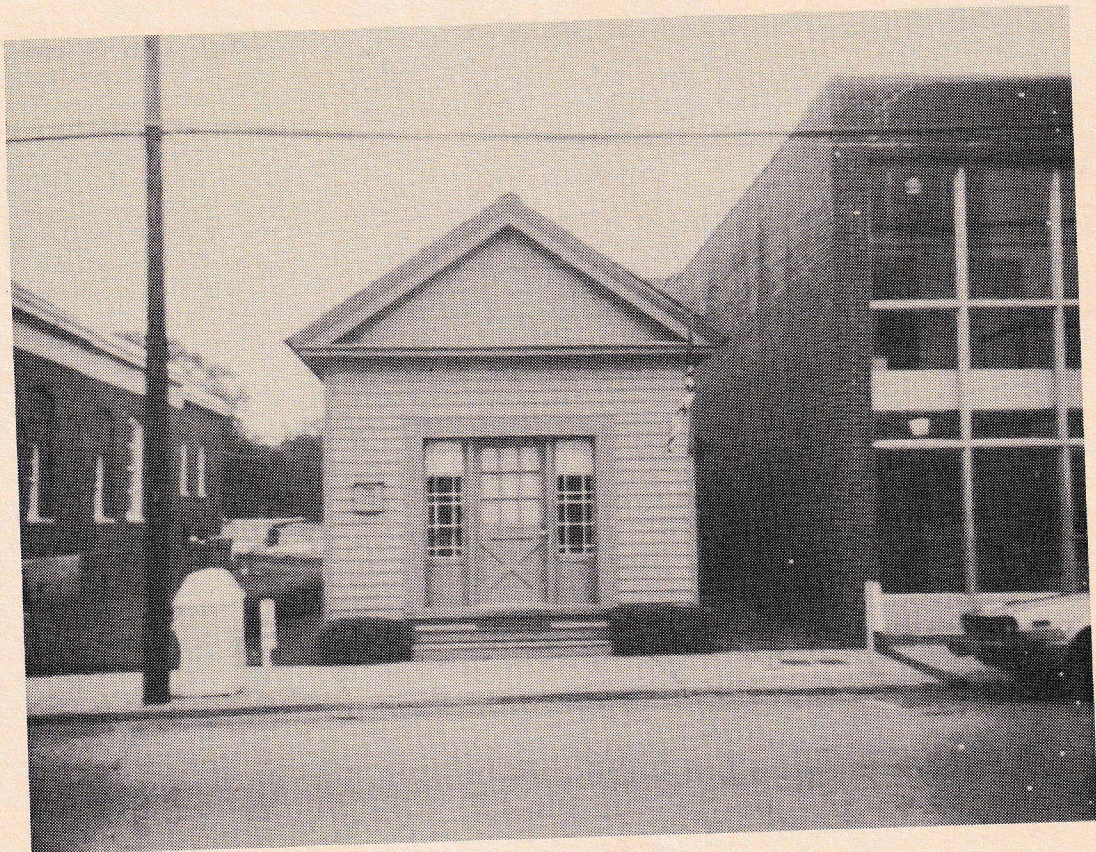
for **1901**

Choice productions.

Correct fit.

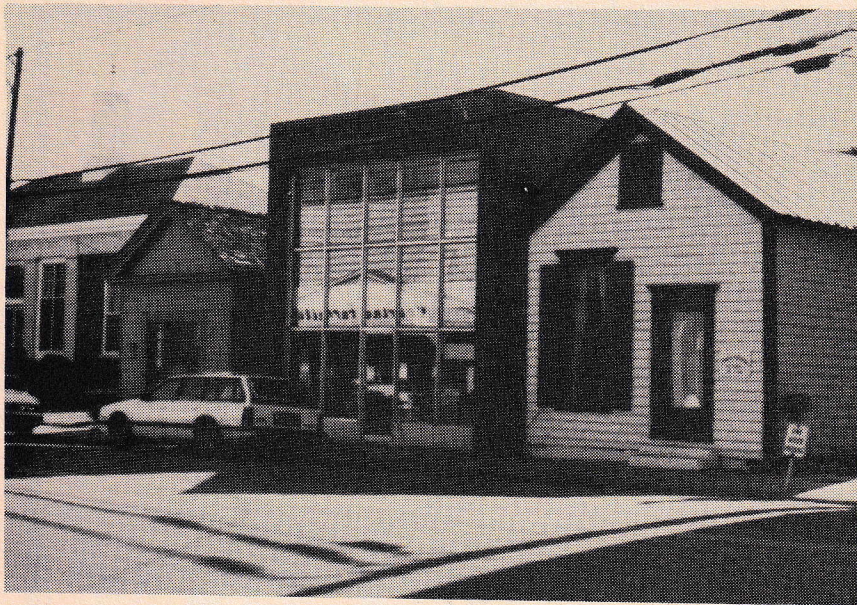
**SUPERIOR WORKMANSHIP.**

Biggs' Drug Store.

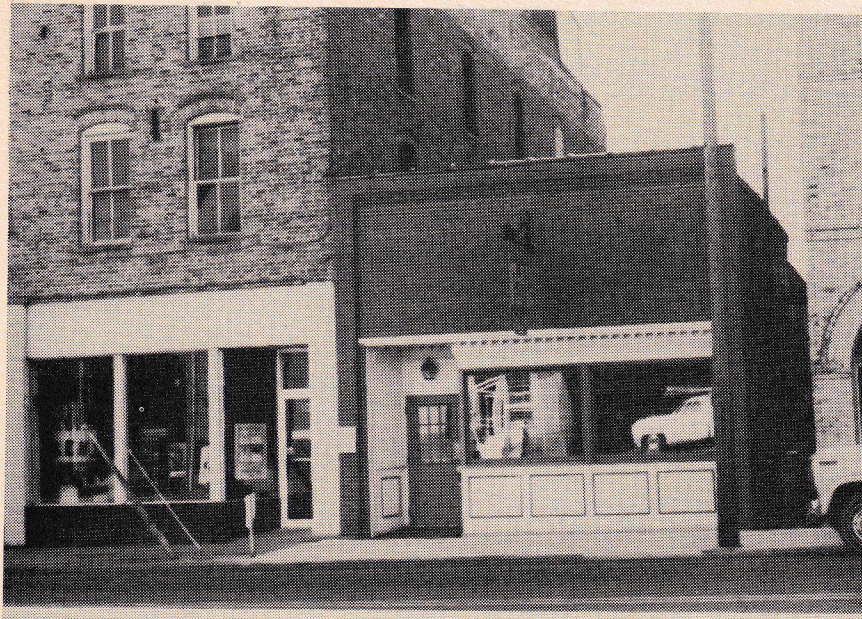


The Bagley Building - ca. 1830. The oldest commercial building in Williamston





The Bagley Building, the Manning Building, and Brandon's Law Office



The Renter Center and Boyd's Insurance Agency

# OUR BEST One Horse Cultivator

Price \$35.00. For the next 30 days, we  
will sell for \$28.00 Cash

## Hoyt Hardware Co.

### The Manning Building

The original building on this site was one of three in this block. It was used by Dr. Biggs for his dentist office, a business office by John Watts, and by Dr. J. H. B. Knight for his medical practice.

A. J. Manning built this building in 1950 and it is used for various professional men of the town.

*Timothy Peele  
Bryan Mohn*

### Brandon Law Office

This building, one of the oldest remaining on Main Street, is one of the three wooden buildings mentioned before. No one is certain of the date it was built, but about 1925 Mr. Biggs, the owner of the building rented it to Mr. J. L. Hassell, who was the local Justice of the Peace. He remained in the building until 1945.

In 1945, the building was sold to Mr. Peele who rented it to K. D. Worrell for his appliance store. He moved out of the store in 1948 and moved to another store in the same block.

The next occupants were Charles Manning, lawyer, and Wheeler Manning, insurance agent. They maintained offices here until 1953.

In 1953, Mr. Hop Peele moved into the building and opened an insurance agency. In 1982, Elbert Peele, Jr. rented the building for his law office, and most recently it was rented to Tom Brandon who also has a law office there.

*Timothy Peele  
Bryan Mohn*

### Boyd Building

This building was built by Joe Godard sometime before 1925. He came here from Jamesville and established the Martin County Savings and Trust Company around the same time. He went bankrupt in 1925 however, and lost not only the bank but also this property as well.

The next occupant was probably a Chinese Laundry. One of the previous owners of the building stated that when he bought the building he had to replace the floor because the water from the laundry had made the floor soggy and unstable. After the laundry moved out, Mrs. Sally Gurkin opened the Sally Ann Bakery there. You could buy a small loaf of bread for five cents! Since the



**Specials for July 10th**

WE HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR  
**THURSDAY, JULY 10th**

The first 10 Ladies entering  
Our Store Thursday  
will be given a pair of  
\$1.95 hose for 98c

**Barnhill Brothers**

# **ANNOUNCING!**

THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS ON A STRICTLY

## **CASH BASIS**

Depression in business and the abnormal conditions compel us to run our business this year on a strictly cash basis.

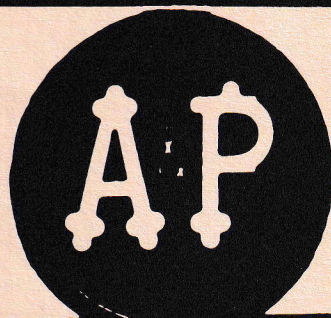
WE WISH TO THANK OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS FOR THE PATRONAGE GIVEN US FOR THE

## **LAST 28 YEARS**

And trust we may continue to serve you. Our price is in line with all competition, and we sell the best class of merchandise. No seconds or inferior quality goods are sold. We handle nothing but the best.

# **Harrison Bros. & Co.**





FOOD STORES

WHITE HOUSE  
EVAP.

**MILK**

**4** TALL CANS **23c**

**8** Small Cans **23c**

**8 O'CLOCK** COFFEE **15c**

**A&P BREAD** **2** **15c**

**WALDORF** **4** **17c**

**CRISCO** **3** **53c**

**PINEAPPLE** **2** **35c**

STANDARD PACK

**STRING BEANS, PEAS,**

**CORN or TOMATOES**

**4** TALL CANS **25c**

Fresh Fancy STRAWBERRIES—2 pts. **27c**

New Green CABBAGE—4 lbs. **9c**

CARROTS — bunch **5c**

Fancy APPLES—6 pounds **25c**

**A&P Food Stores**

Owned and Operated by the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co.

bakery was started during "Hoover Times", it didn't last very long.

It was followed by a bowling alley in the '40's. It only had 2 lanes for bowling but was a favorite hang-out for some of the boys in town even though it was declared "off limits" to many.

It was later used by the state for an A. B. C. store until a new store was built on the bypass. It remained empty for several years, but was recently purchased by Linwood Boyd and remodeled for his insurance agency.

Timothy Peele  
Bryan Mohn

### The Peele Building

At one time, this building was the tallest one on Main Street. It is three stories high, and was one of the first brick buildings in town.

The first story of this building was built in the 1890's by Horton and Byrum. They used it as a grocery store and sold many kinds of meats, flour, vegetables, candy, household goods, and fresh fruit when it was available.

In 1899, they sold the store to Hubert D. Peele, who used it for a jewelry store for the first 11 years he was there. About 1910, he built on the second and third stories. At that time he expanded his merchandise to include bicycles, glassware, violins, and other special items. He had a bicycle repair shop in the back. He rented the third floor to a couple who used it as a dance studio. He also used the third floor as a town meeting hall and dance hall. He rented the second floor for a while to the YMCA and to the fraternal group, "Woodmen of the World."

Mr. Peele owned the building until 1930 when he lost it in the Depression. His three sons, Hop, Flip, and Charles kept the store open until 1945 when they sold it to K. D. Worrell.

Mr. Worrell had the Westinghouse agency in town and sold household appliances such as stoves, refrigerators, and other cooking needs. In 1959, Mr. Worrell died and the building was sold to J. B. Cherry, who sold antique furniture there.

In the '70's, Miss Lena Taylor purchased the building. She rented the first two floors to Southern Finance Company. It was later acquired by the Renter Center, its current occupants.

Timothy Peele  
Bryan Mohn





## PURE and Delicious Ice Cream.

Delivered every day between 12 and 1 o'clock, p. m. (except Saturday.) Served at Fountain at all hours, with many other drinks.

Ice Cream Soda

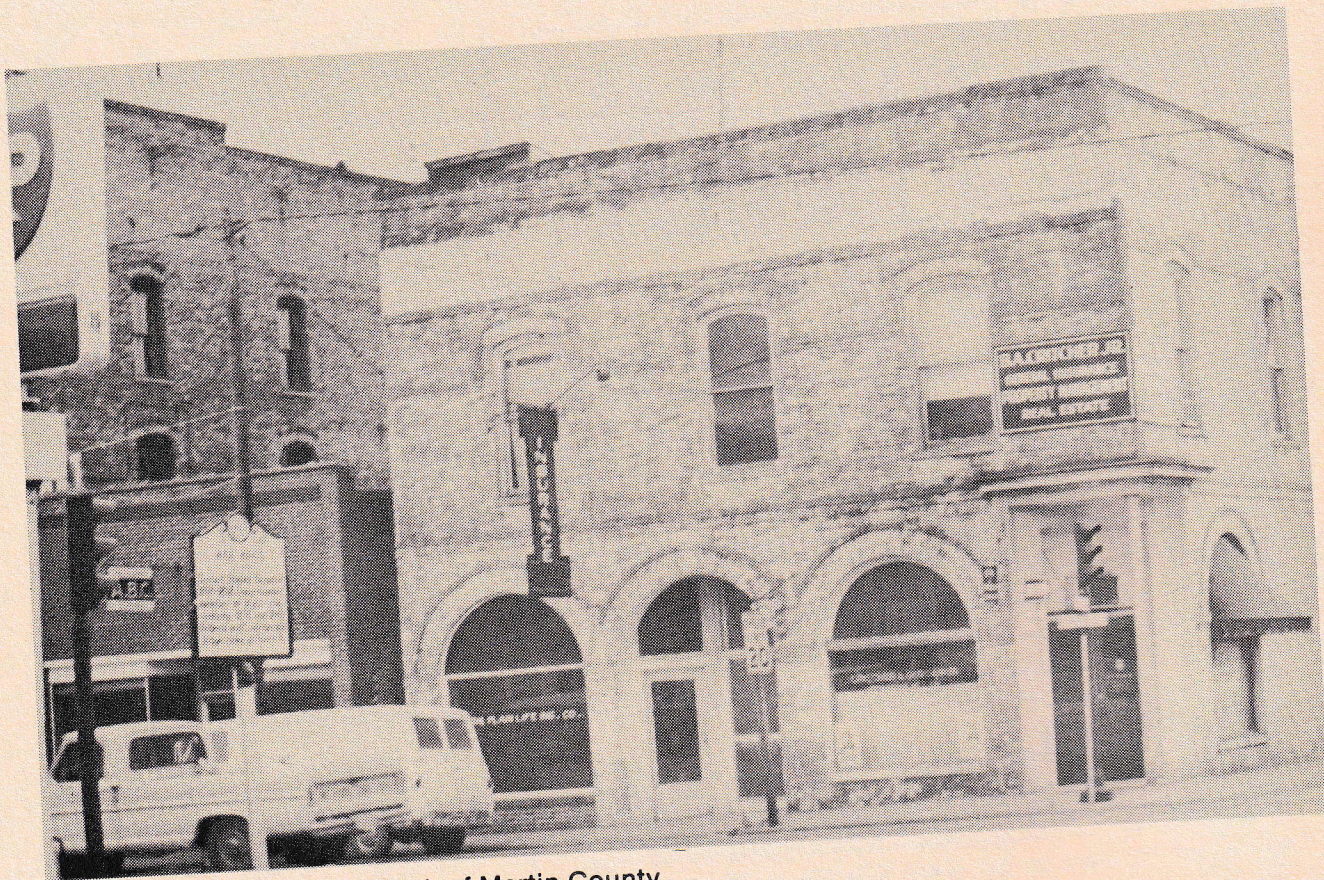
Ping Pong Rapture

Etc.

We will be delighted to serve you. Yours truly,

FOWDEN  
& COBURN.

37-4t



This was once the Bank of Martin County





This picture that was taken in the 1940's shows the three wooden structures on East Main Street. You can also see the Peele Building (tall one) and the old bank building on the corner.

Wm. E. Warren - J. S. Rhodes  
**Drs. Warren & Rhodes**  
 Physicians and Surgeons  
 Office in Biggs Drug Store - Phone

## Gurganus Law Office

There is now an empty building on the corner of Main and Smithwick Streets. It stands empty now, but it has seen the day when it was a vital part of Williamston's business community.

It was first built in 1902 by J. G. Godard, as a private financial institution and was called the Bank of Martin County. It remained in business until the Great Depression caused its failure in 1923.

While the bank occupied the downstairs, William Christian Manning operated the Telephone and Electric Company upstairs. He later used those offices for his newspaper, *THE ENTERPRISE*, which remained here for several years.

After the bank closed, the building was used for a few years by the Martin County Savings and Trust Company. After that, four young doctors used the building for a couple of years for their medical practice.

It remained vacant for some years until 1958 when Ray and Faye Ferris opened a toy store there. When that business closed, several lawyers bought the building and used it until 1984.

This building has many unique features. In the front, the stained glass window, with its vivid colors, still remains unbroken. Even the bank vault is still intact. The building is held up by a long cypress beam, supported by other beams. Under the floor, the cypress beams, unseen by the sun, are just as white today as the day they were put there!

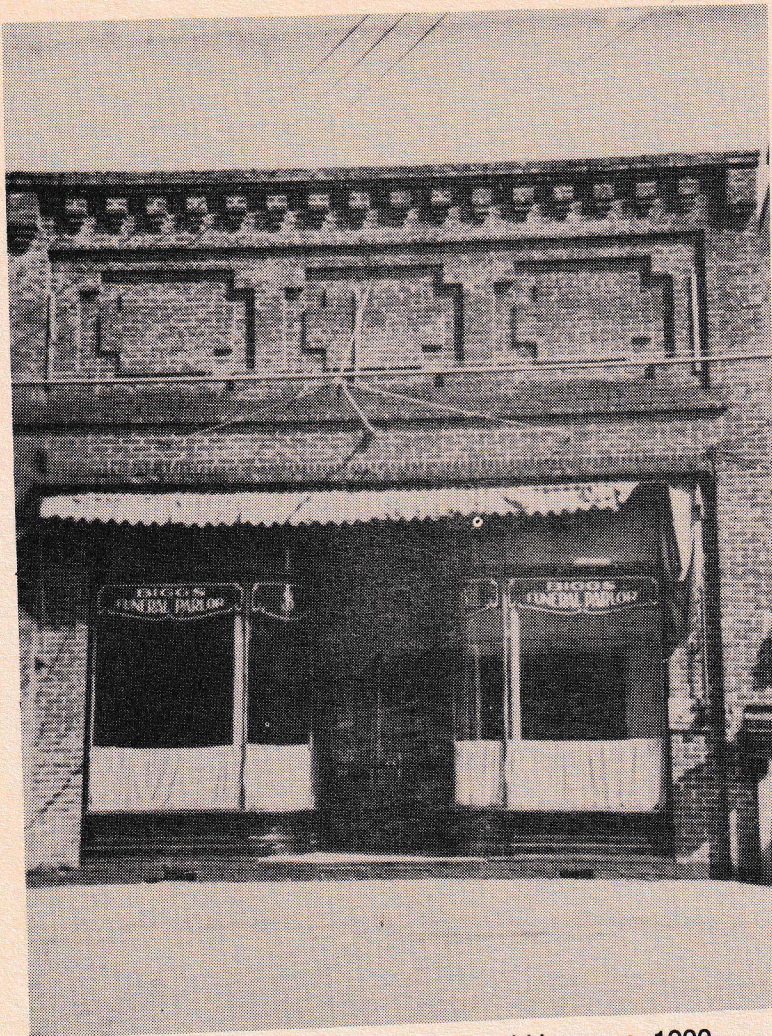
*Timothy Peele  
 Bryan Mohn*

## Roanoke Printing Company

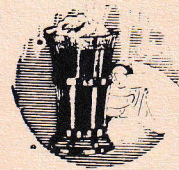
On this site was a large three story building built by Elder Hassell sometime around 1860. It was the largest store in town at that time and covered what is now Roanoke Printing Company, Willard's Shoe Shop, and Integon Insurance Company. It burned in the fire of 1883, which destroyed much of the downtown property.

This building is about 80 years old. It has been a post office, a grocery store, and a dry cleaners. Alpha Cleaners, as it was called, was in the building for the longest period of time. It closed in 1982 and the most recent occupant is the Roanoke





The old Biggs Drug Store and Funeral Home ca. 1900



Try Our  
Delicious  
Refreshing  
**SODA**

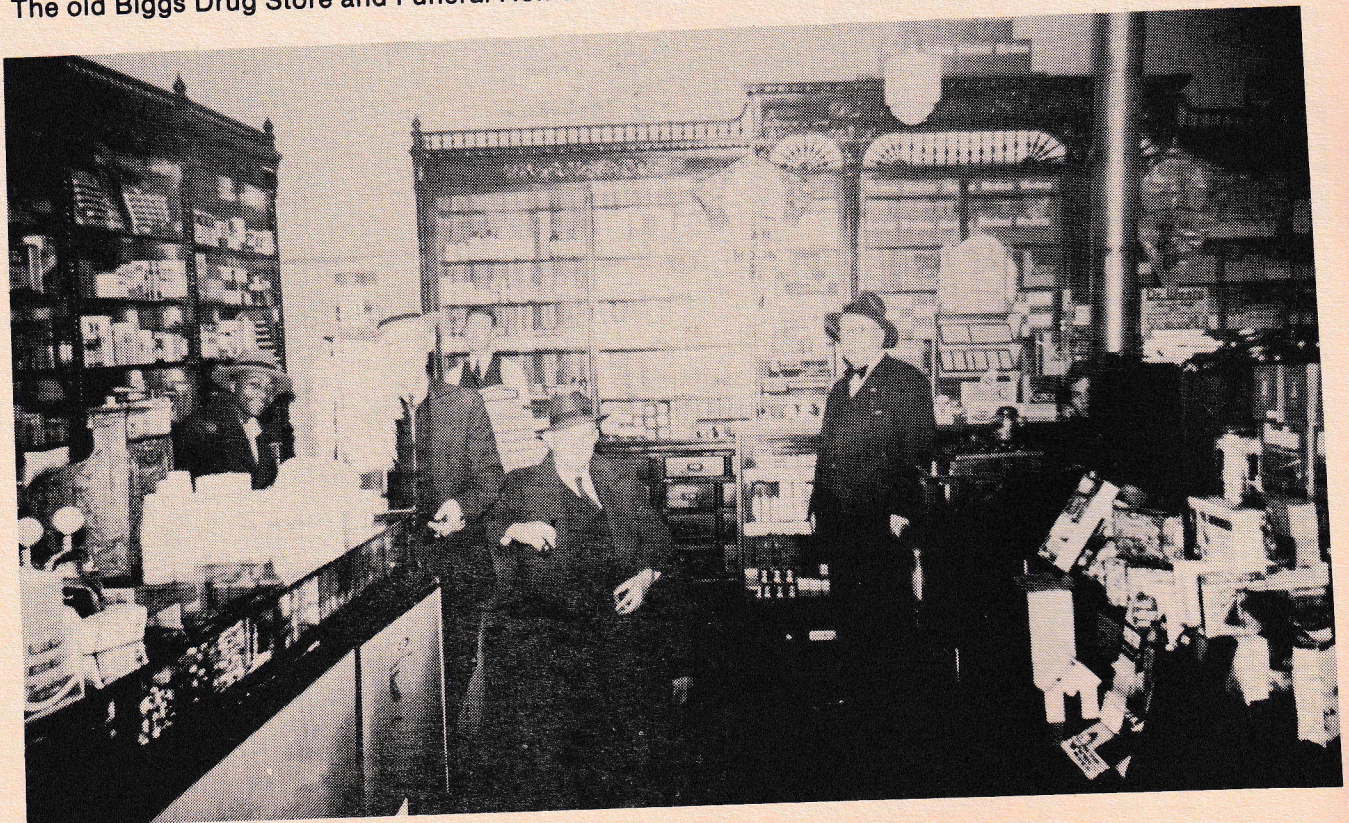
To Keep Cool

Step in our store any time  
and try one of our delicious  
and refreshing drinks.

They are different.

They'll help to keep you  
cool!

**W. D. AMBERS**

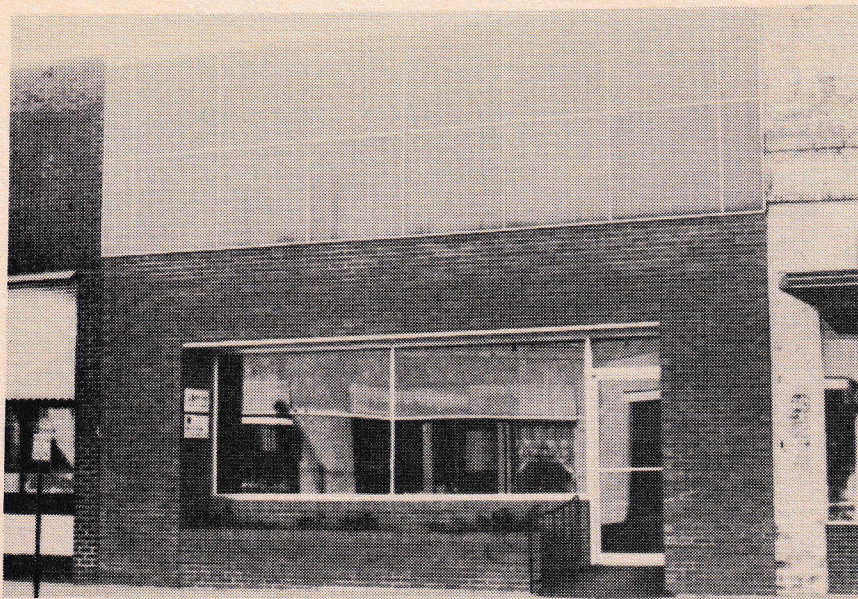


The interior of Biggs' Drug Store





Mr. and Mr. Otho Willard and their grandson Danny



Integon Insurance Company and Williamston Chamber of Commerce

Feel That Thump-ety-Thump?  
AT LAST!

A headache remedy that's quick, pleasant, and contains no heart depressant - none-tar, no cocaine, no alcohol, or worshipping

**BROMALGINE**

get at soda fountains - 10c, 25c and 50c bottles

For sale by SAUNDERS & FOWDEN

Printing Company, a firm which does commercial printing as well as the publication of Williamston's newest paper, THE MARTIN MONITOR.

### Willard's Shoe Shop

This store has probably been used for a larger variety of businesses than any other store on Main Street.

It was first a bakery, owned by E. M. Gordy. In 1920, it was taken over by Pete Hall, who opened a barber shop there. After sometime, it was bought by Jim Leggett and turned into a cafe called "Jim's Place". Some people said that he sliced the meat so thin for the sandwiches that you could see through it! He later moved into a store further down the block at which time Ira Willard bought it for his shoe repair shop.

In 1931, Ira turned the business over to his brother Otho. In 1937, decorative waiting booths were purchased in New York. They were handmade by an Italian and offered a comfortable place to sit while having your shoes repaired.

When Mr. Willard's grandson Danny was only 13 years old, he began learning the shoe repair trade from his grandfather. In 1982 when his grandfather retired he assumed the responsibility of running the business and today he is carrying on the family tradition of shoe repair.

*Nickie Hardison*

### Integon Insurance Company

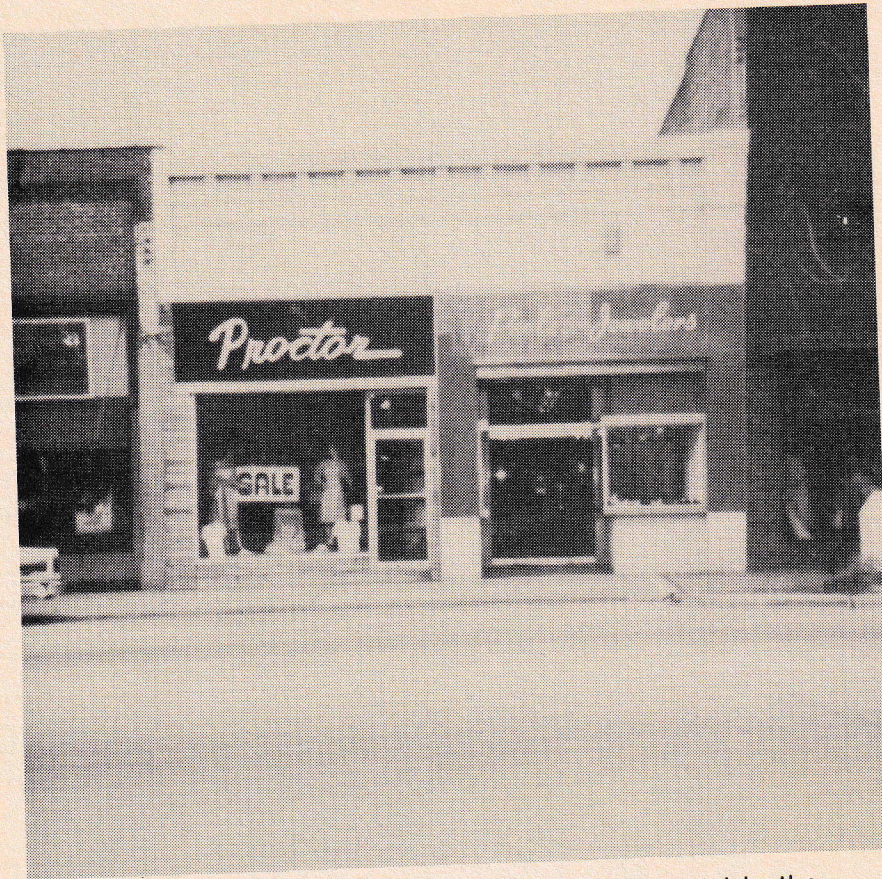
One of the earliest businesses to be located on this site after the Hassell Store burned, was a restaurant called THE WELCOME INN. Later it housed Harrison's Piano Store and another restaurant, Williamston Cafe, owned by Joe Godard. The building was purchased by Bill Howell who remodeled it for his accounting office. When he sold the business, Integon Insurance Company moved in, as well as the Williamston Chamber of Commerce.

*Nickie Hardison  
Beth Roberson*

### Chief's Locksmith And Jeans Glory

This building was built by Samuel Romulus Biggs for a drug store. His first store on this site was destroyed by fire during the 1800's and he moved into this building in 1879.





The Proctor Shoppe and Peele's Jewelers are located in the building once used by the Ambers Cleaners.



*We Outfit and  
Furnish the Home*

No home is complete without new and beautiful furniture. Our stock is being added to each day and week, and we are now prepared to serve your every need. Living room suites, dining room suites, bedroom suites, breakfast sets, tables and a hundred and one other items. You'll find it here — and at the right price.

**WOOLARD**  
Furniture Company  
G. G. WOOLARD, Prop.



The Christian Book Store and Sovran Corporation occupy the building once owned by Margolis Brothers.





Margolis Brothers Store as it appeared in 1950



The Orleans Brothers, Bill and Sol, owners of Orleans Department Store. They are shown here with Frank Margolis.

At that time this was the first and only drug store in Williamston. Mr. Biggs not only carried drugs, but also operated a funeral parlor in the back, where he also sold coffins. His mother, "Miss Sallie", made the wreaths here for all the funerals.

Biggs' Drug Store was kind of an unofficial headquarters for the politicians in the area. It is said that on election nights the store would be filled with people waiting for the election returns, and sometimes tensions would run so high that fist fights would break out!

This store was quite lavishly furnished with mahogany wood counters, carved woodwork, and marble topped tables. It was a favorite gathering place for the young people in town.

In later years, after the drug store had gone out of business, Elbert S. Peel bought the building and divided it into two parts. From 1946-1974, Muse Jewelry Store occupied one half of the store and Warren Biggs kept a small drug business on the other. Thessie Barnhill's Beauty Shop was located in the back of the building.

After the jewelry business moved across the street, it was occupied by the Friendly Wig Shop and Virgie's Fabric Shop. These two businesses have been replaced by Chief's Locksmith Shop and Jeans Glory, a clothing store.

*Nickie Hardison*

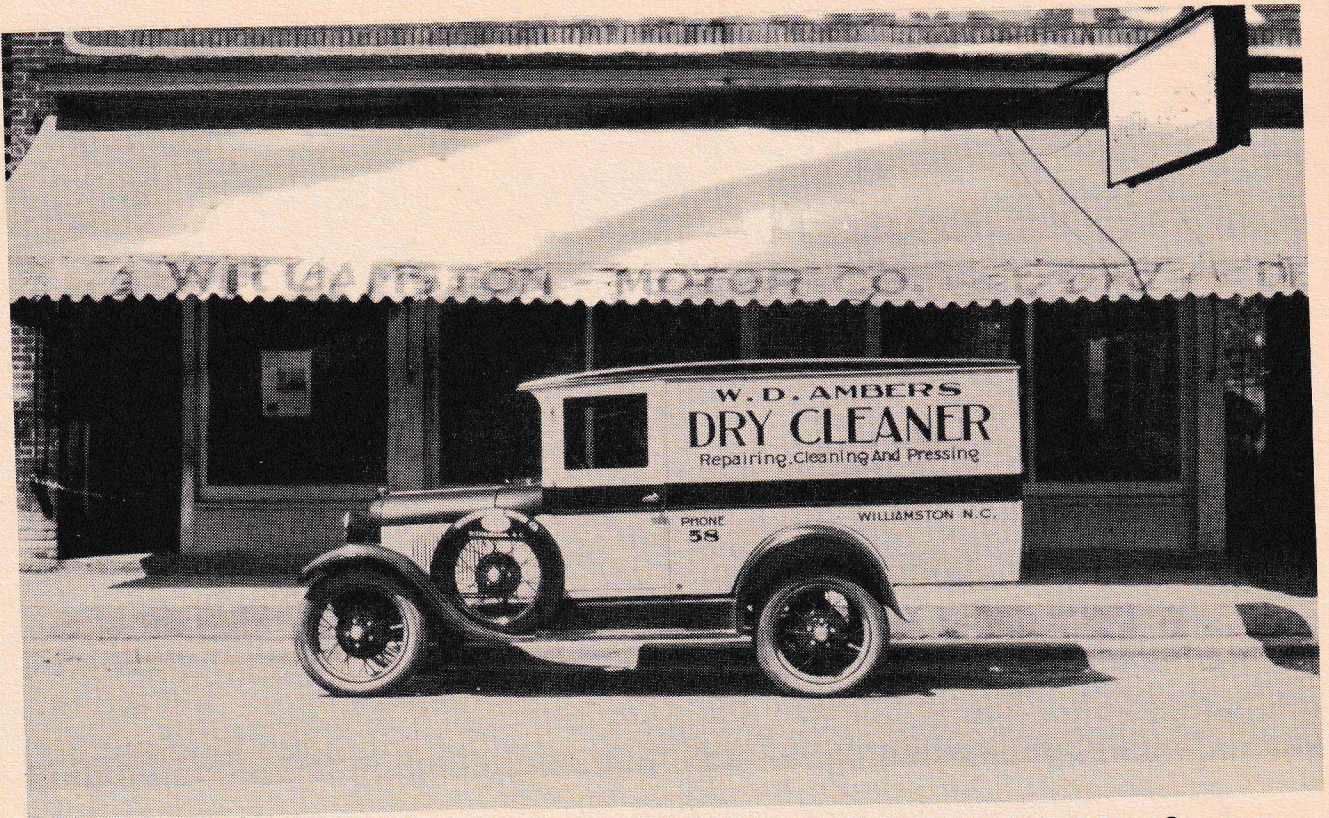
### Margolis Brothers

The building now occupied by the Christian Book Store and the Sovran Corporation was known for many years as Margolis Brothers. The two Margolis Brothers, Frank and Irving, came to Williamston in 1919 to enter the mercantile business.

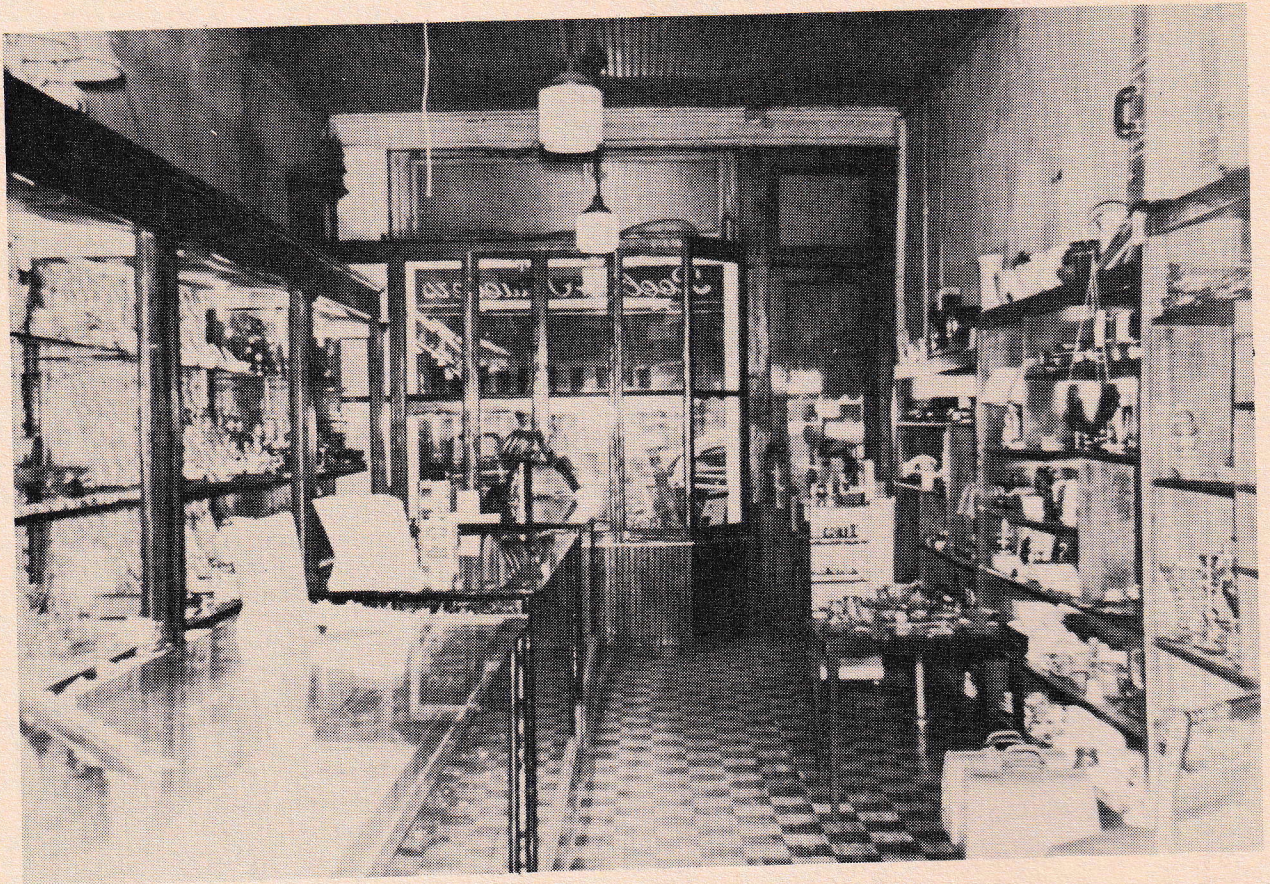
The store was built around 1875 and was owned by Abe Adler and Simon Rutenburg. When the flu epidemic came in 1918, Rutenburg moved away because he was afraid he would catch it. He sold his share to Dennis Taylor who then went into business with Adler. In 1920, the Margolis brothers bought the business from them. At that time a man's suit cost around \$20.00!

When they first purchased the store, there was a soda shop on the left side (now occupied by the Christian Book Store). It closed shortly after they opened the store and the Margolis' bought the building and cut an archway between the two stores. They sold women's clothing on one side and men's clothing on the other. The large area upstairs over the store was used for





Delivery truck for Ambers Cleaners. It was parked in front of the Williamston Motor Company on Washington Street, ca. 1920



The interior of Peele's Jewelers ca. 1930





H & R Block. This building was once owned by Ward and Edmondson and known as E & W Grocery.



Citizen's Barbershop and Williamston Cablevision are located in the building once used by the Orleans Brothers for a department store.

offices, apartments, dances, and storage.

In 1972, the brothers retired and the store was closed. They were proud to be able to say however, that they had outfitted three generations in many of the families of Williamston.

After Margolis Brothers closed, the Western Auto Store moved in. Later it was a carpet store, a book-store, and an antique shop. It was then remodeled and rented to the Christian Book Store and the Sovran Corporation.

*Chris Warren  
Bill Daniels  
Mark Summerlin*

**H. & R. Block  
Citizens' Barber Shop  
Williamston Cablevision  
Proctor Shoppe  
Peele's Jewelers**

The building now occupied by H&R Block was once a grocery store managed by Samuel (Sam) Brown. He retired about 1911. Others to occupy the store were Theodore Roberson during the 1920's and Octavius Manning soon after. In 1940, James Herbert Ward and Jack Edmondson owned the business which was called E & W. After the death of Edmondson, the store's name was changed to Ward's Superette. Mr. Ward retired in 1974 at which time the store was closed. About seven years ago, Mr. Marshall Wilson, the store's owner, rented it to the H&R Block Accounting Service.

The building to its right is Citizen's Barber Shop and Williamston Cablevision. This space was once occupied by Orleans Department Store which was owned and operated by Bill and Sol Orleans. They sold the business and moved away with Bailey's Department Store moving in.

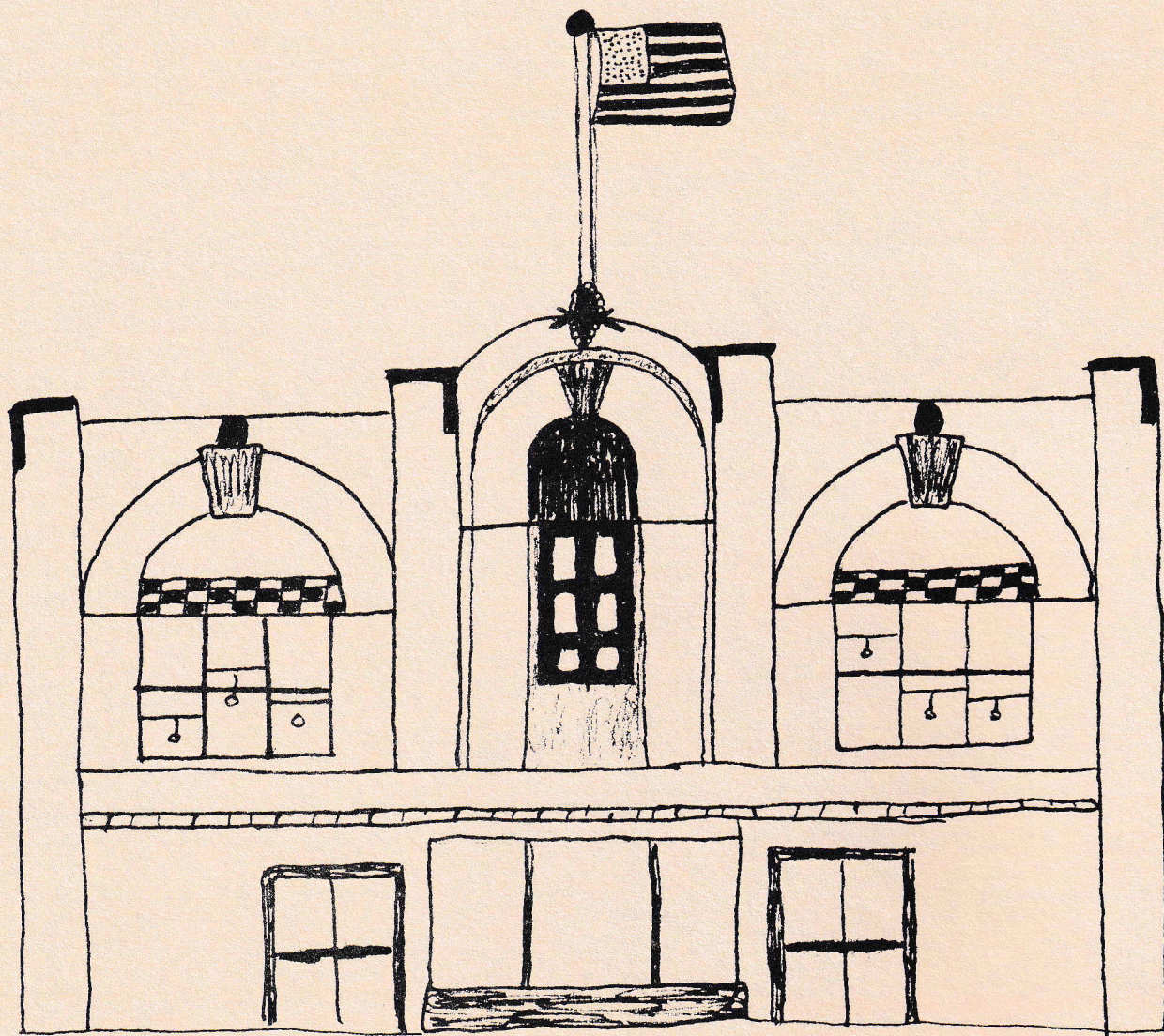
After Bailey moved out, the store was divided into two parts with Dick Dunn's Plumbing Company on one side and the Pioneer Gift Shoppe on the other. After Dunn's Plumbing business closed, Pete Hall and Bob Taylor opened a barber shop there. In 1947, Luther Modlin began to work with them and is still operating a barber shop there.

After the Pioneer Shoppe closed, the building remained vacant for some time. In the past few years





This building is the old Harrison Brothers Store. The front of the store was modernized by CATO'S in 1983.







Harry Stubbs' Law Office was located on the site where Wise Fashions is located today.



Wise Fashions as it appears in 1985

however, it has been a hotdog stand, a book store, and currently is the office for Williamston Cablevision.

The building now occupied by the Proctor Shoppe and Peele's Jewelers was once the Ambers Pressing Club, which was owned by Will Ambers. He had a soda fountain in the front of the store and his cleaning business in back. During the 1920's, the set price for cleaning a suit was \$2.00.

The Proctor Shoppe was started in 1933 by two sisters, Ozella Critcher and Cora Proctor. Today, 52 years later, it's owned and operated by Mrs. Critcher's daughter, Alta Critcher Harrington.

Peele's Jewelers began business here in 1933 by Edwin (Flip) Peele, who is the current owner.

Donnie Martin  
Srikant Mantravadi

### Wise Fashions

The first known business at this location was Church Hardison's Beef Market. Hardison was a local deputy sheriff and had this business as well. It is not known when the market was built or how long it remained in operation.

It was followed by Harry Stubbs' Law Office, a small wooden building with big wooden steps across the front. Here the men of the town would gather to discuss politics or just watch the ladies go by.

This building was torn down and was replaced by the building you see today. The first business to occupy it was Roses 5&10¢ Store. They remained in this location until a new store was built for them further down the street.

After Roses moved, Stelen's moved there in 1956. In 1979, the name was changed to Wise Fashions, the company who remodeled the building as it appears today.

Radaemes Willingham

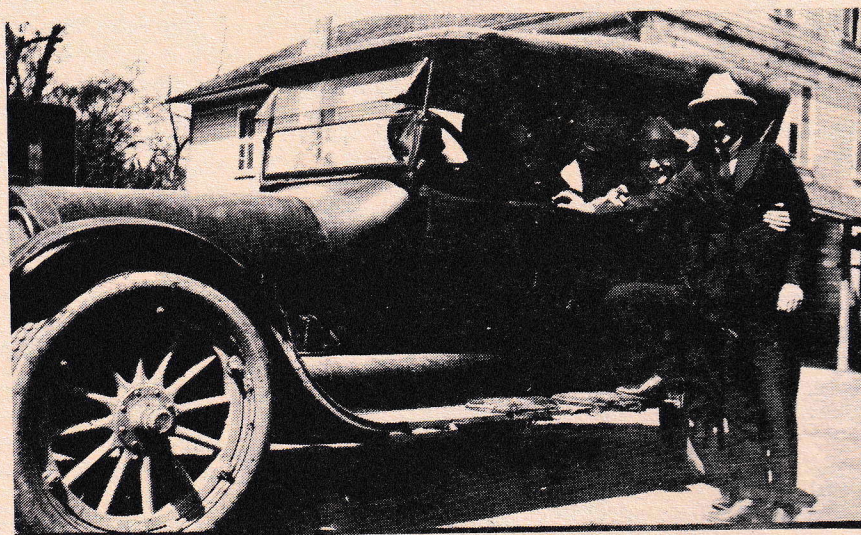
### Cato's

The building occupied by Cato's is the old Harrison Brothers Building. It was built by John D. Ward, a local contractor in 1917. It was designed by Benton and Benton of Wilson and at the time of its construction was said to be one of the largest and handsomest in eastern North Carolina. The decorative





The new Roses Store which was built in 1950

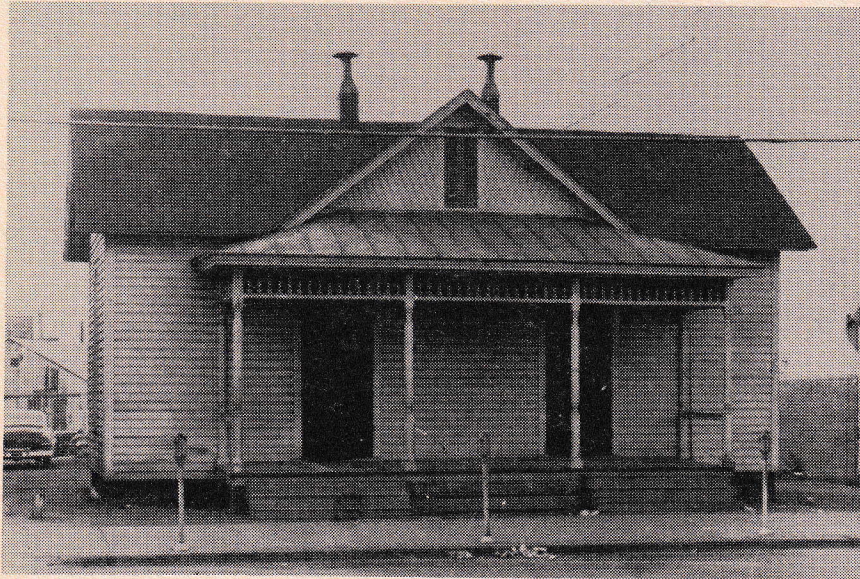


The first car in Williamston was owned by Harry Biggs. He is shown standing by his car with Frank Margolis. In the background you can see Carstarphen's Store on the corner of Main and Smithwick Streets.





This empty lot marks the site of the Collins Store which burned in 1978.



Dennis Simmons Lumber Company Office



This store, built for Roses, was occupied by Eagles Store when it burned in 1981.

front however, has been covered with a modern facade, hiding the original beauty of the building.

The building was quite modern for its time having steam heat, water, and electricity. It also had an elevator that led to the second floor and a skylight to add extra light when customers were picking out material.

In 1941, when Harrison Brothers went out of business, it was divided between the two families. Many businesses have occupied the building over the years. From 1918 until 1941 it was Harrison Brothers. From 1941 until 1966, the left-hand side was Dardens Department Store, The right-hand side was Grover Hardison's ready-to-wear store.

Mr. Hardison moved out in 1943 and it was taken over by Colonial Stores who occupied it until 1948. They in turn rented it to Leder Brothers Department Store in 1949. After Dardens Department Store closed in 1966, the partitions were removed and the store was just one again.

In 1966, Super Dollar moved in and remained there until 1975. After that time, Giant Discount Store rented it for a couple of years. When they closed, it remained vacant for some time. Finally Cato's purchased it and remodeled it as it is today.

*Mark McKeel*

### Vacant Lot on Main Street

The first known business to locate at this particular place on Main Street was Rufus Sadd's Grocery Store. It is not known just when this was or how long it remained there.

In 1915, Hoyt's Hardware built a store here and remained in business until 1927. They sold the building to Pender's Grocery Store, a forerunner to Colonial Stores. Penders occupied only one-half of the store however, and rented the other half to Exum Ward for a pool room.

Later it was rented to Collins Department Store who removed the partition and used the entire store to accommodate their merchandise. In 1978, the store caught on fire and destroyed the entire stock. The store officials decided to terminate their residence in Williamston and did not choose to rebuild the store. The lot has remained vacant since that time. It has recently been purchased by some local people however, who plan to build another store in this location.

### Dennis Simmons Lumber Company Office

For many years this building was





Farmer's and Merchants Bank - 1905

## WATTS PRORGAM FOR NEXT WEEK

Two Shows Daily; Special  
Matinee on Saturday  
Afternoons

The program at the Watts theatre for all next week has been carefully planned and will, it is believed, meet with popular approval. Charlie Chaplin in "The Circus" is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday nights and in addition there will be the regular new reel and fables.

Another high spot in the week's program is booked for Tuesday night when Richard Barthelmesh appears in "Scarlet Seas." A news reel will also constitute a part of the program.

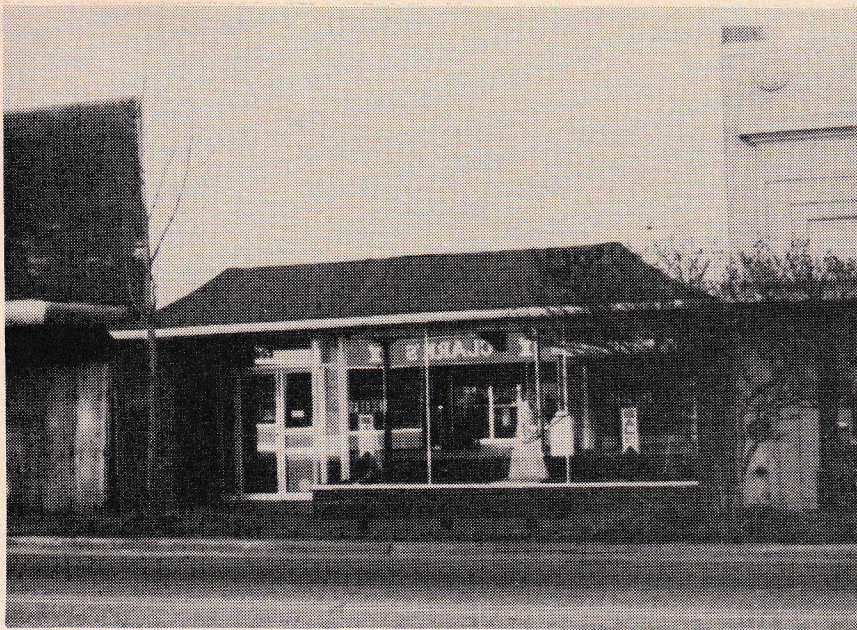
Buster Keaton in "The Camera Man", a news reel and comedy are booked for showing tonight week, and with two late westerns on for Wednesday and Thursday nights, the program is complete.

Tonight the "Two Lovers" are on and tomorrow afternoon and night Buzz Barton in "The Young Whirlwind" features the program. As a reguar Saturday afternoon event, Mr. Watts is running a show at 3 o'clock charging only 10 and 25 cents admission. Each night there will be two showings, the first at 7:15 anda second at 9 o'clock.



VICCAR Theater that replaced the bank building in 1948





**Inez' Fabric Shop**



Sherwin Williams Company occupies the building that once was Woolard's Furniture Company.



This building was the old Atlantic Hotel. This is the way it appeared when EAGLES occupied it in the 1940's.

used as an office for the Dennis Simmons Lumber Company.

In 1925, Mesdames Warren Biggs, Leslie Fowden, and Burras Critcher opened the "Willie Winkle" Shop here. The specialized in handmade children's clothes. It closed however, in 1928.

After that time it was used as Fowden's Insurance Company and by Hugh Horton for his law practice. In the 1950's it was purchased by J. S. Whitley and moved from the site. He then built a new store for Roses who moved from their old location down the street. In the 1960's, Roses moved to Martin Plaza and Eagle's 5&10¢ Store moved in here. The store burned in 1981 and at the present time has not been rebuilt.

### **Inez' Fabric Shop**

This building has had an interesting history. It was built in 1905 by the Farmers and Merchant Bank. This was later changed to the Guaranty Bank. There were several doctors' offices and dentists' offices on the second floor.

Sometime in the 1940's, Dr. Victor Brown purchased the building and converted it into a movie theater, called the VICCAR, named for his two sons Victor and Carlyle.

After the theater closed, the building was remodeled again and purchased by Cato's, a store dealing in ladies clothes. In 1983, when they moved to another location on Main Street, it became Inez' Fabric Shop. This store closed in February, 1985. The newest occupant is the MARTIN MONITOR, Williamston's newest publication.

*Ingram Land  
Christa Way*

### **Sherwin Williams**

In 1932, the Van Dyke Furniture Co. built a store on this location. They sold furniture of all kinds, hardware, lighting fixtures, appliances, etc.

In 1939, Woolard Furniture bought the business and remained there for many years. Most recently it has been occupied by the Sherwin Williams Paint Company.

*Ingram Land  
Christa Way*

### **Quality Shoes National Finance Company**

This building was once the old Atlantic Hotel which was built by Mr. Hadley. It was run in later years by Mr. Gordy, who also ran the