



Jesse Lester Tavern: Circa 1790 first building on your left as you cross the railroad tracks, coming in from Yadkin Co. Jesse Lester applied for a license to operate a tavern in his home in 1790. This building was later converted to a tobacco factory. Restoration work has started and when finished will be open to the public.



Railroad Section Foremans House: Circa 1883 is the first building on your right. When the railroad was being built the section of track from Winston-Salem to Wilkesboro the foreman for the railroad and his family stayed here. The property remained with the railroad for several years after its completion and several foremans lived here. Today **Yadkin River Adventures** is located in the left hand side of this building, the right hand side is a private residence.



Robert Clark Store: The second building on your left, This store closed in the early 1970's, after the death of Robert Clark, his widow, Mauzie Johnson found it difficult to continue running the store and she eventually closed it. Robert Clark's grandchildren still live in Rockford and they have great memories of him running this store. This store was always known for selling ice cream. Kids came here for ice cream and to the general store for candy. This store did not sell candy and the general store did not sell ice cream. At one time there were 5 stores in operation in Rockford within a short distance of each other. Today this building is in the process of being restored.



Rockford General Store: Circa 1890 is the 3rd building on your left. This store has always been a general store since it opened in 1890. There have only been 5 owners of this store since the time it opened. A man named Reece and a man named Saunders built this store. The McCormicks purchased this from Reece in the early 1920s and ran it until their daughter, Eva and her husband Paul Anthony took over operation. In 1972 Annie and Glenn Barnett purchased and ran the store until her death in 2003, the store was reopened in July of 2004 under the new owners, The Carters and the Foys. There are two major events held each year at the store. (a) 1st weekend in March is a Civil War Battle and Living History Weekend. (b) 3rd Saturday in September is the Sweet Potato Festival. Store hours: Wed-Sat 10:00 - 5:00 and Sun 12:00 - 5:00 Closed on Monday and Tuesday



Rockford Park: (Formerly the Grant/Burrus Hotel) Circa 1796 is the 2nd property on your right. After burning in 1974, this is unfortunately all that is left of the hotel. It is said that Andrew Jackson, James K Polk and Aaron Burr all stayed in this hotel. Mr Grant was granted a license in 1796 for a tavern in his home. It developed from a tavern into a hotel. History seems to denote that it closed as a hotel in 1925. The site is now a public park.



Dudley Glass Store: Fourth building on your left circa 1850. The building was used as a general store and also a home for Dudley Glass. Mr. Glass died fighting a forest fire here in Rockford. Mr. W Y Davenport moved into this home later and raised his family there.



Post Office: Fifth building on your left circa 1899. This served as the post office for Rockford until 1914. Mr W Y Davenport built this building after he became postmaster in 1899. This building also once was a cobblers shop.



Holyfield House: Third building on your right. circa 1900. Was used as a boarding house for the students attending the Richmond Hill Law School. and the numbers above the doors are still present today. Today the house is a private residence.



Bland House: Sixth property on your left. Frank Bland was instrumental in bringing the first keyboard instrument to Rockford. This house served as a boarding house for the piano and organ students of Mr. Blands'. He at his death owned the Bland House and the York Tavern. His son started the Bland Piano Company in Winston-Salem. Today this house is a private residence.



Mark York Tavern: Seventh building on your left circa 1850. Mark York owned considerable amount of land in and around Rockford. This tavern was a place for travelers to spend the night just like our modern day hotels allow us to do. There is a Civil War Marker at this building denoting Stonemens' men coming through Rockford during the Civil War.



Masonic Lodge: 4th building on your right. The Unanimity Lodge No. 34 of the Masonic Order was chartered and moved to Rockford from Huntsville, south of the Yadkin River. After a new charter was granted in 1866, the Lodge became the Rockford Lodge No. 251. The Masonic Lodge is thought to be the oldest in northwest North Carolina.



CB Davis House: Eighth building on your left. circa 1900 Mr. C.B. Davis moved to Rockford from Yadkin County and went into the mercantile business with W. P. Dobson. Their business was named W. P. Dobson & Company and was located in the Masonic Lodge. He and his wife Molly (Burrus) built this home in 1900. Today this building is a private residence.



Courthouse: Ninth property on your left. Circa 1830. The original courthouse of Surry County. Fire did some damage to this building at one time. Today this is a private residence.



Rockford Methodist Church: Tenth building on your left circa 1916. A lot was obtained from Dr. Daniel Holcomb and men from the community donated logs, lumber, and labor. The women served lunches at the building site during construction. The Women's Society purchased the pews from the old Centenary Methodist Church on Liberty Street in Winston-Salem. In 1967, The Rockford Methodist Church was closed by the Methodist Conference. In 1989 the fresco "Come Unto Me" was finished by artist Tony Griffin. Today the church is always open for you to come in and tour.