

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase)

Other names/site number: VDHR# 108-0056

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Listed In
VLR: 6/18/2015
NRHP: 8/24/2015

2. Location

Street & number: Grove Street, Chestnut Place, Jefferson Avenue, Chambers Street, Ross Street (100 block), Holbrook Street (100 block)

City or town: Danville State: Virginia County: Independent City

Not For Publication: N/A

Vicinity: N/A

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

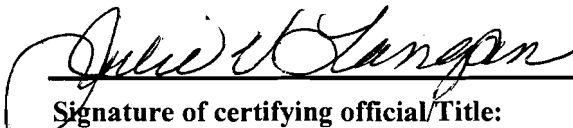
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

		<u>6/30/15</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Virginia Department of Historic Resources</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		
In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.		
Signature of commenting official:		Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>56</u>	<u>9</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>57</u>	<u>9</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
- RELIGION: religious facility
- RELIGION: church-related residence
- FUNERARY: cemetery
- HEALTH CARE: medical business/office

Current Functions

- DOMESTIC: single dwelling
- DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling
- DOMESTIC: secondary structure
- COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
- FUNERARY: cemetery
- HEALTH CARE: medical business/office
- VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

NO STYLE

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Gothic (Carpenter Gothic), Second Empire, Queen Anne

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style, Prairie School,
Bungalow/Craftsman

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

Materials

FOUNDATION: BRICK, CONCRETE

WALLS: WOOD (Weatherboard), BRICK, METAL (Aluminum), SYNTHETICS (Vinyl), ASBESTOS

ROOF: ASPHALT, METAL (Tin)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Danville Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972. It comprises several blocks of Main Street between Ridge and Montague streets and some residential streets to the southeast. The district is predominantly residential, with houses built in the full spectrum of architectural styles popular from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Some of the most impressive residences are located along the stretch of Main Street called "Millionaire's Row." The 2015 Boundary Increase encompasses 21 acres contiguous to the northwest boundary of the Danville Historic District. Grove Street, the spine of the boundary increase, developed alongside Main Street. Other streets in the expansion area include Jefferson Avenue, Chestnut Place, Chambers Street, Ross Street, and Holbrook Street. Like the original district, the boundary increase area is predominantly residential. The buildings represent a rich assortment of architectural styles that are more in keeping with the houses on the residential streets southeast of Main Street than the high-style residences of Millionaire's Row. The Old Grove Street Cemetery, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and Midtown Market comprise the historic non-residential resources. The boundary increase also shares many streetscape features with the original district, including uniform setbacks with shallow front yards and narrow side yards, as well as sections of brick sidewalks with granite curbing. Of the 66 total resources in the boundary increase, 57 (86%) are contributing and 9 (14%) are non-contributing.

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Narrative Description

The 21-acre 2015 Boundary Increase is contiguous to the northwest boundary of the Danville Historic District. The area developed just beyond the grand houses on Millionaire's Row. Like the original district, the boundary increase area is predominantly residential and boasts a collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. The oldest resources are located on Grove Street, which is the spine of the boundary increase. Other streets include Jefferson Avenue, Chestnut Place, Chambers Street, Ross Street, and Holbrook Street. There are 57 primary resources located within the boundary increase area. All but two were built between 1830 and 1940.

The Old Grove Street Cemetery, established ca. 1830, is the oldest resource in the 2015 Boundary Increase. A 1939 fieldstone and granite wall, with wrought iron gates, encloses its grounds. The cemetery contains over 135 graves. Burial plots, mausoleums, monuments, and individual tombstones occupy its west end. Its east end is populated with mature oak trees. The Southern Cross of Honor can be found throughout the cemetery on grave markers. Founded soon after the Virginia Legislature mandated municipal cemeteries in 1827, the Old Grove Street Cemetery is the oldest municipal cemetery in Danville.

The earliest six residences in the boundary increase area, which date to the 1870s, are concentrated along Grove Street. Three of these houses are excellent examples of the Italianate style, more comparable to some of the high-style residences found in the original Danville Historic District. A unique house in Danville is the Y-shaped house at 834 Grove Street. Edward M. Hatcher and his son Michael Henry Hatcher acquired the blueprints for the house at the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876. The house was constructed the following year.¹ It stands as a distinctive example of the Italianate style.

The eight residential properties dating to the 1890s are located on Holbrook Street, Ross Street, Grove Street, and Chestnut Place. The houses are one-to-two stories and wood-frame. Queen Anne is the most common style, but there are other Victorian-era styles represented. While most of the houses of this period are single-family, the residence at 19-21 Chestnut Place deviates as a historic double house. A group of Second Empire-style, brick row houses (now apartments) at 800-804 Grove Street are a product of the late nineteenth century.

The fourteen houses built between 1900 and 1919 are distributed throughout the boundary increase area. While some houses built in the district during this period are true examples of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles, others are simple folk cottages adorned with Queen Anne or Colonial Revival detailing. Four identical Colonial Revival-style detached row houses with Queen Anne influences, dating to 1905, are located on Chestnut Place. Consistent with the previous period of development, most of the district's residences dating to this period were built as single-family houses, but a few were historically double houses or have been converted into duplexes.

There are 23 residential properties, including apartment buildings, constructed between 1919 and 1940. The Dutch Colonial and Craftsman styles were locally popular during this period, with examples constructed on Chestnut Place, Ross Street, and Grove Street. The use of stucco became more common for houses, but there are also residences clad with weatherboard and brick.

Apartment buildings are less common than single-family houses and double houses in the boundary increase area, but there are a few examples that date to 1930 and 1940. The apartment building was a

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relatively novel concept for this turn-of-the-twentieth-century neighborhood. Double houses and boarding houses were more common. The design of the ca. 1930 Fox Apartments at 171 Holbrook Street attempted to minimize the appearance as an apartment building by maintaining a single entrance and a single two-story porch.

The former Sacred Heart Catholic Church at 102 Holbrook Street occupies the prominent triangular lot at the intersection of Holbrook and Ross Streets. Built ca. 1878, the Italianate church is characterized by its hooded, rounded-arch windows and its rounded-arch front entrance, contained within a central tower. The small-scale church is compatible with the otherwise residential area. The former parsonage, distinguished by Italianate detailing, occupies the lot adjacent to the church. Built in 1886, the parsonage is one of the earliest dwellings on Holbrook Street.

The Midtown Market, located at 7 Chambers Street, is the only contributing commercial building in the boundary increase area. Completed in 1921, the building has always functioned as the neighborhood grocery. The wood-frame building, with its stepped parapet and large storefront windows, is one story tall and clad with weatherboards. The commercial building fits in well with the otherwise residential area on account of its residential scale.

The 2015 Boundary Increase contains two resources built after the period of significance. These include a ca. 1966 apartment building at 27 Jefferson Avenue and a ca. 1960 medical office building at 108 Holbrook Street. Both of the buildings are two stories in height, clad with brick veneer. Although these non-historic intrusions are assigned non-contributing status, they do not detract from the visual character of the pre-World War II district.

Geographically, Grove and Holbrook streets are located along high ridges. On the east side of Grove Street, the lots slope down to a gully covered with thick vegetation. Retaining walls are common features. The character of the streetscape is consistent with that of the original historic district. The resources maintain regular lot coverage and uniform setbacks in a somewhat dense, urban neighborhood. The brick sidewalks and granite curbing that line a few streets in the historic district are found on Chestnut Place, Chambers Street, and at the southwest end of Grove Street. The concrete sidewalks of Holbrook and Ross streets retain their granite curbing in most places. The streetscape similarities contribute to a strong sense of place and further the connection between the original historic district and the boundary increase area.

Statement of Integrity

The Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase) retains a relatively high level of integrity with major elements of the historic streetscape intact. Of the 57 primary resources, 53 are contributing and 4 are non-contributing; the Old Grove Street Cemetery is the sole contributing site. The non-contributing statuses were based on date of construction—27 Jefferson Avenue and 108 Holbrook Street—and extensive alterations—808 Grove Street and 121 Ross Street. Although some alterations have been made to contributing resources, they are generally limited to the installation of non-historic siding and the replacement of original window sash (less than 20%). These alterations do not obscure the original form and style of the resources and tend to be reversible. The City of Danville is working to combat threats like vacancy and deterioration in the area. There are nine secondary resources, which are garages and sheds. Four are contributing to the district and five are non-contributing due to construction date. The Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase) as a whole retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Inventory

The following inventory lists the resources within the Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase). It is organized alphabetically by street name and then numerically by street number. Each entry provides the address, building name (if applicable), date of construction, architectural style, current building use, VDHR File number, and the contributing status within the district. Whether a building is considered contributing or non-contributing was determined based on its integrity as it supports the historic district's significance under Criterion A (Community Planning and Development) and Criterion C (Architecture) during the Period of Significance (1830 - 1940).

CHAMBERS STREET

7 Chambers Street 108-5667 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0277*

Primary Resource: Commercial Building (Building), Stories 1, Style: Commercial Style, Ca 1921

Contributing Total: 1

CHESTNUT PLACE

10 Chestnut Place 108-5668 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0278*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2.5, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1905

Contributing Total: 1

12 Chestnut Place 108-5669 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0279*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2.5, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1905

Contributing Total: 1

13 Chestnut Place 108-5670 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0280*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Dutch, Ca 1922

Contributing Total: 1

14 Chestnut Place 108-5671 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0281*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2.5, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1905

Contributing Total: 1

15 Chestnut Place 108-5672 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0282*

Primary Resource: Apartment Building (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1922

Contributing Total: 1

16 Chestnut Place 108-5673 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0283*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2.5, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1905

Contributing Total: 1

18-20 Chestnut Place 108-5674 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0284*

Primary Resource: Multiple Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1925

Contributing Total: 1

19-21 Chestnut Place 108-5675 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0285*

Primary Resource: Double House (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1892

Contributing Total: 1

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24 Chestnut Place 108-5676 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0286*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1876

Contributing Total: 1

GROVE STREET

719 Grove Street 108-5678 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0287*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No Discernable Style, Ca 1915

Contributing Total: 1

721 Grove Street 108-5679 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0288*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1915

Contributing Total: 1

729-731 Grove Street 108-5681 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0289*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1.5, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1910

Contributing Total: 1

735 Grove Street 108-5682 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0290*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Craftsman, Ca 1922

Contributing Total: 1

800-804 Grove Street 108-5683 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0291*

Primary Resource: Apartment Building (Building), Stories 3, Style: Second Empire, Ca 1890

Contributing Total: 1

805 Grove Street 108-5684 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0292*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1875

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: Shed (Building)

Contributing Total: 1

808 Grove Street 108-5685 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0293*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1915

Non-contributing Total: 1

810 Grove Street 108-5686 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0294*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2.5, Style: Queen Anne, Ca 1915

Contributing Total: 1

834 Grove Street 108-5688 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0295*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Italianate, Ca 1877

Contributing Total: 1

842 Grove Street 108-5689 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0296*

Primary Resource: Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Italianate, Ca 1875

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: Garage (Building)

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: Shed (Building)

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Non-contributing Total: 1

846 Grove Street 108-5690 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0297*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1920**

Contributing Total: 1

850 Grove Street 108-5691 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0298*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1880**

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

Non-contributing Total: 1

858 Grove Street 108-5692 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0299*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1904**

Contributing Total: 1

866 Grove Street 108-5693 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0300*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1.5, Style: Gothic Revival, Ca 1870**

Contributing Total: 1

880 Grove Street 108-5694 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0301*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1910**

Contributing Total: 1

884 Grove Street 108-5695 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0302*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Prairie School, Ca 1920**

Contributing Total: 1

886 Grove Street 108-5696 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0303*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Italianate, Ca 1870**

Contributing Total: 1

907 Grove Street 108-5697 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0304*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1.5, Style: Victorian, Queen Anne, Ca 1890**

Contributing Total: 1

909 Grove Street 108-5698 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0305*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1916**

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

Non-contributing Total: 1

915 Grove Street 108-5699 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0306*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1938**

Contributing Total: 1

924 Grove Street 108-5700 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0307*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Colonial Revival, Ca 1877**

Contributing Total: 1

928 Grove Street 108-5701 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0308*

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Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Colonial Revival, Dutch, Ca 1928**
Contributing Total: 1

930 Grove Street 108-5702 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0309*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Colonial Revival, Cape Cod, 1940**
Contributing Total: 1

Grove Street 108-0126 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0310*

Primary Resource: **Cemetery (Site), Stories NA, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1830**
Contributing Total: 1

HOLBROOK STREET

102 Holbrook Street 108-0220 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0255*

Primary Resource: **Church/Chapel (Building), Stories 1, Style: Italianate, Ca 1878**
Contributing Total: 1

108 Holbrook Street 108-5703 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0256*

Primary Resource: **Commercial Building (Building), Stories 2, Style: International Style, Ca 1960**
Non-contributing Total: 1

138 Holbrook Street 108-5704 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0257*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1918**
Contributing Total: 1

142 Holbrook Street 108-0222 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0258*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Victorian, Queen Anne, Ca 1890**
Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

Contributing Total: 1

146 Holbrook Street 108-0223 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0259*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Victorian, Queen Anne, Ca 1890**
Contributing Total: 1

150-153 ½ Holbrook Street 108-0221 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0260*

Primary Resource: **Parsonage/Glebe (Building), Stories 2, Style: Folk Victorian, Ca 1886**
Contributing Total: 1

155 Holbrook Street 108-0260 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0261*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No Discernible Style, Ca 1916**
Contributing Total: 1

171 Holbrook Street 108-0262 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0263*

Primary Resource: **Apartment Building (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1930**
Contributing Total: 1

179 Holbrook Street 108-0263 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0264*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1910**
Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

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Contributing Total: 1

JEFFERSON AVENUE

17 Jefferson Avenue 108-5705 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0311*

Primary Resource: **Apartment Building (Building), Stories 3, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1940**

Contributing Total: 1

27 Jefferson Avenue 108-5706 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0312*

Primary Resource: **Apartment Building (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1966**

Non-contributing Total: 1

ROSS STREET

117 Ross Street 108-0225 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0265*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: Victorian, Queen Anne, Ca 1890**

Contributing Total: 1

121 Ross Street 108-0227 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0266*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1900**

Non-contributing Total: 1

129 Ross Street 108-0228 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0267*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1.5, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1930**

Contributing Total: 1

130 Ross Street 108-0264 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0268*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1916**

Contributing Total: 1

131 Ross Street 108-0229 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0269*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 2, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1930**

Contributing Total: 1

132 Ross Street 108-0265 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0270*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1920**

Contributing Total: 1

133 Ross Street 108-0230 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0271*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1890**

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

Non-contributing Total: 1

135 Ross Street 108-0231 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0272*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Other, Ca 1930**

Contributing Total: 1

138 Ross Street 108-0266 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0273*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: No discernible style, Ca 1900**

Contributing Total: 1

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140 Ross Street 108-0267 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0274*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Craftsman, Ca 1937**

Contributing Total: 1

142 Ross Street 108-0268 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0275*

Primary Resource: **Apartment Building (Building), Stories 2, Style: Craftsman, Ca 1930**

Contributing Total: 1

Secondary Resource: **Garage (Building)**

Non-contributing Total: 1

143 Ross Street 108-0232 *Other DHR Id#: 108-0056-0276*

Primary Resource: **Single Dwelling (Building), Stories 1, Style: Other, Ca 1890**

Contributing Total: 1

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1830 – 1940

Significant Dates

1830

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The 2015 Boundary Increase incorporates 66 additional resources into the Danville Historic District. The expansion area is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion C, the same criteria as the Danville Historic District, as it continues the same themes and characteristics that make the original district significant. The Boundary Increase area is significant statewide under Criterion A, in the area of Community Planning & Development, as it represents an era of growth and prosperity in Danville when the tobacco and textile industries were thriving; and locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as it contains a broad spectrum of architectural styles popular in Danville from the mid-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. The period of significance for both the original district and the expansion area begins in 1830, the date of the Lanier House and the Old Grove Street Cemetery, and ends in 1940, when the last major wave of development ended.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

Criteria Justification

Criterion A: Community Planning & Development

The Danville Historic District is significant under Criterion A in the area of Community Planning & Development as it represents an era of growth and prosperity in Danville, attributable to the bright leaf tobacco boom and the expansion of the cotton milling industry along the Dan River in the nineteenth and early-mid twentieth centuries. The Old West End became a fashionable address, as leaders of the tobacco and textile industries erected their impressive mansions along Main Street. The more modest—but still sizable—houses of white-collar professionals were built along the streets southeast and northwest of Main Street, including Grove Street which forms the spine of the boundary increase area. Churches and neighborhood businesses thrived as well.

The expansion area, located northwest of Main Street, developed alongside the original Danville Historic District. Circa 1830, the Old Grove Street Cemetery was established in “The Grove”, which was then outside of the city limits. The cemetery was founded soon after the Virginia Legislature mandated municipal cemeteries in 1827 and is the oldest municipal cemetery in Danville. The creation of legal requirements for cemeteries represented a major milestone in community planning and development in Virginia. Previously, cemeteries had been more haphazardly provided, typically on family property, in churchyards, and perhaps a potter’s field that may have been managed by the local government or a religious or charitable organization. The imposition of state-mandated cemeteries was associated with several notable historic trends, including growing awareness of the need for proper burials to avoid unsanitary conditions, the Commonwealth’s fitful expansion of government powers to meet public needs, and the rural cemetery movement in which towns and cities throughout the east established cemeteries on elevated locations along their outskirts. Residential development began on Grove Street around 1850, as Danville emerged as an important tobacco manufacturing center that would have a dramatic impact on the economy of the entire state. In the 1880s, wealthy tobaccoists would invest in the textile industry, which would become a staple of the local economy, stimulating additional wealth and demand for housing. The expansion area would continue to grow alongside Main Street until the start of World War II, when development nationwide came to a halt.

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Criterion C: Architecture

The district expansion area comprises a cohesive assemblage of late nineteenth and early twentieth century resources that reflect all periods of Danville's growth. Similar to the original historic district, the expansion area features a wealth of resources constructed during the Victorian era. The Danville Historic District nomination attributes the unusually fine residential architecture of this period to the city's economic success after the Civil War. While other Virginia cities were devastated by the conflict, Danville remained essentially unharmed, allowing the city to emerge as the dominant tobacco market in the region. As new tobacco factories and warehouses were built to meet demand, residential growth flourished south of downtown, along Main and Grove streets. Some of the oldest and most distinctive residences in the district expansion are distinguished examples of the Italianate and Queen Anne styles. Italianate was a popular residential style in the decades immediately following the Civil War, but was eventually supplanted by the Queen Anne style, which rose to dominance in the 1880s. The rise of mass-produced architectural details transported throughout the country by railroad allowed for convenient and economical access to materials, which helped to popularize these styles. The shift in favor from the Queen Anne style to the Colonial Revival style at the turn of the twentieth century is clear in the area, with houses that seamlessly combine elements of both styles. More modest residences in the expansion area are well represented by simple wood-frame folk cottages adorned with architectural detailing influenced by the popular styles of the late nineteenth and early-mid twentieth centuries. While most of the resources within the expansion area lack outstanding individual merit, they are components of a cohesive historic streetscape and contribute to the integrity of the district as a whole. The collection of handsome buildings in the expansion area complements the architecture of the Danville Historic District, touted in the original nomination as the "finest and most concentrated collection of Victorian and Edwardian architecture in Virginia."

Historical Background

Grove Street derives its name from the dense oak, hickory, and chestnut forest that once covered the ridge northwest of Main Street. The wooded area was simply known as "The Grove" to city residents in the antebellum period.² Much of this land was owned by Danville's first mayor, Captain James Lanier, who resided in a grand house at 770 Main Street in the Danville Historic District. The house, built in 1830, stands today as the oldest house on Main Street.³

Although the Grove Street Cemetery was established in 1830, its first known interment was of Elizabeth Royall in 1833, the same year as Danville's incorporation as a city. Many esteemed Danville residents are buried in the cemetery, including members of the city's first common council (Robert Ross, Robert Walker Williams, General Benjamin W.S. Cabell, and Dr. George Craghead) and three early mayors (James Lanier, Hobson Johns, and Robert W. Williams). A great number of local business leaders, doctors, and church leaders were buried in the cemetery, as well as fifteen Confederate soldiers.⁴ Although the majority of those interred in the cemetery were white, an unknown number of African American slaves were buried along the Grove Street side of the cemetery. The city later filled in this section, presumably with additional graves.⁵ Failure to protect the locations of slave burials was common throughout Virginia until the mid- to late-twentieth century. Although burials often were claimed to be removed during redevelopment efforts, rarely were 100 percent identified and removed. That slaves are known to have been buried at Grove Street Cemetery is a poignant reminder of slavery's lingering legacy, but also may represent an opportunity for future investigations to ascertain if any historic burials could still be in situ.

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The first wave of development on Grove Street began around 1850. During the late antebellum period, Danville emerged as an important tobacco manufacturing center with the continued popularity of the bright leaf tobacco cultivated in the Dan River Valley. Compared to the heavier and darker varieties of tobacco, the bright leaf was fragile and was often bruised when compressed in wooden hogsheads for shipment to market. Once packed in the barrels, examination of the entire lot for damaged or inferior leaves proved difficult. Thomas Neal established the Danville System in 1858, where the tobacco leaves were laid out in loose piles for easier quality inspection by buyers. The rise of the system, which revolutionized the sale of tobacco throughout the South, contributed to the growth of the city as a tobacco market and manufacturing center.⁶

The city limits expanded as Danville continued to prosper. Grove Street had been annexed by 1854, as the city assumed land to the south, east, and west. The Hadley Map, which shows the original 1793 boundaries of the Town of Danville and later annexations, shows eight lots on the west side of Grove Street in 1854.⁷ Hobson Johns, one of the first mayors of Danville, built his house on Grove Street in 1853, according to local deed books.⁸

After the Civil War, residential growth flourished south of downtown, along Main and Grove streets. While other Virginia cities were devastated by the war, Danville remained essentially unharmed, allowing the city to emerge as the dominant tobacco market in the region. As new tobacco factories and warehouses were built to meet demand, wealthy tobacconists built impressive mansions along Main Street. The “old acre lots” of Main Street extended back to Grove Street on all but the 700 block, leaving the west side and north end of the street open for development.⁹ Prominent residents of Grove Street during this period included Edward M. Hatcher, the proprietor of a local foundry and William E. Boisseau, the city sergeant.¹⁰

In 1867, the city expanded west, annexing the portion of the expansion area along Holbrook and Ross streets. Thomas B. Doe set the stage for development when he subdivided his large tract of land, which stretched from Holbrook and Ross to Union Street, in the early 1870s. The streets in the area were laid out by 1877. Holbrook Street was named for Levi Holbrook, the founder and first headmaster of the Danville Male Academy.¹¹ Established in 1817, the school stood at the end of Academy (now Chambers) Street, across from the cemetery, until it closed in 1863.¹² Ross Street was likely named for the Ross family, which was prominent in the early settlement of Danville. James Ross was one of the first two members of the First Presbyterian Church. His sons, John and Robert Ross, were partners in John Ross and Company, one of the first two stores in Danville.¹³

In 1878, the Sacred Heart Catholic Church was built at the intersection of Holbrook and Ross streets. It was the first Catholic Church in Danville.¹⁴ Father Habets and Father James O’Farrell became its first priests after the parish was organized in 1875. The Crigler Brothers served as the contractors.¹⁵ The church rectory was built on the adjacent parcel in 1886. Residential development filled the other subdivided parcels along Holbrook and Ross streets.¹⁶

Danville’s economy began its transition from tobacco to textiles in the late nineteenth century as affluent tobacconists began to invest their profits into the burgeoning industry.¹⁷ The Schoolfield brothers founded Riverside Cotton Mills along the banks of the Dan River in 1882. The operation would eventually become the largest single-unit textile mill in the world.¹⁸ As the industrial sector flourished, the number of city residents grew from 10,000 in 1890 to 19,000 in 1910.¹⁹ The population increase stimulated residential development across the city. Workers associated with the tobacco and textile industries settled along Grove, Holbrook, and Ross streets. While some worked as general

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laborers, others held specialized positions as tobacco traders, machinists, and inspectors. Residents also held professional positions as bookkeepers, clerks, lawyers, merchants, teachers, salesmen, brokers, and bankers. One resident operated a boarding house out of her home at 711 Grove Street. Her boarders in 1910 included bookkeepers and a furniture salesman. A few other residences on Grove Street also housed one or two boarders.²⁰

Chestnut Place began to develop soon after the turn of the century, with the construction of four detached row houses in 1905. Dr. E. Howe Miller, the owner of 878 Main Street, subdivided the rear portion of his deep corner lot to build the row houses.²¹ The names of some of the first families to live on Chestnut Place were Bauer, Lea, Shadraeh, and Musselman. The heads-of-household worked as a store manager, a salesman at a drug store, a dentist, and a jewelry engraver.²²

Some residents were wealthy enough to afford domestic workers. In 1910, two houses on Chestnut Place and Grove Street had live-in servants. In both cases, the servants were African American. Other houses most likely employed African-American women as nurses, laundresses, and cooks. African-American domestic workers generally resided on nearby Calvary, Monroe, and Valley streets, which functioned as service streets to the white residents of Grove and Main.²³ Unfortunately, this strong historic connection between the homes of the elite and working classes has eroded over time. The dwellings that once housed African-American domestic workers are no longer extant on the lots contiguous to Grove Street. Post-World War II intrusions and vacant lots are prevalent on the streets not directly adjacent to the district. Therefore, these former service streets are not included in the district boundaries due to the absence of a strong physical connection to the district and the loss of historic fabric.

The area continued to develop in the 1910s and 1920s. New houses filled almost all of the remaining lots. During these two decades, a school and a grocery store were established to serve residents.²⁴ Grove Street High School, commonly known as Danville High School, was built for white students at 920 Grove Street ca. 1916. Demand for a separate building to house high school students rose as the Robert E. Lee School on Loyal Street saw increased enrollment.²⁵ The building served as the high school until 1927, when it became the John L. Berkeley Elementary School (demolished in 1973). J.M. Church established his grocery store, "Church's Grocery" on Chambers Street in December 1921. The store sold a variety of items, including fresh produce and seafood.²⁶ The neighborhood store, now known as Midtown Market, retains its original appearance and has been in operation ever since.

During the Great Depression, residential construction slowed across the nation. By that point, all but a few lots in the boundary increase area had been developed.²⁷ A few new houses and apartment buildings were built between 1930 and 1940. The Wyatt Apartments were built on Grove Street ca. 1937. Local historians believe that the Classical Revival-style apartments were designed by esteemed Danville architect J. Bryant Heard. The building was badly damaged by a fire in 2012, and was later demolished.

The development of Jefferson Avenue commenced during this period, when the stucco apartment building at 17 Jefferson Avenue was constructed in the backyards of 802 and 806 Main Street, ca. 1940. When the United States entered World War II in 1941, the development of the boundary increase area was essentially complete.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Virginia Landmarks Commission Staff. Danville Historic District, National Register nomination 108-0056. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, Virginia, 1972.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DHR File No. 108-0056

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: 21 acres (approx.)

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. NW Corner | Latitude: 36.586866° | Longitude: -79.399097° |
| 2. NE Corner | Latitude: 36.587175° | Longitude: -79.397545° |
| 3. SE Corner | Latitude: 36.581665° | Longitude: -79.401775° |
| 4. SW Corner | Latitude: 36.582502° | Longitude: -79.403731° |

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Photo Log

Name of Property: Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase)

City or Vicinity: Danville (City)

State: Virginia

Photographer: Katie Coffield

Date Photographed: January 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- Photo 1 of 10: Grove Street Cemetery, view west
- Photo 2 of 10: Grove Street, view SW
- Photo 3 of 10: Chestnut Place, view SE
- Photo 4 of 10: Holbrook & Ross Streets, view north
- Photo 5 of 10: Ross Street, view NW
- Photo 6 of 10: Grove Street, view NW
- Photo 7 of 10: Chestnut Place, view S/SE
- Photo 8 of 10: Ross Street, view SE
- Photo 9 of 10: Grove Street, view SW
- Photo 10 of 10: Midtown Market, view west

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Name of Property

Danville, VA
County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Danville Historic District (2015 Boundary Increase)

City or Vicinity: Danville (City)

State: Virginia

Photographer: Katie Coffield

Date Photographed: January 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 10: Grove Street Cemetery, view west

Photo 2 of 10: Grove Street, view SW

Photo 3 of 10: Chestnut Place, view SE

Photo 4 of 10: Holbrook & Ross Streets, view north

Photo 5 of 10: Ross Street, view NW

Photo 6 of 10: Grove Street, view NW

Photo 7 of 10: Chestnut Place, view S/SE

Photo 8 of 10: Ross Street, view SE

Photo 9 of 10: Grove Street, view SW

Photo 10 of 10: Midtown Market, view west

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

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Name of Property

County and State

Endnotes

- ¹ O'Connor
- ² The Garden Club of Danville
- ³ Fountain
- ⁴ Mack, 10.
- ⁵ Ibid, 10.
- ⁶ Coffield
- ⁷ Fountain
- ⁷ City Deed Records
- ⁹ Beers Map
- ¹⁰ Ibid
- ¹¹ Blanton, Section 8
- ¹² The Garden Club of Danville
- ¹³ Blanton, Section 8
- ¹⁴ Cahill, 41.
- ¹⁵ Ibid.
- ¹⁶ Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: 1899, 1904, 1910.
- ¹⁷ Pezzoni, Section 8.
- ¹⁸ Yeatts, 27.
- ¹⁹ Pezzoni, Section 8.
- ²⁰ United States Census
- ²¹ Danville Historical Society
- ²² United States Census
- ²³ US Census & Grant
- ²⁴ Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: 1920.
- ²⁵ GWHS Alma Mater/History
- ²⁶ Grant
- ²⁷ Sanborn Insurance Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps: 1951.

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DHR # 108-0056

Location Map

NW Corner

Latitude: 36.586866° Longitude: -79.399097°

NE Corner

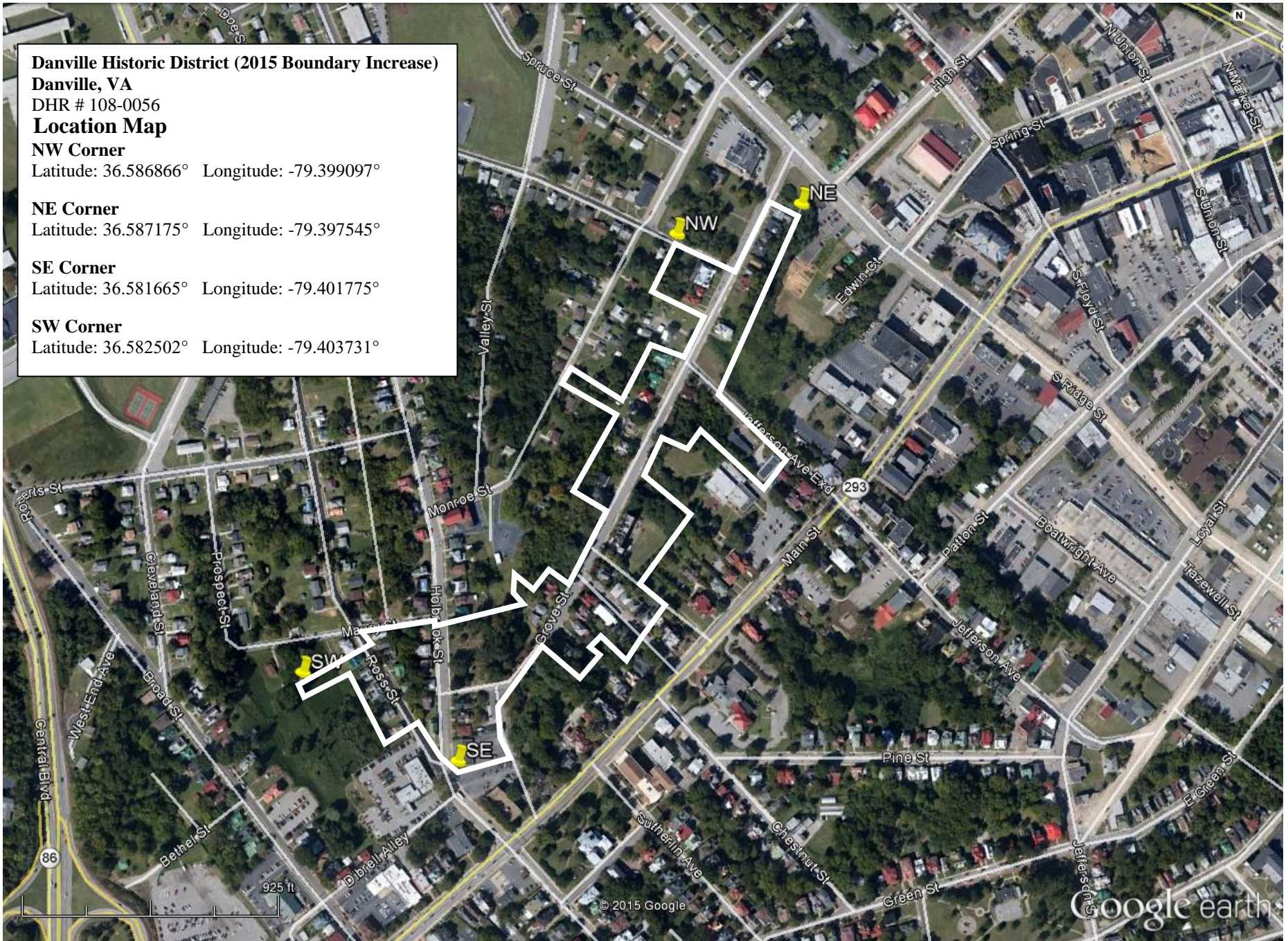
Latitude: 36.587175° Longitude: -79.397545°

SE Corner

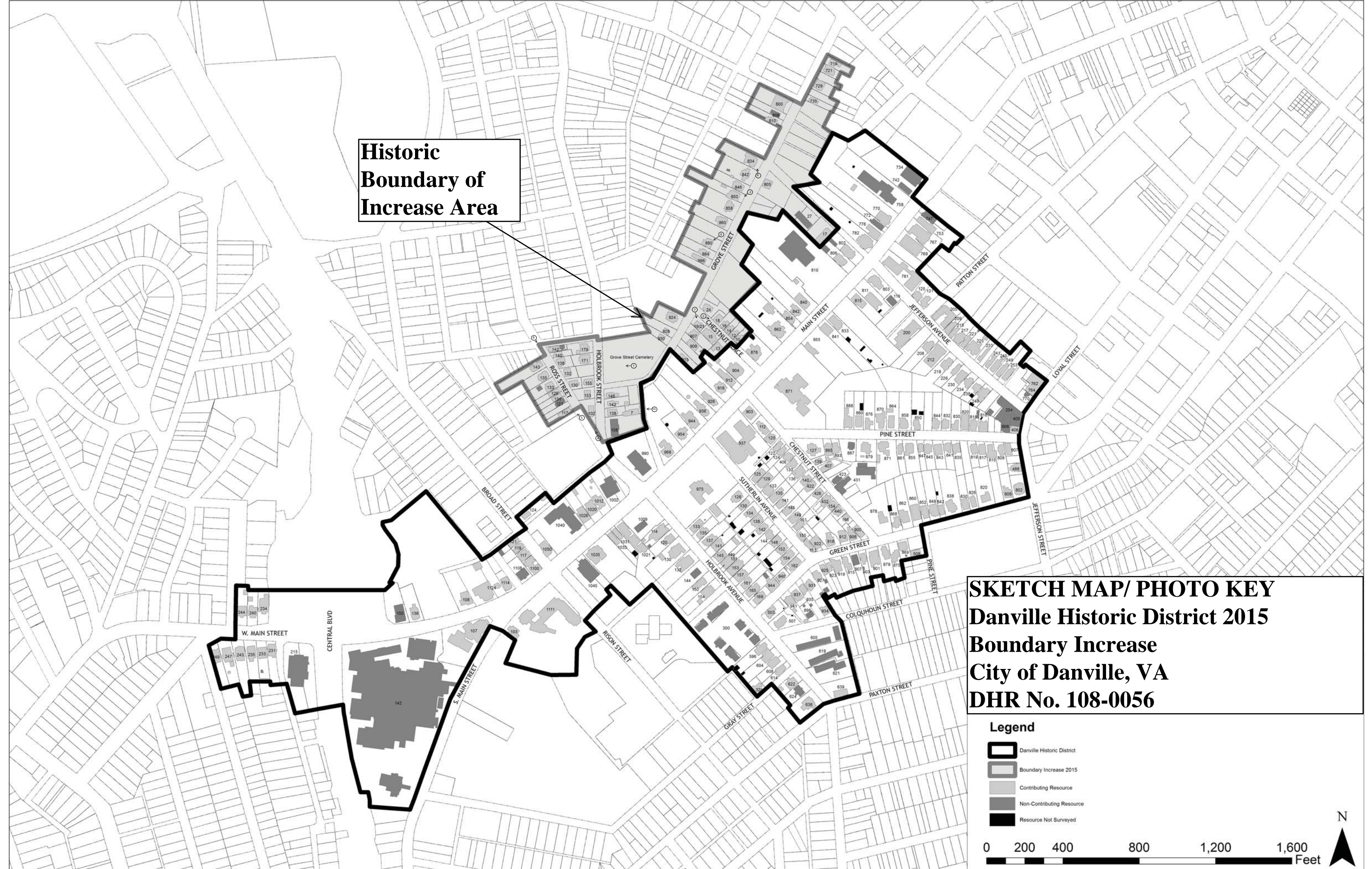
Latitude: 36.581665° Longitude: -79.401775°

SW Corner

Latitude: 36.582502° Longitude: -79.403731°



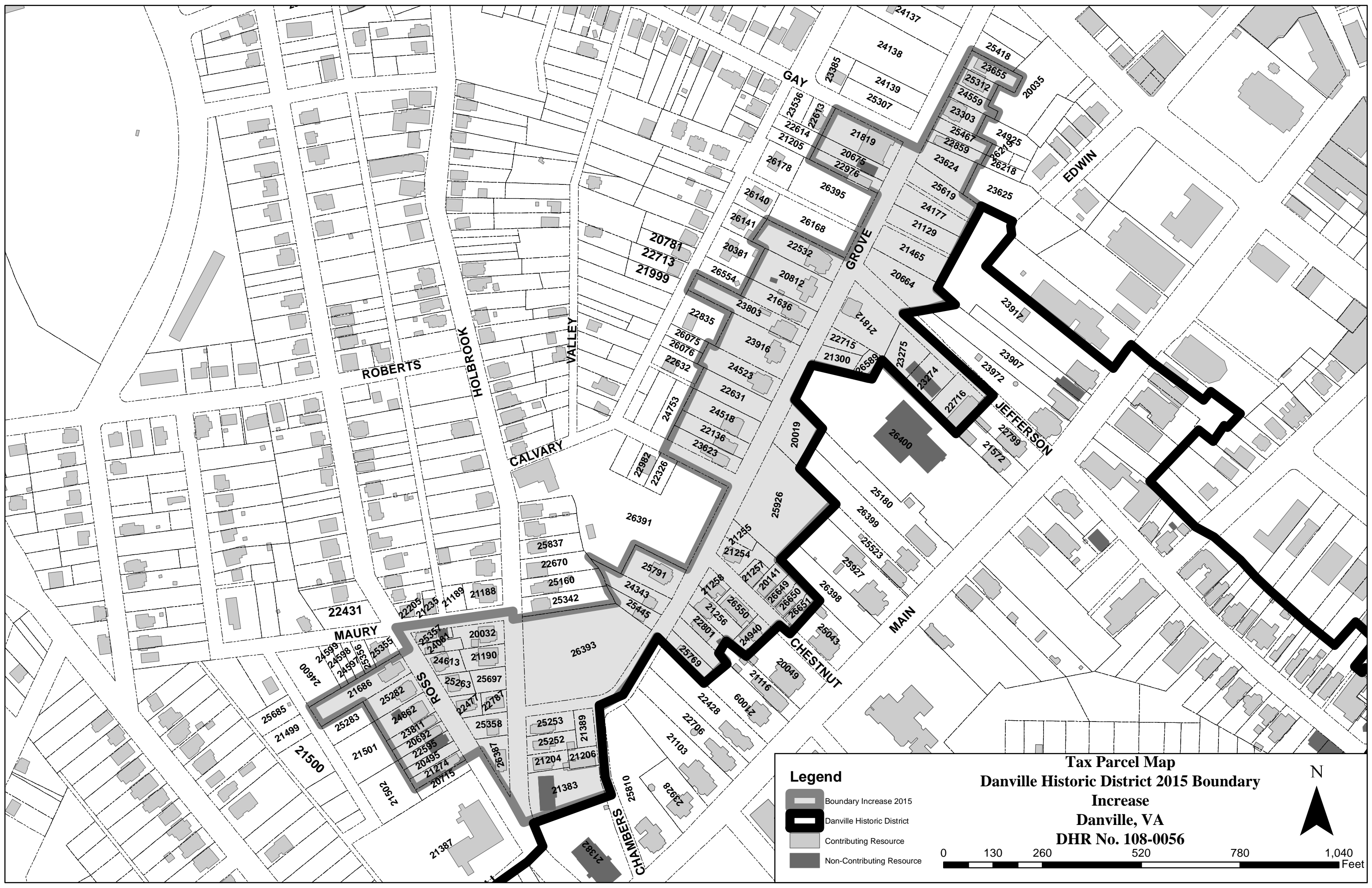
**Historic
Boundary of
Increase Area**



SKETCH MAP/ PHOTO KEY
Danville Historic District 2015
Boundary Increase
City of Danville, VA
DHR No. 108-0056





- Legend**
- Danville Historic District
 - Boundary Increase 2015
 - Contributing Resource
 - Non-Contributing Resource
 - Resource Not Surveyed





Tax Parcel Map
Danville Historic District 2015 Boundary
Increase
Danville, VA
DHR No. 108-0056

Legend

-  Boundary Increase 2015
-  Danville Historic District
-  Contributing Resource
-  Non-Contributing Resource

