

Lynncote Historic District
Name of Property

Polk County, NC
County and State

exterior materials, some of the design elements and architectural features found on Mostly Hall are repeated at the four houses Corwin had built near Lynncote beginning in 1915.

In 1914, Emma Corwin formed the Holly Hill Company with the intention of developing a residential golf course community on an old dairy farm she had acquired west of Lynncote. She subdivided the land and, according to Smith's son, hired Smith to build six or seven houses. There is no indication that these houses were built, but Corwin did proceed with organizing the Tryon Country Club and building a golf course.⁵⁸

Beginning around 1915, Corwin engaged Smith to design two houses on the east side of Lynn Road opposite Lynncote. Known as Over The Way and Wren's Nest, the two dwellings combined elements of the Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles. The simple form of Over The Way is clad with wood shingles and capped by a pyramidal roof with wide overhanging eaves. The façade, however, is dominated by a full-width inset porch capped on Tuscan columns. The interior of Over The Way features restrained Colonial Revival elements similar to those at Mostly Hall including a beamed ceiling, fish moldings, and corner screens on paneled knee walls. Wren's Nest is more modest with a hip roof of weatherboards, a projecting window bay on the façade. The shed-roof extension that wraps around the north end of the house with groups of sliding windows allows for ample ventilation and natural light that gives the cottage a more rustic character.

The two remaining houses built on Ms. Corwin's land near Lynncote drew inspiration from the popular Rustic Revival Style. Built in the early 1920s, the Uchtmann-Landrum House and Corwin Log House both feature saddle-notched pole-log construction typical of the Rustic Revival, which enjoyed an extended period of popularity in the early-to-mid twentieth century in the mountains and western Piedmont. The Uchtmann-Landrum House, with its frame second story, also exhibits Chalet Style architecture and was described as the Uchtmann sister pole-log house.⁵⁹ The Corwin Log House is more typically Rustic Revival with strong horizontal lines, log and wood shingle siding, and large window openings. It was constructed around the same time as several other Rustic Revival log buildings in Tryon including the 1922 clubhouse for the Tryon Country Club. In the late 1920s, Sunnydale (NR, 2011) and the Lake Lanier Tea House opened as popular restaurants and entertainment venues in Rustic Revival pole-log buildings.

The four houses adjoining Lynncote are representative examples of popular styles found throughout the region and are similar to other houses built by Emma Corwin and W. F. Smith around Tryon. The houses adjacent to Lynncote, however, provide the most direct links to Corwin and her real estate development projects. The Lynncote Historic District offers

⁵⁸ Smith, 90; Rogers; 27; Griffith and Templeton.

⁵⁹ *The Polk County News*, September 4, 1924, 8.

