NPS Form 10-900

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

PECEIVED 2280 OMB No. 1024-0018 OCT — 9 2018 NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES MATIONAL 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:	Russellville Commerc	ial Historic D	istrict			
Other names/ site number:		11010111				
Name of related multiple proper						
(Enter N/A if property is not part of a	a multiple property listing)					
2. Location						
Street & number: Along	sections of Jackson and	Coffee Aven	ues and	Lawrence,	Lauderdale, and Madiso	n Streets
City/Town: Russellville		State:	AL	County:	Franklin	
Not for Publication:	Vicinity:					
Historic Places and meets the p	der the National Historic of eligibility meets the o	locumentatio nal requireme	n standa	ards for reg	stering properties in the l	National Register of
I recommend this property be converged National Statewide	onsidered significant at t		level(s) o	of significan	ce:	
Applicable National Register C	criteria: x A B	_x_ C	D			
Lee anne 1	SIGHOU	/Dep	uty State	Historic Pres	servation Officer	10/5/2018
Signature of certifying official/T Alabama Historical Commission	itle UU					Date
State or Federal agency/burea	u or Tribal Government					
In my opinion, the property	_meetsdoes not me	eet the Nation	nal Regis	ster criteria		
Signature of commenting official	al					Date
Title				State or F	ederal agency/bureau or	Tribal Government
4. National Park Service C I hereby certify that this property entered in the National Regi determined eligible for the N determined not eligible for the removed from the National R other (explain):	y is: ister lational Register ne National Register					Machia
Signature of the Keeper	~					Date of Action

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Russellville Commercial Historic District Franklin, AL Name of Property County and State 5. Classification / Ownership of Property: (check as many boxes as apply) x Public-Local Public-State x Public-Federal Category of Property: (check only one box) Building(s) x District Site Structure Object Number of Resources Within Property: (do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Non-Contributing **Buildings** 41 21 Sites Structures 3 Objects 21 44 **TOTAL** Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0 **6. Function or Use / Historic Functions:** (enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution COMMERCE/TRADE/business GOVERNMENT: city hall/courthouse/post office RELIGIOUS: religious facility RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater **Current Functions:** (enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE / TRADE: business COMMERCE/ TRADE: financial institution GOVERNMENT: city hall/courthouse/post office RELIGIOUS: religious facility RECREATION & CULTURE: theater 7. Architectural Classification: (enter categories from instructions) LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVAL: Classical Revival LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne **Materials:** (enter categories from instructions) Principal exterior materials of the property: concrete, brick, asphalt, stone, wood, stucco, metal

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The district contains the following street numbers:

N. Coffee Avenue: 109, 113, 115

Franklin Street NE: 106, 107, 109, 111, 113, 108, 110, 112, 114, 115, 116, 118

W. Franklin Street: 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115

N. Jackson Avenue: 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 120, 125,

127, 128, 130, 200, 202, 206, 208, 210, 213, 301, 303, 304, 308, 310, 311, 400, 401, 405, 410

S. Jackson Avenue: 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 108, 110, 111, 112, 113, 115, 117

E. Lawrence Street: 104, 106, 108, 109, 110, 111, 113

W. Limestone Street: 101

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

Located in the northwestern portion of Alabama, Russellville is a city with a population of 9,815 residents in 2018. It is the county seat of Franklin County and has been so since its establishment in 1819. It is bordered by Colbert County to the north, Lawrence County to the east, Winston County to the southeast, Marion County to the south, Itawamba County, Mississippi to the southwest, and Tishomingo County, Mississippi to the northwest. It is at an elevation of 764 feet above sea level. The landscape has allowed for successful farming and mining practices, as the South's first iron furnace, Cedar Creek Furnace, was established five miles outside of Russellville. In addition to iron ore, the county is rich in natural resources such as limestone and hardwood forests. The introduction of the railroad through Russellville in 1886 helped to establish the city as a center of business and it continued to grow into the twentieth century. Most of the buildings in the downtown area date from the city's early period of development from c. 1899 to c. 1930. Commercial buildings from this period are along Jackson Avenue and adjacent streets. The commercial district is also home to the city's governmental buildings including the Franklin County Courthouse, city hall and U.S. Post Office. The city's primary Methodist and Baptist churches have also had a continued presence along these blocks. The Russellville Commercial Historic District retains a high degree of integrity and reflects its historical and architectural development from to the mid-twentieth century.

The Russellville Commercial Historic District retains much of its integrity from the late 19th and 20th centuries. Since the early 1900s, these blocks have been composed of the city's primary commercial businesses as well as the county courthouse and the community's post office and city hall. Also, along these blocks are the Baptist and Methodist churches which were established on Jackson Avenue in the 19th century. These blocks continue to contain a wide variety of commercial, government, and religious buildings constructed into the mid-20th century and the district retains integrity of location, setting, feeling and association. While some of the storefronts on the commercial buildings have been altered, overall the district retains much of its integrity of workmanship, design and materials. The U.S. Post Office, Roxy Theatre, and Franklin County Courthouse are notable examples of their respective architectural styles and have a high degree of integrity.

Narrative Description

Located in one of Alabama's oldest political units, Franklin County, Russellville is a town with a population of 9,815 residents in 2016. It is one of the oldest towns in Franklin County and has been the county seat for much of its history since its incorporation on November 27, 1819. Much of Franklin County lies in historic Chickasaw lands. Russellville was located about five miles northeast of the South's first iron furnace, the Cedar Creek furnace. Established by Joseph Heslip in 1818, the furnace was destroyed during the Civil War, but later decades saw the business reopen. The introduction of the railroad

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through Franklin County in 1886 caused a mining boom, and by the mid-1920s, Russellville was in the center of the world's largest iron ore district.¹

By the early 1900s, downtown Russellville housed commercial businesses such as grocery stores, hardware stores, and general stores. The county courthouse, post office, banks, stores, churches, and movie theatres were all built in the downtown area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the 1890s most of these buildings were of frame construction but as the city prospered as a rail and mining center, many new masonry buildings were constructed along N. Jackson Avenue and adjacent streets between 1899 and 1910. Fires in 1908, 1915 and 1922 destroyed several the buildings in the commercial district but owners soon built back new masonry buildings to take their place.

The district includes 41 contributing buildings and 21 noncontributing buildings, as well as three contributing objects which are historic memorials. The district encompasses roughly seven blocks and contains approximately 19.6 acres. Most of the buildings are c. 1900-c. 1930 one and two-story brick commercial buildings. Styles present are Late Victorian Italianate, Classical Revival, and Art Moderne. Buildings typically exhibit concrete, brick, and stone foundations, wood, stucco, and brick walls, and asphalt and metal roofs. Most have standard storefronts and flat roofs. Storefronts have a mix of original and replacement elements. Stylistic elements include parapets, brick corbelling, soldier courses, arched window openings, and storefront cast iron pilasters. The region's natural limestone is evident in the town's architecture as well. The district's buildings and landscape are reflective of Russellville's status as a growing commercial center in Franklin County during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Jackson Avenue is the primary street in the historic district and contains the most notably concentration of commercial, religious and governmental buildings. The 100 block of Jackson Avenue south of Lawrence Street displays several one-and two-story commercial buildings, most notably the Dearing-Orman store at 102-106 S. Jackson Avenue (Photo 1). In the 100 block of Jackson Avenue north of Lawrence Street is a continuous row of commercial buildings on the east side of the street which date from the early 1900s (Photo 3). On the west side of the 100 block is also a row of commercial buildings several of which were built in 1922 following a fire in this block (Photos 4-5). The 200 block of N. Jackson Avenue contains the Neo-classical style Tennessee Valley Bank built in 1923, and the Art Moderne Roxy Theatre completed in 1949 (Photo 6). On the west side of the 200 block of N. Jackson Avenue is the First Baptist Church built in 1957 with additions added later. The 300 block of N. Jackson Avenue contains a series of post-1968 buildings on the east side, including the Russellville City Hall. The west side of this block includes the U.S. Post Office built in 1934, and the First Methodist Church constructed in 1964 (Photo No. 7). In the 400 block of N. Jackson Avenue on the east side is the Russellville Municipal Building dating from 1967, and the Franklin County Courthouse built in 1955 (Photo 8).

The district boundary also includes several blocks on either side of N. Jackson Avenue. The 100 block of E. Franklin Street has several one- and two-story buildings constructed in the early 20th century such as the Hill Hotel and the Burgess Building which date from 1922 (Photo 11). On the opposite side of the street is a row of modest one-story buildings (Photo 10). Small groupings of commercial buildings are also located in the 100 block of W. Franklin Street (Photo 12) and the 100 block of N. Coffee Street (Photo 13). Collectively these buildings constitute the largest number of contiguous historic commercial, governmental and religious buildings in the city.

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS

Properties in the inventory are organized by street and numerically by address. Entries list the address of the property, approximate date of construction, and associated secondary resources. Dates of construction are derived from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Russellville, plats and city directories.

N. Coffee Avenue

1. 109 N. Coffee Avenue, c.1925. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof, concrete foundation and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The building has two storefront and three garage bay doors. The south storefront is original and has original single-light glass and wood double doors, brick bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows. Above the entrance is a four-light transom. Above the display windows

¹ Claude E. Sparks, "Preface: Russellville, Alabama," from "Russellville (including Littleville) Alabama Con Survey City Directory," Vol. 1, 1963; *The Citizen-Times*, March 17, 1955.

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are seven-light transoms. The north storefront has a c. 1990 aluminum and glass door, brick bulkheads, original display windows and a nine-light transom. Over the transom is a solder course lintel. The garage bays have c. 1990 overhead track aluminum doors.

- 2. 113 N. Coffee Avenue, c. 1930. CONTRIBUTING. This is a one-story commercial building constructed c. 1930. The building has a concrete foundation and flat roof. The exterior is of both rock-face and smooth concrete block with rock-face concrete block used as a quoining effect. The storefront has c. 1990 glass and aluminum display windows with added concrete block below. The entrance has c. 1990 single-light, glass and aluminum double doors. A full-width metal awning is across the storefront.
- 115 N. Coffee Avenue, c. 1925. NON-CONTRIBUTING. This is a one-story, concrete block commercial building with a flat roof. The storefront has been altered with c. 1990 board and batten siding, an aluminum and glass door and six-over-six vinyl sash windows. The upper façade displays an exterior of original rock-face concrete block.

Franklin Street, NE

- 106 Franklin St. NE, c. 1925. CONTRIBUTING. This is a one-story brick commercial building. The building has a concrete foundation and flat roof. The storefront has display windows which are single-light glass and aluminum design resting on c. 2000 stacked stone bulkheads. The entrance has a c. 2000 door and an aluminum single-light storm door. Transom windows are covered with vinyl panels. The upper façade displays original stretcher bond brick and above the transom is a soldier course lintel. At the roofline is added metal coping. A full-width fabric awning is across the storefront.
- 107 113 Franklin St. NE, c. 1912. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. At these addresses is a one-story, concrete block commercial building and consists of five separate storefronts. The façade was designed with an exterior of "panel face' concrete block and this surface is still visible on four of the storefronts. The 107 address has its concrete block exterior covered with wood paneling. The main entrance is now on the north elevation and the main façade has two, c. 1980 one-over-one glass and aluminum windows with a metal standing seam awning across the façade. The 109 storefront was remodeled c. 1990 with an exterior of brick veneer and has a glass and wood door and vinyl sash windows. There is a concrete keystone above the door. A full-width wood shed-roof canopy with asphalt shingles is across the facade. The 111 storefront consists of several door and window openings which have been enclosed with wood panels. This storefront has an entrance with a c. 1990 aluminum and glass door. The facade displays its original surface of panel face concrete block and at the roofline is a decorative concrete cornice. The 113 storefront has display windows covered with vinyl siding and inset air conditioners. The entrance has a c. 1990 single-light glass and aluminum door. There is a metal awning above the entrance. A datestone is stamped into one of the blocks on this façade "JWCM MOON 1912."
- 6. 108-110 Franklin St. NE, c. 1922. CONTRIBUTING. This was originally the Hill Hotel. It is a two-story, brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The building has two storefronts with original recessed entrances. The entrances have original paired single-light glass and wood doors with rectangular transoms above. The storefronts have original copper and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. The central bay has an original two-panel wood door. All the transoms have been covered with wood panels. Above the storefronts is a soldier course belt course. The upper facade has four window bays with original one-over-one wood sash windows resting on stone sills. Above the windows is a soldier course belt course. Above the windows is a rectangular panel of wire bricks set within corbelled brick courses. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping. Below the roofline is a name and datestone "G. R. Hill, 1922."
- 7. 112 Franklin St. NE, c. 1925. NON-CONTRIBUTING. At this address is a one-story, brick commercial building. The storefront was altered c. 2000 with an exterior of stone veneer, vinyl display windows and an entrance with a glass and wood door. Metal panels conceal the transom. A full-width metal awning is across the storefront. The upper façade is of stretcher bond brick and at the roofline is concrete coping.
- 114-116 Franklin St. NE, c. 1930. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The building has two storefronts with c. 1990 aluminum and glass doors and sidelights and aluminum and glass display windows. The storefronts have original brick bulkheads. The exterior of the building

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has stretcher bond wire brick. Above the east entrance bay is an original 14-light glass and wood transom with painted glass lights. The transom above the west display window bay has been covered with signs. At the roofline is a flat parapet with concrete coping. This building is included with the adjacent two-story building with an overall address as 118 Franklin Street NE.

- 9. 115 Franklin St. NE, c. 1910. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The storefront has c. 1970 wood and glass display windows which rest on original brick bulkheads. The entrance has a c. 1970 single-light glass and aluminum door. Wood panels cover the transoms. At the roof line is an original sheet metal cornice and below the metal cornice is a full-width, wood shed-roof canopy. On the Coffee Street elevation is an entrance with a c. 1990 glass and aluminum door and three window openings one with a fixed single-light, one with a small sliding track window and the third opening is covered with plywood. At the roofline of this façade is a stepped parapet.
- 10. 118 Franklin St. NE, 1922. **CONTRIBUTING**. At this address is a two-story, brick commercial building. The building has a flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The storefront was rebuilt c. 2000 and has stone veneer bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and an entrance with aluminum and glass double doors with a transom above. A secondary entrance in the west bay has a c. 2000 paneled wood door which leads to the second story staircase. Across the width of the storefront is a shed roof frame canopy. The upper façade has two window bays with paired windows on stone sills. The window openings are covered with wood panels. Above the windows are soldier and sailor brick courses. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice and concrete stepped parapet. Below the cornice is a name and datestone "C.R. Burgess, 1922." The corner brick pilasters have inset triangular stone panels.

On the N. Coffee Avenue elevation is an original door opening which retains an original Luxfer glass transom. This opening has added single-light windows. At the west bay of the first floor is an entrance with a c. 2000 aluminum and glass door and sidelight and transom. On the second floor are twelve window bays with stone sills and soldier course lintels. The windows have been enclosed with wood panels. At the roofline is a stepped parapet with concrete coping.

W. Franklin Street

- 11. 105-107 W. Franklin Street, c. 1930. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof. The building has two storefronts with c. 1970 glass and aluminum doors and the bulkheads are covered with vinyl panels. Both storefronts retain their original leaded glass transoms, but these are now covered with signage. The upper façade has an exterior of stretcher bond brick and at the roofline is concrete coping.
- 12. 109-115 W. Franklin Street, c. 1930. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a flat roof and concrete foundation. The building has four separate storefronts, all of which have some degree of alterations. The 109 storefront was altered c. 1970 with a glass and aluminum door, brick bulkheads, and added wood pilasters. Both the 109 and 111 storefronts display their original stretcher bond brick exterior with an added wood and vinyl cornice at the roofline. The 111 storefront has a c. 1980 glass and aluminum door, wood panel bulkheads, added display windows, and a wood shed-roof canopy. The 113 storefront was altered c. 2010 with glass and aluminum display windows, a stone veneer exterior, and a large shed-roof canopy supported by wood posts. The 115 storefront has c. 1970 glass and aluminum doors, aluminum and glass display windows, and an upper façade of vinyl siding. A full-width large wood canopy with shed-roof supported by wood posts is across the facade.

N. Jackson Avenue

13. 100-102 N. Jackson Avenue. 1915. **CONTRIBUTING**. This two-story brick commercial building was constructed in 1915 following a fire that destroyed the original building on this site. For many years the building was occupied on the upper floor as the City Hotel and the original hotel rooms remain extant. The building has two storefronts with c. 1940 black Carrera glass panels and glass and aluminum display windows. There are two recessed entrances with single-light glass and aluminum doors and transoms. The building's transom is covered with aluminum panels. A full-width aluminum awning is across the storefront. There are eight window openings in the

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upper façade covered with plywood and these windows have a continuous concrete sill and limestone lintel. Above the lintel are recessed brick panels and at the roofline is a stepped concrete parapet. On the Lawrence Street elevation is a glass and aluminum display window at the corner bay with black Carrera glass. The basement level has windows that are filled in with concrete block. This elevation has an entrance with a glass and wood door. In the middle of this elevation's façade, the mezzanine level windows are small arched design covered in plywood. The upper façade of this elevation has 13 window openings covered in plywood. One window has been altered with a wood panel door that opens to a metal fire escape.

- 14. 101 N. Jackson Avenue. 1899. **CONTRIBUTING**. This building was originally a general store. The building was occupied by the Citizens Bank and Savings Company from 1906 to 1917. This building was enlarged into its present form in 1962 when a new façade was added facing both Jackson and Lawrence Streets. The building then became the home to the First National Bank. This is now a two-story concrete and brick building with a flat roof and exterior of aluminum panels. The original stone veneer bank building at the southeast corner remains extent under the added metal panels. The main (east) façade has a two-story bay with cast concrete panels and an adjacent bay of aluminum panels. The main entrance has c. 1980 aluminum and glass double doors. The storefront was rebuilt c. 1980 with large aluminum and glass fixed windows. Flanking the entrance are rectangular cast concrete columns. Across the width of the building is a c. 1980 glass plexiglass and aluminum canopy supported by aluminum columns. On the Lawrence Street elevation, the stone veneer bank building remains visible beneath the metal panels. The upper facade of this elevation is brick with window openings enclosed with wood panels.
- 15. 103-107 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1940. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building. The storefront has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and two entrances with single-light aluminum and glass doors. Above the doors are rectangular transoms. Above the storefront is a flat roof metal canopy. Metal panels conceal the upper façade. The building has a flat metal roof.
- 16. 104 N. Jackson Avenue. 1915. **CONTRIBUTING**. At this location is a two-story brick commercial building constructed following a fire that burned the original building on this block. The building has a flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The storefront was rebuilt c. 1960 with aluminum paneled bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and two pairs of single-light aluminum and glass doors with rectangular transoms. The storefront has a central iron column. In the north bay of the storefront is an aluminum and glass door which leads to the second-floor staircase. Across the width of the storefront is a c. 1980 flat roof metal canopy. The transom area is concealed beneath added aluminum panels. The upper façade has eight window bays with metal panels concealing the windows. Beneath the windows are rectangular panels with indented bricks. The window openings are arched with brick segmental arches. Above the windows is a full width rectangular panel with indented bricks. Above this panel is brick corbelling. At the roofline is a concrete parapet.
- 17. 108 N. Jackson Avenue. 1915. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a two-story brick commercial building constructed following a fire that burned the original building at this location. The storefront has c. 1970 glass and aluminum display windows resting on a stone and concrete bulkhead. The entrance has a c. 1970 single-light glass and aluminum door with transom. Display windows are glass and aluminum with transoms. The Transom windows are covered with metal panels. The upper façade window opening is covered in wood paneling, but the window retains its original concrete sill. A decorative limestone panel with a cornice and medallions is above the window opening and the side pilasters. Triangle-shapes and diamond-shapes of shadow veined limestone are inset in the pilasters and across the storefront. A full-width aluminum awning is across the storefront.
- 18. 109 N. Jackson Avenue. 1922. **CONTRIBUTING**. The building at this address was one of several on the west side of the street constructed following a fire in 1922. This is a two-story, brick commercial building with an exterior of tan stretcher bond brick. The c. 1980 storefront has display windows of glass and aluminum and wood paneling over the bulkheads. Transom windows are covered with wood panels. The main entrance has a single-light glass and aluminum door. A secondary single-light, glass and aluminum door and transom leads to the second floor. A full-width wood awning covered in asphalt shingles is across the storefront. The window openings in the upper façade have been infilled with multi-light vinyl windows and wood paneling. There is a decorative brick corbelled cornice at the roofline and a concrete date stone "S.B. Hurst 1922."

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- 19. 110 N. Jackson Avenue. 1909. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a two-story, brick commercial building with a flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The storefront was remodeled in 2017 with an added stone veneer and aluminum and glass display windows. The main entrance has a c. 1940 single-light glass and wood door and above the door is a rectangular transom. In the north bay of the building is a c. 1940 single-light glass and wood door with a rectangular transom which leads to the second floor. The second floor has four bays with three window bays with single-light vinyl windows and a retrofitted single-light glass and wood door added in 2017. This door leads to a steel balcony supported by steel posts added in 2017. The windows and door retain original jack arches. Above the windows is a corbelled brick panel and at the roofline is a limestone cornice which replaced an earlier metal cornice. J.N. Abbott, Contractor, Sheffield, AL
- 20. 111 N. Jackson Avenue. 1922. NON-CONTRIBUTING. This building is one of several constructed after the 1922 fire on this block. This is a two-story brick commercial building. The storefront was rebuilt c. 1980 and has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows, and a central entrance with glass and wood double doors. A large frame canopy with asphalt shingles conceals the transom area. The second story has three window bays with original paired one-over-one wood sash windows resting on concrete sills. The windows have added wood surrounds and frame and stucco panels above. At the roofline is a c. 1980 mansard frame cornice. The interior has an added tile floor and acoustical tile ceiling.
- 21. 112-114 N. Jackson Avenue. 1909. **CONTRIBUTING**. At this location is a two-story, brick commercial building with a flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The storefront was remodeled in 2017 with brick veneer bulkheads. The storefront retains original cast iron pilasters manufactured by the Price-Evans Foundry in Chattanooga. The storefront retains c. 1940 aluminum and glass display windows. The storefront has three entrances with 2017 single-light glass and wood doors. The north bay entrance is recessed and is flanked by single-light sidelights. The central entrance leads to a second-floor staircase. Above the storefront is an original multi-light glass and wood transom with opaque glass. Above the transom is an original sheet metal cornice. The second story has six window bays each with paired one-over-one aluminum windows added in 2017. The window bays have stone sills and brick jack arches. The window surrounds have brick quoins. Above and below the windows are inset brick panels in cross shapes. At the roofline is a corbelled brick and sheet metal cornice. J.N. Abbott, Contractor, Sheffield, AL
- 22. 113 N. Jackson Avenue. 1922. **CONTRIBUTING**. This two-story brick commercial building has a flat roof and concrete foundation. The storefront was rebuilt c. 1970 and has metal bulkhead panels, aluminum and glass display windows, and two single-light aluminum and glass doors. Above the doors are single-light transoms. Above the storefront is a shed roof wood canopy with asphalt shingles. The upper façade has an exterior of stretcher bond brick. There are two window bays with paired windows. The windows have been covered with wood panels, but the soldier course lintels and concrete sills are visible. At the roofline is a stepped parapet.
- 23. 115-117 N. Jackson Avenue. 1922. **CONTRIBUTING**. This building was constructed in 1922 following the fire that destroyed most of this block. This is a two-story brick, commercial building with an exterior of stretcher bond wire-brick. The 115 storefront has c. 1960 single-light glass and aluminum display windows and a single-light glass and aluminum door. The display windows rest on Formica panels on the bulkheads. The transom windows are covered with wood. The storefront has a full-width canvas awning. Above the 115 storefront are two window openings which have been covered with wood panels. The windows have soldier course lintels with concrete corner blocks and limestone sills. At the roofline is a stepped parapet and date stone "J.S. Irvin 1922." The 117 storefront was altered c. 1980 with glass and aluminum display windows and brick bulkheads. A full-width wood canopy covered in asphalt shingles is across the storefront. The upper façade window has two, c. 1980 one-over-one aluminum sash windows. The windows have soldier course lintels with concrete corner blocks and limestone sills. There is a stepped parapet at the roofline and a date stone "J.H. McIntosh 1922."
- 24. 116 N. Jackson Avenue. 1909. **CONTRIBUTING**. This building is a two-story brick commercial building with a flat roof. The building retains a storefront added to the building c. 1930. This storefront has display windows with chamfered corners and transoms resting on concrete bulkheads. A stuccoed arch is above the recessed entrance. The main entrance has a c. 1970 single-light glass and aluminum door with an arched transom. A secondary entrance has an original paneled wood door and transom that leads to the second floor. There are decorative awning hooks above the transom on the storefront. The upper façade has four window openings each with original

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one-over-one wood sash windows and transoms. Windows have limestone sills and brick jack arches. Above the windows is a row of corbelled brick and at the roofline is a sheet metal cornice. J.N. Abbott, Contractor, Sheffield, AL

- 25. 118-120 N. Jackson Avenue. 1975. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This building replaced the Lyric Theater at this location when it was destroyed by fire. This is a one-story, brick commercial building with two storefronts. The 118 storefront has glass and aluminum display windows with chamfered corners resting on a stacked stone bulkhead. The recessed entrance has a single-light glass and aluminum door with sidelights and transom. The entry floor has green ceramic tile. The 120 storefront has glass and aluminum display windows with chamfered corners resting on a stacked stone bulkhead. The entrance has double doors of single-light glass and aluminum design with transoms. The entry floor has green ceramic tile.
- 26. 125 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1905. CONTRIBUTING. This two-story brick building has a brick foundation, flat roof and exterior of six-course common bond bricks. The storefront was rebuilt c. 1960 with aluminum and glass display windows. Across the width of the storefront is a flat aluminum awning. Above the awning are Formica panels which conceal the original transom. The second story windows have been enclosed with bricks, but the concrete lintels remain visible. The upper façade has ten window bays. At the roofline is an original sheet metal cornice.
- 27. 127 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1905. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This building was constructed c. 1905 but extensively altered c. 1970. This is a two-story, brick commercial building with a brick foundation and flat roof. The storefront has glass and aluminum display windows and double doors of single-light glass and aluminum design. The upper façade has three window openings filled-in with wood and stucco. The upper façade is of stretcher bond brick with the remnants of an added stucco surface. A full-width canvas awning is across the storefront. The Franklin Street elevation has an entrance which has been bricked in and window openings are enclosed.
- 28. 128 N. Jackson Avenue. 1974. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick veneer and concrete block commercial building. The building was remodeled in 1998 and has brick veneer on the storefront and a concrete surface on the upper façade. The main entrance has a glass and wood door and windows are six-over-six vinyl sash. Across the width of the building is a metal canopy.
- 29. 130 N. Jackson Avenue. 1983. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick and concrete block commercial building. The main façade has a small gable roof entry porch with a concrete floor and brick posts supporting a gabled entrance. The storefront has a single-light central window with flanking vinyl sash windows. The main entrance has a multi-light aluminum and glass door with sidelights.
- 30. 200 N. Jackson Avenue. 1923. **CONTRIBUTING**. This building housed the Tennessee Valley Bank and from 1939 to 1964, it was also the home to the Citizens Bank and Savings Company. This is a two-story, Neo-Classical style building with an exterior of smooth limestone and concrete. The main façade has three bays separated by limestone pilasters with Doric capitals. The central bay entrance has replacement wood doors with Art Deco-style metal grills over textured glass panels. Windows in the first and third bays are c. 1980 glass and aluminum design. Windows in the upper façade are c. 2000 one-over-one vinyl sash. The entablature is highlighted with dentils along the cornice. On the Franklin Street elevation an original central entrance has been enclosed with fixed vertical glass and aluminum windows.
- 31. 202 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1920. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building. The storefront has ca 1960 glass and aluminum display windows with transom windows above. The display windows rest on stuccoed brick bulkheads. The entry has c. 1960 single-light, glass and aluminum doors with a transom above. There building has a terra cotta cornice above the storefront and concrete coping at the roofline.
- 32. 206 N. Jackson Avenue. 1957. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. Built as a gas station, this building was extensively remodeled c. 1980. This is a one-story concrete block commercial building with a standing seam metal gable roof. The main façade has a projecting central wing that has two window openings covered in metal grilles. Below each window is stone veneer set in concrete. The side elevation has a metal security door and two fixed glass and aluminum windows. There are former garage bay wings on each side of the projecting central wing. The garage bays in each wing have been enclosed with fixed glass and aluminum windows with stone and concrete skirt walls.

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- 33. 208 N. Jackson Avenue. 1949. **CONTRIBUTING**. The Roxy Theatre is an Art Moderne style movie theater. The theater is now operated by a non-profit organization. This is a two-story brick building with a concrete foundation. The main (west) façade has an exterior of tan six-course common bond brick with curved corners and horizontal bands of stretcher bond red bricks. The first floor has original tan and brown porcelain panels and a green terrazzo floor. The building has original ticket booths and windows. There are three entrances with original glass and wood doors and the glass is in half-circle panels. The marquee is of steel and glass and is original. Above the marquee is a projecting porcelain and aluminum sign which spells out "Roxy." The upper façade of the central bay has six-course red stretcher bond brick. The south elevation has no windows and a secondary entrance at the southeast corner with a c. 1990 steel door. At the rear of the Roxy Theatre is a c. 1990 non-contributing prefabricated storage building of frame construction. Daniel Construction Company/Contractor.
- 34. 210 N. Jackson Avenue. 1957. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. At this location is a two-story concrete block commercial building built as a gas station. The second story was added in 1991 when the building was converted to a drycleaning business. The main entrance has vertical fixed glass and aluminum windows with a single-light glass and aluminum door. The side elevation of the former service station has two window openings with fixed glass and aluminum windows and a metal panel door. On the main façade the gas station section features original porcelain panels.
- 35. 213 N. Jackson Avenue. 1949, 1957, 1981, 1999. CONTRIBUTING. The First Baptist Church complex is composed of a main sanctuary built in 1957, a chapel built in 1981 (non-contributing), an educational building on the Lauderdale Street elevation built in 1949 and a fellowship hall built on Washington Avenue in 1999 (noncontributing). The sanctuary has a gable roof of asphalt shingles, concrete foundation and exterior of five-course common bond brick. The main (east) façade has three entrance bays with original paneled wood paired doors. Above the entrances are three tall stained-glass window bays set within a limestone surround and divided by limestone piers. This entrance bay projects slightly from the main block of the church. In the gable field is a rectangular stone panel and at the roofline is an octagonal steeple with added vinyl siding. The north elevation facing Lauderdale Street has five window bays divided by brick piers. Four of the bays have paired five-panel stained glass windows with stone sills. The west bay of this elevation has three stained glass windows on the first and second floors. The chapel has a gable roof of asphalt shingles and an octagonal steeple at the roofline. The building has a central entrance with a stained glass and wood door flanked by stained glass windows. In the gable field are stone panels divided by brick piers. Connecting the educational building, the chapel and the sanctuary is a covered walkway supported by brick piers. The educational building has an exterior of stretcher bond brick and a flat roof. The east elevation has three window bays divided by brick piers. Each bay has two, eight-over-eight vinyl sash windows on both floors resting on brick sills. The south elevation of the building also has similar windows on both floors. At the rear of the sanctuary is the original educational building constructed in 1949. It has a flat roof, exterior of six-course common bond brick and a concrete foundation. Windows are paired original, six-over-six wood sash with stone sills and soldier course lintels. Above the second-floor windows is a stone belt course. Entrances have c. 1970 aluminum and glass doors.
- 36. 301 N. Jackson Avenue. 1934. **CONTRIBUTING**. The Russellville U.S. Post Office was completed in 1934 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The post office is a two-story brick Colonial Revival style building. It has a flat roof, exterior of five-course common bond brick and a concrete foundation. The main (east) façade has the primary entrance with original paired aluminum and glass doors and a rectangular transom above. The entrance is flanked by brick pilasters with stone Doric capitals. The entrance is accessed by granite steps and c. 1950 wrought iron railing. Flanking the entrance are also original hexagonal light fixtures. Windows flanking the entrance are original thirty-light steel design with two, six light awning panels. Other windows are six-over-one steel design with wood panels above. On the south elevation is a secondary entrance with a c. 1950 aluminum and glass door and a brick handicapped ramp. Windows on this elevation are thirty-light design. All windows have stone sills and above the windows is a stone belt course. The west elevation has loading dock bay with added wood doors. The interior is largely original, and the lobby has terrazzo floors, wood paneled wainscoting and plaster walls. On one wall is an original WPA mural entitled "Shipment of First Iron Produced," by artist Conrad A. Albrizio. This is one of only twenty-four WPA murals created in Alabama during the Great Depression. Louis Simon/Architect.

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- 37. 303 N. Jackson Avenue. 1957. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, brick commercial building. Originally built as a bank, this is now an office building. The building has a hipped roof of asphalt shingles, an exterior of brick veneer and a concrete foundation. A large window opening on the main façade has eight, one-over-one original aluminum windows. The window opening has a limestone sill. The main entrance has a single-light glass and aluminum door with a transom and sidelights. The façade is separated into two bays by a projecting brick wing wall. The north bay has a large multi-light window with a brick sill. Below the roofline is a large fascia panel of limestone.
- 38. 304 N. Jackson Avenue. 2008. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. The Russellville City Hall is a one-story brick veneer and concrete building. It has a gable roof of metal standing seam, a concrete foundation and exterior of brick veneer. On the main façade is a pedimented entry bay with square columns.
- 39. 308 N. Jackson Avenue. 2002. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick veneer bank building. The building has a gable roof and a front gable roof porch supported by fluted aluminum posts. Four window openings each have multi-light glass and aluminum windows with fixed shutters. The main entrance has a paneled wood door. A drive-thru bay with a fixed window and depository is on the north elevation.
- 40. 310 N. Jackson Avenue. 2012. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. At this location is a one-story, brick veneer commercial building with a concrete foundation, gable roof of asphalt shingles and vinyl sash windows.
- 41. 311 N. Jackson Avenue. 1964, 2009. CONTRIBUTING. The United Methodist Church complex is comprised of a sanctuary built in 1964, an educational wing built in 1964 and a fellowship hall built on Washington Avenue in 2009. The sanctuary and educational wing are connected by an open arcade with brick and tapered concrete columns. The sanctuary has a gambrel roof of copper panels. The main façade has a central bay of limestone panels inset with rectangular stained-glass windows on the lower level and a stained-glass wheel window above. A large stone cross is set within this bay. The rest of this façade is of stretcher bond brick outlined by stone panels. On the north elevation of the sanctuary is a rectangular steeple which contains the main entrance into the church. This entrance has original double doors of wood and glass design and five-light wood sidelights. Windows on the first level are rectangular stained-glass design with stone sills and on the sides of the roof are rectangular stained-glass windows. The steeple has three stained-glass windows on the first floor and louvered vents in the upper level. At the roofline is a concrete cornice and copper steeple and cross. The educational building has a gable asphalt roof, concrete foundation and exterior of five-course common bond brick. The front of the church has all original concrete and brick access ramp with an added metal railing. The educational building has original paired four-light steel casement windows with stone sills and two-light transoms. In the gable field of the main façade is a circular attic window with stone keystones and shoulders. The north elevation of the building has eight window bays of similar windows. There is a basement entrance on this elevation with an original paneled wood door. Second floor windows also have paired four-light steel casement designs but lack transoms. Attached at the rear by a drive-thru brick bay is a twostory brick ministry center built in 2009. The glass wall portico at the rear of the educational wing was built in 2004.
- 42. 400 N. Jackson Avenue. 1967. **CONTRIBUTING**. The Russellville Municipal Building was completed in 1967 to house the police department and municipal court. This is a one-story concrete and steel building with an exterior of brick veneer. The building has a flat roof, concrete foundation and exterior of stretcher bond bricks. The main (west) façade has a central entrance bay with original paired aluminum and glass doors and single light sidelights. Above the entrance and sidelights are rectangular transoms. Above the entrance is a concrete panel. The main façade has seven bays divided by stone piers with pinnacles at the roofline. Windows are original 1/1 rectangular aluminum sash with stone sills. At the roofline is concrete coping. The north elevation has similar bays and an entrance which is recessed and has an original single-light aluminum and glass door, sidelights and transom. A secondary entrance with a single-light glass and wood door is also on this elevation. On the south elevation is an original wood portico used as a drive-thru bay. This portico has original brick columns. This drive-thru bay is no longer in use. This elevation has three recessed entrances with original single-light aluminum and glass doors and rectangular transoms. The rear (east) elevation also has an entrance with an aluminum and glass door. The interior has a terrazzo floor and marble wainscoting in the lobby. Doors are original glass and wood design. The other spaces have linoleum and carpeted floors and dropped acoustical tile ceilings. Martin J. Lite/Architect and W. B. Kimbrough/General Contractor.

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- 43. Major William Russell Monument. c. 1960. **CONTRIBUTING**. On the lawn of the Municipal Building is a limestone monument erected to honor Major William Russell for whom the city is named. This monument consists of a limestone base and steel plaque and is a contributing object to the district.
- 44. 401 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1968. CONTRIBUTING. Built as the City National Bank, this is a one-story concrete building with an exterior of coursed limestone veneer. The main façade has a corner entrance with fixed vertical glass and aluminum windows. The door is original single-light glass and aluminum design with single-light transoms. There are four vertical, curved limestone panels adjacent to the entrance. A limestone planter curves in front of the panels. The cornice is of smooth limestone. The Madison Street elevation has two window openings each with four fixed vertical single-light glass and aluminum windows with transoms. The rear elevation has a recessed entrance with fixed vertical glass and metal windows. There are double doors each of single-light glass and aluminum design. The north elevation has the bank deposit drive-thru with a fixed glass and aluminum window and depository.
- 45. 405 N. Jackson Avenue. c. 1930. CONTRIBUTING. This building served as the city's first telephone office. In 2002, the building was renovated into county offices and an addition constructed at the rear. This is a one-story, stone veneer building with Tudor Revival influences. The building has a gable roof of asphalt shingles, a concrete foundation and exterior or coursed limestone veneer. The main (east) façade has an arched entrance set within a projecting gabled entry bay. The entrance has a c. 2002 glass and aluminum door with an original multi-light arched transom above. Windows are c. 2002 six-over-six vinyl sash design. At the eaves are gable returns. The rear addition is also of coursed limestone and this addition has similar windows and a metal security door.
- 46. 410 N. Jackson Avenue. 1954-55. CONTRIBUTING. At this location is the Franklin County Courthouse completed in 1955 although its cornerstone was laid in 1954. This courthouse replaced the 1890 courthouse on the same site which burned in January of 1953. This building has a flat asphalt roof, an exterior of smooth limestone panels and a concrete foundation. The building has a full basement. On the main (west) façade is a five-bay projecting portico with each bay divided by limestone piers. The central bay contains the main entrance which has original single-light aluminum and glass doors and a rectangular transom. Above the entrance on the second floor is a metal grille and clock. In the ceiling of the portico bays are metal grilles with light fixtures. Windows are original one-over-one aluminum sash design. Between the windows in the portico are rectangular stone spandrels. Flanking the portico bay are three window bays with marble spandrels inset with circular aluminum medallions inscribed with an eagle figure and the words "Liberty" and "Justice". Below the roofline is a stone fascia panel with aluminum inset stars. At the roofline is a stone cornice. The north elevation has an entrance on the first floor with an original single-light glass and aluminum door and rectangular transom. Over this entrance is a flat roof stone canopy with concrete scroll brackets. Windows on this elevation have marble spandrels. The south elevation of the courthouse has a similar design to the north. The building has several concrete stairs which lead to the basement level. The basement has a sunken light well on the three primary elevations and this light well has a steel railing. The courthouse interior has original terrazzo floors and dropped acoustical tile ceilings. The lobby has marble walls and two staircases which connect with the second floor. The hallways have marble wainscoting panels and plaster walls above. Interior doors are original solid wood design. The interior of the annex was remodeled in 1983. The courtroom has linoleum floors and plaster walls. Johnston and Jones, Starkville, MS/Architect and Craig and Baskerville/Contractors

The courthouse lawn has two memorials, which are included as contributing objects to the historic district:

- 47. Confederate Monument CONTRIBUTING. The Confederate Monument was erected by the John W. Harris Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy on January 28, 1910 at a cost of \$1,500. Originally located at the intersection of Jackson Avenue and Franklin Street, the monument was damaged by a motorist and it was then repaired and moved to the courthouse lawn.
- 48. Franklin County War Dead Monument CONTRIBUTING. This monument was erected c. 1955 and consists of a limestone base and steel plaque which commemorates county residents who died in World War I, World War II and the Korean War. A second steel plaque was added c. 1980 to commemorate those who died in the Vietnam War.
- 49. Courthouse Annex. 1937. CONTRIBUTING. At the rear is a two-story brick annex which was built by the WPA. The building has a concrete foundation and exterior of stretcher bond bricks. On the north elevation is an entrance

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with c. 1980 aluminum and glass double doors and a flat wood canopy. Windows are paired one-over-one c. 1980 anodized aluminum with brick sills. This building has a hipped roof of asphalt shingles. The north elevation also has a c. 1990 brick, concrete, and metal handicapped ramp.

S. Jackson Avenue

- 50. 102-106 S. Jackson Avenue. 1901. CONTRIBUTING. The corner building at 102 N. Jackson Ave. was built as the Dearing-Orman Store. This company then erected the adjacent buildings at 104-106 S. Jackson Ave. in 1918 and combined all three buildings into one large department store and the main façade was unified with a stucco exterior scored to look like stone. It is a two story, brick commercial building with an exterior of stucco scored to resemble stone and three separate storefronts. The 102 storefront has a chamfered corner entrance with a c. 1980 aluminum and glass door and sidelights with transoms above. Transom windows have been covered with plywood. Openings for the display windows have been enclosed with brick and multi-light glass and vinyl windows. The brick below the replacement windows rests on a cast iron sill manufactured by Chickasaw Iron Works of Memphis, Tennessee. The stuccoed columns at the entrance and those on the storefront that rest on the cast iron sill may cover original cast iron columns. Upper floor windows are original one-over-one wood sash. The Lawrence Street elevation has original one-over-one wood sash windows on the upper façade as well as single-light windows on the mezzanine level. On the first floor are two c. 1990 steel security doors. The 104 storefront was rebuilt c. 1970 and has brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass display windows and a central entrance with paired aluminum and glass doors, sidelights, and transom. The transom above the storefront has added vinyl panels and signage. On the second floor are nine window bays each with c. 1980 single-light, fixed aluminum windows with stone sills. The 106 storefront was remodeled c. 1940 and has a recessed entrance with c. 2000 aluminum and glass doors, and a rectangular transom above. The bulkheads and surround are of black Carrara glass. The display windows are aluminum and glass design. Above the storefront is a wood panel and three-light rectangular transom. On the upper façade are three window bays with c. 1980 single-light, fixed aluminum windows with stone sills. At the roofline across the width of the building is stone and metal coping.
- 51. 103 S. Jackson Avenue. 1991. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, brick veneer gas station. This building replaced an earlier gas station at this location. Display windows are single-light glass and aluminum. Centrally located entrance doors are single-light glass and aluminum design. A metal, flat roof canopy supported by brick columns covers the station building and gas pumps.
- 52. 105 S. Jackson Avenue. 1964. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a two-story, brick office building. The building has a gable roof of asphalt shingles, a concrete foundation and exterior of stretcher bond brick. The first floor of the main (east) façade has single-light glass and aluminum display windows resting on brick bulkhead. The entrance to the first floor has an original single-light glass and aluminum door and there is a similar entrance leading to the second floor. The upper façade has original two-over-two horizontal sash aluminum windows. A full-width standing seam metal awning is across the façade.
- 53. 108 S. Jackson Avenue. c. 1930. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The storefront has a c. 1960 single-light glass and aluminum display window with an aluminum bulkhead. The entrance has a c. 1960 single-light glass and aluminum door. There is a three-light glass and aluminum transom above the display window and entrance. The upper façade is of stretcher bond brick with a recessed corbelled brick panel. At the roofline is concrete coping.
- 54. 110-112 S. Jackson Avenue. 1928. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, brick veneer commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The building has two separate storefronts and each storefront has original display windows, glass and wood single-light glass double doors, transoms with twelve panes of opaque glass, and brick bulkheads. The upper façade is composed of stretcher bond brick with recessed corbelled brick panels. At the roofline is concrete coping and a limestone date stone inscribed "Robert Devaney 1928."
- 55. 111-115 S. Jackson Avenue. c. 1945. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story concrete and brick veneer commercial building. It has a flat roof, concrete foundation and exterior of limestone panels and brick veneer. The building has three storefronts—the 111 storefront has original aluminum and glass double doors and transom flanked by large sidelights. The 113 storefront has an original single-light aluminum and glass door, rectangular

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transom and brick bulkhead. The 115 storefront also has an original single-light aluminum and glass door, rectangular transom and brick bulkhead. Above the storefronts is a surface of added vinyl panels. The central storefront section is slightly recessed from the corner limestone panel sections. The north elevation facing the alley is of six-course common bond brick.

56. 117 S. Jackson Avenue. c. 1965. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, commercial building with a flat roof and concrete foundation. The storefront has large aluminum and glass display windows resting on aluminum sills, an original single-light aluminum and glass door and rectangular transom above. Above the storefront is a frame shed canopy with asphalt shingles.

E. Lawrence Street

- 57. 104 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1925. **CONTRIBUTING**. At this address is a one-story, brick commercial building. The storefront has c. 1960 glass and aluminum display windows. The entrance has single-light glass and aluminum double doors with a transom above the doors. The storefront transoms have been enclosed with brick. The upper façade is of stretcher bond brick. There is an added metal cornice above the windows.
- 58. 106 E. Lawrence Street. 1973. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story metal and concrete commercial building composed of two sections. The west section has an exterior of Masonite while the east section is covered with vinyl siding. There is a full-width corrugated metal awning across the front of the building.
- 59. Rear of 106 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1940. **CONTRIBUTING**. At the rear of this lot and facing the alley between Jackson and Coffee Avenues is a one-story, concrete block warehouse. The building has a concrete block foundation, gable roof of asphalt shingles and exterior of concrete block. The main (west) façade has a central entrance with a c. 1970 steel door. There are three other entrances with solid wood and steel doors. Two window openings have been enclosed with concrete block and vinyl sash windows. At the roofline is a stepped parapet wall with terra cotta coping.
- 60. 108 E. Lawrence Street. 1973. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story, concrete block commercial building. The storefront has wood panels and small display windows on wood panel bulkheads. The entrance has a glass and wood door. Above the storefront is a standing seam metal and wood canopy supported by wood brackets. To the rear of 108 E. Lawrence St. is a c. 1980 non-contributing metal garage with a gable metal roof, exterior of metal panels, and an overhead track metal garage door.
- 61. 109 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1925. **CONTRIBUTING**. At this address is a one-story, brick veneer commercial building with a flat roof. The storefront has a c. 1960 glass and aluminum door, display windows on brick bulkheads, and a three-light transom with a wood lintel. The upper façade has an exterior of stretcher bond brick. There is a flat roof metal and wood canopy across the storefront.
- 62. 110 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1900. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. The building at this location was originally used as a warehouse for various companies. The building was extensively remodeled into its present use as the city library c. 2000. The building has a gable roof of asphalt singles, exterior of six-course common bond brick, and a brick foundation. The main (south) façade was remodeled c. 2000 with aluminum and glass display windows and glass and aluminum doors.
- 63. 111 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1925. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. The storefront has c. 1970 glass and aluminum windows, a glass and aluminum door, and painted transoms with soldier course lintels. The upper façade is of common bond brick with a flat parapet wall. A full-width barrel arch canvas awning is across the storefront.
- 64. 113 E. Lawrence Street. c. 1925. **NON-CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick commercial building with a concrete foundation and flat roof. This building was substantially remodeled in 2010 with a glass and aluminum storefront, a shed-roof canopy with metal roof, and aluminum panels in the upper façade.

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W. Limestone Street

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65. 101 W. Limestone Street. c. 1965. **CONTRIBUTING**. This is a one-story brick veneer and concrete building built by Bell Telephone as the city's telephone exchange. It has a concrete foundation, flat roof and exterior of stretcher bond brick veneer. On the main (east) façade is a projecting rectangular wing with an exterior of limestone panels. On the north elevation of this wing is a recessed entrance with a c. 2000 steel door and rectangular transom above. There is no other fenestration on the north and south elevations and these elevations are divided by single-course recessed brick indentations. On the west elevation is a c. 2000 steel door. At the roofline is metal coping.

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8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria: (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the	e criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)
X A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contri	bution 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 no or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinction.	·
D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in pref	nistory 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	ars
Areas of Significance: (enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE	
COMMERCE	
GOVERNMENT ENTERTAINMENT	
Period of Significance:	
c. 1899-1968	
Significant Dates:	
Significant Person: (complete only if Criterion B is marked above)	
Cultural Affiliation:	
Architect / Builder: J.N. Abbott/ Contractor, Sheffield, AL	

Daniel Construction Company / Contractor

W.B. Kimbrough / General Contractor
Johnston and Jones / Architect, Starkville, MS

Craig and Baskerville / Contractors

Louis Simon / Architect
Martin J. Lite / Architect

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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.)

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The Russellville Commercial Historic District in Franklin County, Alabama, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance in commerce, government, religion and entertainment and Criterion C for local significance in architecture. Under Criterion A the district is significant as the commercial center of Russellville until the mid-20th century. The oldest commercial buildings remaining in the district were built in the late 19th century and housed several businesses such as department stores, banks, drug stores, hardware stores and attorney's offices. Most of the commercial buildings in the district were built in the early 1900s and 1922 following a series of destructive fires. The district contains the Russellville Municipal Building, U.S. Post Office and Franklin County Courthouse which are the most important local buildings of the city, county and federal governments. The district has always been the home to the city's largest Methodist and Baptist churches and they continue to have a major presence in the downtown area. The district also contains the Roxy Theatre, a restored Art Moderne entertainment facility built in 1949. Under Criterion C the district contains the largest contiguous collection of pre-1968 commercial architecture in the city and reflects typical One-Part and Two-Part commercial building forms of the early 20th century. The Russellville Commercial Historic District's period of significance extends from 1899 which is the date of the oldest building in the district, to 1968, when the last significant building of fifty years or more was completed. These buildings reflect their original uses as commercial enterprises and illustrate Russellville's growing influence in terms of commerce.

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

Criterion A: Commerce

One of Franklin County's oldest towns, Russellville developed as a commercial center in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the 1880s, the town had only three stores—Wilson and Company, J. Nance, and A. W. McIntosh. With the completion of the railroad in 1886 and the increase in mining operations, many new businesses were opened in the community by the early 1900s. By the first quarter of the twentieth century, dozens of stores were present, including department stores, groceries, drug stores, and furniture stores. Multiple cafes and lunch stands were also established in the town, as well as hotels, a newspaper and printing plant. By this time, lights and sewer systems were being modernized and roads and sidewalks improved.

The Jackson Highway, the "Great South Way," and the Morgan Highway all traversed the area and brought new people and businesses to Russellville. Dearing & Orman's cash and barter store first opened in 1893 as a one-story brick establishment at the corner of Jackson Avenue and Lawrence Street, but eventually outgrew the space and constructed a two-story house with galleries on the same corner in 1901. The store once again needed more space, and in 1918 the company expanded to the south with a new two-story, 35,000ft department store. The business's success allowed it to branch out to offer a range of goods from clothing to furniture, in addition to its original stock of hardware and groceries. Many other mercantile stores were built in the 100 block of N. Jackson Avenue which was the commercial center of the community. By 1890, Russellville's population stood at 920 residents.

Russellville's rapid growth continued over the next several decades. In 1900, the population had grown to 1,602 and many new two-story, brick mercantile buildings were built on Jackson Avenue. In 1901, the Dearing & Orman Company built a two-story brick building at the southeast corner of Jackson Avenue and Lawrence Street and the two-story, brick Douglass Building was completed at the northeast corner. A fire on the east side of the street destroyed the Freeman Hotel and several buildings in 1908, but these lots were cleared and several new two-story brick buildings were completed soon after.

In 1910, Russellville's population had grown to 2,046 residents and the Sanborn insurance map of the same year showed a solid row of brick buildings on both sides of the 100 block of Jackson Avenue. Another fire in 1915 resulted in the loss and rebuilding of the Douglass Building as well as several adjacent stores on Jackson Avenue and Lawrence Street. The Dearing & Orman Company expanded their building with a large two-story brick addition on S. Jackson Avenue in 1918 becoming the largest department store in the city. Instead of just grocery and hardware, the new building was equipped with a range of goods from clothing to furniture. A mezzanine floor welcomed customers, and a room with mirrors and chairs was offered for shoppers needing a rest. A stairway and elevator provided access to the stock kept on the upper floor. Opening day was May 14, 1919, and the company celebrated with a reception and open house.

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Russellville's first bank was the Franklin County Bank which opened in 1892. The Citizens Bank & Savings Company, established in 1906, was located at 101 N. Jackson Ave until 1917 and 200 N. Jackson Avenue for two decades afterwards. This bank was the only financial institution to remain open throughout the Great Depression due to its reputation for sound financial practices. The Citizens Bank & Savings Company merged with the Tennessee Valley Bank in 1939. The Tennessee Valley Bank was established in 1923 and was originally located at 200 N. Jackson Avenue which became the headquarters of the merged institution in 1939. Another bank was built in 1957 at 303 N. Jackson Avenue, but presently houses offices. The City National Bank was built ca. 1968 at 401 N. Jackson Avenue. Several hotels were also in operation downtown in the early 20th century including the City Hotel constructed in 1915 at 100-102 N. Jackson Avenue and the Hill Hotel built in 1922 at 108-110 Franklin St, NE.

The stock market crash of 1929 and the onset of the Great Depression caused several businesses and banks to close in the 1930s. Except for the post office, little new construction occurred downtown until after World War II. Following the war, the city's population almost doubled from 3,146 to 6,012 residents as small industries expanded in the community. The Rockwood-Alabama Stone Company, Alabama Mills Inc. and several cotton gin companies provided employment for hundreds of workers in the region. Russellville's post-war prosperity was demonstrated with the construction of the Roxy Theatre, a notable example of the Art Moderne style, in 1949. Built by the Rockwood Amusement Company, the building cost \$200,000 with a seating capacity of 825 patrons. An air conditioning system was installed to cool the building and the interior featured lounges on both sides with access to balcony seating and the inner lobby. The Roxy opened to the public on September 15, 1949.²

During the 1950s and early 1960s, several new commercial buildings were constructed along Jackson Avenue. Several of these were designed with large glass storefronts and contained financial businesses such as saving and loan companies. The downtown area continued to be the city's center for commerce until the late 20th century when the construction of the U.S. Highway 43 by-pass led to the construction of many new businesses on this highway east of downtown.

Criterion A: Government

Russellville, one of the oldest political units in Alabama, was incorporated as the county seat of Franklin County on November 27, 1819. A treaty with Chickasaw Indians later extended the boundaries of the county to the Mississippi state line. Russellville transitioned to a mayor and city council government after 1887. The town was the county seat intermittently during the county's early history and has remained so since 1891. Prior to the construction of the courthouse, sessions were reportedly held in the streets, with law books resting on stumps. The first courthouse, at 410 N. Jackson Avenue and built of logs, burned to the ground in 1890. A second building was constructed at the corner of Limestone and Jackson Streets in 1892. This second courthouse was the setting of many nationally-known cases, including one double homicide case that resulted in a hanging in the old jail. In 1953, the building burned, and another courthouse was constructed the following year on the same site. Completed in 1955, this building continues to serve as the county courthouse.

The federal government is represented in the historic district by the U.S. Post Office on N. Jackson Avenue. Funded as part of the New Deal, Reiling & Dietzen Contractors were hired to build the Russellville Post Office, with Charles J. Davis Jr. as the construction engineer. The cornerstone for this building was laid in 1934 and it was completed the following year. The newly created Section of Painting and Sculpture department, under the U.S. Treasury Department, recognized Russellville as a small farming town whose citizens would likely never get to see great works of art in person. Like other New Deal buildings during the Depression, the Post Office was selected to commission an artist to paint a mural inside. Edward B. Bruce, the head of the new department, commissioned Conrad Albrizio, a well-known American fresco artist from New York and member of the Louisiana State University Art Department faculty, to travel to the city in June of 1937. Albrizio met with Dr. John M. Clark, a dentist and local historian, and learned about the history of the Cedar Creek Furnace, established in 1818. The two men had disagreements over what should be highlighted in the mural; Dr. Clark favored the iron works, while Albrizio leaned towards showcasing the limestone quarry. Dr. Clark rallied his congressman, the Speaker of the House, and several civic organizations to echo his concerns, and a compromise was eventually found. Albrizio agreed to focus on the beehive furnace and completed his mural, "Shipment of First Iron Produced in Russellville," in 1938.³

² "Roxy Theatre Opening Thursday night At 7 'P. M.," Franklin County Times, September 15, 1949.

³ Wood, Willie Jo, "History, Art, and a Post Office Wall," *Source Magazine*, April/May 1992, 5-7; "Nationally Known American Artist Is To Paint P. O. Mural," *Franklin County Times*, December 16, 1937; Robert Mitchell, "The Battle of the Beehive Furnace Mural: Russellville, Alabama," *Alabama Heritage*, 29-37.

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On the local level the district contains the Russellville Municipal Building which was built in 1967 for the police department and municipal court. A ca. 1960 limestone monument honoring Major William Russell is on the lawn and is considered a contributing object to the district. The current Russellville City Hall was built in 2008 at 304 N. Jackson Avenue.

Criterion A: Recreation and Culture

The downtown area has provided entertainment to Russellville's citizens since the late nineteenth century. In 1892, the Farmers Alliance, a cooperative group, established the city's first "theatre" at a hall between Lawrence and Franklin Streets. This theatre, on the east side of Carroll Street, projected "flickers" on a bed sheet tacked to the wall. An Opera House opened in an upstairs building in 1906, where a movie was shown each week night. Vaudeville acts performed on the stage when movies were not shown on the screen, but the opening of a theatre on the east side of Jackson Street marked the end of this enterprise. The new theatre admitted school children to matinee "Egg Shows" for the price of two eggs. The Lyric Theatre was built in 1914 for B.F. Keith's Vaudeville circuit at 118-120 N. Jackson Avenue. The Lyric was destroyed in a fire, and in 1975 a new building was constructed on its site, a one-story brick commercial building with two storefronts.

The Roxy, Russellville's premier theatre, was constructed with the assistance of Lyric Theater owners, the Rockwood Amusement Company. The Roxy Theatre was completed in 1949 with Egyptian design elements, streamlining throughout and on the front façade, and the latest conveniences of the time. The building boasted lounges on both sides with access to balcony seating and the inner lobby, a sound-proof "crying" room for mothers and young children, and natural woodwork and modern carpeting. The original marquee of steel and glass remains, above which is a projecting porcelain and aluminum sign which spells out "Roxy." The theater cost over \$200,000 to build and was able to seat 825. The seven-day theatre showed nightly movies and a daily matinee, as well as a Sunday night show. The Roxy closed in November of 1971 and the building remained vacant for many years. In recent decades the building was restored and is operated as a music and theater venue by a local non-profit organization.

Criterion C: Architecture

The buildings within the Russellville Commercial Historic District reflect both vernacular and high-style buildings constructed primarily in the twentieth century. Many of the commercial buildings along Jackson Avenue are one- and two-part buildings displaying elements of the Italianate style in their rounded arch or rectangular windows and sheet metal cornices. During the 1910s and 1920s, the new commercial buildings were generally more restrained in their decoration with stepped parapets at the roofline, rectangular windows and detailing limited to inset brick or concrete panels or belt courses (Photos 14-17). Several buildings were also designed in high-styles of the period such as the Neo-classical design for the Citizens Bank & Savings Company built in 1923 (Photo 19) and the Art Moderne Roxy Theatre in 1949 (Photo 20). Another notable design is the U.S. Post Office which was begun in 1934 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The post office is a two-story brick Colonial Revival style building with a flat roof, exterior of five-course common bond brick, and a concrete foundation (Photo 21).

The district's architectural significance extends into the mid-twentieth century. The Franklin County Courthouse completed in 1954 is a notable example of streamlined classicism which was popular for public buildings after World War II. The building features full-height pilasters on the main façade and classical detailing at the roofline (Photo 24). The 1962 remodeling of 101 N. Jackson Avenue into the First National Bank featured the application of a limestone façade and aluminum panels of Mid-Century Modern design. Similarly, the Mid-Century design for the City National Bank, built ca. 1968 at 401 N. Jackson Avenue, features an exterior of coursed limestone veneer, a corner entrance with fixed vertical glass and aluminum windows and vertical, curved limestone panels adjacent to the entrance (Photo 23). During these decades the First Baptist Church and the First Methodist Church also built new sanctuaries reflecting the modernist trends of the period (Photos 18 and 22).

The architectural legacy of the commercial district represents the city's rapid growth at the turn of the twentieth century and well as its development in later decades. As the population grew, the town center expanded from Lawrence and Franklin streets and Washington and Jackson avenues. These and surrounding streets feature the city's most significant commercial, religious and governmental buildings.

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Historical Overview

Originally known as Russell's Valley, Russellville is in the northwestern portion of Alabama. Incorporated in 1819, three weeks prior to Alabama becoming a state, it is the county seat of Franklin County, which was formed in 1818 from the Cherokee and Chickasaw Cession of 1816 and named for Benjamin Franklin.

The town sprang up at the crossroads of two early nineteenth-century travel routes, Gaines Trace (ca. 1807) and Jackson's Military Road (begun in 1817 and completed in 1820). Gaines Trace, named for its surveyor Edmund Pendleton Gaines, was a route built in the early nineteenth century in the Mississippi Territory, extending from the Tennessee River to the Tombigbee River. Jackson Avenue approximates the route of Jackson's Military Road and a portion of Lawrence Street follows the route of Gaines Trace.

Jackson's Military Road was named for Andrew Jackson who advocated for its construction after the War of 1812 for purposes of national defense and territorial settlement. At completion in 1820 it was 516 miles long, extending from Columbia, Tennessee, to New Orleans.⁴ Russellville is named for Major William Russell, one of the area's early settlers and a founder of the city, who served as a scout for Jackson during the Creek War of 1813-1814 and participated in the road's construction.⁵ Initially this road fostered settlement and economic development of towns along its route, including Russellville, but the increasing use of steamboats and a lack of government funding for the road's upkeep shifted economic and population centers to towns with river access.

Russellville's original deeds indicate that five men were given the land grant from the United States Land Office in Huntsville. Russellville was to be laid out five blocks east and west, and nine blocks north and south. These men were David Moore, Anthony Winston, Brick M. Garner, George Martin, and Richard Ellis, trustees of the Russellville Land Company. The north and south streets were named for the following Army Generals: Carroll, Coffee, Jackson, Washington, Green, and Gaines. The east and west streets were named for the following counties in the Alabama Territory: St. Clair, Tuscaloosa, Marion, Montgomery, Lawrence, Franklin, Lauderdale, Madison, Limestone, and Cotaco.⁶ A November 6, 1818 newspaper article advertised that the public sale of Russellville lots would take place on the third Friday and Saturday of December 1818. The total price paid for this land from the government in 1818 was \$9,640.33.⁷ A cemetery near Sloss Lake marked the site of the pioneer cabins in the late twentieth century.⁸

Russellville was originally laid out with a public square at the center. Today, that block is bounded by Lawrence and Franklin Streets, and Washington and Jackson Avenues. It was chosen as the county seat in 1820, and the first courthouse and jail were reportedly built of logs. However, Russellville lost its county-seat status in 1849, when it was supplanted by a more centrally located spot, where a town named Frankfort was subsequently platted. In 1879 the county seat was moved again to Belgreen, where the wood frame courthouse and all its records, were destroyed by a fire in 1890. After county lines were reconfigured in the late nineteenth century, dividing the large county into two smaller counties, Franklin and Colbert, Russellville became the more central town in Franklin County and was reinstated as the county seat in 1891. A new three-story courthouse of brick was constructed in 1892, which had a bell tower and four-sided clock.

⁴ Carolyn M. Barske, "Jackson's Military Road," *Encyclopedia of Alabama*, accessed January 19, 2018, encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-3818.

⁵ Claire M. Wilson, "Russellville," *Encyclopedia of Alabama*, accessed January 19, 2018, encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-2927; "Alabama Counties: Franklin County," accessed January 19, 2018, archive.state.al.us/counties/franklin.html.

⁶ "Northwest Alabama, Days of Yore," Vol. 1, published by the Area Agency on Ageing, Bicentennial Memorabilia, Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments. 1976-1978.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ "Our History," accessed January 19, 2018, franklincounty.al.org/our-history.html.

¹⁰ "Rich and Beautiful: A Rich History," accessed January 19, 2018, franklincountychamber.org/live-work/about-

us.

¹¹ "Alabama Counties: Franklin County," accessed January 19, 2018, archive.state.al.us/counties/franklin.html.

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Russellville's jail and log courthouse were the first buildings established in the Public Square in 1818. Henry Hurst was the first contractor for the courthouse, which remained in Russellville until 1849. Russellville was a small community during much of the nineteenth century and had a population of only 186 residents in 1880. In 1884, Russellville was described as containing only three general stores and no industries such as cotton or grain mills. During these years the economy of Russellville relied on the agriculture of the region as well as employment in the county's iron and limestone industries. Dating to 1818, the Alabama Iron Works, also known as the Cedar Creek Furnace, was the first iron ore works in the state and was an important industry during this period. The expansion of the limestone and iron industries as well as the commercial development of Russellville was stimulated in 1886 with the construction of the Northern Alabama Railway through the county. By 1890, Russellville's population increased from less than two hundred to 920 residents. Many new dwellings and commercial buildings were constructed in the city as well as a new Franklin County courthouse on Jackson Avenue, completed in 1892.

Speaking to this growth, Russellville saw the emergence of its two most prominent churches. The Baptist and Methodists have been a significant part of Russellville's religious community. The prominent location of these churches shows the importance of these Protestant faiths in the civic community of Russellville. The First Baptist Church at 213 N. Jackson Avenue was built as the result of a land donation in 1874. A new facility was constructed in 1918, and the church continued improving and expanding into at least the end of the twentieth century. The educational building facing Lauderdale Street was built in 1949 and the church's present sanctuary was built in 1957. A chapel was built in 1981, and in 1999 a fellowship hall was built on Washington Avenue.

The United Methodist Church at 311 N. Jackson Avenue, established in 1880, was the successor of the Methodist Church, Jones Chapel, which formed sometime before 1822 outside of Russellville. The Methodist Church on Jackson Avenue was initially a small white frame building with a tall steeple and bell tower. In 1904, the building was replaced by a much larger brick structure. A parsonage was soon built next door to the site but was sold in the 1950s and relocated to North Gaines Avenue to make room for new additions. An educational annex was added in 1950-1951, and the church purchased another house on W. Limestone Street for expansion. The First Methodist Church replaced the 1904 building in 1964, but it retained the stained-glass windows of the prior structure. The church's sanctuary and educational wing were both completed in 1964. A glass wall portico at the rear of the educational building was added in 2004. A two-story brick ministry center was established in 2009, as was a fellowship hall on Washington Avenue. The frequent expansion of these churches illustrates the growth in Russellville during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Russellville's rapid growth continued over the next several decades. In 1900, the population had grown to 1,602 and by 1910 the city recorded 2,046 residents. By 1920, Russellville was the region's center of commerce and boasted twelve clothing stores, fifteen grocery stores, three banking institutions, three furniture stores, three hardware stores, three hotels, and two cotton gins. Another major fire occurred in September of 1921 which destroyed several buildings on the west side of the 100 block of N. Jackson Avenue. Once again, the owners cleared the lots and rebuilt this block with new buildings in 1922. Another addition to the commercial district was the erection of the Tennessee Valley Bank in 1923 at 200 N. Jackson Avenue. Built with classical detailing, this building featured full-height Doric pilasters on the main façade. This bank later merged with the Citizens Bank and Savings Company in 1939. Also built in the early 1920s were the Hill Hotel on Franklin Street and a two-story brick mercantile building at the northwest corner of Franklin Street and Coffee Avenue.

Except for the post office, little new construction occurred downtown until after World War II. Following the war, the city's population almost doubled from 3,146 to 6,012 residents as small industries expanded in the community. The Rockwood-Alabama Stone Company, Alabama Mills Inc. and several cotton gin companies provided employment for hundreds of workers in the region. Russellville's post-war prosperity was demonstrated with the construction of the Roxy Theatre, a notable example of the Art Moderne style, in 1949. Built by the Rockwood Amusement Company, the building cost \$200,000 with a seating capacity of 825 patrons. An air conditioning system was installed to cool the building and the interior featured lounges on both sides with access to balcony seating and the inner lobby. The Roxy opened to the public on September 15, 1949. The Roxy opened to the public on September 15, 1949.

^{12 &}quot;History of Russellville," Manuscript on file with the Franklin County Archives, Russellville, Alabama.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Buford Parker, "Early History of Citizens Bank of Russellville: 1906—Celebrating its 90th Anniversary—1996," *The Source Historical and Adventure*, Spring 1996, 26-27.

¹⁵ "Roxy Theatre Opening Thursday night At 7 'P. M.," *Franklin County Times*, September 15, 1949.

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The decades of the 1950s and 1960s continued to be a period of growth and development in the community. From 1950 to 1970, Russellville's population rose from 6,012 residents to 7,814. Most of this residential growth took place in new subdivisions which were platted and developed in the areas primarily north and west of downtown. The most significant construction project in downtown in this period was the rebuilding of the 1892 Franklin County Courthouse which burned on January 12, 1953. The building was a total loss although the rear annex wing built in 1937 was saved. Over the next year the architectural firm of Johnston and Jones of Starkville, Mississippi was selected to design the new courthouse and it was completed and formally opened on March 20, 1955. The building is an example of streamlined classicism and displays Doric pilasters on the main façade. The exterior of the building was clad in native limestone. The bell from the 1892 courthouse was salvaged and displayed on the north side of the building. The stream of the suilding.

Other major construction projects in these decades were the new sanctuaries of the First Methodist and First Baptist Churches on N. Jackson Avenue. The Baptist congregation constructed a brick church on the street in 1909 which included an auditorium, Sunday School building and pastor's study. As the congregation grew, the need for a new sanctuary became evident and the 1909 church was razed and replaced with a new building in 1957. This new complex consisted of a sanctuary, education building, and pastorium facing N. Jackson Avenue. The church later expanded with new buildings facing N. Washington Avenue including a 1981 Memorial Chapel and a 1999 Fellowship Building. ¹⁸ One block to the north the Methodist congregation also replaced an earlier brick church with a new sanctuary in 1964. This building was designed with a gambrel roof and was designed with a large educational wing and additions facing N. Washington Avenue.

These decades also witnessed the construction of new buildings reflecting Mid-Century modern commercial designs. These include the brick office building at 303 N. Jackson Avenue built in 1957 and the one-story, stone veneer office building at 117 S. Jackson Avenue which displays a large plate glass storefront. The First National Bank remodeled their 1899 bank building at 101 N. Jackson Avenue in 1962 with large limestone panels and an aluminum grille on the main façade. Another notable addition to the street was the City National Bank at 401 N. Jackson Avenue completed ca. 1968. This building was also of native limestone veneer with large stone panels and a plate glass storefront on the main façade. Several buildings also had their original storefronts removed and replaced during these decades.

After 1970, the construction of the U.S. Highway 43 bypass east of downtown resulted in the closing of several businesses and their relocation to the busier bypass location. The Roxy Theatre closed in November of 1971 and a fire in 1974 destroyed the Lyric Theater on N. Jackson Avenue. Despite these closures and losses the downtown commercial district continued to provide specialty shops, banks, and governmental services to Russellville's citizens. In recent decades the preservation and rehabilitation of downtown buildings has become a priority of property owners and the city government. The Roxy Theatre was reopened and restored as a music venue and several buildings in the 100 block of N. Jackson Avenue have been rehabilitated with apartments on the upper floors. The downtown commercial district continues to be a vibrant business, governmental and entertainment center and retains much of its integrity from its construction era of the early- to mid- twentieth century.

¹⁶ "New Courthouse to be Opened Sunday, Franklin County Citizen-Times, March 17, 1955.

¹⁷ "Our History," accessed January 19, 2018, franklincounty.al.org/our-history.html.

¹⁸ "History of Russellville," Manuscript on file with the Franklin County Archives, Russellville, Alabama.

¹⁹ "Movie Theatre Closes: Another Golden Era Passes in City," *Franklin County Times*, November 18, 1971.

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Wood, Willie Jo. "History, Art, and a Post Office Wall." Source Magazine. April/May 1992

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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:

National Park Service / Nation NPS Form 10-900	onal Register of Historic Places Registration	Form	OMB No. 1024-0018			
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Name of Property			County and State			
Local government						
University						
Other						
Name of repository	/:					
Historic Resources	Survey Number (if assigned):					
10. Geographical Data	a					
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Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

United States Department of the Interior

The boundary for the Russellville Commercial Historic district is bounded by Limestone Street on the north, N. Washington Avenue on the west, lot lines on the south along S. Jackson Avenue and N. Coffee Avenue on the east. The boundary lines are shown on the maps, Figure 4 and Figure 5, pages 30 and 31.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary for the Russellville Commercial Historic District is drawn to include the largest number of contiguous commercial, religious, and governmental buildings built prior to 1968 retaining integrity in the downtown area of the city. To the north of the boundary are primarily residential buildings and a few altered or post-1968 commercial buildings. To the east of the boundary are several altered commercial and warehouse buildings and residential areas. To the south of the boundary are primarily altered commercial buildings which do not retain integrity or post-1968 commercial buildings. To the west the boundary borders a residential neighborhood.

Russellville Commercial Historic District	
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Name of Property

Franklin, AL	
County and State	

OMB No. 1024-0018

Form prepared	l by:				
Name/Title:	Philip Thomason, Jenny Andrews, Kelsey Lamkin				
Organization:	Thomason & Associates				
Street & number:	P.O. Box 121225				
City/Town:	Nashville	State: TN	Zip Code:	37212	
Email:			Phone:	615-385-4960	
Date: June 11, 2	2018				

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

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name or Property: Russellville Commercial Historic District

City or Vicinity: Russellville County: Franklin State: AL

Photographer: Thomason & Associates
Date Photographed: January 22-24, 2018

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

Photo 1 of 26: Streetscape, east side of 100 block of S. Jackson Ave, view NE.

Photo 2 of 26: Streetscape, west side of 100 block of S. Jackson Ave., view SW.

Photo 3 of 26: Streetscape, east side of 100 block of N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 4 of 26: Streetscape, west side of 100 block of N. Jackson Ave., view NW.

Photo 5 of 26: Streetscape, west side of 100 block of N. Jackson Ave., view SW.

Photo 6 of 26: Streetscape, east side of 200 block of N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 7 of 26: Streetscape, west side of 300 block of N. Jackson Ave., view SW.

Photo 8 of 26: Streetscape, east side of 400 block of N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 9 of 26: Streetscape, south side of 100 block of E. Lawrence St., view SE.

Photo 10 of 26: Streetscape, south side of 100 block of Franklin St. NE, view SE.

Photo 11 of 26: Streetscape, north side of 100 block of Franklin St., NE, view NW.

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Photo 12 of 26: Streetscape, south side of 100 block of W. Franklin St., view SW.

Photo 13 of 26: Streetscape, west side of 100 block of N. Coffee Ave., view NW.

Photo 14 of 26: 102-106 S. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 15 of 26: 112-116 S. Jackson Ave., view E.

Photo 16 of 26: 112-114 N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 17 of 26: 115-117 N. Jackson Ave., view W.

Photo 18 of 26: First Baptist Church Sanctuary, 213 N. Jackson Ave., view W.

Photo 19 of 26: 200 N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 20 of 26: Roxy Theatre, 208 N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 21 of 26: U.S. Post Office, 301 N. Jackson Ave., view W.

Photo 22 of 26: First Methodist Church Sanctuary, 311 N. Jackson Ave., view SW.

Photo 23 of 26: 401 N. Jackson Ave., view NW.

Photo 24 of 26: Franklin County Courthouse, 410 N. Jackson Ave., view NE.

Photo 25 of 26: 110-108 Franklin St. NE, view NW.

Photo 26 of 26: 118 Franklin St. NE, view NW.

Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018



Figure 1: c. 1900 view of the west side of the 100 block of N. Jackson Avenue. (Photo courtesy Franklin County Archives)

Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018



Figure 2: c. 1920 view of the east side of the 100 block of N. Jackson Avenue. (Photo courtesy Franklin County Archives)

Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018



Figure 3: View taken in 1946 of the east side of the 100 and 200 blocks of N. Jackson Avenue. (Photo courtesy Franklin County Archives)

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

Russellville Commercial Historic District
Name of Property

Franklin, AL
County and State



Figure 4: Boundary map of the Russellville Commercial Historic District.

Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018

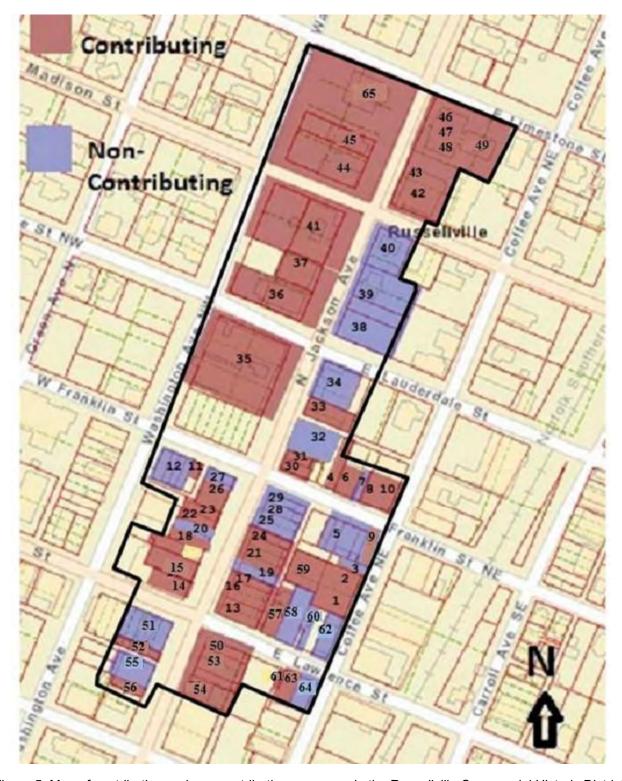


Figure 5: Map of contributing and non-contributing resources in the Russellville Commercial Historic District.

OMB No. 1024-0018

Name of Property

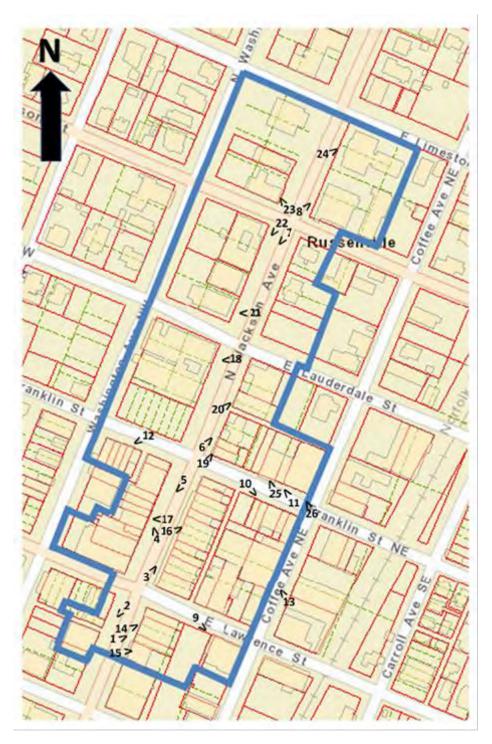


Figure 6: Photo key for the Russellville Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018

Franklin, AL

County and State

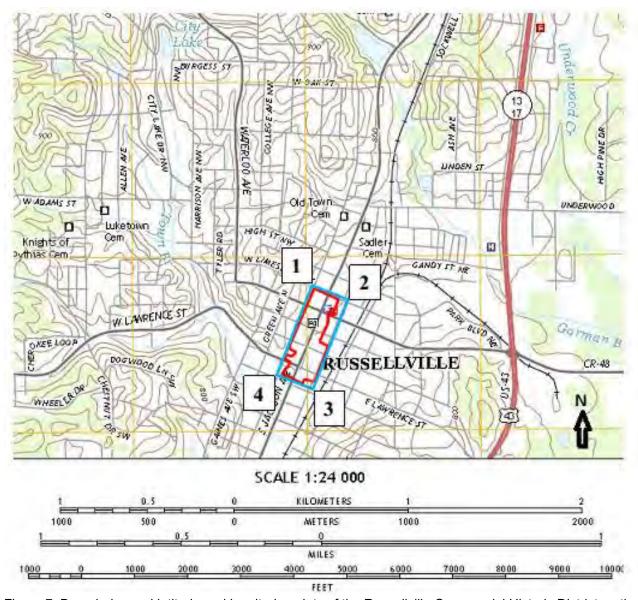


Figure 7: Boundaries and latitude and longitude points of the Russellville Commercial Historic District on the 2014 USGS Russellville Quadrangle map.

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.





















































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Resubmission					
Property Name:	Russellville Commercial Historic District					
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	ALABAMA, Franklin					
Date Rece 1/29/20	[2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2] [2]					
Reference number:	RS100003123					
Nominator:	SHPO					
Reason For Review						
X Accept	Return Reject1/29/2019 Date					
Abstract/Summary Comments:	POS: c. 1899 - 1968; AOS: Architecture, Commerce, Government, Entertainment; LOS: local					
Recommendation/ Criteria	Criterion A & C.					
Reviewer Lisa D	eline Discipline Historian					
Telephone (202)3	54-2239 Date 1/29/19					
DOCUMENTATION	see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No					
If a nomination is re	turned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the					

National Park Service.



ALABAMA STATE SENATE
ALABAMA STATE HOUSE
11 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 735
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4600

September 20, 2018

SEP 2 6 2018

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

FINANCE & TAXATION GENERAL FUND

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HEALTH

JUDICIARY

LARRY C. STUTTS
SENATOR
DISTRICT 6
MONTGOMERY
334-242-7862
LARRY.STUTTS@ALSENATE.GOV

Alabama Historical Commission Attn: Lee Anne Wofford 468 S. Perry Street Montgomery, AL 36130-0900

Re: Russellville Commercial Historic District, Russellville, Franklin County, Alabama

Sections of Jackson and Coffee Avenues and Lawrence, Lauderdale and Madison Streets

Dear Ms. Wofford,

I write to you today regarding the above referenced sections of Russellville Commercial Historic District which are being considered by the Alabama National Register Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on September 27, 2018. While this area is of historic significance, this area also continues to be the home to noble businesses and governmental offices that have been restored to be functional 21st Century buildings. I feel it is important to recognize and preserve unique small town history throughout our state, and I support this nomination one hundred percent.

I would appreciate your serious consideration of my comments and I welcome the opportunity to speak to you personally should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Larry C. Stutts

Alabama State Senator

District 6

LCS/dg

Honorable David R. Grissom, Mayor



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street P.O. Box 300900 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900 334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477 Lisa D. Jones Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer

DCT - 9 2018

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

October 5, 2018

Ms. Joy Beasley National Park Service 1849 C Street NW Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find the nomination and supporting documentation to be considered for listing the following Alabama resource in the National Register of Historic Places:

Russellville Commercial Historic District Russellville, Franklin County, Alabama

Your consideration of the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

anne WOH

LAW/nw

Enclosures

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination						
Property Name:	Russellville Commercial Historic District						
Multiple Name:							
State & County:	ALABAMA, Franklin						
		Date of Pending List: 10/25/2018	Date of 16th Day: 11/9/2018	Date of 45th Day: 11/23/2018	Date of Weekly List:		
Reference number:	SG10000	3123					
Nominator:	State						
Reason For Review							
Appeal			DIL	Text/Data Issue			
SHPO Request		La	ndscape	Photo	Photo		
Waiver		Na	tional	Map/	Map/Boundary		
Resubmission		Mo	bile Resource	Period			
X Other		TO	TCP		Less than 50 years		
		CL	G				
Accept	x	ReturnR	teject <u>11/</u>	20/2018 Date			
Abstract/Summary Comments:							
Recommendation/ Criteria							
Reviewer Lisa Deline			Discipline	Historian	Historian		
Telephone (202)3	54-2239		Date	11/20/1	8		
DOCUMENTATION	: see a	ttached comments : N	see attached S	SLR : No			

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street P.O. Box 300900 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900 334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477

Usa D. Jones Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer

November 26, 2018

Daniel B. Delahaye Federal Preservation Officer U.S. Postal Service (USPS) 475 L'Enfant Plaza SVV Room 6670 Washington, D.C. 20260-1862

Re: Russellville Commercial Historic District, Russellville, Franklin County, Alabama
Sections of Jackson and Coffee Avenues and Lawrence, Lauderdale and Madison Streets

Dear Mr. Delahaye:

I am pleased to inform you that the above-referenced property is being considered for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the official national list of historic properties worthy of preservation. Listing in the National Register is honorary, provides recognition, and assists in preserving our nation's heritage. Enclosed is a copy of the National Register nomination.

The Russellville U.S. Post Office (Resource #36) is being considered as a contributing resource in the district. We would appreciate your opinion on whether this property meets or does not meet National Register requirements. Please send your written comments to:

Alabama Historical Commission Attn: Lee Anne Wofford 468 S. Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900

Lappreciate your support of the National Register program in Alabama. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Collier Neeley, National Register Coordinator at 334.230.2696 / Collier Neeley@ahc.alabama.gov.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Spe ame Wolfer

Enclosures



Deline, Lisa < lisa_deline@nps.gov>

[EXTERNAL] RE: Russellville H.D. Franklin Co.

1 message

Neeley, Collier < Collier. Neeley@ahc.alabama.gov> To: "Deline, Lisa" < lisa_deline@nps.gov>

Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 9:34 AM

Lisa,

I know I've missed the 45th day, but attached is the revised nomination for Russellville. I removed the significance for religion all together and placed the two paragraphs about the churches in the "historical context" section.

Concerning our notice to USPS, AHC failed to notify the FPO. How do we need to proceed to ensure they are notified and this is listed?

I hope you had a good Thanksgiving,

Collier

From: Deline, Lisa lisa deline@nps.gov> Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 1:17 PM

To: Neeley, Collier < Collier, Neeley@ahc, alabama.gov>

Subject: Russellville H.D. Franklin Co.

Hi Collier - I'm not seeing the Federal Preservation Officer notice that was sent or the letter received for the post office. Could you scan and send?

Also, the area of Religion hasn't been justified. See page 41, of Bulletin 16A for what's needed to make the justification for significance under Religion. The current text reads more for importance under architecture. If this is the case, this design/style significance should be put under Criterion C and Religion under Criterion A should be dropped and the AOS list on the form revised.

The 45th day for this district is Nov. 23rd. If you can make these changes and email the corrected pages and the USPS letter, it will be a go! Let me know if you have any questions.

Love the Art Moderne theater!

Lisa Deline, MA, MLA

Architectural Historian

National Register of Historic Places