



Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting

<http://www.townofboone.net/>

~ Agenda ~

Jane Shook
828-268-6960

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

6:00 PM

WebEx

I. WATCH OR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Individuals who wish to watch this meeting or who wish to address the Commission remotely can do so through WebEx either online or by phone. If you wish to provide public comment remotely, please email jane.shook@townofboone.net or call in at (828) 386-7025 and you will be provided with an invite to the meeting. Staff will moderate the WebEx session to ensure all participants have an opportunity to participate.

II. Call to Order

III. Adoption of Agenda

Discussion: Possible Second HPC Meeting for January 2022

IV. Approval of Minutes

December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes

V. Public Comment

VI. Cultural Resources Loom Discussion

Loom History Memo

VII. Update on Boone 150 Plans

January 23, 2022 Event

Boone 150 Public Art Proposal

Boone Cemetery Programming

Walking Tour Programming

VIII. Consultation - North Depot Street Historical Marker - Boone 150

North Depot Street Historical Marker COA Consultation, Cultural Resources Department

IX. Update on Civil War Trails Markers/Boone Cemetery Interpretation

X. HPC Quasi-Judicial Rules of Procedure Update

XI. Update on Cemetery Mapping Project

XII. Update on Cemetery Designation/Interpretation Guidelines

XIII. Update on Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery Marker

Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery Marker Report

Marker Location Options

Discussion: Third Possible Marker Location

XIV. Direction from Council regarding Potential Designation of Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery

Request for HPC Member/Staff Member to Prepare Designation Report

XV. Council's Store Historical Marker

XVI. Watauga County Jail Designation Report

XVII. Review of Town Streets Project

Howard Street, Depot Street

XVIII. Update on CLG Application

XIX. Other Discussion

XX. Adjournment

**TOWN OF BOONE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2021, 6:00 p.m.**

Historic Preservation Commission Members in Attendance:

Chair Eric Plaag, Vice-Chair Bettie Bond, and Chuck Watkins

Student Member: Izabela Willis

Council Liaisons: Rennie Brantz and Virginia Roseman

Town Staff in Attendance:

Jane Shook-Director of Planning & Inspections, Jessica Mitchell-Long-Range/Special Projects Planner, Christy Turner-Senior Planner, and Marlene Crosby-Board Secretary

Others in Attendance: Mark Freed-Director of Cultural Resources, Amber Bateman-Director of Watauga County Arts Council, Tommy Lee, Candi Woodruff, and Jenny Collette

Call to Order

Chair Eric Plaag called the meeting of the Boone Historic Preservation Commission, held via WebEx, a video conferencing software, to order on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at 6:01 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Member Willis to adopt the agenda as written.

Vote: Aye – All

Nay – None

The motion passed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Chair Plaag, to approve the November 9, 2021 meeting minutes as written.

Vote: Aye – (Plaag and Watkins)

Nay – None

Abstained- (Willis)

The motion passed.

Public Comment

Chair Plaag pointed out that he thought that most of the visitors attending this virtual meeting wanted to speak on specific agenda matters. He suggested deferring their comments until their item on the agenda came up. He said this would direct the HPC into a conversation about those particular items instead of hearing their comments during public comment. He asked the HPC for consensus to his suggestion on handling public comment for the Watauga Arts Council Mural Consultation and the Collette-Woodruff P.C. Sign Consultation. There were no objections to it from the HPC or the applicants.

Chair Plaag asked if others wanted to speak under public comment. He said hearing none, public comment was closed, with the understanding that there is reserved opportunity for comment for the applicants. He noted that the Chair would recognize them when said topics arose during the meeting.

Watauga Arts Council Mural Consultation

Communication: December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Approval of Minutes)

Ms. Christy Turner, Senior Planner, explained that the Watauga County Arts Council is asking for a consultation to place a mural on Howard Street. She noted that they had submitted an application, a description of the project, and a photo in the meeting packet. She opened the floor for questions regarding the consultation.

Chair Plaag explained that the HPC is entering the phase of being a quasi-judicial board. He further said that the HPC has some Rules of Procedure for the formal Certificate of Appropriateness cases being put in place. He said the HPC does not have formal Rules of Procedure beyond the existing Rules of Procedure for a consultation. He said the best way to proceed if there is no objection from the HPC members is to let the people requesting the consultation have an opportunity to give an overview of their proposal. He opened the floor for their presentations.

Ms. Amber Bateman, Director of the Watauga Arts Council, explained that the mural's purpose is to showcase features of the High Country that make this community a unique and desirable destination. She said that because the Appalachian Mountain Brewery started in Boone, North Carolina, the brewery wanted to sponsor a mural to send a message of thanks and love to the community from which it was "born." She said the imagery in the large postcard mural is meant to show Appalachian Mountain Brewery's connection with the High Country of North Carolina. She said the basic idea of the image is to bring different aspects together of what makes our community great. She said the proposed location for the mural is on the east side of the building, located at 182 Howard Street. She noted that she had been informed that the dumpster at the location could not be moved, but it could be screened. She said the business owners would work with the Town on the color palette. She said the original mural image they had made had lines on it. It was addressed to "Wildwood Community Market," the business occupying the building.

Ms. Bateman said she felt that discussion needed to occur regarding the purpose of a painted sign and a mural. She thought a painted sign would advertise a business, but a mural takes on a different purpose. She said that when trying to propose a mural for Downtown Boone, murals are occasionally sponsored. She said they would like to insert a stamp from the business on the murals creatively.

Ms. Bateman asked for direction from the HPC regarding their proposal. She explained that the community is continually asking about the lack of an art presence in the High Country. She said the Watauga Arts Council found this proposed mural as an opportunity to begin working with the HPC and the Town on the process to have more of an art presence in the community. She noted that Mr. Andrew Green, the building owner, did approve the proposed mural on the building. She also pointed out that the Wildwood Community Market business owners approved of the mural on the building.

Chair Plaag explained the things under the HPC's purview to review or what might need to go to the Planning Department, Planning Commission, or the Board of Adjustment. He explained to Ms. Bateman that two options were proposed for the mural. He continued that one option was to paint directly onto the building or mount wood or other material framed sign almost like a framed painting to hang on the side of the building.

Chair Plaag referred to the adopted standards for the historic district. He explained that state statute required these standards to be adopted along with the historic district. He explained that these standards were written in consultation with guidance from the National Park Service, which oversees historic districts generally and standards and guidelines for districts. In Section 4.1 of these standards, he pointed out that it is never appropriate to paint masonry materials such as brick, concrete block, cast concrete, or stone that were historically unpainted, including masonry associated with foundations. He said we do not know if there is a historical precedent for masonry painting in the building's original historic content because there are no images of the building. He said it is difficult for the HPC to recommend or approve something that would be applying paint directly to the building,

where there is no historical precedent for something similar on the building. He believed this building had been painted for a long time. He deferred to the concept that this concrete block does not qualify as unpainted masonry. He read from the standards that if there is a precedent for it being painted, it should be completed using colors that can be documented with original historic photographic evidence, or analysis of original paint samples. He recommended that the applicant not spend time or funds analyzing paint samples because they are not always conclusive.

Ms. Bateman said she felt like there are plenty of examples of other historic towns that have murals that possibly did not have an original mural on a building. Based on that guideline, she said that unless the building already had a mural from a historical era of significance, it will never have a mural applied to it. She believed this would affect the desire for the community to want to produce art in the community. Chair Plaag asked her to allow him to walk her through the current standards that are in place. He explained that these standards are what the HPC must follow when considering a consultation on a case. He said it does not mean the answer is an absolute yes or no to what is being proposed.

Chair Plaag explained in Section 9.3 that there are no specific paint colors within the district. He said there is some UDO guidance on paint colors. He noted that the standards require a selection of paint colors appropriate for the building's architectural style and complement neighboring buildings. In general, color should function as a method of contrasting among different materials and architectural elements that make up the building; additionally, contrasting colors that accent architectural details and entrances are discouraged, except for those cases where the design element was common to the historic architectural style of an existing historic property. He said the standard we currently have does not speak specifically to murals. He said that the HPC would have to say, concerning painting directly on the masonry, that the proposed mural has no proven historical precedent, meaning there is no history of murals on this side of the building. He said a mural of that type would not have been typical to apply to a building of this particular architectural style. He said it is difficult for the HPC to find reasoning within the standards to approve the mural if it's proposed to be painted directly on the building.

Chair Plaag referred to a section in the commercial standards on ghost ads. He said they are old advertisements or old murals that still survive. He said one is on the upper east side of the old Newton's building next to the fire station on King Street. He said this kind of artifact should be preserved. He explained that this is not the kind of situation we are talking about in this consultation. He said that in this case, we are talking about a new thing, not something that already exists.

Chair Plaag reviewed Section 8 of the Streetscapes Section. He discussed how this section is separate from the Commercial section, which specifically addresses signage; this section was primarily written to address detached signage that overhangs the public way or is mounted to a building in the B1.

Chair Plaag explained that as the ordinance is currently written, it does not apply to painting murals directly on buildings. He said there is a gap in the ordinance, and he said he feels that Council probably needs to consider this. He mentioned this would include soliciting input from the HPC on the issue of murals, specifically new murals being applied to historic buildings.

Chair Plaag said he felt the fastest way for the mural to be installed involves the second option presented, which is to have a framed mural mounted to the side of the building. He asked the Staff how approval occurred for the mural on the side of the Boone Mini Mall on W. King Street. Ms. Shook explained that the mural was a Downtown Boone Development Association project. She said a zoning permit was not required because the DBDA, as a government entity, is exempt from the ordinance requirements. She noted that a building permit was required to attach the framed mural to the building.

After reviewing the sign guidelines, Ms. Bateman said it was very clear that those guidelines were not set for art but signage on buildings for advertisement purposes. She asked Chair Plaag if now is the time to begin a conversation with Council to consider policies and procedures that view art as something different from an applied sign. Chair Plaag explained there is an opportunity to discuss with the Council, with the input of the HPC regarding murals in the historic district or historical landmarks. This conversation would also include consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and potentially the National Park Service. He said knowing how these processes work, it may take up to a year, although there is a project wanting to be done now. He suggested finding a solution for said project that works within the current standards and UDO regulations while also working on the longer conversation about revising the standards, if desired, for future projects.

Vice-Chair Bond joined the meeting at approximately 6:20 p.m.

Chair Plaag said he recommended working with the Staff on a possible solution. He told Ms. Bateman that for this specific project, for example, she may want to contact the DBDA and give them her proposal for the mural. He suggested that Ms. Bateman let them know that the building owner agrees with the said proposal. He noted that Ms. Bateman could ask the DBDA if they would request that the said mural be approved to be mounted on the building. He referred to Ms. Shook and the Council Liaisons to see if they thought this would be a faster solution than waiting a year or more with no guarantee of a new standard, while still meeting all district requirements. Ms. Shook agreed that it was potentially an option. She said she would like to talk with Mr. John Ward, Town Manager, and Ms. Lane Moody, Downtown Boone Development Coordinator about it. Ms. Shook said that the Town Attorney might need to give some input on signs because of the current, strict sign regulations. Ms. Bateman said that she and the mural artist, Mr. Tommy Lee, are more interested in the fastest route and willing to go with the framed mural option. Vice-Chair Bond agreed this is the quickest way while pursuing the potential long-range revision of the standards. She agreed that the issue of murals would keep coming up, and it would be better to set a standard, specifically for murals and other art projects in Downtown Boone.

Chair Plaag explained to Ms. Bateman that it would not be allowed to apply paint to an unpainted masonry surface from a preservation standpoint. He explained that using paint color on an unpainted masonry building damages the building long and short term.

Ms. Bateman said that she had been in conversation with Mr. John Cooper, owner of Mast General Store, regarding the white doors on Depot Street. In honor of the Boone 150 Celebration, she said the Watauga Council Arts Council wanted to partner with the Junaluska Community, to put barn quilts on the doors, or put a Wayne Trapp mural on the white doors. Ms. Bateman discussed these projects involving the HPC during the Boone 150 Celebration.

Chair Plaag reiterated that the historic district design standards do not regulate paint color, except that the colors should have a historical precedent. He said the said standards do not address murals, except for what has already been discussed. He suggested a coordinated conversation between the Watauga Arts Council, Planning and Inspections Department, Council, and the HPC regarding future public art in Downtown Boone.

Ms. Shook explained that current UDO standards regulate what is defined as works of art but not public art. She said she believed the historic district added a layer of review that had not been done before. Chair Plaag said decisions on public art should be limited to approving the design according to the standards, not policing the content.

Chair Plaag explained that the difficult part of the HPC now is balancing being advocates for preserving our Town's history and being a quasi-judicial body.

Mr. Tommy Lee discussed how his experiences in Boone have changed over the last decade and how his work is to advocate for art and support practicing artists in the community.

Ms. Shook told Ms. Bateman that she would coordinate a meeting with Staff and other people to be involved in a group meeting to discuss the said project. Ms. Shook said she would contact Ms. Bateman as soon as the meeting had been coordinated.

Member Watkins pointed out that the Certificate of Appropriateness for Major Work Supplemental Checklist requires the Design Standard References to be cited. He said that he could not find said references in either of the two submitted documents. Chair Plaag noted that he thought these submittals were not the standard, fully complete packages because they are not actual cases yet. He explained that they were only consultations because the applicant was looking for some guidance on how to proceed.

Ms. Shook said that the Staff had drafted the requirements for deadlines. She said, for example, for the February 2022 meeting, the deadline is December 13, 2021.

Ms. Bateman asked if she needed to submit an application to attach the mural to the building and not the masonry or submit an application to be reviewed at the February 2022 HPC meeting. Chair Plaag said he thought these were open questions, pending staff review.

Collette-Woodruff P.C. Sign Consultation

Ms. Candi Woodruff began discussing this agenda item and referred to page 20 of the meeting packet. She explained that she and her business partner, Ms. Jenny Collette, hired Appalachian Sign Company to make their sign because their business is located in Downtown Boone. She explained that she and Ms. Collette have a new CPA firm, and they are anxious to get their permanent signage up before the tax season starts. She said that she and Ms. Collette are long-term residents, having lived in Boone since 2002. She said they picked Howard Street for their business because they wanted to have a presence in the Downtown area.

Chair Plaag reviewed Section 8 of the Historic District Standards. It was his opinion that generally a sign application should not require the COA for Major Work and could be reviewed at the staff level, provided it does not trigger other potential areas of review under the standards.

Chair Plaag pointed out, for example, that the exterior of the building has stucco on it. He explained that when bolts are driven through the stucco, the bolts will likely crack the stucco, especially since the stucco on this building is already cracking. He said this process would damage the current veneer's surface and historical materials on the face of that building. He said there is no way around damaging it when driving bolts through the stucco. He said that when there is potential damage to a historical veneer of a property, the HPC would want to review it. He said that for the approval process, the applicant needs to be prepared to address how they will mitigate any potential damage to a veneer by having the sign attached to the building. He said he did not know if there were other ways to adhere the sign to the building without penetrating the veneer. He said if there is another way, the application could be reviewed under the COA Minor Works process.

Discussion ensued on the repair of the façade of the building. Ms. Woodruff asked about the terms of mitigating the damage. Could she have the stucco refurbished simultaneously as the sign's placement? Chair Plaag explained that the Town of Boone, through the Downtown Boone Development Association has a façade incentive grant

program. He told Ms. Woodruff that she could request the survey description of the property from Staff. He said that since there is already a problem with a veneer element on the building, this is an opportunity to apply for a façade incentive grant (with the assistance from the DBDA) which could be up to a \$5,000.00 match to help pay for the façade renovation. He noted that he was aware that this building had been altered some, and the renovation would have to try to bring it back to its original historic appearance, at least to some degree. He added that this building was originally a one and one-half story warehouse, and the upstairs apartments were built at some later date. He concluded that the way the sign is proposed right now, it would need to go through the COA process.

Ms. Shook explained that the adopted design standards outline what qualifies for minor and major work. She said the major work is referred to the HPC to review the COA process. She said the minor work standards outline temporary signs and do not include permanent signs. She further explained that this was the reason for the consultation. She mentioned that more discussion might be needed about whether a COA process, a Statement of Conformity, or something else would be required for permanent signs. She explained that more discussion might be needed about the damage of the stucco through the installation of the sign, as far as how it triggered the COA process. She continued that we need to figure out an official process and acceptable guidelines for signs in the Downtown. She thought the language needs to be modified to state that a sign that can be permitted under the Statement of Conformity, which is administratively approved by Staff or the COA process. She said that for this specific sign, based on the current language and what Chair Plaag pointed out in the design standards, she agreed that a COA application would be necessary.

Ms. Shook explained that the applicant submitted the sign application in mid-November, and that timeframe makes the applicant subject to the adopted design standards. She said she wanted to make sure we did not delay the applicant any more than we necessarily had to. Therefore, she suggested that consultation occur, so it would be successful if they had to go through the COA process. She explained that since the applicant will have to go through the COA process, it will now be February of 2022 before they can get their sign permit for an application submitted in November.

Discussion ensued on the definition of a temporary sign. Chair Plaag asked the Staff for the definition of a temporary sign. Ms. Turner said a temporary sign is a sign or advertising display constructed on cloth, canvas, fabric, plastic, paper, plywood, or other white material used only temporarily and is not permanently mounted.

Chair Plaag asked Ms. Shook if a vinyl sign or a rigid vinyl sign could be affixed by a mastic (a type of glue) to the face of the building, as opposed to a blade mounted to the front of the building, would be allowed. He asked Ms. Shook if, on the application under the Statement of Conformity, to make it clear that this is a temporary measure until the issue with the veneer has been reviewed. He said would this be a way to get a temporary sign mounted through the administrative process while waiting on the full COA process for the bladed sign. He said this would allow the applicant to say they are open for business without hanging their bladed sign. Ms. Shook agreed that there is an option for a temporary sign. She said many businesses utilize temporary signs before they move in. She said there are specific regulations about how long you can have a temporary sign up. Ms. Turner noted that a temporary sign is good for 30 days. Ms. Shook said this is an issue because it will not cover the length of time it will take to get the COA. Ms. Shook noted there are alternatives, such as signs mounted inside the clerestory windows.

Ms. Shook said that she presented the topic of permit fees to Council at their last meeting. She explained that in this particular case, the cost of permitting for a regular COA is a high percentage of the cost of the sign itself. She said that we thought this might be a concern. She further explained that in the future, people would be better prepared, for example, if the applicant goes to Appalachian Signs for their signs, they will explain to a client that

there is a process taking an extra amount of time. She said there would have to be a proposed change to the design standards. Chair Plaag agreed with Ms. Shook.

In September, Ms. Woodruff explained that she had started the sign process with Appalachian Signs. She said if she had known about the requirements of the Historic District Design Standards, she would have applied for their sign sooner. She said that she did not expect the delays with their sign application submittal. Ms. Shook suggested that since the Town does not regulate signage inside windows that Ms. Woodruff could put a sign up inside their window. She said the sign could be in the window for as long as needed until the permanent sign is installed. Ms. Woodruff said that she had a decal in the window. The surrounding business signs are so prominent that people walk by their business, even with the decal on their window.

Ms. Jenny Collette, a business partner with Ms. Woodruff, explained that they are only the tenants of the building. Ms. Collette asked Chair Plaag what the path of least resistance would be to make sure that they can put up the sign that is already made and paid for. Chair Plaag said that given what is proposed and the likelihood that fixing the sign to the veneer would damage the veneer, the only way to utilize the sign is to go through the COA process. He told Ms. Collette that they would need to be prepared to discuss how to mitigate any likely damage to the façade. He suggested addressing the veneer that is already falling off the building. He said there have already been a couple of tenants in Downtown Boone that have applied for façade incentive grants with permission from the building owners. He suggested informing the building owner about the veneer issue on the building and that it will be addressed soon by applying for a grant. Then Ms. Collette could tell the owner that they would put a certain amount of money toward it. The owner could put a certain amount of money into it since the owner would have to address the issue at some point. Additionally, the applicants could explain that the façade grant could provide up to a \$5,000.00 match through the DBDA to pay for it. He said this might be a way of solving the more significant problem and using the sign.

Chair Plaag said to Ms. Collette that there is a possibility of asking the sign maker to take on the liability of assuring that the historic fabric will not be cracked or damaged in any way. He said this liability statement could be presented as part of the COA case for affixing the sign to the building, but that he had doubts the sign maker would make such a commitment.

Ms. Collette asked if there was an issue with hanging their proposed sign from a balcony window above their offices. Chair Plaag deferred this question to the Staff. He said that might be a conversation outside the boundaries of this meeting where Ms. Collette would talk with the Staff to see if that is an option.

Ms. Turner pointed out that currently, in the B-1 zoning district, only three types of signs are allowed: freestanding, attached, and projecting. She said that what Ms. Collette is asking about does not fit into these categories.

Ms. Woodruff stated that if the temporary sign is up for 30 days from December 15, 2021, to January 15, 2021. It will have to be taken down in prime tax season.

Ms. Bateman suggested putting out a sandwich board. Ms. Shook pointed out that sandwich boards are prohibited in the B-1 zoning district. Ms. Shook encouraged the use of indoor window signage to be used at this time until the permanent sign approval or until the proposed design standards language changes where potentially the applicant would not have to have sign approval.

Chair Plaag added an option that Ms. Collette could explore the possibility of getting a sign that adheres to the surface of the building. He said it might mean paying for a new sign, but that overall process might be a lot cheaper than going through the COA process for the sign that has already been paid for.

Council Liaison Roseman apologized that we could not find these issues before implementing some of these new codes. She said that Ms. Shook presented to Council what they would like for the HPC to figure out what they felt comfortable with, giving Staff the ability to approve. She asked if it was allowed to paint the business's name on the door. Ms. Shook said there are several potential inside solutions. She offered for Ms. Collette and Ms. Woodruff to meet with Staff to go over those solutions. Ms. Woodruff explained that she wished that she had been more involved with the vendor in terms of timing because the \$2,500 investment into the sign for a small business is quite costly.

Member Watkins pointed out that we live in a cold climate, and he felt that, generally speaking, it is acceptable to drill into a mortar joint to affix signage, even on historic buildings. He said this type of thing is done all the time. He said he felt almost certain that a sign could go into those mortar joints with lead anchors with the potential for expansion and contraction. He said this would have a very adverse effect on the mortar joints of the block. Chair Plaag said that in the mounted mural, generally speaking, it is acceptable to drill into the mortar joint to affix signage, even on historic buildings. Chair Plaag said that in the case of this sign, the problem is that they do not know where the mortar joints are because of the stucco veneer. Additionally, it was questioned if the stucco constitutes a historical material in its own right and if damaging it will create a problem from a historic preservationist standpoint.

Chair Plaag explained what the HPC would need to do with these two cases.

Chair Plaag explained to Ms. Collette and Ms. Woodruff that the hearing for the COA process is similar to a court case. It is their job, as an applicant, to present what they are proposing to do and present their evidence that they can do it without causing lasting damage to this building. He further explained that the HPC then considers the evidence and other evidence the community might want to evaluate the COA application. He said that the HPC would make findings of fact and that roster of facts will be addressed at the hearing.

Ms. Shook asked Ms. Turner to reach out to Ms. Collette and Ms. Woodruff to schedule a meeting to review everything discussed in detail.

Cultural Resources Loom Discussion

Mr. Mark Freed, Director of Cultural Resources, said that Council had directed him to the HPC for discussion about a historic loom in the Town's possession before the Council decides on a possible disposition of the loom. Ms. Shook said that the Council wanted to know if the HPC had any knowledge of the loom having local historical significance, especially since the loom had been at the Appalachian Cultural Museum. He showed photos of the loom. He said that Ms. Pilar Fotta, the former Cultural Resources Director acquired the loom. He said it came from Appalachian State University, and it was once displayed in the Appalachian Cultural Museum. He said his understanding was that Ms. Jane Campbell, a local loom expert, assembled and disassembled the loom to ensure all parts were there. He said the loom is much too large to display at the Jones House. He said the Town does not have a proper place to display it. He said it was at the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum (BRAHM) for a short time. He mentioned a note on the loom stating that it might be a Lucy Morgan loom. He said the loom has been sitting in pieces in the attic of the Jones House since it came back from BRAHM. He noted that Ms. Campbell had contacted him to ask if the Town still had the loom and might be interested in placing the loom where it could be used. He said he had found Ms. Janelle West, a Watauga High School instructor. She is interested in teaching weaving, and she is willing to take it on. He explained the value of having some students working the functioning loom in our community. He said the high school was ready to take it but not to take the loom on a loan basis because of the possibility of something happening to it. He said that Ms. Allison Meade, Town Attorney, informed him that it is all right to give the loom to the high school since they are another government entity. He said the

Council expressed an interest in having the option for getting the loom back if it was given to the high school. Additionally, he explained Council's interest in asking the HPC if they thought it was a good idea to give the loom to the high school or for the Town to hold on to it. He said the reason Council was interested in keeping the loom would be for future opportunities to display it. He said the Rivers House was mentioned as a future location to display the loom. He said knowing the interior of the River House and the potential for renovation there, he did not envision a likely space for the large loom to be displayed there. Member Watkins asked if the loom had any accession mark on the labels. He said he had a vague memory of a standard loom developed for Penland School by a Scandinavian woman. Member Watkins said that loom could have been a Lucy Morgan loom, but he was unsure.

Mr. Freed noted that Penland was written on one of the notes in the loom display. Member Bond stated that she was familiar with looms, and they are large, bulky, and cause a constant problem while using them. Member Watkins asked Mr. Freed to ask Ms. Campbell to confirm if the loom is a Penland. Mr. Freed noted that Ms. Campbell said she would re-assemble the loom if needed. Member Watkins explained that if it is a Penland loom, it would mean that it is designed to be easily set up and used as a teaching device for weaving.

Council Liaison Roseman confirmed that the Council wanted to know if the loom had any historical significance and if the HPC thought it was a good idea to use it in our local school system. She said that she felt that giving the loom to the high school was a wonderful gesture, especially now that it seems to be a Penland loom. It can be used for educational purposes. She said the Council wanted to be sure that we were not giving away a piece of our history. She said that it would be good if the high school stopped using the loom, that the Town could be first to be able to take it back.

Chair Plaag said he is not a loom expert but that Digital Watauga has images of looms in operation. He said there was a loom in operation at a building on South Depot Street until they ended their operations, as well as a loom at Watauga Handicrafts on Hardin Street. He said based on visual evidence of the photos that Mr. Freed presented makes it obvious that the possible Penland loom is not one of those looms from this operation. He suggested that since Member Watkins has requested more information about the loom, the HPC will wait until their January 2022 meeting to see if additional information can be found. Chair Plaag said maybe at that point the HPC can make a more official recommendation on it one way or the other to Council.

Vice-Chair Bond supported the idea of the loom being taken to the high school and being used for educational purposes. She said that if we find out that the loom has historical significance, it would be wonderful for those students to connect with that craft. Chair Plaag said, in principle, he agreed with Vice-Chair Bond that he would rather see the loom being used, particularly if it's designed to be a teaching loom. Member Willis agreed with Chair Plaag and Vice-Chair Bond.

Member Watkins asked Mr. Freed to ask Ms. Campbell if she knew Ms. Anne Ernberg. The latter was the weaving expert at Berea during the craft revival period. Member Watkins said that he thought that this individual was the loom designer.

Chair Plaag told Mr. Freed that he would send him the loom images from Digital Watauga just in case he needs them to present to Council.

Chair Plaag called for a four-minute recess at 8:18 p.m. He reconvened the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

HPC Quasi-Judicial Rules of Procedure Update

Ms. Jessica Mitchell, Long-Range/Special Projects Planner, announced that the HPC Rules of Procedure are still being drafted. She said this topic had been moved to the January 2022 meeting pending further edits and collaboration with Staff and Ms. Meade. Ms. Mitchell said that she would hopefully have an update at that time. Chair Plaag asked Ms. Shook if February of 2022 would be the earliest that the HPC would have its first case. Ms. Shook said yes.

CLG Update

Ms. Mitchell asked if there were any questions regarding the draft Certified Local Government (CLG) application item regarding HPC activities. This item was sent to the HPC members via email prior to the meeting. She noted that this is an ongoing project by Staff until late spring of 2022. Chair Plaag asked for clarification on an item listed, specifically the Boone Cemeteries item. He also requested clarification on what descriptions are required for this CLG item and how extensive the past items list should be. Ms. Mitchell stated that she would confirm these items with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office.

Chair Plaag questioned the additional CLG application item of member resumes and if there would be adequate time to complete the form. Ms. Mitchell stated that she had a form available and would wait until the new Town Council members are seated, and the liaisons are assigned to the HPC.

Cemetery Mapping Project

Chair Plaag said that Dr. Kristen Baldwin-Deathridge, History Professor at Appalachian State University, emailed him and stated that her class had surveyed the Edmisten Cemetery, located off State Farm Road. She said she would send that survey material to the Staff and Chair Plaag.

Chair Plaag asked about the HPC Cemetery Mapping Project "press release." Ms. Mitchell said that the "press release" has been made public, and she has not received information as far as any cemetery information requests. She said she had received questions but no specific data on said topic. Ms. Shook confirmed that the Town publishes all its press releases to a certain list of news organizations, and those organizations choose to publish or not publish them. Ms. Shook pointed out that the "press release" is located in the press release section of the Town website under the Planning and Inspections webpage, then under the "News Flash" section of the Town website. Ms. Shook said we would try to have the press release on the HPC website when it goes live.

Chair Plaag asked Ms. Mitchell about the questions she had received on the said topic. Ms. Mitchell said the questions we're asking about the Town's position on the Mount Lawn Cemetery and its condition. She said that after talking with Ms. Shook and Ms. Turner, she contacted the individual and told them she would pass their concern along to the HPC. Ms. Mitchell gave the individual information based on what had been previously discussed. Chair Plaag pointed out that the Council had requested that the HPC report the known cemeteries by the end of this year. He noted that he did not think that the report was going to happen by the end of the year. He said the HPC would be able to report to Council on it early in the new year.

Chair Plaag expressed concern about responding directly to public feedback like what Ms. Mitchell had just described. He suggested asking Council for direction on how they would like the HPC to address the said topic. He said that in the coming year, the HPC would have some direction from Council on some of the cemeteries, to make a recommendation about one of several of interpretation, acquisition, and designation of those various cemeteries. He said since the "press release" has been made public fairly recently, he suggested giving it more time in the public. He suggested checking back in January 2022 to see where we are on said topic.

Cemetery Designation/Interpretation Guidelines

Chair Plaag said he would be presenting the proposed Cemetery Designation/Interpretation Guidelines for Council's approval and direction at their December 8, 2021, Special Council Meeting. He said he would also present to Council an update on the Hayes, Bryan, Greene Cemetery. He said he would ask the Council specifically for direction on whether they want the HPC to make a recommendation on either or both of the designation and acquisition of the said cemetery. He pointed out that the new HPC Member Willis may want to have the knowledge of these standards for the January 2022 discussion on said topic. Ms. Mitchell said she would provide Member Willis with a copy of the standards.

Hayes, Bryan, Greene Cemetery Historical Marker

Chair Plaag said that he had drafted a historical marker report included in this meeting's packet. He said that he included the standard required information in the report and prepared a historical sketch about the cemetery. He said he focused on a description of the cemetery and the various grave markers that are visible in the cemetery. He thanked Ms. Turner and Ms. Mitchell for securing the photographs. He said in the report that there is a brief write-up on each of the markers, including information about each of the individuals who are known to be buried there.

Discussion ensued on the recommendations for the Hayes, Bryan, Greene Cemetery. Chair Plaag asked the HPC if they would be inclined to recommend to Council that they invest funds in a marker for interpreting this monument and placing it on King Street. He also asked the HPC if they were ready to forward the historical marker report to Council for their approval.

Motion and Vote:

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Member Willis to forward the Hayes, Bryan, Greene Cemetery historical marker report to Council for their consideration.

Vote: Aye – All

Nay – None

The motion passed.

Discussion ensued on the location of the historical marker. Chair Plaag explained that he is recommending one location that is publicly owned property by Watauga County. He said he thought the county might be open to potentially placing the marker near Straight Street. He suggested not placing the marker at the cemetery because the road to the cemetery is narrow, and it would only serve to draw traffic into that neighborhood. He said that he thought that the best way to acknowledge the cemetery, in terms of a historical marker, is to place the marker where it will be easily seen. He asked Ms. Shook if the Staff anticipated any issues with the location near Straight Street. Ms. Shook said there would need to be some coordination with the county for its placement if they own it or the North Carolina Department of Transportation if it is in their right of way. He said he is open to discussion on other locations for said marker. It was suggested to place it near the Watauga County Agricultural Center or at the corner of Queen and Water Street. It was the consensus of the HPC to present both locations to Council and let them decide the location for the historical marker. He said he would add this discussion of the historical marker locations to the historical marker report.

Motion and Vote:

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Member Willis to ask Council if they want to expend town funds to install a marker at one of the two locations. Discussed locations include near Straight Street off of King Street, or at the corner of Queen Street and Water Street.

Vote: Aye – All

Nay – None

The motion passed.

Chair Plaag said that he would inform the Council at their December 8, 2021 meeting that the Hayes, Bryan, Greene Cemetery case will be on their January 2022 Council agenda for their consideration.

Council Store Historical Marker

Chair Plaag explained that he had not completed the historical marker report, but he would have it completed for the HPC to review at their January 2022 meeting.

Town Streets Project

Chair Plaag explained that he had completed the Appalachian Street and Junaluska Road reports. He noted that he had sent these reports to the HPC prior to the meeting. He asked Ms. Shook if the HPC could approve the reports or did they need to go to Council for approval. Ms. Shook said that before the reports are published, they should at least be presented to the Town Manager for his review. Chair Plaag said he thought the HPC could vote to approve these two reports. He said he would work with the Staff this week to get them ready to publish on the Town's website. Ms. Shook agreed with Chair Plaag working with Ms. Mitchell on getting the said reports on the town website.

Motion and Vote:

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Member Willis to approve the completed Town Street reports for Appalachian Street and Junaluska Road.

Vote: Aye – All

Nay – None

The motion passed.

Renaming/Designation of Town Streets

Chair Plaag discussed the proposed honorary designation of Rivers Street by adding a sign. Member Watkins suggested that this topic be placed on this HPC agenda for discussion but not for action. Member Watkins talked about the history of Chancellor John Thomas and his connection to Appalachian State University. Member Watkins said, when he heard about the said designation, it got his attention not because Chancellor Thomas was involved but the tying in of his name with Rivers Street. Member Watkins pointed out that, from a preservation standpoint, commemorating with a name associated with the University gives the University the honor when the University has proven not to support preservation. Council Liaison Roseman thanked Member Watkins for sharing his synopsis of said topic.

Watauga County Jail Project

Chair Plaag explained that he is working on this local landmark report and hoped to have it completed for the HPC to review at their January 2022 meeting.

Historic District Sign Permitting Discussion

Chair Plaag began the discussion by explaining that the HPC will review certain projects because they will trigger various things that arise in major works. He said that Ms. Shook wanted the HPC to address signage, specifically how the only type of signage is temporary signage for the administrative process. He stated that the HPC only needs to be focused on evaluating signs within the historic district to the extent that the installation of a sign that has the potential to damage the historic fabric of a contributing building. He explained that a sign in the historic district should use a material that is appropriate to the historical period and does not have the potential to destroy the historic fabric. Most sign applications are something that the Staff could work on, thus saving the applicant the expense of a COA application process and saving the HPC time. Ms. Shook agreed and mentioned how the COA process includes the price of the application fee and necessary attorney fees. Ms. Shook said that in this

case, the business is incorporated or are LLCs and will have the expense of having an attorney present at the COA hearing, the cost of the application fee, the cost of advertising, and the cost of the sign. Ms. Shook said that she thought the Council was hoping that the Staff and HPC could (1) come up with a threshold of what needed to be reviewed by the HPC for a COA, and (2) what could be reviewed under the Statement of Conformity that would utilize materials that are historical to the district.

Motion and Vote:

Chair Plaag made a motion, seconded by Member Watkins, to add to the list of minor works, for works that can go under the Statement of Conformity process, the addition of permanent signs that use materials that are appropriate to the historic district and do not have the potential to harm, damage, or destroy the historic fabric of a contributing building within the district.

Vote: Aye – All

Nay – None

The motion passed.

Ms. Shook asked if Staff would use the architectural survey to determine which buildings are contributing buildings or not contributing buildings within the district. She said we would also need to look at the attached signs and assess the historical materials. Ms. Shook asked Ms. Turner if she was clear on what historical materials were, and Ms. Turner said yes. Additionally, Ms. Turner said it might help to define historical materials better. Chair Plaag said that historical materials would be any materials utilized in signs during the period of significance for the district, for example, the discussed building, from 1918 to 1964 or 1965. He said the materials for the mid-1960s would include some types of vinyl or plastic that were used, particularly in interior lighted signs. He mentioned that adding some language such as a proposed sign is sympathetic to and compatible with the historic fabric of the building.

Chair Plaag suggested a change to the language in the design standards for the district to give Staff guidance on making decisions on whether a case would require a COA or a Statement of Conformity.

Council Liaison Roseman referred to the Collette-Woodruff P.C. Sign Consultation agenda item. She said the side of the building seems to be brickwork and may not be covered in stucco. She asked if an L-shaped bracket was used to hold the sign out, could that material be allowed. Chair Plaag said he thought the problem with the L-shaped bracket might be other regulations in the standards that mention a sign cannot wrap the building. It cannot go beyond a façade. He said he does not want to propose a solution to the standards that might trigger something else as a bar. He said the upper story on this building looks like they added either a brick or a brick tile above the concrete block to complete the second story addition.

Member Watkins said the upper window treatments look contemporary, and he asked how recently they were added. Chair Plaag said he would have to look that information up. Chair Plaag also asked the Staff on the consultations to include an excerpt on the building from the survey report in the future. He said this information is helpful because in most cases it includes when specific changes were made to the building.

Other Discussion

Chair Plaag pointed out to Ms. Shook on the Town website that the historical population statistics of the Town were unsourced, and the early 20th century numbers do not look correct. He asked Ms. Shook if this could be researched and updated. Ms. Shook said she would pass his information along to Town Hall and ask them to check into it.

Chair Plaag said, with permission from the board members and Staff, he would work with the board secretary on the agenda items for the January 2022 meeting.

Ms. Shook pointed out that the Staff is moving the HPC website information to the new Town of Boone website. She noted that this is an ongoing task among Staff.

Adjournment

Member Watkins made a motion, seconded by Member Willis to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Vote: Aye - All
Nay – None
The motion passed.

Eric Plaag, Chair

Marlene Crosby, Board Secretary

Communication: December 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Approval of Minutes)



Town of Boone Planning and Inspections Department

Memorandum

To: Historic Preservation Commission
From: Jessica Mitchell
Date: 12/16/2021
Subject: Continuation of Loom Discussion: History of Loom at the Jones House

HISTORY OF LOOM – Discussed at December 7, 2021 HPC Meeting and via Email

The following information was shared to all HPC members via email based on a discussion Member Watkins had with Mr. Mark Freed, Ms. Jane Shook, and Chair Plaag.

This note is in response to your request for information about a weaving loom voiced during the HPC meeting earlier in the week and the images provided by Mark Freed in a follow-up email. Please share this message with Mark and anyone else you feel would have an interest. As I mentioned during the meeting, I was the director of the Appalachian Cultural Museum when that particular loom was acquired but have little recollection of specific information related to it. I was not involved in the dispersal of the museum's artifacts and do not know where materials such as the label accompanying that loom might have gone. But, as I said during the meeting, my memory was that the loom was an Anna Ernberg design. Ernberg, a Swedish immigrant, was the driving force behind the weaving revival at Berea College in the early years of the twentieth century. She taught Lucy Morgan, who came as a student in 1923, weaving fundamentals. Morgan was affiliated with what became Penland School, near Bakersville, NC, and Morgan took the information, along with looms, back to her own school and began a weaving program in the Penland area. Ernberg had developed several designs for small, portable looms that could be easily set up in homes, and Morgan eventually purchased over a dozen of these. One can see one of Ernberg looms illustrated on page 37 of "Gathering Threads: A Material Culture Study of Anna Ernberg at Berea College," by Claire Logan Williamson (M.A. Thesis, University of Texas at Austin, 2018 [on line]). Further, Williamson includes several catalog illustrations of the looms on page 95. Elements of the loom currently in the possession of the town appear to correspond to the illustrations, so my memory is likely correct (to verify this, of course, one should compare the actual loom with the photographs or get further data from the university). For full details on Ernberg and her influence on Morgan and on loom development, see Phylis Alvic, Weavers of

the Southern Highlands. Louisville: University Press of Kentucky, 2003. Alvic notes that the Ernberg looms were manufactured by the Berea Student Industries, a labor program of Berea College. For the significance of Penland's weaving program, one should look at Gift from the Hills: Miss Lucy Morgan's Story of her unique Penland School, with LeGette Blythe, NY: Bobbs-Merrill, 1958. For a more analytical view of that significance, I suppose I should mention Charles Alan Watkins, "Weaving Day at Penland: A Photographic Analysis." National Womens' Studies Association Journal, Vol 11, Issue 3, Fall 1999, 18-23, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. Please let me know if this information meets your needs. Best wishes, Chuck Watkins

--

Sincerely,

Charles Alan (Chuck) Watkins



Town of Boone Planning and Inspections Department

Memorandum

To: Town of Boone Historic Preservation Commission
From: Mark Freed, Cultural Resources Director
Date: 12/28/2021
Subject: North Depot Street Historical Marker COA Consultation

As part of the Boone 150 Celebration, the Cultural Resources Department has been in discussion with the Downtown Boone Development Association about installing a set of three to five informational markers focused on the history of the Town of Boone. As we research the best options for display, I seek the input from the Historical Preservation Commission on appropriate materials, design, or other aspects that might be reviewed by the commission for the Downtown Historic District.

The initial thought is to have signs that are angled and display similar to the examples attached.





Frogs and Toads



While frogs and toads have many things in common, they're actually quite different. Do you know how to tell them apart?

Frogs and toads both "drink" water through their skin, but their skin is different. A frog's skin is usually very smooth but not slimy. A toad's skin is dry and bumpy. Both frogs and toads blend in with their surroundings, helping them to escape predators. A frog's color can change in response to its environment and situation.

No, a toad's bumps won't give you warts—but they do help keep predators away by making the toad taste bad.



Gray Tree Frog

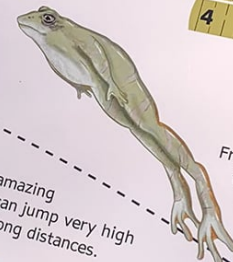


American Toad

Toads are very good at digging and burrowing.



Toads are not very good jumpers. They can only jump about one body length, about 3 inches.



They are able to jump about 44 times their body length, about 130 inches.



Tree frogs are amazing jumpers—they can jump very high and leap across long distances.

Frogs have very sticky toes that allow them to climb on almost any surface!

Proposal for a Town of Boone Historical Marker

Submitted by the Boone Historic Preservation Commission
December 2021 [FINAL DRAFT]

Eric Plaag prepared this marker report with assistance from Jessica Mitchell and Christy Turner.

A. SUBJECT OF PROPOSED MARKER:

The Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery Located on Green Heights

B. SITE TO BE MARKED:

The Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery
Watauga County Parcel ID: 2901-61-3065-000
Located just east of Gladys Street and just north of Charles Street, between 245 Charles Street and 225 Gladys Street.

C. PROPOSED LOCATION OF MARKER:

Option A: Mulched area at northeast corner of Parcel 2900-69-7872-000, Watauga County Extension Property, on West King Street opposite Straight Street.

Option B: Mulched area at east corner of Parcel 2900-79-7988-000, adjoining Watauga County Courthouse Annex (stone building) at intersection of Queen and North Water Streets.

D. DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM THE PROPOSED LOCATION TO THE SITE TO BE MARKED: *(for example, 100 yards S.E.)*

Option A: Approx. 440 yards SSE of cemetery.

Option B: Approx. 600 yards SE of cemetery.

E. HISTORICAL SKETCH:

The Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery is located in a section of Boone known since at least the early twentieth century as “Green Heights.”¹ The cemetery is Watauga County parcel ID 2901-61-3065-000, with no owner or trustees assigned to the parcel. Various volunteers have maintained the cemetery for the past several decades, functioning individually rather than as part of any particular organization. The property is bounded to the north by 225 Gladys Street, which is owned by descendants of the Hayes family; to the east by 259 Charles Street; and to the south by 245 Charles Street.

The cemetery is surrounded by a stockade fence on its south and west boundaries and a split-rail fence on its north and east boundaries. Both fences are still functional but show significant signs of rot and decay, as well as a few fallen rails or missing boards. A post at the west corner of the cemetery, near its entrance, features a carved sign that reads, “Hayes-Bryan Cemetery.” Otherwise, the cemetery is well shaded by trees just outside the fenced perimeter. Deed records indicate that the excepted portion of land dedicated to the cemetery is supposed to be 54 by 64 feet in size (no cardinal directions are given for which is the long side), but the present parcel boundary appears to be marked off at roughly 50 feet by 50 feet.² The cemetery is accessible via a deeded, 10-foot-wide easement from Gladys Street to the west corner of the cemetery.³

The cemetery contains three fieldstones that appear to be functioning as grave markers to unidentified individuals, plus 17 additional grave markers for 18 identified individuals. The age of the cemetery is not known but contains burials dating back to at least the mid-nineteenth century.⁴ The earliest graves appear to be those of Ransom Hayes (d. 1868) and Sallie Greene Hayes (d. 1862), although the markers for those graves date to much later (1924).⁵ Other individuals buried within the cemetery are members of the Bryan, Greene, and Councill families, all of which were interrelated due to marriages among some members of those families.

For the most part, the grave markers display little in the way of unusual or noteworthy funerary art, and thus the cemetery does not rise to a standard of special significance related to funerary art and display. Several carving themes are

¹ “Col. W. L. Bryan Crosses the Bar,” *Watauga Democrat*, 27 December 1928: 1. For an earlier reference see “Town and County,” *Watauga Democrat*, 20 August 1914: 3.

² For the deed excepting the cemetery, see R. F. Greene and Pearl H. Greene to Mamie H. Smith, 20 March 1946, Deed Book 60, Page 618, Watauga County Register of Deeds.

³ Mamie H. Smith and I. L. Smith to James H. Burris and Patricia Burris, 29 October 1969, Deed Book 109, Page 414, Watauga County Register of Deeds.

⁴ Because of this possibility, the cemetery is a good candidate for a ground-penetrating radar study to determine just how many gravesites are included within its boundaries.

⁵ “Local Happenings,” *Watauga Democrat*, 18 December 1925: 5. The notice of the erection of the Hayes graves makes clear that the new stones were intended to mark extant gravesites for those individuals, rather than simply serve as a memorial.

recurrent and fairly stereotypical: resting lambs on graves for infant deaths, scrolls and laurels on some adult grave markers, and footstones carved with the initials of the corresponding individual for many of the more recent graves. Judge L. L. Greene's grave marker is somewhat more elaborate, given that it is an obelisk carved with a Masonic symbol. Two of the markers appear to be official military headstones acquired from the federal government. Otherwise, most grave markers are plain, listing the name of the individual, the buried individual's relationship to others buried nearby, and the relevant dates of death.

Any special significance for the cemetery stems from the presence of gravesites for three individuals of outstanding significance to Boone's history and development: Ransom Hayes (Abt. 1805-1868), Judge Leander Lawrence Greene (1845-1898), and William Lewis Bryan (1837-1928). All three men played major roles in the establishment of the Boone community and its early development. The descriptions that follow address each marked gravesite and provide a brief biography for those burials that have been identified.

Given the presence of the gravesites of one of the donors of Boone's land in 1849, an influential superior court judge based in Boone, and the first mayor of Boone, the cemetery appears to warrant interpretation through an historical marker describing the cemetery and its burials.

Stone covered in lichen, possible fieldstone



After cleaning some of the lichen off using water and a soft brush, no carving could be discerned. This is unmistakably a grave marker, however, located just south of Mattie J. Greene's headstone in the southwest corner of the cemetery.

Mattie J. Greene (1853-1930)



Martha J. "Mattie" Horton Greene was the daughter of Sheriff Jack Horton (1816-1884) and Rebecca Mast Horton (1818-1857). She married Leander Leonidas Greene on March 1, 1876, at Boone, and the marriage produced two children. Following his death, she took a position with the federal government in Washington, DC, where her daughter Bina was living at the time.⁶ She died in 1930 at the Watauga Hospital following a series of internal hemorrhages.⁷

Wilmetta Greene (1889-1951)



⁶ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 12 April 1900: 3. Bina also worked in the civil service at Washington. See "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 22 February 1900: 3.

⁷ John Preston Arthur, *A History of Watauga County, North Carolina*, (Richmond: Everett Waddey Co., 1915), 313; and "Widow of Late Judge Greene Dies Saturday," *Watauga Democrat*, 1 May 1930: 1.

Wilmetta Greene was the daughter of Judge L. L. Greene and Mattie J. Greene. Born at Boone, she apparently never married. She was a patient in the North Carolina State Hospital for the Insane at Morganton for nearly 25 years prior to her death in 1951.⁸

Judge L. L. Greene (1845-1898)



Leander Lawrence Greene (expressed as “Leonidas L. Greene” in some sources), the son of Robert Greene and Chaney Elrod, was born at Blowing Rock on November 11, 1845.⁹ Throughout much of his adult life, his name was spelled interchangeably as “Green” or “Greene.” During the American Civil War, he served as a private in Company D of the North Carolina 1st Cavalry, having enlisted in May 1864. He was wounded September 30, 1864 (probably near Jonesborough, Tennessee), then was

⁸ “Rites on Tuesday for Miss Greene,” *Watauga Democrat*, 15 Mar 1951: 4.

⁹ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 313. Arthur is one of several sources that attribute Greene’s first name as “Leonidas,” but most contemporary sources, including military records, list his name as “Leander Lawrence Greene.” For another example of “Leonidas,” see “Sued for Refusing Habeas Corpus Writ,” *Raleigh Times*, 20 September 1897: 3.

wounded again and deserted his unit at Bellfield, Virginia, on January 30, 1865.¹⁰ Following the war, he returned to Boone, attended Cumberland College in Tennessee, and trained for the legal profession under Harvey Bingham. He returned to Boone in 1872 to begin practicing law. He was eventually elected as a Democrat to serve in the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1874-75.¹¹ He married Martha J. "Mattie" Horton on March 1, 1876, and the marriage produced two children.¹²



Judge Leander Lawrence Greene, from John Preston Arthur's *History of Watauga County, North Carolina* (1915).

¹⁰ "Leander Green," Historical Data Systems, Comp., *US, Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865*, Database Online, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2009).

¹¹ "Death," *Watauga Democrat*, 5 January 1899: 1; "Judge Leander L. Greene," *Watauga Democrat*, 17 November 1898: 3; and *Journal of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina at Its Session of 1874-75*, (Raleigh: Josiah Turner, 1875), 5.

¹² Arthur, *Watauga County*, 313.

Greene was also active in the state leadership of the Masons, his name routinely appearing in the press during the late 1870s in this capacity.¹³ In 1878, his home at Boone was destroyed by fire.¹⁴ He was often credited as the founder of the Republican Party in Boone in the 1880s, which was painted by some as having “gone to the Radicals—sold out for a place in the Revenue Department—cheap price.”¹⁵ He was also a member of the Executive Campaign Committee of the District Anti-Prohibition Convention held at Yadkinville in 1881.¹⁶ Greene ran unsuccessfully for US Congress on the Republican ticket in 1884.¹⁷

In 1888, Greene briefly operated Boone’s second newspaper, the *Watauga Enterprise*, with Thomas Bingham, stopping publication shortly after the 1888 election.¹⁸ Greene was elected judge of the 10th Judicial District for an eight-year term in 1894 and served in that role until his death. He had an outstanding reputation as a capable, fair, and clear-minded judge.¹⁹ He was also an early and vocal advocate for bringing a railroad to Boone.²⁰ Despite his Republican Party membership, he was closely aligned with the Democrats in the 1898 election, telling the editor of the *Watauga Democrat* that “a change must come.” While Greene did not survive to vote in that election, passing away on November 2, 1898, the contest was nevertheless dominated statewide and in Watauga County by an overt and quite public Democratic effort to disenfranchise Black voters.²¹

¹³ For an example, see “Grand Lodge of Mason,” *Daily Review*, 5 December 1878: 4.

¹⁴ “Spirits Turpentine,” *Wilmington Morning Star*, 18 July 1878: 1.

¹⁵ “From Watauga,” *The Farmer and Mechanic (State Chronicle)*, 24 June 1880, 30; and “Widow of Late Judge Greene Dies Saturday,” *Watauga Democrat*, 1 May 1930: 1.

¹⁶ *Winston Sentinel*, 30 June 1881: 2. See also “The Cold Water Campaign,” *The Farmer and Mechanic*, 9 June 1881: 2.

¹⁷ “Eighth District Republicans,” *State Chronicle*, 6 September 1884: 2.

¹⁸ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 157.

¹⁹ For a lengthy eulogy by Romulus Z. Linney addressing Judge Greene’s prowess as both an attorney and a judge, see “Death,” *Watauga Democrat*, 5 January 1899: 1. On the 1894 election, see “Judge Leander L. Greene,” *Watauga Democrat*, 17 November 1898: 3.

²⁰ “Do You Want a Railroad Through Watauga County?” *Watauga Democrat*, 28 October 1897: 2.

²¹ “Judge Leander L. Greene,” *Watauga Democrat*, 17 November 1898: 3. Greene appears to have died from an attack of asthma following a bad cold; he had suffered from asthma for many years. For news of another asthmatic attack, see “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 3 March 1898: 3. For a synopsis of the 1898 election in North Carolina, see Kathy Roberts Forde and Kristin Gustafson, “A White Supremacist Coup Succeeded in 1898 North Carolina, Led by Lying Politicians and Racist Newspapers That Amplified Their Lies,” *The Conversation*, 15 January 2021, Online, available at <https://theconversation.com/a-white-supremacist-coup-succeeded-in-1898-north-carolina-led-by-lying-politicians-and-racist-newspapers-that-amplified-their-lies-153052>; and Nicholas Graham, “The Election of 1898 in North Carolina: An Introduction,” *The 1898 Election in North Carolina*, UNC Libraries, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Online, available at <https://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/1898/history>.

James Henry Bryan (Mar. 14, 1869-Dec. 22, 1946)



James Henry Bryan was the son of William Lewis Bryan and Sallie Hayes Bryan. He never married. He left Boone in the early 1890s, working for several years in the lumber business in Bristol, Tennessee, and trading in horses.²² By the early 1900s, James relocated to Edmonton, Canada, where he entered the fur trade and became a large-scale fur buyer.²³ He also owned controlling stock in a coal corporation in Canada and owned a large horse farm.²⁴ Toward the end of his life, he was involved in the livestock business at Charlotte and worked for a mercantile firm at Monroe.²⁵ Bryan returned to Boone in April 1946 for an “indefinite” visit.²⁶ He died several months later as a boarder in Boone.²⁷

²² “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 15 February 1894: 3; “James H. Bryan Dies on Sunday,” *Watauga Democrat*, 19 December 1946: 1.

²³ “Mammoth Bear Skin,” *Watauga Democrat*, 16 August 1934: 1.

²⁴ “Former Resident Visits the ‘Old Home Town,’” *Watauga Democrat*, 11 October 1923: 5.

²⁵ “James H. Bryan Dies,” 1.

²⁶ “Local,” *Watauga Democrat*, 11 April 1946: 5.

²⁷ “James H. Bryan Dies,” 1.

Stone covered in moss, possible fieldstone



After cleaning some of the lichen off using water and a soft brush, no carving could be discerned. This is unmistakably a grave marker, however, located along the south fence line.

Ransom Hayes (Born in Caldwell Co., Died April 1868)—“He gave Watauga Co. 25 acres of land and half of original Co. site where Boone is now located.”



Born about 1805, Ransom Hayes was apparently a Caldwell County native, as listed on his headstone. Sometime before 1836, he married Sallie Greene, the daughter of Joseph Greene. The marriage produced a total of eleven children.²⁸ On November 25, 1844, Hayes received a land grant in the amount of 10 acres located on Rich Mountain in what was then Ashe County.²⁹ He also acquired land from either John or Jerry Green, two brothers who owned homes in the vicinity of what would become Boone. The house that Hayes purchased was a large, log house and stood between the later Judge L. L. Greene residence and his storehouse that would be built just to the west of it, on the north side of present-day Green Street.³⁰ Five years later, Hayes made what was probably his most significant contribution to Boone's history, agreeing along with Jordan Councill, Jr., to donate 25 acres each to create the county seat of Boone in the newly established Watauga County, earning Hayes the appellation of "stepfather of Boone."³¹ Between the establishment of the new county in 1849 and the construction of the first hotels at Boone in 1870, Hayes took in boarders at his home during court weeks.³²

About 1851 or 1852, Hayes hired Joseph C. Gaines to build a one-story, brick home with a footprint of roughly forty by twenty feet and a brick partition running through the middle of the home. Chimneys were located at each end of the house. This house later burned, and Judge L. L. Greene, who owned the house at the time of the fire, had his two-story, brick home (no longer extant) built on the original home's foundation.³³ Hayes was appointed as a commissioner in November 1866, along with Robert Shearer and Eli Brown, to build a new church for the Three Forks Baptist congregation in the summer of 1867.³⁴ He died in April 1868 at the age of 63 and was buried at the Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery, but the headstones of Ransom Hayes and his wife Sallie Greene Hayes were not erected until December 1924.³⁵

²⁸ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 318. The 1850 Census shows nine children living in Hayes's home. See "Ransom Hase, Watauga, Watauga, North Carolina," Ancestry.com, *1850 United States Federal Census*, (Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009), Database Online, available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13069441:8054>. The 1860 Census shows seven children living in Hayes's home. See "Ransom Hayse, Boone, Watauga, North Carolina," Ancestry.com, *1860 United States Federal Census*, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, Operations, Inc., 2009), Database Online, available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/41530415:7667>.

²⁹ For an image of this land grant reference, see "Ransom Hays," Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, US, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960*, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016), Database Online, available at https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?dbid=60621&h=132306&indiv=try&o_vc=Record:OtherRecord&rhSource=60525.

³⁰ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 147.

³¹ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 115. According to Arthur, Hayes's donation included the land "between the branch above Blackburn's Hotel, then called Upper Branch, and the branch that flows by the new post office, then called the Middle Branch." On the "stepfather of Boone" reference, see Arthur, *Watauga County*, 298. Jordan Councill, Jr., was considered to be the "father of Boone."

³² Arthur, *Watauga County*, 150.

³³ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 154. The house also played a significant role in the Union occupation of Boone by Kirk's men in April 1865. See Arthur, *Watauga County*, 181.

³⁴ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 77.

³⁵ "Local Happenings," *Watauga Democrat*, 18 December 1924: 5.

Sallie Greene, wife of Ransom Hayes (b. Ashe Co., now Watauga Co., d. 1862)



Sarah “Sallie” (sometimes Sally) Greene Hayes was the daughter of Joseph Green (1782-1861) and Elizabeth Shearer (1790-1811). She was born in the portion of Ashe County that became Watauga County on January 22, 1808.³⁶ She married Ransom Hayes sometime prior to 1836, and the marriage produced eleven children.³⁷ She died in 1862 under unknown circumstances.

³⁶ See “Sarah ‘Sallie’ Greene Hayes,” Find-a-Grave, Online Database, available at <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/54875211/sarah-hayes>.

³⁷ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 318. The 1850 Census shows nine children living in Hayes’s home. See “Ransom Hase, Watauga, Watauga, North Carolina,” Ancestry.com, *1850 United States Federal Census*, (Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009), Database Online, available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13069441:8054>. The 1860 Census shows seven children living in Hayes’s home. See “Ransom Hayse, Boone, Watauga, North Carolina,” Ancestry.com, *1860 United States Federal Census*, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, Operations, Inc., 2009), Database Online, available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/41530415:7667>.

Fieldstone



No carving is discernible, but this fieldstone was clearly intended as a grave marker.

George A. Bryan (b. June 11, 1874, d. Jan 18, 1927)



George A. Bryan was the son of William Lewis Bryan and Sallie Hayes Bryan. During his early career, Bryan appears to have worked as a men's clothing salesman.³⁸ In the early 1900s, George Bryan was employed at the *Watauga Democrat*, occasionally filling in as editor in the absence of Robert C. Rivers, Sr.³⁹ In later years, he worked for several years for the Watauga County Bank and the Watauga Insurance Company during the 1920s. He does not appear to have ever married. Described as "a businessman of extraordinary ability" and "an expert bookkeeper and accountant," George Bryan died in 1927 at the State Hospital in Morganton after being a patient there for mental illness during multiple stints.⁴⁰

Bartlett R. Bryan (May 28, 1884-Dec. 7, 1941)



Bartlett Ransom Bryan was born at Boone in 1884 and was the son of William Lewis Bryan and Sallie Hayes Bryan. Educated at Marion and employed as a teenager at Globe (most likely in one of his father's timber operations), Bartlett left for employment in Arizona, California, and Colorado before 1903.⁴¹ He then took employment with a lumber company at Elizabethton, Tennessee, in May 1903.⁴² He later took a position with an electric company in Richmond, Virginia, sometime before 1907 before moving to Alexandria, Virginia, where he worked as an

³⁸ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 20 February 1896: 3.

³⁹ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 17 April 1902: 3.

⁴⁰ "George Bryan Dead," *Watauga Democrat*, 20 January 1927: 1. On other admissions for mental illness, see "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 20 October 192: 3; "Mr. G. A. Bryan Returned to Hospital at Morganton," *Watauga Democrat*, 18 January 1923: 1; and "Local Happenings," *Watauga Democrat*, 15 October 1925: 5.

⁴¹ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 26 February 1903: 3. On his work at Jerome, Arizona, see "From Our Early Files," *Watauga Democrat*, 21 November 1940: 5.

⁴² "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 7 May 1903: 3. He also appears to have worked in the lumber business at Cranberry in 1904. See "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 2 June 1904: 3.

electrician and married Nettie C. Wells in 1909.⁴³ That marriage produced at least one child.⁴⁴ He returned to Boone several years later, taking a position with the fledgling New River Light and Power Company in 1915 before leaving later that year for an opportunity in California.⁴⁵ In the late 1910s, he was working first for the Virginia-Carolina Survey, then helped survey the Linville River Railway line from Shulls Mills to Boone prior to the formal acceptance of a contract for extension of the line.⁴⁶ By 1920, he was in the Cleveland, Ohio, vicinity at an unknown position.⁴⁷ He later returned to Boone and married Mary Manarkie "Arkie" Ragan in 1921.⁴⁸ During the early 1920s, Bartlett ran the Better Bread Bakery, a bake shop purchased by J. L. Qualls in 1925.⁴⁹ In 1933, he was working at the Watauga Drug Company on King Street, and in 1935, he took a position with the Works Progress Administration as a timekeeper.⁵⁰ In 1939, Bartlett purchased the T & L Café in Boone and operated it as Bart's Café with Linney Walker.⁵¹ The following year, he opened a café and grocery store near Cove Creek High School.⁵² He died from a heart attack at Boone.

Arkie R. Bryan (1899-1994, "A Loving Mother")



⁴³ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 18 March 1897: 3; "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 11 May 1899: 3; "The Confederate Reunion," *Watauga Democrat*, 13 June 1907: 2. On his 1909 marriage, see "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 26 August 1909: 3.

⁴⁴ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 22 September 1910: 3.

⁴⁵ "Town and County," *Watauga Democrat*, 16 September 1915: 3.

⁴⁶ "Town and County," *Watauga Democrat*, 6 September 1917: 3.

⁴⁷ "Town and County," *Watauga Democrat*, 10 May 1917: 3; "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 21 October 1920: 3.

⁴⁸ "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 15 September 1921: 3.

⁴⁹ "Qualls Now Owner of Better Bread Bakery," *Watauga Democrat*, 4 June 1925: 1.

⁵⁰ "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 16 February 1933: 5; "WPA Work Going Forward in City," *Watauga Democrat*, 7 November 1935: 1. Bartlett also did the improvement work on the Oak Grove Road from Oak Grove Church to Hodges Gap in 1939. See "Oak Grove Road Is Now Being Improved," *Watauga Democrat*, 2 March 1939: 1.

⁵¹ "Notice," *Watauga Democrat*, 5 October 1939: 5; "Armistice Day," advertisement, *Watauga Democrat*, 9 November 1939: 3.

⁵² "New Café and Store," *Watauga Democrat*, 23 May 1940: 5.

Mary Manarkie "Arkie" Ragan Bryan was born at Boone on April 24, 1899, to Lewis Franklin "Frank" Ragan (1869-1954) and Nancy Louisa Lookabill Ragan (1874-1949).⁵³ In 1920, she took work as a housekeeper at the William Lewis Bryan residence.⁵⁴ She married Bryan's son, Bartlett Ransom Bryan, in September 1921.⁵⁵ Beginning in 1950, she took work as a cafeteria helper at Appalachian State Teachers College, working for many years as the salad preparer for the cafeteria.⁵⁶ She died on March 10, 1994, at Boone.⁵⁷

Denver Ragan Bryan, NC CPL 3899 Pers Processing Sq AF (May 31, 1922-March 22, 1960)



The son of Mary Manarkie "Arkie" Ragan Bryan and Bartlett Ransom Bryan, Denver Ragan Bryan was born in Boone in 1922. He graduated from Cove Creek High School in 1941.⁵⁸ He served for three years in the Army during World War II, then in the Air Force during the Korean Conflict.⁵⁹ He first married Mary Modawell of Santa Anna, Texas, in April 1946, then later remarried to Barbara Evelyn Hodges of Boone on October 10, 1951.⁶⁰ The latter marriage produced a daughter, Janna Lee Bryan. At

⁵³ See "Mary Manarkie 'Arkie' Ragan Bryan," *Find-A-Grave*, Online Database, available at <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/69188207/mary-manarkie-bryan>.

⁵⁴ "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 12 August 1920: 3.

⁵⁵ "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 15 September 1921: 3.

⁵⁶ "Veteran College Workers Praised by Plemmons," *Watauga Democrat*, 22 December 1955: 1, 2.

⁵⁷ "North Carolina Deaths," *Charlotte Observer*, 11 March 1994: 6C.

⁵⁸ "Cove Creek High School Graduates," *Watauga Democrat*, 8 May 1941: 5; "Mrs. Arkie Ragan Bryan," *Watauga Democrat*, 11 March 1994.

⁵⁹ "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 26 September 1946: 7.

⁶⁰ "Pvt. Denver Bryan Weds at Camp Bowie," *Watauga Democrat*, 11 April 1946: 5; "Marriage Licenses," *Watauga Democrat*, 11 October 1951: Second Section, 1.

the time of his death at the age of 37, Bryan was working as a timekeeper for an electric motor company.⁶¹

William Baxter Bryan, TEC 5 US Army, WWII (Sep 30, 1926-May 19, 1996)



The son of Bartlett Ransom Bryan and Mary Manarkie “Arkie” Ragan Bryan, William Baxter Bryan was born at Boone. A graduate of Appalachian High School in 1943, he served in the US Army at Fort Ord, California, during World War II and was discharged in 1946.⁶² Sometime before 1960, he relocated to Brookline, Massachusetts, where he worked as a firefighter.⁶³ On June 25, 1964, he married Catherine Marie McGinn in Seabrook, New Hampshire, which was his second marriage.⁶⁴ He died at Boone on May 19, 1996.⁶⁵

⁶¹ “Denver Ragan Bryan, Watauga, March 1960,” Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, US, Death Certificates, 1909-1976*, Database Online, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007), Image 7.

⁶² “Appalachian High School News Items,” *Watauga Democrat*, 29 April 1943: 6; “Local Affairs,” *Watauga Democrat*, 9 May 1946: 6.

⁶³ “Denver Bryan Rites Are Held,” *Watauga Democrat*, 31 March 1960: 1.

⁶⁴ See “William Baxter Bryan,” Ancestry.com, *New Hampshire, US, Marriage Records, 1700-1971*, (Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2021), Database Online, available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/625338:61836>.

⁶⁵ “Mr. William Baxter Bryan,” *Watauga Democrat*, 20 May 1996: 3A.

W. L. L. Bryan, son of W. L. & S. H. Bryan (Nov. 11, 1888-Feb. 18, 1891)



William Louis Loventhorpe Bryan was the infant son of William Lewis Bryan and Sallie Hayes Bryan. He died at Boone at the age of two.⁶⁶

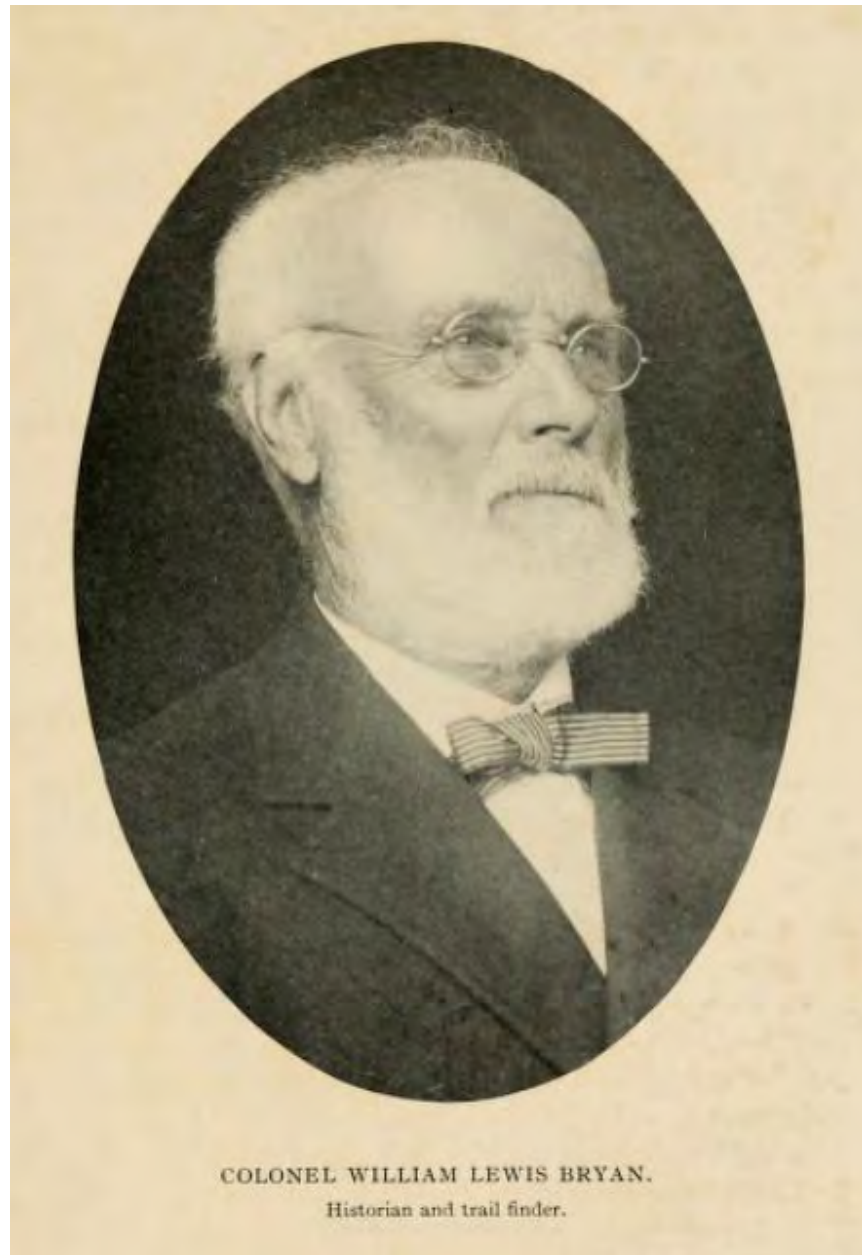
Sallie Hayes Bryan (Sept. 11, 1844-April 14, 1919)



⁶⁶ "In Memorium [sic]," *Watauga Democrat*, 26 February 1891: 3.

Sallie Hayes Bryan was the daughter of Ransom Hayes and Sarah “Sallie” Greene Hayes. She was born in the Ransom Hayes residence at Boone on September 11, 1844. She was one of the first members of the Boone Baptist Church, and her marriage to William Lewis Bryan produced six children.⁶⁷ She died at home in Boone on April 14, 1919. Her headstone is shared with William Lewis Bryan.

William Lewis Bryan (Nov. 19, 1837-Dec. 20, 1928)



Col. William Lewis Bryan, from Arthur's *History of Watauga County, North Carolina*.

⁶⁷ "Mrs. W. L. Bryan," *Watauga Democrat*, 17 April 1919: 3.

According to John Preston Arthur, William Lewis Bryan was born at Meat Camp on November 19, 1837, to Battle or Bartlett Bryan (1802-1903) and Rebecca Miller Bryan (1805-1903). He was educated in Meat Camp schools and worked briefly to build an overshot grist mill near Meat Camp for George Bower before moving to Boone in 1857.⁶⁸ At Boone, Bryan worked first for Jacob Rintils as a clerk, then made shoes for Sheriff Jack Horton's store. About 1858, Bryan followed Rintils to Statesville, where he continued to clerk for several months, then returned to Boone to operate a business for Rintils in the James H. Tatum store until some point during the American Civil War. Bryan then took over the business and moved it to a storeroom near the James Council House on King Street. In addition to these professional efforts, Bryan also served as first lieutenant in Company B of the Watauga Home Guard during the American Civil War.⁶⁹ It was likely as a result of this service that he later earned the appellation of "Colonel Bryan."⁷⁰

After the war, Bryan returned to Meat Camp and married Sarah "Sallie" Hayes on December 12, 1865; they resided at Meat Camp until 1868. Thereafter, he returned to Boone, where he was engaged in farming and a mercantile operation for much of the late nineteenth century until his business fell victim to arson in 1895.⁷¹ He was also named a Master Mason at some point in the late nineteenth century.⁷²

Bryan was appointed by the North Carolina legislature to serve as Boone's first mayor beginning in 1872, an office he held intermittently for over 25 years (1872-1890, 1899-1907, and 1909-1911).⁷³ Bryan also helped found the Boone Baptist Church in 1882, along with Thomas J. and W. C. Coffey.⁷⁴ Bryan's first major business at Boone was the Blair Hotel, located on the south side of King Street just to the east of his home.⁷⁵ The Blair Hotel was demolished about 1923 for construction of the Farmer's Hardware Block, and the Bryan residence was moved to Howard Street in 1938 before being demolished in the late twentieth century.

Bryan claimed a direct lineage to the family of Daniel Boone through Boone's wife, Rebecca Bryan, whose father Morgan Bryan was a direct ancestor of W. L. Bryan's. This ancestral connection likely played a significant part in Bryan's ongoing promotion of Daniel Boone's association with the valley where the Town of Boone is located. His enduring project in this area was the erection of the Daniel Boone

⁶⁸ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 292; and "Bryan's Diary Reveals Two Saloons in Boone in 1857," *Watauga Democrat*, 23 June 1849: Centennial Edition, 1.

⁶⁹ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 283.

⁷⁰ Bryan had a close friendship with John Preston Arthur, who was also called "Colonel" during the later years of his life, and it's possible that the terms were mutually applied terms of affection and respect. See O. L. Brown, "John Preston Arthur Early Day Scholar, Author; Boone Resident Plagued by Loneliness and Want," *Watauga Democrat*, 3 January 1963, Second Section: 2-3.

⁷¹ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 292; and "Wrapped in Flames," *Watauga Democrat*, 11 July 1895: 2.

⁷² "W. L. Bryan," *Watauga Democrat*, 7 February 1929: 5.

⁷³ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 142; and "List of Mayors of Boone, NC," Historic Boone Collection, 2.67.5, Digital Watauga Project.

⁷⁴ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 102.

⁷⁵ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 150.

Monument at the alleged prior location of the “Daniel Boone Cabin,” which was more likely a cabin owned by Benjamin Howard that was located near the present Duck Pond on the Appalachian State University campus. Bryan began work on this monument on his own in 1911, utilizing what he claimed were original stones from the cabin’s chimney. He also inserted tablets honoring Boone and himself. He completed the monument in October 1912.⁷⁶

The following year, Bryan also played an influential role in the placement of the six Boone Trail markers erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Watauga County, including one located on the lawn of the Watauga County Courthouse in Boone. While Lindsay Patterson is generally credited with the November 1912 proposal to the DAR for the creation of such a trail of markers, circumstantial evidence suggests that Patterson and Bryan may have been working together on the idea well ahead of that. In April 1912, Bryan published a postscript to his letter about the Daniel Boone Monument in the *Watauga Democrat*: “I also want each county in N.C., Tenn., and Va. through which Daniel Boone passed on his way to Kentucky to build a monument on his pathway thro’ the counties through which he passed to mark his trail through the wilderness, as it was in those days. I want this for the benefit of the present and rising generations.”⁷⁷ Bryan also funded and helped write John Preston Arthur’s *History of Watauga County, North Carolina*, in 1915, prompting Arthur to acknowledge that the book was as much Bryan’s creation as his own. Bryan died at the age of 92 from influenza at his home in Boone.⁷⁸

⁷⁶ Arthur, *Watauga County*, 33-34. Arthur claimed that the Town of Boone was so named in 1849/1850 “because of the location of Boone’s cabin within a few hundred feet of its court house.”

⁷⁷ W. L. B., “The Daniel Boone Monument,” *Watauga Democrat*, 25 April 1912: 3. For a discussion of this possible cooperation between Patterson and Bryan, see Randell Jones, *Trailing Daniel Boone*, (Winston-Salem, NC: Daniel Boone Footsteps, 2012), 51-56.

⁷⁸ “Col. W. L. Bryan Crosses the Bar,” *Watauga Democrat*, 27 December 1928: 1.

Richard L. Councill, son of R. L. & C. L. Councill (Nov. 6, 1893-Nov. 20, 1893)



The infant son of Richard Lenoir Councill and Cora L. Bryan Councill, the junior Richard Councill survived just two weeks following his birth in November 1893.⁷⁹

Louis F. Councill, son of R. L. & C. L. Councill (Apr 10, 1892-Feb 8, 1893)



⁷⁹ "Richard Councill, Watauga County, Bryan Family Cemetery, Boone, NC," Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, US Historical Records Survey, Cemetery Inscription Card Index, 1700-2018*, Database Online, (Lehi: UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2020), Image 3902.

Affectionately known as “Frank,” Louis Francis Councilll was the infant child of Richard L. Councilll and Cora Bryan Councilll. He appears to have succumbed to an illness of some sort in February 1893, at just ten months of age.⁸⁰

Richard L. Councilll (Apr 10, 1864-Oct 2, 1895)



Richard Lenoir Councilll was the son of James Willis Councilll (1826-1884) and Mary V. Cocke Councilll (1834-1894). On October 23, 1889, Councilll married Cora Lee Bryan in the Boone Baptist Church, with R. C. Rivers, Jack Todd, and L. C. Reeves as witnesses to the marriage.⁸¹ Councilll appears to have been engaged in the building trades for much of his brief career. He apparently helped construct tenement houses for a “Mr. Parker” at Linville in 1889, and he was mentioned as the builder of W. L. Bryan’s storehouse in 1890, when he was described as “a good workman” in the local press.⁸² In 1891, Councilll briefly relocated to Linville to serve as construction boss for a new hotel there, and in 1892, he built “a fine residence” for W. R. Lovill at Sutherland.⁸³ Councilll appears to have been working as the local tax collector in the

⁸⁰ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 2 February 1893: 3; “In Memoriam,” *Watauga Democrat*, 23 February 1893: 3.

⁸¹ “Index to Marriages—Watauga County,” Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, US Marriage Records, 1741-2011*, Database Online, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015), Image 269.

⁸² “Linville Letter,” *Watauga Democrat*, 19 September 1889: 2; “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 21 August 1890: 3.

⁸³ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 26 March 1891: 3; “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 21 July 1892: 3.

1890s; in 1894, a brief notice mentioned his occupation and the completion of his new home, which consisted of part of the present-day Linney House.⁸⁴ He also is listed as a tax district commissioner in an 1893 advertisement noting his seizure of apple brandy and a still operation belonging to B. F. Eller, Jr., for violation of the US Internal Revenue law.⁸⁵ After years of battling tuberculosis, Council succumbed to his illness on October 2, 1895.⁸⁶

Cora L. Council (1871-1950)



The daughter of William Lewis Bryan and Sarah “Sallie” Hayes Bryan, Cora Lee Bryan married Richard Lenoir Council at Boone in October 1889. The marriage produced three children, only one of which, Pearl Council Russell (1890-1970), survived to adulthood.

Devastated by the deaths of her husband and children, and overwhelmed by debt, Cora Council eventually departed for work as a hotel housekeeper in Asheville in 1899 and later sold the family house at Boone to Frank A. Linney as part of a courthouse sale in 1902.⁸⁷ She remarried to a hotelier, James Robert Webster Woodburn (1859-1909) of Raleigh, in 1905, but that marriage produced no children, and Woodburn’s untimely death once again left her in poverty, forcing her to return to her father’s home in Boone.⁸⁸ Later in 1909, Cora Council Woodburn

⁸⁴ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 13 September 1894: 3.

⁸⁵ “Notice,” *Watauga Democrat*, 14 December 1893: 4. See also “Notice of Seizure,” *Watauga Democrat*, 28 June 1894: 4, for another such case involving Council.

⁸⁶ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 3 October 1895: 3.

⁸⁷ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 30 March 1899: 3; “Notice,” *Watauga Democrat*, 12 June 1902: 2; “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 28 August 1902: 3.

⁸⁸ “Local News,” *Watauga Democrat*, 7 September 1905: 3. On Woodburn’s estate and Cora Woodburn’s suit for deficiency against his estate, see “James W. Woodburn, Rockingham, Wills 1663-

left North Carolina with her daughter Pearl for Baltimore, Maryland, where she worked in a millinery operation, then relocated in 1911 to Statesville, North Carolina, where she opened her own millinery business.⁸⁹ In later years, she worked as a housekeeper and hostess in various hotels in Bristol, Virginia; Raleigh, North Carolina; Asheville, North Carolina; Columbia, South Carolina; Akron, Ohio; and Keystone, West Virginia, before retiring to Boone.⁹⁰

1978; Estate Papers, 1780-1926," Ancestry.com, *North Carolina, US, Wills and Probate Records, 1665-1998*, Database Online, (Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015), Images 445-449.

⁸⁹ "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 25 February 1909: 3; "Local News," *Watauga Democrat*, 21 April 1910: 3; "From Our Early Files," *Watauga Democrat*, 5 January 1950: 9.

⁹⁰ "Town and County," *Watauga Democrat*, 13 December 1917: 1; "Local Affairs," *Watauga Democrat*, 12 December 1918: 3; "Mrs. Council Taken by Death," *Watauga Democrat*, 15 June 1950: 1.

F. PROPOSED MARKER TEXT

Title: *The Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery*

For Option A: *Located 440 yards to the north-northwest, the Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery contains the graves of several key figures in Boone's early history. Known as the "stepfather of Boone," Ransom Hayes (circa 1805-1868) donated 25 acres for the laying out of the new Watauga County seat in 1849. Judge Leander Lawrence Greene (1845-1898), who later acquired the Ransom Hayes residence, rose to prominence in Boone as a lawyer and outstanding jurist during the late nineteenth century. He also operated an early Boone newspaper. William Lewis Bryan (1837-1928) was a Meat Camp native who married Ransom Hayes's daughter, Sallie. Bryan was appointed by the NC legislature as Boone's first mayor in 1872—a position he held intermittently for more than 25 years. A prominent hotelier and businessman, Bryan's numerous tourism initiatives, including the Daniel Boone Monument and the Daniel Boone Trail, boosted Boone's early twentieth-century economy and solidified local lore associating Daniel Boone with the Boone vicinity.*

36" X 24" Georgia, Sewah Studios

5/8" letters

(Limited to 27 lines, 38 sp/ltr per line, 1,026 total characters, 174 words)

Current Count: 1,012 total characters, 153 words

For Option B: *Located 600 yards to the northwest, the Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery contains the graves of several key figures in Boone's early history. Known as the "stepfather of Boone," Ransom Hayes (circa 1805-1868) donated 25 acres for the laying out of the new Watauga County seat in 1849. Judge Leander Lawrence Greene (1845-1898), who later acquired the Ransom Hayes residence, rose to prominence in Boone as a lawyer and outstanding jurist during the late nineteenth century. He also operated an early Boone newspaper. William Lewis Bryan (1837-1928) was a Meat Camp native who married Ransom Hayes's daughter, Sallie. Bryan was appointed by the NC legislature as Boone's first mayor in 1872—a position he held intermittently for more than 25 years. A prominent hotelier and businessman, Bryan's numerous tourism initiatives, including the Daniel Boone Monument and the Daniel Boone Trail, boosted Boone's early twentieth-century economy and solidified local lore associating Daniel Boone with the Boone vicinity.*

36" X 24" Georgia, Sewah Studios

5/8" letters

(Limited to 27 lines, 38 sp/ltr per line, 1,026 total characters, 174 words)

Current Count: 1,006 total characters, 153 words

G. BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Ancestry.com. *1850 United States Federal Census*. Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009. Database Online. Available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/13069441:8054>.
- Ancestry.com. *1860 United States Federal Census*. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com, Operations, Inc., 2009. Database Online. Available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/41530415:7667>.
- Ancestry.com. *New Hampshire, US, Marriage Records, 1700-1971*. Lehi, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2021. Database Online. Available at <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/625338:61836>.
- Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, US, Death Certificates, 1909-1976*. Database Online. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2007.
- Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, US Historical Records Survey, Cemetery Inscription Card Index, 1700-2018*. Database Online. Lehi: UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2020.
- Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, US, Land Grant Files, 1693-1960*. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016. Database Online. Available at https://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?dbid=60621&h=132306&indiv=try&o_vc=Record:OtherRecord&hSource=60525.
- Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, US Marriage Records, 1741-2011*. Database Online. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2015.
- Arthur, John Preston. *A History of Watauga County, North Carolina*. Richmond: Everett Waddey Co., 1915.
- Charlotte Observer*.
- Daily Review*.
- The Farmer and Mechanic*.
- Find-a-Grave*. Online Database. Available at <https://www.findagrave.com>.
- Kathy Roberts Forde, Kathy Roberts, and Kristin Gustafson. "A White Supremacist Coup Succeeded in 1898 North Carolina, Led by Lying Politicians and Racist Newspapers That Amplified Their Lies." *The Conversation*. 15 January 2021. Online. Available at <https://theconversation.com/a-white-supremacist-coup->

succeeded-in-1898-north-carolina-led-by-lying-politicians-and-racist-newspapers-that-amplified-their-lies-153052.

Graham, Nicholas. "The Election of 1898 in North Carolina: An Introduction." *The 1898 Election in North Carolina*. UNC Libraries, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Online. Available at <https://exhibits.lib.unc.edu/exhibits/show/1898/history>.

Historic Boone Collection. Digital Watauga Project.

Historical Data Systems, Comp. *US, Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865*. Database Online. Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2009.

Jones, Randell. *Trailing Daniel Boone*. Winston-Salem, NC: Daniel Boone Footsteps, 2012.

Journal of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina at Its Session of 1874-75. Raleigh: Josiah Turner, 1875.

State Chronicle.

Watauga County Register of Deeds.

Watauga Democrat.

Wilmington Morning Star.

Cemetery Marker - Location A

Watauga County Tax Information

Parcel ID: 2900-69-7872-000

Tax District: C02 **Land Use:** E01

Ownership Information:

WATAUGA COUNTY
814 WEST KING ST
SUITE 205
BOONE, NC 28607

Property Information:

971 KING ST
OLD AMERICAN WICKER PROPERTY

Building Value: \$750,700
Land Value: \$511,100
Total Value: \$1,261,800

Town of Boone Information

Zoning District: Town Limits

Zoning: B1DI Downtown Interface

Conditional Use: N/A

Conditional: N/A

Corridor District: N/A

Watershed: N/A

Flood Zone: Yes

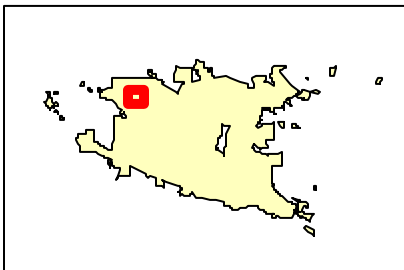
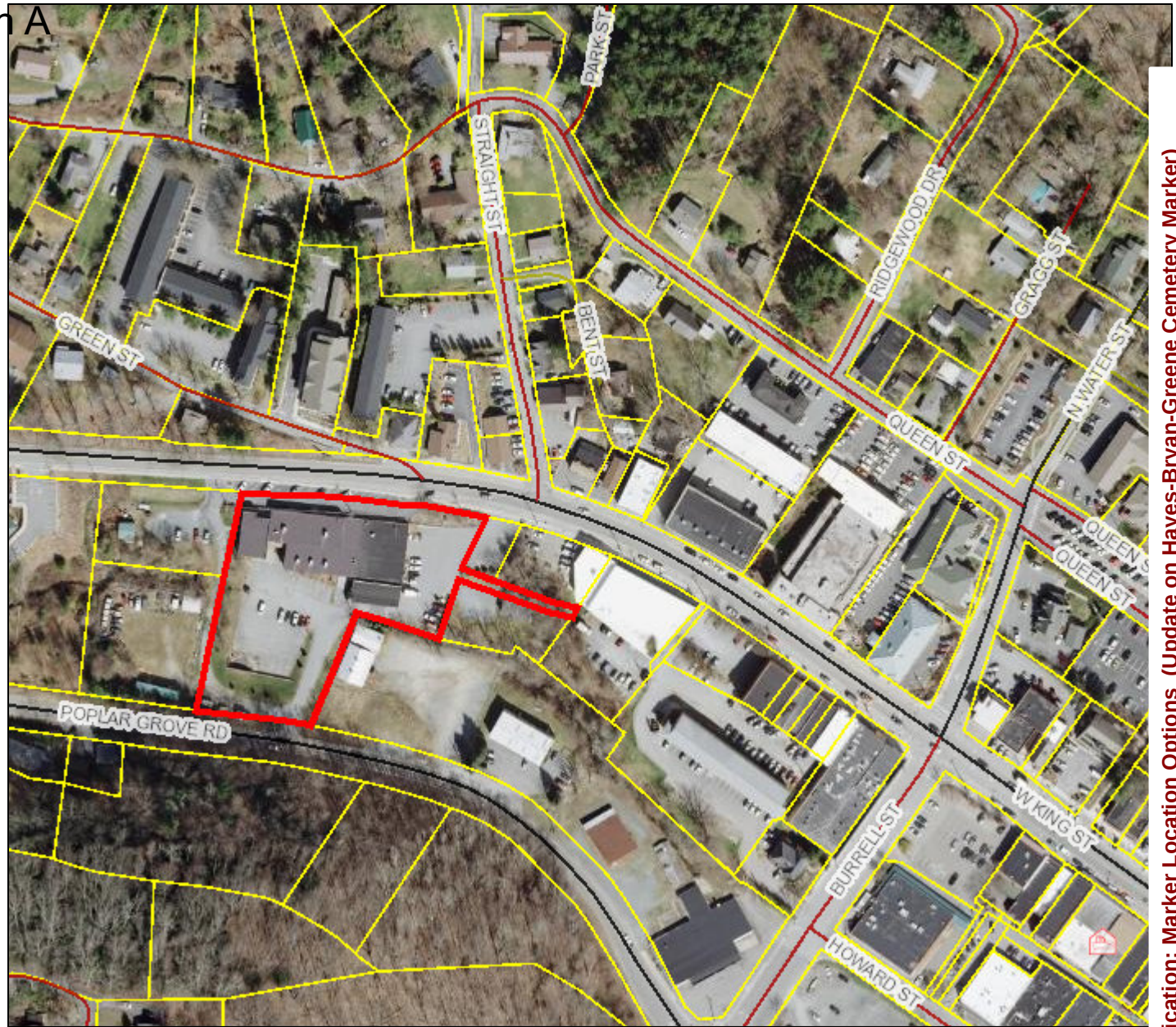
View Shed Protection Area: N/A

Municipal Service District: N/A

Primary Fire District: Yes

Neighborhood Conservation District: N/A

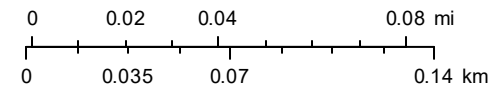
Downtown Boone Local Historic District: N/A



Disclaimer:

This map is based on the Watauga County Tax Parcel Map.
All layers have been modified to this base.
This is a thematic map for general planning purposes only.
This map is subject to quarterly updates and revisions.

1 inch = 216 feet



December 8, 2021



Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery Marker

Location A

Location A corresponds to Proposed Marker Text for Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery for **Option A**. This location option would require permission and cooperation with the Watauga County government.



Cemetery Marker - Location B

Watauga County Tax Information

Parcel ID: 2900-79-7988-000

Tax District: MS1 **Land Use:** E01

Ownership Information:

WATAUGA COUNTY
814 WEST KING ST
SUITE 205
BOONE, NC 28607

Property Information:

842 W KING ST
PAVING ADJ PLANNING-STONE BLDG

Building Value: \$4,000
Land Value: \$122,000
Total Value: \$126,000

Town of Boone Information

Zoning District: Town Limits

Zoning: B1DC Downtown Core

Conditional Use: N/A

Conditional: N/A

Corridor District: N/A

Watershed: N/A

Flood Zone: N/A

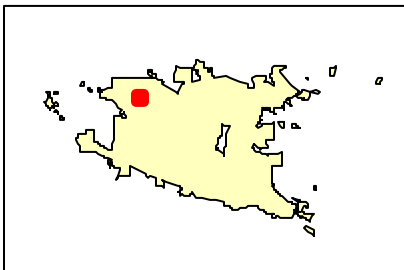
View Shed Protection Area: N/A

Municipal Service District: Yes

Primary Fire District: Yes

Neighborhood Conservation District: N/A

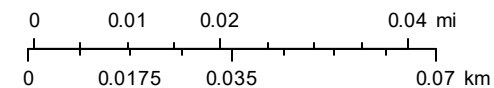
Downtown Boone Local Historic District: Yes



Disclaimer:

This map is based on the Watauga County Tax Parcel Map.
All layers have been modified to this base.
This is a thematic map for general planning purposes only.
This map is subject to quarterly updates and revisions.

1 inch = 108 feet



December 8, 2021



Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery Marker

Location B

Location B corresponds to Proposed Marker Text for Hayes-Bryan-Greene Cemetery for **Option B**. This location option would require permission and cooperation with the Watauga County government.

