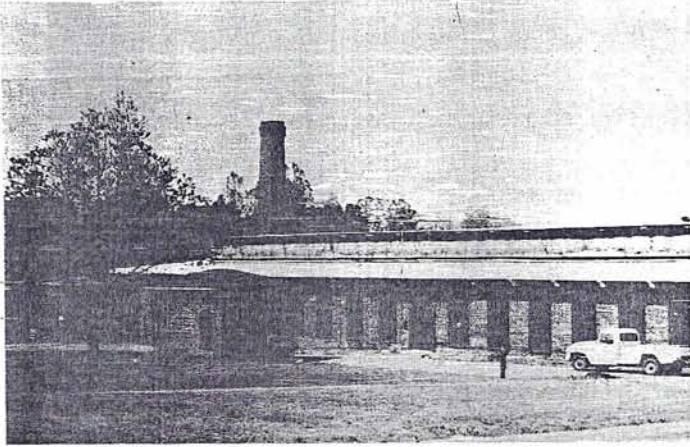


# LAKESIDE MILL & VILLAGE



(former) Lakeside Cotton Mill



Superintendent's Office

The last and most intact of the cotton mills established within Burlington's present corporate limits by descendants of Edwin M. Holt was Lakeside Mill, incorporated in 1893 by Walter L., Edwin C., and Samuel M. Holt, sons of James Henry Holt. According to Julian Hughes, who chronicled the textile history of Alamance County in the early 1960s, Lakeside's most successful year of operations occurred in 1894. But it continued as a small operation, weaving cotton into chambray cloth for "Hickory" work shirts. The 1893 Sanborn map indicates the mill had 2912 spindles and 144 looms; the *Raleigh News and Observer* 1895 reported that Lakeside had 3300 spindles and 147 looms; and in 1919, the *Charlotte Observer* reported 3,472 spindles and 138 looms, with 75 operatives. As a result of this lack of expansion, the mill and a significant portion of its adjacent village remain substantially intact.

Following the death of James Henry Holt, Jr., in 1928, the scope of Lakeside's operations was curtailed. In 1934, Edwin C. Holt transferred 288 shares of Lakeside Mills stock to his sister Daisy Holt Green of Charleston, South Carolina, who then deeded the company and its assets to her three sons. They in turn dissolved Lakeside Mills Corporation in early 1935. For several years thereafter, Glencoe Cotton Mills ran a small spinning and weaving operation at Lakeside. The Green family sold the mill property in 1960; it was leased from 1960 to 1979 by Annedeem Hosiery Mills which maintained a small operation there. Under new ownership, Annedeem purchased the facility in 1979, converting it for use as a warehouse. In early 1983, it was acquired by Mr. Hooper Harris who opened a small dyeing and finishing operation.

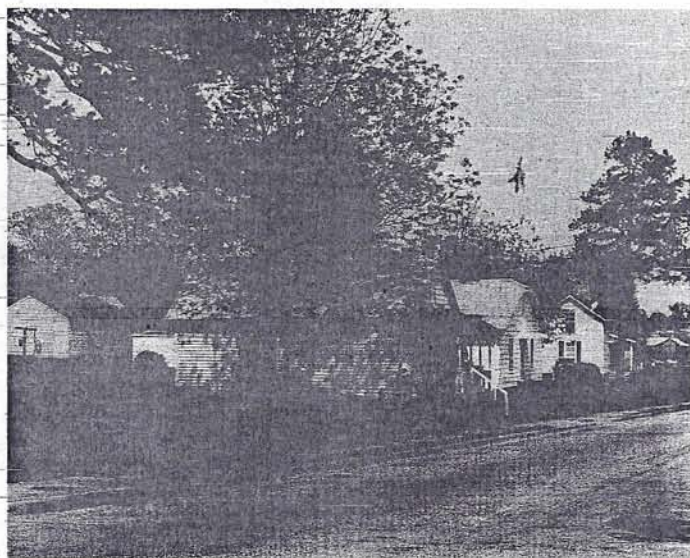
The Lakeside Cotton Mills plant appears much as it did ninety years ago when it was built according to Lafayette Holt's specifications. Lack of suitable, available land was a second contributory factor in the mill's failure to expand significantly, leaving a one-story brick structure of between 35 and 40 thousand square feet of floor space, with a monitor roof which retains its original clerestory windows. The heavy post and beam construction necessary to support the mill machinery and to discourage fires remains very much in evidence as do the fire doors intended to inhibit the spread of fires between the various sections of the mill. Other features of the 1:5 common bond brick building are the large segmental arch window openings, the extensions of the interior beam system beyond the exterior wall to form simple ornamental brackets at the eaves, and the brick smokestack with its corbelled cap. A small cloth room was added at the southeast end of the structure in the early twentieth century, with an adjoining room added later in the century. Extant out buildings include the original brick oil and drug house, an early twentieth century frame storage shed, and a small 1920s brick structure near the main entrance, built as the superintendent's office. The one-story office building with rear cloth room stands at its original location some fifty feet from the mill; it features a parapet facade, segmental arch window and door openings, two late Victorian mantels, and molded door and window surrounds with bulls eye corner blocks and plinth blocks.



Because urban development has not moved in this direction, Lakeside's setting remains virtually unchanged. Behind the mill runs the creek which once fed the mill pond; large trees shade the creek banks, creating a green backdrop for the mill during the summer months along its northern and western flanks. Portions of its original village stand to the south of the mill office and to the southwest across Lakeside Avenue, and ample green space borders the entire complex of mill and village, serving as a buffer zone between Lakeside and nearby development, which includes a mobile home park.

## Lakeside Mill Village

In close proximity to the former Lakeside Cotton Mills is a significant portion of its original village, which remains remarkably intact for several reasons including the minimal twentieth century urban development in the immediate vicinity of the failure of the mill to expand to any important degree. This latter factor meant that, unlike most other mill villages in Burlington, few houses were erected in the Lakeside Village after the initial construction phase in the early 1890s. Although more than half of the houses have been altered by the application of twentieth century synthetic sidings, such as aluminum and asbestos, the basic form of the houses remains unaltered as does the general layout of the village. All of the houses are of frame construction, and many retain their standing seam metal roofs. The majority are one-and-one-half stories in height with side gable roofs, one-story rear ells, and a central chimney. An interesting feature of the eleven houses of this type is the very simple facade with a central entrance and two flanking windows sheltered by a small shed-roofed porch which spans about one third of the facade. Three houses are of similar configuration, but are two stories in height; they also have side gable roofs and one-story rear ells, but have additional facade windows and gable-roofed porches. Other houses include a one-story version of the type with the added flourish of turned porch posts — probably already standing when the Lakeside Mills Corporation acquired the property — and a twentieth century one-story rectangular structure with narrow side facing the street and a clipped gable roof. At the western edge of the village stands a one-story frame commercial structure of uncertain date, though it appears to be contemporary with the village houses. It features a front-gable roof of standing seam metal, an interior chimney and turned posts supporting the shed-roofed porch.



*(former) Lakeside Mill Village*

Lakeside's mill village complex runs along both sides of Lakeside Avenue from Hatch Street north about one and one-half blocks, on both sides of Hatch Street west of Lakeside Avenue to the green space behind the houses facing Logan Street, and on both sides of unpaved Kent Avenue. A number of one-story mill houses stand to the east of the village, but no longer are an integral part of the village landscape. All of the houses are now privately owned. Although the Lakeside Mill Village is located within Burlington's corporate limits, its setting is semi-rural in aspect, bordered on three sides by large expanses of green space and with little encroachment by urban development. These factors, together with the numerous surrounding trees and the nearly unaltered state of the individual structures, create an unspoiled atmosphere strongly reminiscent of the period in the late nineteenth century in which the textile industry created the town that is Burlington today.