first floor, while the second floor offers two boarded-over window bays. The bay on the right (south) side of the second floor also has a rough shed roof awning with asphalt shingles. The material under the gable appears to be roughly attached plywood sheets that are in deplorable condition.

WT0605 Watauga Motor Company Building (1920)
140 South Depot Street

This large, gable-roofed, brick building is one of the first brick buildings constructed in Boone using bricks imported via the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad, which began freight runs in December 1918. In April 1919, the local paper carried the news that "the brick are coming in and being unloaded for the Watauga Motor Co's new garage," which was to be built by the McGhee Brothers (*Watauga Democrat*, April 3, 1919). W. E. "Ed" Shipley, the owner (who may have been in business with J. B. Taylor), appears to have struggled to complete the building, however. In June 1919, he asked for changes to the building, which had been designed by Ford Motor Company's architects to meet their standards (*Watauga Democrat*, June 12, 1919), prompting references to the building for years thereafter as the "Ford Building." Walter Shore of Elk Park completed the carpentry work in the building (*Watauga Democrat*, July 3, 1919). After another year of delay, the Watauga Motor Company finally opened its repair department, even though the building was still not complete (*Watauga Democrat*, June 24, 1920). The stay was apparently brief. By April 1921, Shipley had sold the building to F. C. Ward (Deed Book 27, Page 230), and by the end of the year, Watauga Motor Company appears to have left the site. By early 1924, Teague Brothers Garage may have been operating out of the space (*Watauga Democrat*, April 3, 1924), but this too seems to have been short-lived. The building was again sold in 1924 to former Sheriff W. P. Moody and A. P. Moody, but their ownership ended in 1925, when the property was sold at auction to the People's Bank and Trust Company (Deed Book 36, Page 626, and *Watauga Democrat*, August 20, 1925).

It's not clear what operated there in the next few years, but in 1928, W. R. Winkler moved his garage operation to the old Ford building in the wake of his operation on King Street being demolished for construction of the H. W. Horton Building (WT0593) (*Watauga Democrat*, October 25, 1928). Contrary to previous survey reports, Winkler's stay was short-lived as well; less than a year later, Winkler sold his garage operation to J. D. Horton, (*Watauga Democrat*, July 4, 1929). That same year, notice appeared that the American Legion would be holding a special meeting "at their regular meeting place over the Winkler Garage" (*Watauga Democrat*, October 17, 1929), thus indicating that the second floor was being used for community meetings. During this same general period, the building appears to have been used for town government meetings while efforts were underway to build a new town hall on King Street near Water Street in 1928. Horton's operation, meanwhile, remained in the building until 1931, when it moved to West Boone (*Watauga Democrat*, June 18, 1931). Later that year, at least a portion of the second floor was apparently being used for apartments (*Watauga Democrat*, October 1, 1931).

In 1932, the People's Industrial Bank sold the property to the Town of Boone (Deed Book 40, Page 627), some time after which the Town of Boone began using the property as a formal city hall. The earliest formal reference to the building as "city hall" in local papers occurred in April 1935, when news was announced that the Daniel Boone Motor Company would be moving into the first floor of the building (*Watauga Democrat*, April 4, 1935). Boone Motor Sales, the successor to Daniel Boone Motor Company, vacated the property to move to the Sebastian Building (WT0878) in December 1936 (*Watauga Democrat*, December 10, 1936). The building continued to operate as Boone's city hall until 1962, when it was abandoned for the old Sinclair gas station property located where WT0862 is today (*Watauga Democrat*, March 1, 1962). The Town of Boone sold the property to the Farmer's Hardware and Supply Company in 1967 (Deed Book 100, Page 264), after which it served as a storage facility and a lawnmower and chainsaw repair shop. In 1977, Farmer's Ski Shop opened in the building (*Watauga Democrat*, January 13, 1977). At the time of the survey, Magic Cycles occupied the first floor, while the Farmer's Hardware Ski Shop was in the second floor space.

Several early images of the building survive, and they show the building occupying a substantially smaller footprint than its present iteration. A circa 1938/39 image (Cy Crumley Scrapbook) taken from the southwest shows a two-story brick building with a gabled roof and a jerkinhead clip in the gable at the west end of the building. The east end was not clipped, instead offering a prominent, stepped parapet on its east elevation. The west elevation was perhaps most noteworthy for the long ramp extending from a large loading door at the center of the second floor out to the alley running from the old post office to the ice house. Flanking this loading door were two long window piercings, which were mirrored by similar openings on the first floor. The south elevation, meanwhile, offered five irregularly spaced window openings along the second floor (four of them oriented from center toward the west elevation), while the first floor had four piercings, three of them clustered near the center of the south elevation (the easternmost possibly a door) and a fourth located near the southwest corner. A circa 1950 image from the south by Palmer Blair (Pal-Bla-04-104) and a circa 1952 parade image from the southeast (His-Boo-1.54.2) offer a little bit more detail. At that point, the west ramp to the alley was still intact, while the five windows of the second floor, south elevation all appeared to have been two-over-two, double-hung sash, wooden windows. The south elevation first floor piercings also appear to have been two-over-two, double-hung sash, wooden windows, with the exception of the easternmost piercing, which still appeared to be a doorway. The east elevation, meanwhile, offered three symmetrically spaced, two-over-two, double-hung sash window piercings on the second floor. Reading left to right (south to north), the first floor had a wooden, paneled door with a large transom, followed by a large shop window with a prominent, single-panel clerestory window, followed thereafter by another doorway set in an unusual, arched opening with a four-light transom, followed by another large shop window with a two-light clerestory window, followed to the north by a large garage bay in a wood frame. The first floor openings were capped with a spanning, soldier course lintel, and the second floor brick was set back slightly, creating the appearance of a panel inset with pilasters at the south and north ends. The entire building was clad in six-course common bond brick.

This same general appearance remained until sometime between 1972 and 1984, when a large, two-story addition was built on the west side of the building and a wooden awning installed on the east elevation over the first floor. These changes may have occurred as a result of renovations by Farmer's Ski Shop in 1977, when architectural remnants from other buildings were added to this site. These included several doors salvaged from a 1780s house in Troy, North Carolina, and a stained glass window with a mountain scene. The carved doors that now serve as the main entrance to the second-floor shop are from the Troy house (*Watauga Democrat*, January 13, 1977).

Today, the east elevation retains the original piercings, but the original windows have been replaced with metal-framed plate glass and the original doors replaced by metal-frame alternatives. A garage door is still present in the bay at the north end of the first floor of the east elevation, but it is clearly a modern replacement. Along the sidewalk on Depot Street, a stone retaining wall capped with stone slabs serves as the support for an asphalt-shingled irregularly cut, wooden awning resting on posts. Perhaps the most intriguing detail that survives from the original east elevation is the floating pilasters with stepped bases that are used to demarcate each of the steps in the prominent east parapet. The brick of the entire building has also been painted, although the second floor windows of the east elevation (which have soldier course lintels and brick, double-tier sills) appear to have had flanking shutters at some point whose absence today has left its mark on the painted brick. Coping on the east elevation parapet appears to be of metal.

The original piercings of the second floor of the south elevation of the original building are still evident, although all of them have been filled in with brick. A new window piercing has been cut in the brick between the second and third piercings from the west on the second floor, within which is set the aforementioned, stained glass, mountain scene window. The original openings of the first floor of the south elevation are also evident, but these, too, have been bricked in and replaced with new openings. At the west end is a wooden-framed doorway with a large transom, to the east of which is a wooden-framed, plate glass window. This pattern is repeated near the east end of of the original south elevation. The roof of the original building is clad in asphalt shingle and has been punctured on its south face by three skylights. A small, interior, furnace stack is also evident near the southwest corner of the original building. Curiously, the jerkinhead at the west end of the roof still survives, although it is partially obscured by the manner in which it ties into the gabled roof of the west addition. The west elevation of the original building is now obscured by the west addition. The north elevation of the original building reveals several piercings that have been bricked in. Toward the west end of the original building is a large, seven-light, projecting bay window that appears to be clad in metal. Just to the east of this is an elaborate, wooden porch, with a short run of stairs coming up from the parking lot on the north side of the building and another, much longer run descending to Depot Street. Accessible from this porch are two sets of elegant, wooden, doors that were sourced from the 1780s home in Troy and do not match this building architecturally. The center set is arched in its frame and hosts double doors with arched lights and eyebrow lights. The east door is a single doorway with arched lights.

The west addition appears to be of running bond brick and is painted on its south and west elevations with an elaborate, somewhat psychedelic mural design, although both elevations have been marred by additional graffiti spray-painted over the murals. No piercings are present on the south or west elevations of the addition. The roof of the addition has a clipped gable at its west end and offers prominent eaves with boxed soffits. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles. A series of six skylights is evident on the south face of the addition's roof. The north elevation of the west addition is also painted and featureless, save for a large, double-door opening inset with paneled doors sourced from elsewhere.

WT0607 Watauga County Office Building (1939)
331 Queen Street (listed as 842 West King Street)

Past surveys have indicated that this Works Progress Administration-funded building was completed in 1938, but in actuality, this work was completed in 1939. Originally built to house county offices that had outgrown the nearby courthouse, this one-story with basement building was funded at just under $25,000 in May 1938 (*Watauga Democrat*, May 19, 1938). Past surveys have speculated that local stonemasons Leslie (1900-1957), Clarence (1903-1981), and Earl Lyons (1912-1984)—who completed the stone work on the Boone Post Office (WT0049)—may have completed the stone work here as well, although no direct evidence of that has been found. Designed to front the old 1905 Courthouse to the west, the main entrance was on the second story level on the west elevation. The east elevation, facing Water Street, was intended as the rear of the building, with the first floor area housing a school bus garage. Early offices in the building included the board of education, the county farm agent, the home demonstration agent, the WPA, and the welfare department. The building also featured a large assembly room capable of seating up to 150 people (*Watauga Democrat*, Mach 9, 1939). In 1946, the Watauga County Public Library occupied the building's lower floor (*Watauga Democrat*, October 10, 1946). At the time of the survey, various county offices continued to occupy the building.

Today, the west elevation (second level) is largely unchanged from its original appearance, with two key exceptions. First, the original sets of three-sided staircases that served the west entrances have been replaced with sloping concrete ramps and stairs that aid ADA access in combination with one another. Iron handrails—also required by ADA—also line the edge of these ramps near the entrances. These features were present by the time of the 1988 survey and were completed at an unknown date. Second, the five original, six-over-six, double-hung sash, double window sets that lined the west elevation at regular intervals have been replaced with double sets of one-over-one, double-hung sash, vinyl replacement windows. In addition, as reported in the 1988 survey, the original entrance configurations for both west entrances have been converted to single door, aluminum frame entrances with prominent sidelights. Original six-light, wooden transoms still survive over these two entrances. Otherwise, the original cut stone walls, concrete sills, and projecting entry gables with boxed eaves and returns still survive, although the latter are now clad in vinyl. Similarly, the prominent, boxed eaves around the entire building have been clad in vinyl. The roof remains hipped with a flat ridgeline and clad in asphalt shingles, although various HVAC units now stand on the flat portion, unscreened from view. Near the southwest