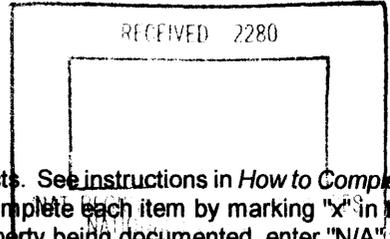


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

917



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fordson Coal Company Buildings

other names/site number PI-127, PI-128, PI-129

2. Location

street & number 1355, 1377, and 1393 Pond Creek Road (Kentucky State Route 199) not for publication N/A

city or town Stone vicinity N/A

state Kentucky code KY county Pike code 195 zip code 41567

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide X locally. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan, SHPO and Executive

Director, KHC

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

6-16-02

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  
       See continuation sheet.

       determined eligible for the National Register  
       See continuation sheet.

       determined not eligible for the National Register

       removed from the National Register

       other (explain):       

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson R. Beall 9/6/02

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously-listed resources in the count)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	3		buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site			sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object			objects
		3	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)  
N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
none

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
COMMERCE/office building	VACANT/not in use
COMMERCE/general store	
RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater	

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
NO STYLE	foundation STONE/sandstone
	walls BRICK
	roof
	other

Refer to Continuation Sheet

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Refer to Continuation Sheets

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE  
INDUSTRY

**Period of Significance**

1925-1951

**Significant Dates**

1925

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Meanor and Handloser, architects  
Weiler, James J. and Sons, builder

**Criteria Considerations**

Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Name of Property

Pike County, KY  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 1.04 acres

U.S.G.S QUADRANGLE: Belfry, Kentucky

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	387760	4160260	3		
2				4		

N/A See continuation sheet.

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title David L. Taylor, Principal

organization Taylor & Taylor Associates, Inc. date July, 2001

street & number 9 Walnut Street telephone 814-849-4900

city or town Brookville state PA zip code 15825

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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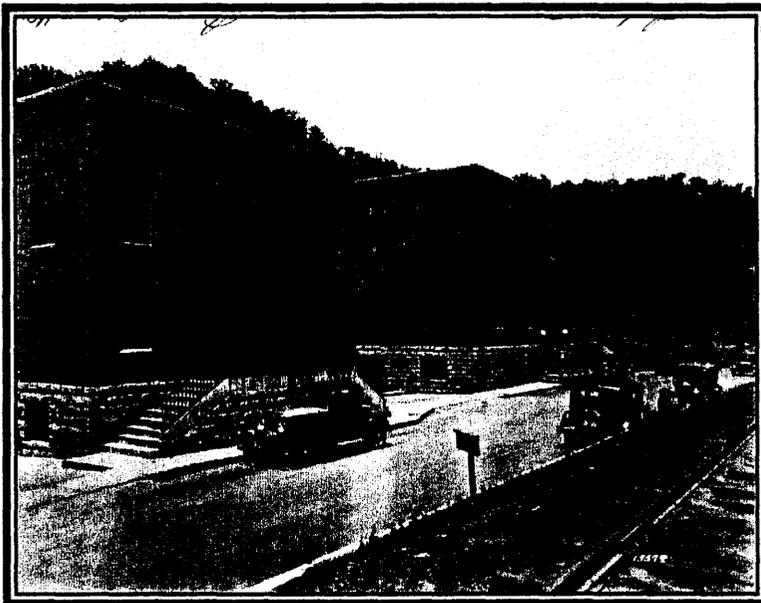
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**Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY**

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**7. Description**

The Fordson Coal Company Buildings (PI-127, PI-128, and PI-129; Fig. 1 and Photo Nos. 1, 2, and 25) occupy a 1.04 acre site on the east bank of Pond Creek, on the west side of Pond Creek Road (State Route 199), in the village of Stone, Pike County, Kentucky,



**Fig. 1** This historic photo shows the three nominated properties in the 1930s. Their historic appearance is essentially unaltered, although all three are in a deteriorated condition. [Photo from the Norfolk and Western Railway Photograph Collection, and reprinted in *Pike County: A Pictorial History*]

twenty-four miles northeast of the county seat of Pikeville. Pike County lies geographically within the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field. The nominated property consists of three adjacent detached brick buildings, each of which served distinct historic uses for the coal company: the northernmost building contained a pharmacy, a restaurant, the village's post office, and eventually a community library on the ground floor and an auditorium above for motion pictures and live performances; the middle building contained the coal company's corporate offices and that of the company doctor, and the southernmost building was the Fordson Coal Company store.

The three properties are substantial in scale, occupying the largest single building lot in the community, and are clearly the most physically-imposing properties in this small eastern Kentucky hamlet. Each is rectangular in form, and rests on a raised foundation of rock-faced ashlar sandstone. The nominated resources are of similar design, finished in red common brick laid in common bond and articulated with corbeling. Each is capped with a flat roof behind

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**Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY**

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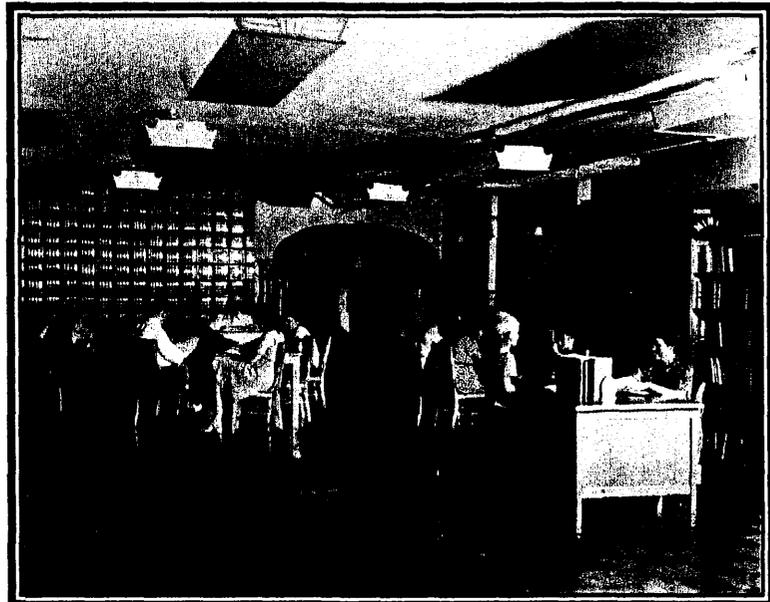
a parapet; due to the deteriorated condition of the properties, the roof surfaces were not available for inspection at the time of preparation of the nomination documents. All three are vacant and in need of major rehabilitation; this fact notwithstanding, the overall integrity of all three properties has not been lost. Specific descriptions of the individual resources follow:

**ENTERTAINMENT BUILDING**

The Entertainment Building (PI-129; Photo Nos. 2-9) is 41' x 100' in dimension, and like its neighbors, is of red brick and rests on a substantial raised foundation of stone. It is the least ornamented of the three buildings, with side walls punctuated by a small number of flat-

topped openings glazed with metal frame multi-light windows.

The primary access to the building is gained through the south elevation, using a stair which is built upon a stone foundation and leads to a raised stoop shielded by a flat marquee canopy. The main entrance is centered on the south elevation and includes paired double doors with six-light upper panels and solid lower panels. A nine-light transom is above the canopy. The exterior surfaces of the building are articulated by brick pilasters with stylized brick capitals, along with a variety of



corbeled brickwork. Painted on the north elevation of the building is a faded sign advertising Red Robin Coal, the brand name of the materials mined by the Eastern Coal Corporation, which was a later occupant of the building. In addition to depicting the likeness of a robin, the sign proclaims

**Fig. 2** Eventually, a public library was added to the list of amenities provided by the coal company and contained in the Entertainment Building. This photo likely dates from the 1940s. [Photo from the Norfolk and Western Railway Photograph Collection, and reprinted in *Pike County: A Pictorial History*]

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
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HERE AMERICAN  
WORKMEN MINE,  
PREPARE, AND SHIP  
THE WORLD'S FINEST  
HIGH VOLATILE  
BITUMINOUS COAL.

The ground floor of the Entertainment Building contains partitioned space which included a pharmacy, the village library, the post office, and a restaurant. The interior of the main floor of the building (Photo Nos. 7-9) incorporates a lobby on the south end of the building which retains the original ticket booth and paired double doors opening into the theater auditorium. An enclosed stair leads from the lobby to the balcony and projection room. The balcony is intact, and measures 41' x 20', with tiered seating platforms and the original 8'6" x 11' film projection booth at the rear. Interior wall surfaces are finished in plaster with modestly-detailed wood trim and crown molding. The original auditorium was designed with a raked floor which sloped from rear to front; the raking was removed with the installation of a flat floor at an indeterminate time. The original stage remains at the front of the auditorium and is flanked on either side with pairs of fluted wood pilasters, Neo-Classical Revival in style. A mountain scene appears on a mural at the rear of the stage. The original ceiling height of the auditorium was modified with the installation of a suspended ceiling above which is ductwork for the heating system of the building. Dressing rooms flank the stage at both sides, and enclosed stairs originally led to the basement from the front of the auditorium; these stairs have been removed, likely in connection with the aforementioned leveling of the floor of the auditorium. No historic seats remain. The basement of the Entertainment Building contains no notable features.

#### **OFFICE BUILDING**

The Fordson Coal Company Office (PI-128; Photo Nos. 10-17) is a two-story building, c. 65' square, with a five-bay facade and side elevations. The windows are set on extended brick sills and are capped with brick voussoirs. Windows on the first story are flat-

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY

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topped, while those on the second story are segmental-arched; all are glazed with multi-light steel sash units. The exterior surfaces of the second and third stories of the Office Building are finished with a diversity of corbeled brickwork executed in a variety of shapes.

Access to the ground floor is through a single door in the east elevation, ornamented by a modest classically-inspired frontispiece of wood. Some areas of the basement retain tile wainscoting. The principal access to the office building is through a double door centered at grade on the facade, which opens into a small lobby with a stairway leading to a reception hall on the first floor. Office uses included a switchboard which provided access to all of the coal company mines as well as a purchasing agent, mining engineers, a shipping clerk, the general manager, and the company/community doctor. The first and second stories (Photo Nos. 15-17) contain offices and hallways, restrooms, and stairs with modest iron railings. Wall and ceiling surfaces are of plaster; some surface areas are finished with varnished wood paneling and the restrooms have hexagonal terrazzo tile floors and tile wainscoting. Doors and trim are of oak. The original leather floor coverings have been retained in some areas. Ceiling heights on the first story are 11' and 10'6" on the second.

### **COMMISSARY**

The Commissary (PI-128; Photo Nos. 18-25) measures 72' × 33' and is built of red brick, set upon a raised stone foundation punctuated by flat-topped fenestration. The facade is three bays in width and the side elevations are of six bays. The bay spacing is articulated by brick pilasters ornamented by corbeled brickwork. All windows on the building are flat-topped with steel frame sash. A raised stoop is centered on the facade, accessed by double stairs; pipe railings are along the outside perimeter of the steps and stoop. Also centered on the facade is a boarded-up storefront. The original architectural drawings reveal that the storefront originally featured two large plate glass display windows flanking a centered double door entry, with a prism glass transom which is partially intact. Above the transom is a multi-light window assembly, portions of which have been altered with the insertion of louvered vents.

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The basement of the Commissary was used as storage and lacks historical or architectural distinction. The main floor (Photo Nos. 22-24) contains a large open area and at the left front corner is office space which served as the cashier's station and was used for the exchange of scrip for goods (this room was described as the "Script [sic] Room" on the original architectural drawings). The largest portion of the main floor is unpartitioned and contained a spacious sales floor for the display of the variety of goods and services sold by the Fordson Coal Company to its employees. The store offered a general line of groceries, a butcher shop and produce section, dry goods and shoes, and large furniture items. At the left rear of the main floor was a refrigerator which served the meat department of the grocery operation; no vestiges of this feature are extant. At the right rear corner is an empty elevator shaft which historically accommodated the small elevator which lifted goods to the sales room from the rear service area of the building. A mezzanine is located along the rear wall. The interior surfaces of the Commissary are sparsely finished with plaster walls and nondescript trim.

**SITE**

The nominated properties are located on a flat parcel immediately adjacent to State Route 199, and are surrounded by some paved surfaces and other graveled parking areas (Fig. 1, Photos 1, 2, and 25). Trackage of the Norfolk and Western Railroad is across Route 199 to the east, and Pond Creek, enclosed within a concrete embankment, flows parallel to the buildings to the west. No outbuildings are on the site, although other coal company-associated properties, including a boarding house, the coal company manager's house, a "club house", and a number of company houses, are extant within the village. The evaluation of these resources was not included within the context of the present nomination, although they appear eligible for National Register listing as a historic district.

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**8. Significance**

The Fordson Coal Company Buildings (PI-127, PI-128, and PI-129) meet the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation under Criteria A and C, within the historic context, *Coal Mining in Eastern Kentucky, 1780-1940*, as described in a monograph prepared by L. Martin Perry of the Kentucky Heritage Council.<sup>1</sup> The buildings represent the third and last chronological eras within this context, the years between 1900 and 1940; the community of Stone itself is an example of Property Type I, *coal company towns*, as described in the monograph. With respect to Criterion A, the properties are significant under *industry* as the tangible manifestation of the pervasive role of a coal company in nearly every aspect of a company town--in this case, Stone, Kentucky--containing the corporate office of the coal company, a company store, and a leisure time facility which was erected by the coal company for the use of its employees and which, over the years, also included a library, post office, and pharmacy. With respect to Criterion C, the nominated properties are significant for their *architecture*, as locally-unique examples of substantial company-town industry-related buildings erected in a community otherwise typified by modest domestic architecture and churches. Within the context of eastern Kentucky coal mining, these resources are locally-distinctive examples of company-owned properties which served specific functions in the life of this company town throughout the Period of Significance and are additionally illustrative of the paternalistic role which many coal companies assumed with respect to their employees and their families. The buildings are also significant under Criterion C as the work of a regionally-prominent architectural firm, Meanor and Handloser, of Huntington West Virginia.

As noted in the Perry monograph,

Company towns are a vital part of Kentucky's past. The term, "company town," . . . refers to communities historically inhabited primarily, if not exclusively, by employees of a single corpor-

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<sup>1</sup>Perry, L. Martin, "Coal Company Towns in Eastern Kentucky, 1854-1941," unpublished MS (Frankfort: Kentucky Heritage Council, 1991).

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
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ation which also owns the land and structures. Although several industries in Kentucky have relied upon these installations to stabilize their labor force, the term is commonly identified with the coal industry, especially with its development in the eastern part of the state.<sup>2</sup>

These three buildings represent the widespread practice of coal companies to provide a full range of activities and services to their employees from facilities owned by the coal company. The company town monograph notes

Some towns had structures for entertainment such as a theater and social hall . . . Because of transportation limits, mine families depended largely upon the company for consumer goods; impressive commissary buildings and other stores opened to fill those needs.<sup>3</sup>

The village of Stone lies within the Eastern Kentucky Cultural Landscape Region as defined by the Kentucky Heritage Council.<sup>4</sup> The Kentucky Heritage Council monograph notes that “Stone is in [the] center of [a] string of impressive towns [Huddy, Stone, and McVeigh], and has several types of industrial, commercial, and civic structures in addition to houses.<sup>5</sup>” The village’s substantial industrial properties are the subject of this nomination.

Stone was established c. 1911 by the Pond Creek Mining Company, which “was one of the first in the area to mine coal.”<sup>6</sup> The settlement was named for the company’s Chairman

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<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 1. Two other studies which occurred during the historical period of the village of Stone were written by Leifur Magnusson: **Housing By Employers in the United States** and “Company Housing in the Bituminous Fields.” Complete citations for both appear in the Bibliography in Section 9.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 40.

<sup>4</sup>Cultural Landscape Regions are geographical areas of the Commonwealth which have been identified by the Kentucky Heritage Council because of the commonality of their shared cultural resources, in an effort to more systematically plan for the preservation of such important resources.

<sup>5</sup>Perry, *op. cit.*, p. 38.

<sup>6</sup>Maddox, Ed and Connic. **Pike County, Kentucky: A Pictorial History**. Virginia Beach, Virginia: The Donning Company, 1998, p. 98.

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**Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY**

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of the Board, Galen Stone, a leading Massachusetts businessman and partner in the prestigious Boston brokerage house of Hayden, Stone, and Co. Galen Stone laid out a modest grid of streets and engaged an unidentified architect to prepare plans for a series of company houses and related buildings.<sup>7</sup> Thus, Stone's namesake community developed as an architect-designed grid town, according to the typology developed by architectural historian Leland Roth in his study of company towns designed by the renowned firm of McKim, Mead, and White.<sup>8</sup>

By 1922, Galen Stone's Pond Creek Mining Company held the mineral rights to 22,000 acres of Kentucky coal land and was producing soft coal for the manufacture of illuminating gas. Always the astute businessman, Stone began negotiations with automaker Henry Ford, with the intention of integrating the Pond Creek coal operation into the Ford empire, allowing Ford to harvest the coal necessary to heat his northern automobile plants. In Boston, Hayden, Stone, and Co. had as one of its employees Joseph P. Kennedy, who, through the masterful use of what would later become known as "inside trading," bought shares of Pond Creek Mining on a ten percent margin and then, with guidance from Stone, sold them and amassed a profit of \$675,000 in a period of about nine months from an investment of \$24,000. Late in December, 1922, Ford's acquisition of the coal company was announced, Kennedy made his "killing," and on January 1, 1923, Stone retired from Hayden, Stone and Company.

The Detroit-owned, Kentucky-based coal operations at Stone's namesake community became known as the Fordson Coal Company, using the name--which also appeared on Ford's popular farm tractors--which was a contraction of "Ford and Son," referring to the elder Ford and his son Edsel. The Fordson operations included other mining communities in the area near Pond Creek. Each was assigned a mine number--Pinsonfork was No. 5, McVeigh was

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<sup>7</sup>Unsigned professionally-prepared elevation drawings for several houses in Stone are in the possession of Stone Heritage, Inc., the nonprofit owner of the nominated buildings.

<sup>8</sup>Roth, Leland, "Three Industrial Towns by McKim, Mead, and White," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, Vol. 38, No. 4 (1979).

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY

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No. 7, Nos. 4 and 8 were at McAndrews, and Stone was No. 3.

Within eighteen months of acquiring Pond Creek, Henry Ford began planning for vast and far-reaching physical improvements to the company town at Stone. He engaged the prominent architectural firm of Meanor and Handloser, of Huntington, West Virginia, to design three large buildings to meet the needs of the Fordson Coal Company and its employees, buildings which dwarfed the other modestly-scaled properties in the village. Where most coal operators might have erected a series of company houses and a company store for their workers, Ford provided his employees with not only the company store, but also with a spacious leisure-time facility which is identified on the original architectural drawings as the "Entertainment Building." Here Ford provided a post office, barbershop, and pharmacy; later owners added a library to this facility. The movie theater on the main floor also accommodated occasional live performances and was open seven days per week; adults paid 35¢ for admission and children were admitted for 12¢. African-Americans were restricted to seats in the balcony which was not otherwise used unless the main floor was fully occupied.

In addition to the Entertainment Building, Ford erected an Office Building which also contained the office of the company doctor, and a company store--referred to as the "Commissary" on the original Meanor & Handloser drawings. The Commissary sold all of the necessities for the Fordson employees--food, clothing, and even furniture--and included a separate room for the exchange of scrip for goods. Ford also built a "Club House" for the company (not included in the nomination) and sponsored a variety of activities for his workers, including a Safety Day, during which time miners competed for prizes by demonstrating their skills in the areas of rescue and first aid, a tragic necessity within the context of coal mining in eastern Kentucky.

The Fordson Coal Company had a peak employment of 8,000 miners and continued its operations at Stone for more than a decade. In 1936, Henry Ford sold the Fordson Coal Company and its assets to the Tierney Brothers, two sons of Lawrence Teirney, a prominent coal developer in the region. They operated the business as the Eastern Coal Company and

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
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marketed their product as “Red Robin” coal, which is advertised on a “ghost” sign on the south wall of the Entertainment Building. The company was sold to the Pittston Coal Company in 1969; they maintained the Tierney brothers’ name of Eastern Coal. The buildings were eventually sold to the Stone Mining Company, a subsidiary of Massey Energy, which closed the operation in 1992.

The heyday of the company town began to fade not long after Henry Ford built his Fordson Coal Company buildings in Stone. The practice of divesting ownership in company towns began in the 1930s, and like many other coal company towns, the company-owned residences and other properties were eventually transferred to their former tenants. Unlike some other company towns, coal owners did not dismantle the community. Instead, Stone took on the character of an independent and individually-owned rural hamlet nestled in a valley in the mountains of the eastern Kentucky coal fields. In 2001, Stone Heritage, Inc., a local nonprofit corporation, received the nominated properties by a deed of gift and at the time of the preparation of the National Register documents plans to rehabilitate the buildings for use by the community.

In addition to the properties’ clear reflection of the pattern of coal-mining operation in eastern Kentucky, the Fordson Coal Company Buildings are also architecturally significant as locally-distinctive examples of coal company town industrial design from the 1920s in Pike County. The previously-cited Kentucky Heritage Council monograph notes that coal company *towns* can be National Register-eligible under Criterion C as good examples of particular company town types; it follows that buildings such as the Fordson Coal Company Buildings are eligible under Criterion C as examples of coal company town *architecture*, designed with an aesthetic as well as functional purpose.

The Fordson Coal Company Buildings are also significant architecturally as the work of a regionally-prominent architectural firm. Meanor and Handloser was established at Huntington, West Virginia, in 1916 under the leadership of Wilbur Meanor and soon became one of the leading practitioners of design in West Virginia and the region. They were “a

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY

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mature and productive architectural firm . . . [which] became one of the pre-eminent design firms in the state, with offices in Huntington and Charleston [West Virginia].”<sup>9</sup> Meanor and Handloser were responsible for a wide range of public and private buildings throughout the region, some of which have been listed in or determined eligible for listing in the National Register. Among these are the Memorial Arch, the Coal Exchange Building, the First National and Union National Bank Buildings, and the Ohev Shalom Temple, all in Huntington, West Virginia, the Pence Springs Hotel at Pence Springs, Cabell County, West Virginia, and the Diamond Department Store, Sacred Heart High School, and the C & P Telephone Building in Charleston. The firm continued under the name of its founding partners until 1943, after which time it became Meanor, Greife and Daley, representing the first of a number of successive name changes until 1994, when it became the HDMMR Group, the name which it retains at the time of the preparation of the nomination.

The Fordson Coal Company Buildings clearly meet National Register Criteria A and C, due to their association with the pattern of industrial development in the eastern Kentucky coal fields and for their architecture, both for their stylistic qualities and for their position as an important representative of the work of a regionally-prominent architectural firm. Their integrity is little impaired and is clearly retained in all of the National Register qualities of location, design, setting, association, feeling, materials, workmanship.

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<sup>9</sup>Agsten, Carl F. “Ohev Shalom Temple,” National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 1993.

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Fordson Coal Company Buildings  
Pike County, KY

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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10. Geographical Data

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The nominated property consists of Lots 25, 26 and 27 of the village of Stone, Kentucky, as described in a deed between the Pocahontas Development Corporation and the Stone Mining Company, recorded in the Clerk's Office of Pike County, Kentucky in Deed Book 680, Page 1.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries for this nomination consist only of those adjacent building lots which were historically associated with each of the individual properties.

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**PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

All Photographs:

**Fordson Coal Company Buildings**

Pike County, Kentucky

Photographer: David L. Taylor

Date: 2001

Negatives filed at:    Kentucky Heritage Council (Kentucky SHPO), Frankfort, Kentucky

1. Streetscape view of Kentucky State Route 199, looking from south to north, showing each of the three nominated properties, their overall condition and characteristics, and that relationship to each other.
2. Streetscape view of Kentucky State Route 199, looking from north to south, showing each of the three nominated properties, their overall condition and characteristics, and that relationship to each other.
3. Detail of Entertainment Building, looking south, showing "ghost" sign advertising Red Robin Coal and the Eastern Coal Corporation
4. Entertainment Building, facade detail, looking northwest, showing overall massing and unornamented quality, the detailing of exterior surfaces, and the stair leading to the main entrance on the left.
5. Entertainment Building, southwest perspective looking northeast, showing overall characteristics of the building, including the raised ashlar stone foundation, the massing of the building, brick pilasters and other corbeled treatment, entrance to auditorium on right.
6. Entertainment Building, rear elevation, looking northeast
7. Interior Entertainment Building, first floor, looking northwest, showing ticket book, entrance doors to auditorium, floor and wall surfaces, etc.
8. Entertainment Building, interior, first floor, showing the auditorium, looking from

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rear to front, (south to north), illustrating the pilasters flanking the stage, the suspended ceiling, the flattened floor, and the mural on the rear wall

9. Entertainment Building, interior, balcony, looking from west to east, with projection booth on right and showing crown molding typical throughout
10. Office Building, facade, looking northwest, showing overall configuration of the building, massing, fenestration, foundation, etc.
11. Office Building, north elevation
12. Office Building southwest perspective looking northeast and showing fenestration, steel frame sash, foundation, etc.
13. Office Building, northwest perspective, looking northeast
14. Office Building, basement, showing typical condition of the basements of all of the buildings
15. Office Building, first story, interior, looking west and showing first floor hallway, interior finishes, open stair leading to second story, etc.
16. Office Building, interior, first story, looking northwest and showing typical wood paneled office partitioning, floor surfaces, ceiling height and finishes, etc.
17. Office Building, second story central hallway, looking northeast and showing overall room arrangement of offices, trim, etc.
18. Commissary Building, southeast perspective, looking northwest and showing overall massing of the building, fenestration, brick corbeling treatment, and double stairs leading to the sales room on the facade
19. Commissary Building, southwest perspective looking northeast and showing overall characteristics of the building and the elevator shaft which punctuates the roofline at the northwest corner of the building, etc.
20. Commissary Building, facade, looking northwest

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21.   Commissary Building, northwest perspective, looking southeast
22.   Commissary Building, interior of sales room, looking northeast
23.   Commissary Building, interior of sales room looking east
24.   Commissary Building, looking west, showing mezzanine and overall condition of the space
25.   View of all three properties from the rear, looking northeast