

**1 116 East Market Street**

Built in the 1930's, this building originally housed the town hall and volunteer fire department on the first floor, the health department on the second floor and the jail in the basement. Except for the replacement of the fire station door by a door and a window, the façade remains intact. The well-preserved two story brick building features string courses on north, east and south sides.

**2 102 East Market Street**

The building was constructed in 1915 and existed as a feed and fertilizer warehouse. Features include decorative luxor-prism transoms, a segmental-arched parapet, and granite string course and cornice coping.

**3 115 West Market Street**

This building was constructed in 1947 by Leo Hinshaw to display and sell farm equipment. Features include a recessed central entrance flanked by plate-glass display windows and two layers of three recessed panels with each corbeled at top and bottom.

**4 128 West Main Street**

Built in 1924, the first floor was originally used as the Turner Drug Store and on the second floor Dr. H. Clay Salmons and Dr. Robert R. Garvey established Elkin's first hospital. Features include a recessed front entrance, a luxor-prism transom, second story one-over-one sash windows with granite sills separated by pilasters on both the façade and west elevation, and a paneled cornice.

**5 202 West Main Street**

Built in the 1930's after a fire destroyed the Elk Inn, the Pure Oil Company service station was designed to look like a small English country cottage to attract customers. Although it no longer retains its front canopy and west side service bays, its features include an ultra-steep gable roof and gable-end chimney.

**6 115 Circle Court**

One of the finest Greek Revival homes in Surry County, this residence was built in 1855 by Richard Gwyn as a home for his oldest son. The most notable architectural feature of the house is its two tier front porch with lattice posts, sheaf-of-wheat designed balustrades and curvilinear lattice friezes.

*There is a Civil War Marker located on the corner of Main Street and Front Street.*

**7 229 West Main Street**

Ca. 1870 this building was located on the east bank of Elkin Creek as the office of the Elkin Manufacturing Company. After the 1916 flood, the building was moved to its present location and became the office of the Elkin and Alleghany Railroad, which operated from 1911 to 1931. Features include its three-gable roof and its symmetrical façade with two entrances and central windows.

**8 225 West Main Street**

Built in the early twentieth century, this building was a restaurant in 1915. Features include a three-bay façade with

a central entrance, flanking windows with segmental-arched heads and hood molds, an upper façade recessed brick panel, and a decorative brick corbeled cornice.

**9 223 West Main Street**

Opened in 1920, this building (along with 221 West Main Street) functioned as a dry cleaner for decades. Features include a recessed entrance, double leaf doors, glass transoms, and patterned brickwork giving the impression of upper-façade rectangular panels.

**10 219 West Main Street**

Ca. 1930, this building was located at the site of the post office and moved to its present location in 1936 in preparation for the construction of the post office. It was originally the dental office of Dr. E.G. Click. Features include simple Colonial Revival styling with patterned brickwork, a Colonial Revival entrance, nine-over-one sash windows with paneled wood shutters, a wood cornice above the entrance and windows, and a parapet.

**11 129 West Main Street**

The Reeves Theater, a seven-hundred seat movie theater, was built by Dr. W. B. Reeves. Opened on October 30, 1941, it operated continuously until 1973. The theater changed hands and names several times between 1973 and 1994 until a storm closed the theater. Renovations are currently underway. Features include enameled metal panels and casement windows.

**12 123 West Main Street**

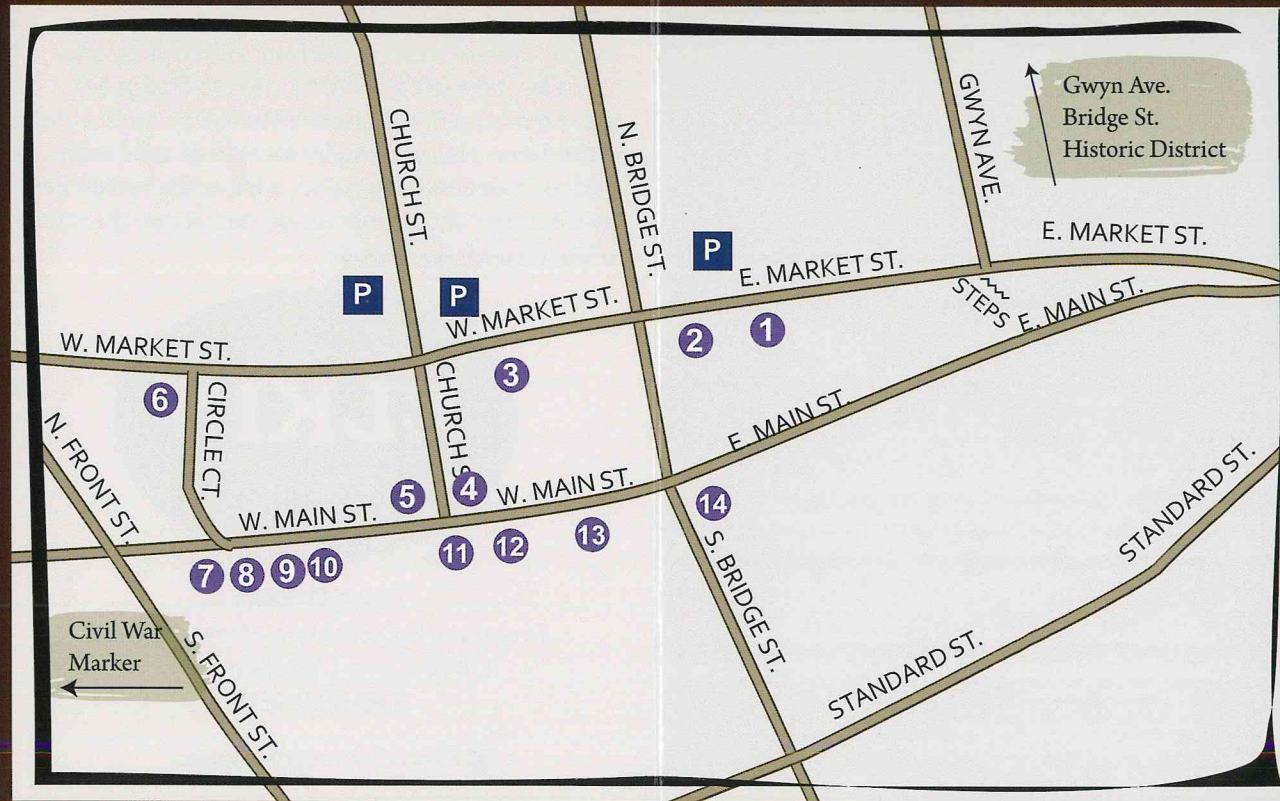
The building was constructed in 1902 by H.M.Burcham for E.E. Harris and originally used as a hardware store. Features include classical engaged columns, a triglyph-and-metope first story frieze, dentil and modillion courses, and a cornice band of garlands.

**13 111 West Main Street**

Built in the early twentieth century, the building existed in 1915 as a clothing store. Features include the entrance of this building which is a single-leaf, glass and wood door surrounded by sidelights and transom and the second story recessed windows.

**14 102 East Main Street**

With construction beginning in 1895, prominent local brick makers and builders Rollins and Poindexter are credited with its erection. From 1908 to the 1930's the building was the Holcomb Brothers Wholesale Grocery. Features include its recessed corner entrance, wrap-around prism glass transom, round-arched windows, quoined pilasters defining the bays of the second story, and multi-layered dentiled and corbeled cornice.





**Early History ~** The town's early history centers on one man and his descendants. Around 1840, Richard Gwyn left Jonesville to settle on the north side of the Yadkin River, recognizing the value of the forested hills and waterpower of the Big Elkin Creek. Within a decade, he and several family members established Elkin Manufacturing Company. Further up Big Elkin Creek, Alexander Chatham and Thomas Lenoir Gwyn opened a woolen mill in 1877 that grew to become Elkin's largest industry. Elkin's history book is filled with stories of the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the Second Industrial Revolution, and the Elkin & Alleghany Railroad.

**Main Street ~** Prior to 1898, most of Elkin's commercial buildings lined Front Street paralleling Elkin Creek. When the Northwestern North Carolina Railroad arrived in 1890 and its depot was erected just south of Main Street, commercial activity began to shift from Front Street to Main Street. After an 1898 fire destroyed most of Elkin's frame commercial buildings, Main Street rapidly filled with brick structures, many of them built by brick manufacturer and contractor R.L. Poindexter. Most have two stories with round-arched or flat-headed windows, decorative recessed panels, and corbelled cornices. Together, the buildings present an excellent view of a small-town commercial streetscape of the early twentieth century.

**Elkin Today ~** Listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, Elkin has embraced its history and added a touch of sophistication. Hike the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. Shop in our one-of-a-kind specialty stores. Experience fine dining. Paddle the Yadkin River. Enjoy an exhibit at the Foothills Arts Council. Start your wine tasting excursion in Historic Downtown Elkin.

Spend the day or an hour; you are certain to see the charm that is Elkin!

## Architectural Terms

**Balustrade** – a hand railing on upright posts or balusters

**Coping** – capping at the top of a wall for protection from weather

**Corbel** – a decorative use of brick atop the windows, walls or chimney to create the shape of a bracket or dentil at the top of the building beneath the cornice

**Cornice** – the finished edge of the roof where it meets the exterior wall, of varying sizes, sometimes plain, but often decorative and marked by brackets, dentils, modillions or some other decorative feature

**Dentil molding** – Greek classical feature of a row of small rectangular shapes placed closely together beneath the cornice that are teeth-like in appearance

**Façade** – the exterior wall of the building

**Frieze** – the panel beneath the cornice at the top of a building's exterior wall which is often ornamented with brackets, dentils or modillions

**Gable** – the triangular part of an exterior wall created by an angle of a pitched roof

**Hood** - a projection that shelters an element such as a door or window

**Modillion** – a small curved ornamental bracket under the corona of a Corinthian or Composite column

**Parapet** – a low stone or brick wall at the top of a building

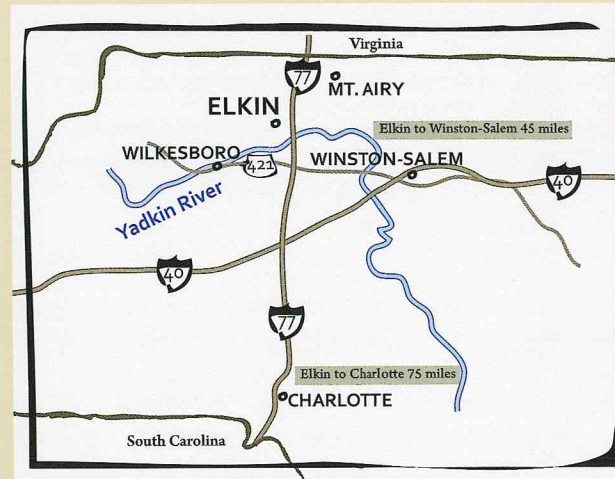
**Pilaster** - a narrowly protruding column attached to a wall, giving the illusion of a real free standing support column

**Segmental Arch** – a slightly rounded arch over a window or door

**Stringcourse**: a narrow horizontal band of masonry, extending across the façade, which can be flush or projecting, and flat surfaced, molded, or richly carved

**Transom** - a horizontal bar of wood or stone across a window; the cross-bar separating a door from the window, panel, or fanlight above it; the window above the transom bar of a door

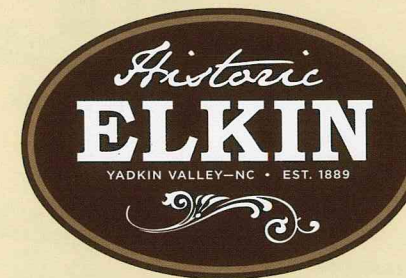
**Transom Light** – a flat, glass panel above a door, usually multi-paned



## Getting Here - From I-77

**Exit 82** - Follow signs on Hwy 67 to Elkin. Park in the Town Hall parking lot located at 226 North Bridge Street and begin your walk at the Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce, located across the street at 116 East Market Street.

**Exit 85** - Travel west on the Hwy 268 Bypass, after 2.1 miles, take left on HWY 21 (North Bridge St), stay on this until you reach Historic Downtown. Park in the Town Hall parking lot located at 226 North Bridge Street and begin your walk at the Yadkin Valley Chamber of Commerce, located across the street at 116 East Market Street.



Town Of Elkin  
Economic & Community Development  
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## WALKING TOUR

