United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	RE	ECEIVED 2280	33
National Register of Historic Places		APR 2 8 2011	
Registration Form	NAT	STER OF HISTORIC PLACES IONAL PARK SERVICE	
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual pro to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and ar instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative	item does not apply to the pro-	perty being documented categories and subcate	, enter "N/A" for gories from the
1. Name of Property			
historic name Calhoun Downtown Historic District			
other names/site number N/A			
2. Location			
street & number Centered on the intersection of Court Street an	d Wall Street	not for pu	blication
city or town Calhoun		vicinity	
state Georgia code GA county Gordon	code 129	zip code 30701	
	code _129_	zip code	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
be considered significant at the following level(s) of significances	4.21.1(Division Director/Deputy SHPO er criteria.	Date	
Title State or Fe	deral agency/bureau or Tribal C	Bovernment	
4. National Park Service Certification			
I hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register determined not eligible for the National Register other (explain;)	<pre> determined eligible for the I removed from the National</pre>		

OMB No. 1024-0018

(Expires 5/31/2012)

NPS Form 10-900

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Calhoun Downtown Historic District Name of Property

5. Classification

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Gordon County, Georgia County and State

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply	.) Category of Property (Check only one box.)		ources within Proper viously listed resources in t	
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
x private	building(s)	44	12	buildings
x public - Local	x district	0	0	sites
public - State	site	0	0	structures
public - Federa	I structure	0	0	objects
	object	44	12	Total
Name of related multiple (Enter "N/A" if property is not page		Number of con listed in the Na	tributing resources tional Register	previously
N	A	1000	0	

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional, financial

institution, specialty store, department store,

restaurant

SOCIAL: meeting hall

GOVERNMENT: city hall, fire station, correctional

facility, post office

FUNERARY: mortuary

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRATION:

manufacturing facility

HEALTHCARE: hospital, medical business/office

TRANSPORTATION: road-related (vehicular)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater, museum

COMMERCE/TRADE: professional, financial

institution, specialty store, restaurant

INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility

GOVERNMENT: government office, correctional

facility, courthouse

United States Department of the Interior	
National Park Service / National Register of His	storic Places Registration Form
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Architectural Classification	Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)	(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate	foundation: BRICK
LATE 19 TH AND 20 TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Beaux Arts, Colonial Revival, Classical Revival	walls: BRICK
LATE 19 TH AND EARLY 20 TH CENTURY	
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style	
MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne, Art Deco	roof: ASPHALT
	other: METAL (cornices, storefronts)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District consists of the intact commercial area that developed from the mid-19th through the mid-20th centuries. Downtown streets are aligned in a modified grid pattern between the railroad to the west and the steep slopes of Mount Alto to the east. Terrain within the district is slightly undulating. Most commercial development is contained in a few linear blocks along the north-south corridor of Wall Street, and along two blocks of the east-west Court Street. Contributing buildings include both attached and detached commercial buildings dating from c.1877 to 1964. Most were constructed prior to 1930. They tend to be one to three stories in height with first-floor storefronts (often altered) and upper-floor windows and cornices (mostly intact). Prior to the mid-1910s, these buildings were generally faced in red brick with corbelled brick or pressed metal cornices. During the late 1910s and 1920s, brick of various textures and colors was popular for both structural and decorative uses. The relatively few commercial buildings from the 1930s and 1940s tend to be free standing and feature simple monochromatic facades with little ornamentation. Community landmarks include the 1935 U.S. Post Office (now the police station) and the 1939 City Hall and Fire Station, which both feature Colonial Revival details. The Gem Theatre occupied the Moss-Johnson Building (c.1920) after 1927, and has recently been rehabilitated. The 1964 Calhoun National Bank (now BB&T) retains an excellent example of a modernist bank facade. The 1962 Gordon County Courthouse is considered noncontributing due to major alterations in the 1980s.

Narrative Description

Note: Dan H. Latham, Jr., senior planner for the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, wrote most of the following section in February 2009 as part of the "Historic District Information Form" for the proposed Calhoun Commercial Historic District (on file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division). Georgia Historic Preservation Division staff edited the description.

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District is laid out primarily in a grid pattern focusing on the north-south corridor of Wall Street (U.S. Highway 41) and the east-west corridor of Court Street, intersecting at right angles. The courthouse square is centrally located between Wall and Piedmont streets and centered on Court Street, which approaches from the west. This area consists of the intact historic commercial core of Calhoun that developed from the mid-19th century through the mid-20th century.

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Streets in the district today are, for the most part, configured as they were when Calhoun was laid out in 1850. The east main line of the Dixie Highway (US 41) was built through downtown Calhoun along Wall Street c.1917, and downtown streets began being paved in 1919, continuing through 1936 or later. Streets have been resurfaced and improved numerous times since. The railroad line (now CSX), which predated the town, is located outside the district boundary to the west.

Using Joan Niles Sears' typology for courthouse towns (*The First Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia*), Calhoun is a slightly modified version of the "B" variation, Sparta-type town plan, in which two main streets run to the center of two opposite sides of the square and the perpendicular streets run along the sides of the square. Calhoun's town plan is modified because it lacks the second street (opposite Court Street) running to the center of the square. The location of the courthouse square at the west foot of Mount Alto likely necessitated this modification.

The terrain is slightly hilly, sloping gradually higher from north to south. From west to east, the terrain slopes upward—only slightly from Park Avenue to Wall Street but more noticeably from Wall Street to Piedmont Street. East of Piedmont Street, and outside of the district, the terrain slopes steeply upward to the summit of Mount Alto, less than 1,000 feet east of Piedmont Street.

Early commercial development generally fronted Court Street from Railroad Street (Park Avenue) to Wall Street, the north side of North Court Street from Wall Street to Piedmont Street, and Railroad Street (Park Avenue) and Wall Street from Harlan Street to Oothcalooga Street. Early residential development extended north of Harlan Street and south of Oothcalooga Street. These residential lots were generally large through lots, extending from Wall Street to Railroad Street (Park Avenue) or from Wall Street to Piedmont Street. A few of the former residential lots that transitioned to commercial uses are included in the district.

The district's historic, contributing buildings are predominantly attached and detached commercial buildings dating from c.1877 to 1964. These commercial buildings are mostly one to three-story, attached, brick buildings constructed prior to 1930 and featuring first-floor storefronts and upper-floor windows and cornices.

Within the historic district, attached commercial buildings are located along Court Street (photographs 15, 16, 17, 32, and 33), the north side of North Court Street (photographs 3 and 34), and Wall Street from approximately Harlan Street on the north to Oothcalooga Street on the south (photographs 5, 6, 28, 30, and 31). The facades of these buildings are set uniformly at the front property line (not set back from the sidewalk). Most of the remaining buildings in the district are detached commercial, community landmark, and formerly residential buildings with varying spacing and setbacks.

Prior to the mid-1910s, Calhoun's commercial buildings were mostly constructed of red brick with corbelled brick or pressed metal cornices. The upper facades of multi-story buildings feature round-arched, segmental-arched, and flat-headed windows. Voussoirs, keystones, lintels, and sills are usually brick or stone. Cast-iron storefront columns and fascia were once common, and a few remain intact. Most buildings of this period exhibit no academic style, but a few 1890s examples, such as the H. J. Doughty Building at 100 Court Street (photograph 15, center) and the building at 111 Court Street exhibit Italianate stylistic elements.

During the late 1910s and 1920s, brick of various textures and colors gained favor and was used both structurally and decoratively in Calhoun's commercial buildings. Some examples, such as the Richards Building (1916) at 106-108 North Wall Street (photograph 31), used very dark trim colors with red brick facing, while another, the building façade at 113 Court Street, used dark trim brick with a cream- or buff-colored brick facing. In another example, the Hicks and Hughey Building (1917) at 107-111 South Wall Street (photograph 5), the buff-colored brick was used for trim around a much darker brick facing.

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Use of the light, cream- or buff-colored brick was very fashionable during this period. In combination with lavish decorative detailing of white, glazed terra cotta, it was particularly appropriate for several of the eclectic styles based on classical precedents. Some of Calhoun's significant commercial buildings constructed just after World War I (1919-1921) used this combination of materials. The one-story W. A. Richards Building (1919), at 110-112 North Wall Street (photograph 30, left), with its false clay-tile roof, includes elements of the Italian Renaissance Revival style. The A. R. McDaniel Company building (1919) at 100 North Court Street (photograph 15, center) and the J.C. Fox Garage Company building (1921) at 209-211 South Wall Street (photograph 8) utilize a number of classical elements. The Moss and Johnson Building (1920), at 114-116 North Wall Street (now the Gem Theater), features decorative elements associated with commercial versions of classical styles (photograph 30, right).

The use of local fieldstone or rubble stone had an impact on Gordon County's and Calhoun's historic building and landscaping from c.1907 into the 1940s. Prior to World War I, it was used mostly for landscaping features, foundations, porch supports, chimneys, and the like; but between the world wars, entire houses, churches, and commercial buildings were clad with it. The Westfield Building (1921) at 208 South Wall Street is the only remaining example of the use of rubble stone for building construction in the historic district, and it is noncontributing due to extensive alterations.

Most of downtown Calhoun's historic, attached, commercial buildings have altered storefronts (first floors). However, this is not uncommon in commercial districts with continued use and occupancy. Upper floors are generally intact on the exterior, though many have replaced windows and some have altered or replaced cornices. Many building facades have been painted, and a few buildings have altered roofs. Overall, however, the integrity of these buildings in the historic district is good.

The relatively few commercial buildings constructed in the 1930s and 1940s tend to be free-standing and feature simple, monochromatic facades with little or no ornamentation. Most have no stylistic references. Examples include the Johnston-Hall Hospital building (1935) at 220 South Wall Street (photograph 9, right), originally a mixed-use building with commercial businesses on the first floor and health care uses on the upper floors, and the Miller Brothers, Inc. Building (1948) at 311 South Wall Street (photograph 11, left). Although technically an industrial building, the Sequoyah Textile Company (1939) at 301 South Park Avenue is another example of an unornamented building. One exception is the former service station (c.1937) at 300 North Wall Street, which features elements of the English Vernacular Revival style (photograph 23, right).

Two financial institutions built large, modern facilities on North Wall Street in the early 1960s. The 1st Federal Savings and Loan Association's building (1962) was replaced in 1980 with the present building at 208 North Wall Street (photograph 23, left, noncontributing). The Calhoun National Bank building (1964), designed by William F. Cann of Bank Building and Equipment Corporation of America, St. Louis, remains intact (photographs 24 and 26). This building's brown brick walls are enhanced by vertical brick fins that frame slender vertical windows extending from the base of the building to the roof. The windows feature spandrel panels of bronze opaque glass to accent the brown brick. A wide glass entrance is enhanced by a gold-colored anodized aluminum solar screen projecting three feet from the glass wall above the entrance doors. The same design elements are repeated in the large 1969 addition, also designed by William F. Cann.

The district also contains three houses. The c.1900, two-story house at 308 North Wall Street, has some Queen Anne stylistic elements (photograph 22). The 1910, two-story, brick W. A. Richards House at 201 North Wall Street has both classical and Craftsman details (photograph 29). The c. 1920, brick, front-gable bungalow at 204 North Wall Street features buff-colored brick wall cladding with darker brick trim and white, glazed terracotta accents. These former residential buildings are currently used for professional offices (real estate), government offices (Gordon County), and professional offices (law), respectively.

Community landmark buildings in the district include three government buildings: one city, one county, and one (former) federal. The former U. S. Post Office (1935) at 200 North Wall Street is constructed of common-

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bond brick in the Colonial Revival style and features a symmetrical façade with a pedimented (broken) door surround, brick quoins, emphasized keystones, and decorative panels above the 12-over-12 sash windows (photograph 27). Louis A. Simon was the supervising architect, and George O. Von Nerta was the supervising engineer for the U.S. Treasury Department. The old post office currently serves as the Calhoun police station.

The Calhoun City Hall and Fire Station (1939) at 100 Piedmont Street is constructed of Flemish-bond brick in the Colonial Revival style and features an asymmetrical façade, modillioned cornice, entry with double doors and transom, six-over-nine sash windows, and a small, round, gable-end window opposite a gable-end chimney (photograph 1). A hyphen and garage extend to the north side of the building and an original ell and several later additions extend to the rear. A. J. Honeycutt Construction Company, Birmingham, Alabama, was the building contractor.

The Gordon County Courthouse (1962) was built as a rectangular, two-story, flat-roofed, brick building with a symmetrical façade (photograph 6, center, and photograph 17, center). Its only decorative embellishments were marble spandrels and a less-than-full-height Tuscan, tetrastyle, entry portico. Architects for the courthouse were Cunningham & Forehand, Atlanta, and the building contractor was Gann Construction Company, Atlanta. Sometime after the mid-1980s, a large hipped roof with dormers was added to the courthouse. Consequently, it is considered non-contributing to the historic district.

Only a few properties with detached buildings have landscaped grounds. These grounds generally feature small areas of lawn with trees and a variety of shrubs, mostly planted close to the building. The courthouse square has limited landscaping. Recent streetscape projects have been completed along Court Street and the west side of Wall Street. Changes include brick-patterned and brick-accented sidewalks, street trees, street furniture, and globe-type street lights. A verge of varying width separates street from sidewalk in some of the areas with detached buildings, most consistently along North Wall Street, north of Harlan Street. Significant historic landscape features include granite, brick, and concrete stairs; stone and brick retaining walls; and sections of raised sidewalk on the east side of South Wall Street and on the east side of North Wall Street, opposite Harlan Street.

Less than one-fourth of the buildings in the district are considered noncontributing. The building at 106 Court Street has lost its integrity due to a façade remodeling c.1977. The former 1st Federal Savings & Loan Association (1980, now Regions Bank) at 208 North Wall Street was built outside the district's period of significance (photograph 23, left). The Gordon County Courthouse (1962) at 100 South Wall Street lost its integrity due to major roof alterations in the 1980s (photograph 6, center, and photograph 17, center). This building originally had a flat roof. The Milton Ratner Performing Arts Theater (2004) at 212 South Wall Street is a major addition to the Harris Arts Center (the former Rooker Hotel) that makes the entire building no longer contributing. The former Goodyear Service Store at 205 South Wall Street (1969) was built and remodeled outside the district's period of significance. Several other buildings were either constructed too recently or have had significant changes that make them noncontributing.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

	I A
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X

Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.



C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.



Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

	A	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
-	в	removed from its original location.
	с	a birthplace or grave.
-	D	a cemetery.
-	E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
	F	a commemorative property.
x	G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

c.1877-1964

Significant Dates

c.1877 - date of earliest extant building

1888 - tornado and fire in downtown Calhoun

1917 - Dixie Highway comes through Calhoun

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Cann, William F. (architect)

Simon, Louis A. (supervising architect)

A. J. Honeycutt Construction Company (builder)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins c.1877 with the earliest known date for an extant building, and continues to 1964 to include the construction of the locally important Bank of Calhoun building.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The period of significance for the Calhoun Downtown Historic District extends to 1964. The district meets <u>Criteria Consideration G</u> because its significance continues into a period less than 50 years ago. The history of Calhoun would be incomplete without including the construction of a new building in 1964 for one of its major financial institutions, the Bank of Calhoun (now BB&T). This modernist building reflects the prosperity of Calhoun during the early 1960s, and the town's association with the powerful local bank president, Bert Lance, who was a close advisor to Governor Jimmy Carter and would later become director of the federal Office of Management and Budget under President Carter in 1977. The bank building is also an excellent example of modernist architecture during a time when banks were among the first buildings in small towns to adopt new designs that departed from the historicism of other community landmark buildings.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District is significant under Criteria A and C at the local level as a good example of a downtown business district and county seat that served as the commercial center of its area. The district is significant in architecture for its representative collection of commercial buildings that reflect design and construction traditions commonly found in Georgia towns. Stylistic influences include Italianate, Neoclassical Revival, and Colonial Revival. The district is also significant in community planning and development for its intact historic town plan. Using Joan Niles Sears' typology for courthouse towns in The First Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia, Calhoun is a modified version of the "B" variation of the Sparta-type plan in which a main east-west street hits the center of two opposite sides of the square and two north-south streets run along the sides of the square. In Calhoun, this plan was truncated to the east of the square, probably due to the steep terrain. In the area of commerce, Calhoun's significance derives from its role as the historic commercial center of Gordon County and the region. Typically the county seat filled this role, and provided for the day-to-day commercial needs of nearby rural residents, such as retail stores and offices and professional services. The town of Calhoun, which began as a stop along the Western & Atlantic Railroad, was named the county seat of the newly formed Gordon County in 1850. It was a transportation hub for agricultural products and a center for general merchandise trade. After a tornado and destructive fire in 1888, the business district was rebuilt mostly in brick. By 1917, a section of the Dixie Highway (later U. S. Highway 41) had been built along Wall Street. Downtown streets began being paved in 1919, reflecting the growing popularity of the automobile. Population growth in the early 20th century brought retail stores, grocers, and garages, as well as a theater, hotel, and hospital.

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

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District is significant in the area of <u>commerce</u> because as the central business district, it represents the city as the center of commerce in Gordon County. The downtown was historically the primary location for the trading, buying, and selling of goods, services, and commodities on a local and countywide basis. The historic intact commercial buildings are representative of all types of commerce that contributed to the town's economy throughout its history. The H. J. Doughty Building (1892) anchors the prominent corner of Wall and Court streets, and is an excellent example of commercial architecture that once housed a bank on the first floor and a Masonic lodge on the third floor. The one-, two-, and three-story brick buildings near the square represent the mercantile, professional, and banking businesses that were historically found in Georgia's cities. Later, "new" 20th-century businesses such as automobile sales and servicing are represented in Calhoun, an example of which is the J.C. Fox Garage Company building (1921), as well as two historic gas stations on Wall Street.

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Commercial centers like Calhoun generally featured a range of retail stores (general merchandise, dry goods, groceries, drug stores, millenaries, apparel/clothing, service/gas stations), offices and professional services (including banks, lawyers, doctors), wholesale establishments and warehouses (warehouses, offices), artisans, mechanics, and tradespeople (liveries, blacksmiths, automobile repair), entertainment and other services (bars and saloons, restaurants, theaters, hotels), and communications-related services (post office, telegraph office, telephone exchange, newspaper office/press).

Extant historic buildings in the Calhoun Downtown Historic District represent many of these historic commercial activities. One example is former A.R. McDaniel Company department store (1919) located at the corner of North Court Street and North Wall Street. Another is the Gem Theatre, which opened in the Moss-Johnson Building in 1927. The corner building at 118 Court Street once housed a pharmacy. These and other historic buildings, along with the commercial activity they represent, reflect the economic development and prosperity of the community and its surrounding region, particularly after Calhoun recovered from a disastrous fire and tornado in 1888. The opening of the Dixie Highway in Calhoun in 1917, and its subsequent paving in the 1920s, also contributed to Calhoun's economic success. The former U. S. Post Office and the Johnston-Hall Hospital both opened in 1935 in the middle of the Great Depression. Of special note locally is the 1964 Calhoun National Bank, associated with the business success of local banker Bert Lance.

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District is also significant in the area of <u>community planning and development</u> for its intact historic town plan. Joan Niles Sears' typology for courthouse towns is described in *The First Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia*. Calhoun's plan is similar to the "B" variation of the Sparta-type plan, one of the major types of county seat plans that prevailed in Georgia from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. Its character-defining features include: two main streets running to the center of two opposite sides of the square; two perpendicular streets running along the sides of the square; a courthouse located on the square; and a grid pattern of downtown streets and property lines. Court Street runs to the center of the square, and four other streets (Wall, Piedmont, North Court, and South Court) run along the sides, forming the boundaries of the square. Calhoun's town plan is modified because it lacks the second street (opposite Court Street) running to the center of the square. The location of the courthouse square at the west foot of Mount Alto was the most likely reason for this modification.

Calhoun's historic plan also reflects the designation of the town as the Gordon County seat. In Georgia, generally only county seat communities were laid out with distinctive squares. Reinforcing the importance of the plan is the concentration of historic commercial and community landmark buildings around the square and along the principal streets which creates a clearly defined "downtown" or central business district. The U.S. Post Office and Calhoun's City Hall and Fire Station were located nearby. This pattern of development represents the traditional way in which Georgia's county seats grew and developed over time.

The Calhoun Downtown Historic District is significant in <u>architecture</u> for its good collection of relatively intact late-19th to mid-20th-century commercial buildings that represent prevailing design and construction traditions of small cities and towns in Georgia. Several styles and periods of architecture are represented in the buildings in the district. Dates of construction tend to reflect Calhoun's greatest period of growth and development prior to 1930. While several buildings have no distinct style, design influences in the district include Italianate, Neoclassical Revival, and Colonial Revival. Italianate elements such as large cornice brackets and round-arched upper windows can be seen in the H. J. Doughty Building (1892). Classical pilasters with composite capitals are distinguishing features of the J.C. Fox Garage Company building (1921). Both the former U.S. Post Office (1935) and the City Hall and Fire Station (1939) are good examples of the Colonial Revival style that was common for government buildings of this era. An excellent example of the modernism of the early 1960s is seen in the former Calhoun National Bank building with its use of repeating vertical "fins" and an anodized aluminum solar screen.

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Blocks of attached commercial buildings near the square range in height from one to three stories, with the taller buildings anchoring the prominent corner lots. Character-defining features include party walls, simple rectangular forms, common setbacks fronting directly on the sidewalk, first-floor storefronts (some with large display windows), upper-floor windows (many with segmental or rounded arches), parapet rooflines with cornices or recessed panels, and the use of architectural ornament primarily on the front walls. Several good examples are along the north and south sides of Court Street. The 100 blocks of North and South Wall streets are also good examples of attached commercial blocks. The use of brick, both structurally and decoratively, as the principal building material, in conjunction with cast iron, stone, and/or pressed metal, also is characteristic of the way in which these kinds of commercial buildings were built during these periods in small Georgia cities.

Freestanding buildings tend to be further from the square, and represent development after c.1920. An excellent example of a detached building is the J.C. Fox Garage Company building (1921). It possesses a high degree of craftsmanship as evidenced by its terracotta ornamentation. Others, such as the Johnston-Hall Hospital building (1935) feature simple, monochromatic facades with little detail. Early 20th-century gas/service stations include representative examples of nationally recognized types, such as the former Standard Oil Station (1937) at 300 North Wall Street, which was designed to look like an English Vernacular Revival Cottage. Two simpler streamlined service stations were constructed in the following decades on South Wall Street, reflecting a change to a more modern aesthetic. A good example of a large modern 1940s auto sales and service building is located at the southern boundary of the district. It features large, plate-glass, show windows under an arched parapet wall.

The district also contains architecturally significant community landmark buildings including the Moss-Johnson Building (1920) which is once again operating as the Gem Theatre. After construction, the *Calhoun Times* described it as "possibly the prettiest in Calhoun" with its pale brick façade, complex parapet, and classical details. The best local examples of the Colonial Revival style are found in the former U. S. Post Office (1935) and the City Hall and Fire Station (1939) with their red brick exteriors, multi-pane sash windows, and details that emanate from the precedents of Colonial Williamsburg.

While the Calhoun Downtown Historic District is a commercial area, the boundaries encompass three former houses that were converted to commercial uses at various times. These houses still exhibit some of the character-defining features of several types of residential architecture, including a Queen Anne House, a front-gabled Bungalow, and a two-story brick house with Craftsman elements.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Note: Dan H. Latham, Jr., senior planner for the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, wrote the following section in February 2009 as part of the "Historic District Information Form" for the proposed Calhoun Commercial Historic District. Georgia Historic Preservation Division staff edited the developmental history.

On February 13, 1850, the Georgia General Assembly passed an act to lay out and organize a new county, named Gordon, from the counties of Cass and Floyd. This act provided that the Justices of the Inferior Court of Gordon County, after being commissioned, had the authority to select and purchase a tract of land for the county site, to divide the tract into lots, and to dispose of the lots at public sale for the benefit of the county.

On June 3, 1850, the Inferior Court ordered that the Gordon County seat be permanently located at Oothcalooga Depot on Land Lots 205, 206, 227, and 228 in the 14th District and 3rd Section of the former Cass

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County, and that the county seat be renamed Calhoun (for John C. Calhoun who died March 31, 1850). Calhoun's town plan was a grid pattern oriented in the cardinal directions. It was similar to the "Sparta" type plan but had only one main street, Court Street, entering the courthouse square at the center of one side. There was no corresponding street entering the east side of the square at the center (probably due to topographic limitations). The other streets—Wall, Piedmont, North Court, and South Court—entered the square at its corners.

The first sale of town lots occurred on July 16, 1850, with 115 being sold. In c.1851 to 1852, a two-story brick courthouse was built at a cost of \$5,800. By 1852 to 1853, a new brick depot was constructed at Calhoun. It replaced the small wooden depot built when the Western & Atlantic Railroad first laid its tracks through then Cass County in c.1846 to 1847. The selection of this site for a railroad stop, around which the small settlement of Oothcalooga grew up, was a prime factor in its later becoming a county seat. Rail was a major form of transportation in the 19th century, and the new town of Calhoun prospered with its new brick depot.

The town of Calhoun was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly approved on January 12, 1852. The original corporate limits were 600 yards in every direction from the courthouse, but were extended to onehalf mile in every direction from the courthouse by an act of the General Assembly on February 17, 1854. In its early years, Calhoun drew sustenance almost entirely from the surrounding farms. It was a shipping point for agricultural products and a center for general merchandise trade. Little is known about Calhoun's growth and development during its first two decades. Most commercial development likely was of wood construction and probably was located along the east side of Railroad Street, facing the depot, and along Court Street, approaching the courthouse. The Civil War impacted Calhoun and much of the Western & Atlantic Railroad corridor, and interrupted the town's early progress.

The first official count of Calhoun's population by the U.S. Census was in 1870, when the town had 427 inhabitants. A Georgia Department of Agriculture publication of 1878 states that Calhoun had approximately 200 private dwellings, one hotel, two churches, two schools with 100 pupils, one weekly newspaper, eight grocery stores, and five dry goods stores. One of Calhoun's earliest brick businesses was the two-story building erected by Judge T. A. Foster in c.1877 (extant with historic alteration/addition; 101 Court Street) on the northwest corner of Court and Wall streets. The decade of the 1870s was a period of regional instability and national depression, and consequently, it was not generally a period of significant growth and development. During the 1870s, Calhoun's population increased modestly, reaching 510 inhabitants by 1880.

Brick construction in the business section of town became more common during the 1880s as Calhoun's growth and development expanded more rapidly. There were two disasters in 1888, however, that served as a line of demarcation in the historic development of the business section. First, on March 20, 1888, a tornado struck the town, severely damaging the brick antebellum courthouse and the Baptist and Methodist churches on North Wall Street, and taking roofs off the store buildings on the south side of Court Street. Seven months later, on October 23, a fire starting at the *Calhoun Times* office on South Wall Street spread until the entire east side of the south block of Court Street and half of the north side were burned. Today, few extant buildings in the historic business section of Calhoun predate the year 1888.

A few owners began almost immediately rebuilding, constructing new brick stores. Demolition of the old courthouse began on March 11, 1889, and during that year, a new courthouse was completed on the square at a cost of \$14,400. The Baptists and Methodists built new churches on North Wall Street during 1889. Also in 1889, the city purchased 15 street lamps. Despite the setbacks of 1888, the town had grown to a population of 680 in 1890.

Calhoun continued to rebuild from the 1888 tornado and fire into the 1890s. While the northwest corner of Wall and Court streets was anchored by the two-story Foster building, the southwest corner, devastated by the

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fire, became the site of the three-story H. J. Doughty Building (extant; 100 Court Street) in 1892. The Doughty Building, built by W. L. Hillhouse, was considered the finest in the city at the time. In June 1893, the new courthouse was fitted with a clock. In 1896, the Foster Building was remodeled with a new façade, and the same year, J. M. Harlan built the adjacent two-story brick building (extant, 103 Court Street).

Growth and development of Calhoun's business section continued at a steady pace throughout most of the 1890s and into the 1900s. Historic photographs from this period suggest that the south side of Court Street built up with attached, brick commercial buildings somewhat ahead of the north side. By c.1910, both sides had been completely built out.

Calhoun experienced several important milestones during the 1890s and 1900s, similar to other small, progressive towns in Georgia at the time. A city waterworks was constructed in 1898, the first telephone was installed in 1905, and electric lights became a reality in 1907. In the latter year, the Echota Cotton Mills was organized, and by 1909, Calhoun had an operating cotton mill of 120 looms and 5,000 spindles. Other Calhoun manufacturing operations in c.1910 were one roller mill, one oil mill, one lumber company, two cotton gins, and two brick plants. Calhoun's population in 1900 was 851, but by 1910, it had almost doubled to 1,652. The large increase in the town's population between 1900 and 1910 can be explained partly by additions to the town's corporate limits in 1901, 1907, and 1909, but the Echota mill village was not included in the population count.

The first Sanborn Fire Insurance Company maps of Calhoun provide an accurate depiction of the historic district in May 1911. At that time, seven two-story, attached, brick commercial buildings completed the north side of Court Street between Railroad Street (Park Avenue) and Wall Street. Three brick and two frame commercial buildings extended northward from Court Street on the east side of Railroad Street, and two frame commercial buildings were north of Court Street on the west side of North Wall Street. The north side of North Court Street was completed with attached, brick and cement block commercial buildings, and two brick commercial buildings extended to the north of North Court Street on the east side of North Wall Street to the two-story, brick house (extant; 201 North Wall Street) built in 1910 by Dr. W. A. Richards.

The south side of Court Street between Railroad and Wall streets also was completed with attached, brick, commercial buildings ranging from one to three stories in height. One-story commercial buildings on the east side of Railroad Street extended southward from Court Street to Oothcalooga Street. Only one of these buildings was wooden in 1911, and it was replaced with a one-story, brick building (extant, altered) in 1913 by J. M. Ballew. Two-story, brick, commercial buildings extended along Railroad Street another half block south of Oothcalooga Street, ending with the Logan Livery constructed in 1907. This half block of two-story buildings (burned 1968; portions of first-floor walls may remain) appears to have had facades of decorative concrete block.

South of Court Street, the first building on the west side of South Wall Street was the brick, one-story W. L. Hines Building (extant; 103-105 South Wall Street), constructed in 1905 and containing two business rooms. The northern room housed the U. S. Post Office. The rest of the block from the Hines Building to Oothcalooga Street was completed in wood-frame commercial buildings. The furthest south the business section extended on Wall Street in May 1911 was the southwest corner of Wall and Oothcalooga streets, where the brick, two-story J. A. B. Campbell Building (extant; 201-203 South Wall Street) had been constructed in 1906. On the southeast corner of South Wall and South Court streets were the attached, two-story, brick commercial buildings (extant with historic addition; 200 and 204-206 South Wall Street) constructed from 1906 to 1909 by W. G. Fuller, containing three ground-floor storerooms. Free-standing, brick and frame commercial buildings and one brick dwelling extended southward to Oothcalooga Street.

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North of the business section to Line Street and south of the business section to Nelson (Hicks) Street, there were approximately 20 dwellings and three churches (Methodist Episcopal Church South, Baptist, and Episcopal) in 1911. The Calhoun Woman's Club cabin (1905, not extant) and a park (not extant), known variously as the Ladies' Park, Cabin Park, and North Park, were located on the commons (area between Railroad Street and the railroad tracks) north of Court Street. Another park (not extant), known variously as Gentlemen's Park, Men's Park, Railroad Park, and South Park, occupied the commons between Court and Oothcalooga Streets. Directly south of Gentlemen's Park, on the south side of Oothcalooga Street, was the Calhoun Hotel (not extant).

The period from just before America's involvement in World War I through 1921 was a very active and important one in the improvement and development of Calhoun's business section. In 1916, Dr. W. A. Richards initiated the business development of the west side of North Wall Street by constructing an impressive, two-story, brick building (extant; 106-108 North Wall Street) that housed his medical office on the second floor. The following year, Hicks and Hughey built a single-story, three-room, business house (extant; 107-111 South Wall Street) just south of the W. L. Hines Building, after demolishing the old wooden buildings on the site. About the same time, J. C. Fox and John Simpson erected a large, two-story, brick building on the northwest corner of South Wall and Oothcalooga streets (extant; 117 South Wall Street) for Fox Garage Company. By 1917 the Dixie Highway had been built through the town, signaling the coming importance of the automobile and its impact on the development of the business section. An act of the General Assembly on August 20, 1918, created a new charter for Calhoun and changed its corporate name from the mayor and alderman of the Town of Calhoun to "The City of Calhoun."

In June 1919, the *Calhoun Times* noted that the building and improvement projects, dormant during World War I, began to take form and were transforming Calhoun "from the old to the new with remarkable rapidity." On the 12th of that month, the city let a contract for paving the streets in the business section. Dr. W. A. Richards started the postwar building activity when he purchased the lot between the Richards Building (1916) and John A. Neal's residence on the southwest corner of North Wall and Harlan streets. By June 1919, he was completing a single-story, two-room, brick building (extant; 110-112 North Wall Street). About the same time, the A. R. McDaniel Company erected "one of the most modern department stores in north Georgia" on the corner of North Court and North Wall streets, completing its impressive, two-story building (extant; 100 North Court Street) by the end of August 1919. Also completed at the same time was the Lay-Hall Wholesale Grocery Company building (Ballew Building) on the southeast corner of Railroad and Harlan streets (extant with 1961, two-story addition and later alterations).

Before the end of 1919, two other large building projects were planned. The John Neal residence on the southwest corner of North Wall and Harlan streets was sold to Moss and Johnson for the construction of a large, two-story, brick building, and J. C. Fox purchased the old H. K. Hicks homeplace on South Wall Street to erect a large, modern, two-story garage building. The lot purchased by J. C. Fox extended 200 feet from Wall Street to Railroad Street.

To complement the business section's new sidewalks and paved streets, the city's new "white way" (light system for the business section) was put into operation in January 1920. It consisted of 33 posts, each with a cluster of five lights. The city's 1920 population reached 1,955, due partly to its corporate limits being redefined and expanded by an act of the General Assembly on August 18, 1919. The Echota mill village, however, remained outside the corporate limits.

In September 1920, Moss & Johnson Hardware Company and Moss & Johnson Supply Company moved into its new, two-story building (extant; 114-116 North Wall Street) on the southwest corner of North Wall and Harlan streets. The *Calhoun Times* described the building as "possibly the prettiest in Calhoun." The J. C. Fox Garage Company moved into its new building (extant; 209-211 South Wall Street) the first week of

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January 1922. The Fox Building was considered a great addition to the business section, and it was significant for marking the further expansion of the business area down South Wall Street. About the same time, D. Westfield was putting up a "unique and substantial" stone-front building for his produce business on South Wall Street (extant; 208 South Wall Street).

The January 1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, as compared to those of May 1911, show a great deal of change in and expansion of Calhoun's business section. Between Railroad Street and Wall Street, commercial development extended from Harlan Street on the north to Hicks Street on the south. Only one residential property remained in that area, on the lot immediately north of the J. C. Fox Garage Company building. Between Wall Street and Piedmont Street, commercial development extended from immediately south of the W. A. Richards House to just south of Oothcalooga Street where a large, two-story garage building (not extant), extending from Wall Street to Piedmont Street, marked the southern limit of the business area on the east side of Wall Street. Residential properties completed the block to Hicks Street. Just north of the business section, a new Methodist church (1916, not extant) and a new Baptist church (1923, not extant) replaced earlier churches at the same locations on North Wall Street. With the exception of the two churches, however, the area from Harlan Street to Line Street, between Railroad and Piedmont streets, remained residential.

The Chastain Building (extant; 118 Court Street) on the southeast corner of Court and Railroad streets was given a second story between 1911 and 1919, and the corner section of the W. G. Fuller Building, 200 South Wall Street, was given a third story between 1920 and 1926. The two-story building at 110-112 Court Street (extant) replaced an earlier, two-story building on the site; and the buildings at 113 and 115 Court Street (extant) appear to have been given new facades. In January 1924, City Hall, located for some time in the Ballew Building on Railroad Street, moved two blocks south to the center room of the one-story portion of the Fox Building fronting Railroad Street, directly behind the J. C. Fox Garage Company.

On March 10, 1927, the *Calhoun Times* announced that Manning & Wink, owners of the Gem Theatre, had purchased the Moss-Johnson Building and that Calhoun would have, at last, a new moving picture house. The new Gem Theatre opened in the south half of the Moss-Johnson Building on May 16, 1927, to a capacity audience; and on March 31, 1929, it was announced that the theatre's operating room would be remodeled and enlarged "to provide for Vitaphone talkies to be brought to Calhoun."

By 1929 the growing popularity of the automobile was having a noticeable impact on the development of the southern portion of Calhoun's business section. From the northwest corner of South Wall and Oothcalooga streets southward along Wall and Railroad streets to Hicks Street, there were four garages, a filling station, and several repair shops. The Standard Oil filling station (not extant), built in 1927 and operated by Miller Brothers Garage, was located on the northwest corner of South Wall and Hicks streets, formerly occupied by the Episcopal church. The Dixie Highway was paved from Atlanta to Chattanooga during 1929, and on November 4, 1929, a motorcade celebrating the formal opening of that portion of the highway was greeted by a crowd estimated at 4,000 to 5,000 when its more than 200 automobiles stopped briefly in downtown Calhoun.

Following another extension of Calhoun's city limits in July 1929, the city's population reached 2,371 in 1930. The effects of the Great Depression appear to have suppressed development in Calhoun's business section in the early 1930s; but beginning in the mid-1930s, several important developments resulted in further growth and expansion.

On November 27, 1934, bids were opened for the construction of a new U. S. Post Office (extant; 200 North Wall Street) to be located on the northwest corner of North Wall and Harlan streets—the site of Mrs. C. C. Harlan's residence. The cornerstone was laid on June 29, 1935, and the new facility was occupied on

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December 31, 1935. Meanwhile, Dr. Z. V. Johnston had purchased the old Simpson residential property (considered the second oldest house in Calhoun at the time) on the east side of South Wall Street, and by early June 1935 was demolishing it to erect a large hospital, medical office, and store building. In July 1935, Dr. Johnston announced that Dr. W. D. Hall was moving to Calhoun to be associated with him.

Plans to build a modern uptown hotel also were announced on August 8, 1935. On September 12, 1935, the *Calhoun Times* made the following observation: "One of the most important periods in the progress and development of Calhoun was marked this week by the breaking of ground for the erection of the new Rooker Hotel on the east side of South Wall Street. The building, when completed, will be a modern 40-room, steamheated structure, filling a long recognized need in the civic and commercial life of the city." The Johnston-Hall Hospital (extant; 220 South Wall Street) opened in October 1935, and the Rooker Hotel (extant, altered; 212 South Wall Street) was expected to be completed by Christmas 1935.

In c.1936 to 1937, the Lay-Hall Wholesale Grocery Company vacated the one-story Ballew Building on the southeast corner of North Railroad and Harlan streets and built a new, two-story building (not extant) at the southeast corner of Piedmont and South Court streets. At the end of 1935, the pavement on South Wall Street stopped in front of the Johnston-Hall Hospital, but in February 1936, work began to pave South Wall Street from there to the south city limits, about three-fourths of a mile. In April 1935, a new Sinclair service station (not extant) opened on the northwest corner of South Wall and Hicks streets. In May 1936, a new Speed Oil service station (not extant) opened on the former residential lot north of Fox Motor Company on South Wall Street, and in c.1937, the Standard Oil service station (extant; 300 North Wall Street) was constructed on the northwest corner of North Wall and Trammell streets.

On September 14, 1938, Calhoun voters overwhelmingly approved two bond issues, for street improvements and for the construction of a city hall, fire station, and jail. Construction of the new city facility began in early November on the site previously occupied by an old brick jail (c.1854). The contract for the PWA-funded project was let to A. J. Honeycutt Construction Company, Birmingham, Alabama, after a bid of \$23,513. The PWA supervisor was Will L. Hancock. The new Calhoun City Hall and Fire Station (extant; 100 Piedmont Street), located at the intersection of Piedmont and North Court streets, was occupied by city officials on May 29, 1939. The city hall had separate offices for police, the superintendent of lights and water, the city clerk, and the mayor; a small jail was located at the rear of the building.

In January 1939, while the new city hall and fire station was under construction, the Sequoyah Textile Company completed a one-story brick building (extant, 301 South Park Ave.) on the west side of Railroad Street, at Hicks Street. By February 1939, the company began producing tufted (chenille) bath mats, utilizing 20 machines and 30 workers when in full production. The president of the company was James P. Beamer; the vice-president was Tom B. David. During the 1930s and 1940s, several other tufted textile companies used existing buildings in downtown Calhoun as manufacturing facilities for bedspreads and other tufted textile products. The only extant building in the Calhoun Downtown Historic District known to have been used for tufted textile manufacturing, however, is the Fox-Simpson Building at 117 South Wall Street. The Dixie Belle Spread Company occupied this building for a time just prior to World War II.

On July 24, 1939, work began to expand the Gem Theatre into the north half of the Moss-Johnson Building, doubling the capacity of the theater. The formal opening of the new Gem Theatre was on December 25, 1939.

In 1940 Calhoun's population was 2,955. In May of that year, plans for a two-story addition to the rear of the Johnston-Hall Hospital building were announced. The plans called for the removal of a house on the Piedmont Street side of the hospital and the extension of the hospital building through to Piedmont Street. The J. A. Strain & Company Building (Foster Building) on the corner of Court Street and North Wall Street was

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remodeled in June 1941. A door and display windows on the Wall Street side were added at that time. Miller's opened in the building on June 17, 1941. Also in June, work was begun by Standard Oil Company on a new filling station (extant, altered) at the garage and showroom of Miller Brothers, Inc., Chevrolet dealer, at the northwest corner of South Wall Street and Hicks Street. In October 1941, Railroad Street was widened between Court Street and Oothcalooga Street, extending nine feet into the Men's Park; and in November 1941, Robinson's Warehouse and the old Logan barn on the west side of Railroad Street, south of Hicks Street, were completely destroyed by fire. The two-story addition to Johnston-Hall Hospital was still under construction in early March of 1942. This addition to the building added 10 additional hospital beds, for a total capacity of 25 beds. Little additional change in Calhoun's central business section appears to have occurred during the war years of 1942 to 1945.

In 1946 Thomas Funeral Home opened for business in the Dr. W. A. Richards House at 201 North Wall Street. The formal opening on April 5 and 6 marked one of the first, if not the first, business uses of a house in downtown Calhoun. On July 5, 1947, the Farmers' Mutual Exchange of Calhoun, Inc., northwest Georgia's first farm co-operative, opened in a row of brick warehouses (extant; 315 South Park Avenue) at the old Robinson Warehouse site on the west side of Railroad Street (Park Avenue), immediately south of the Sequoyah Textile Company.

By the late 1940s, Calhoun's central business section also extended a short distance south of Hicks Street along the west side of South Wall Street. In November 1945, N. W. Miller had acquired the B. L. Chastain homeplace on South Wall Street; and on July 25, 1948, Miller Brothers, Inc., Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership, opened a new sales and service center (extant, 311 South Wall Street) at that location. According to the July 1948 Sanborn maps, two filling stations (not extant) occupied the lots on the west side of South Wall Street between Hicks Street and Miller Brothers, Inc.

The July 1948 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps also show several additional buildings in Calhoun's business section constructed sometime after January 1929 and not previously mentioned in this narrative. These buildings are as follows: two one-story buildings (extant, altered) fronting North Park Avenue (Railroad Street) just south of the Ballew Building on the southeast corner of Park Avenue and Harlan Street; two one-story buildings (extant, altered) fronting the south side of Oothcalooga Street between South Wall Street and Park Avenue, housing a printing office and a dry cleaning business in July 1948; a tiny, one-story, brick building (extant) fronting South Park Avenue, located in the narrow space between the old Logan Livery building and the Fox Building; and a row of small brick stores (extant, altered) at the northeast corner of Piedmont Street and North Court Street. None of these buildings is included within the boundaries of the Calhoun Downtown Historic District.

The July 1948 Sanborn maps fail to show the 1939 expansion of the Gem Theatre into the north half of the Moss-Johnson Building. Calhoun's Gem Theatre, and all Manning & Wink theatres, sold to the Martin chain effective October 1, 1943. The name of the theatre in Calhoun did not change from the "Gem" to the "Martin" until December 1948, when a general remodeling of the exterior façade was undertaken. The old marquee was replaced with a new, v-shaped structure, and a new and larger neon theatre sign was installed. A year later, Martin announced plans to raze the old Logan Building (1906) on the southeast corner of South Park Avenue and Oothcalooga Street and build a new theatre. The proposed theatre was never constructed on the site.

After Calhoun's corporate limits were extended on February 8, 1945, the city's population reached 3,231 by 1950. Calhoun's central business section experienced little growth and change during the decade of the 1950s. Commercial development that did occur tended to be less concentrated downtown and more dispersed along the city's thoroughfares. Nevertheless, a few downtown changes should be noted.

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Several street improvements were made during the decade. In April 1953, 17 new mercury-vapor lights were installed in the downtown area on Court Street, Wall Street, and Park Avenue. In the spring of 1954, U. S. Highway 41 (Wall Street) was resurfaced through the city, and North Court Street was widened—six feet on the north side and eight feet on the south side. The triangular traffic island at the intersection of Oothcalooga Street and Park Avenue was constructed in July 1955.

The City of Calhoun marked its "Century of Progress" on January 12, 1952. In April 1952, the Calhoun National Bank, located in the Doughty Building at 100 Court Street, acquired the adjacent, two-story building on Court Street and announced plans for a \$100,000 expansion. The Johnston-Hall Hospital transferred its patients to the new Gordon County Hospital on November 6, 1953. It ceased serving as a hospital at that time, but medical offices remained in the building. The completely remodeled and expanded Calhoun National Bank, featuring a new Wall Street entrance, had its formal opening on July 25, 1956. In mid-October 1958, the old Calhoun Hotel and the adjacent Logan House, located at the southwest corner of Oothcalooga Street and Park Avenue, were being demolished to make way for a modern, 6,000-square-foot grocery store. On November 27, 1958, the *Calhoun Times* titled a front-page article "Downtown Scene Changes as Historic Hostelry Vacates Site in Favor of Retail Development." This change probably was one of the most significant to occur in Calhoun's central business section during the 1950s. The old Calhoun Hotel was once the hub of important downtown meetings and social events, and it was a favorite of travelers and summer visitors. The S & H Super Market No.2 (extant, altered) opened on the site in April 1959.

Calhoun's population increased modestly to 3,587 in 1960. With the increasing popularity and development of shopping plazas and shopping centers, and with the construction of Interstate 75 less than two miles east of the courthouse, commercial development in Calhoun and Gordon County became increasingly decentralized during the 1960s. Despite this steady trend toward commercial sprawl, the more rapid business and industrial growth of the 1960s also brought a new spurt of development to Calhoun's central business section.

In 1960, the March Term Gordon County Superior Court Grand Jury appointed a study committee to investigate the feasibility of building a new courthouse and report to the September Term Grand Jury. Upon receiving the committee's report, the September Term Grand Jury recommended a \$400,000 bond election for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new Gordon County Courthouse.

Meanwhile, in September 1960, the Calhoun National Bank opened a drive-in branch bank (not extant) on the east side of North Wall Street, two doors north of the civic center (old Methodist church building). The opening of the drive-in branch climaxed the expansion and modernization program begun in 1956.

In October 1960, it was agreed that the new courthouse should be erected on the site of the existing courthouse, and on October 26, the bond issue was approved by a 2 to 1 vote. The *Calhoun Times* declared on February 2, 1961, that "a landmark familiar to Gordon Countians for over 71 years will soon disappear from view as Calhoun takes on the new look of the 60's." The architects of the new courthouse were Cunningham & Forehand of Atlanta, and the construction contract was let to Gann Construction Company of Atlanta on February 14, 1961. Demolition of the 1889 courthouse began on April 13, 1961, and work on the new courthouse began on May 29, 1961.

In September 1961, the 1st Federal Savings & Loan Association announced plans to erect a modern building (50 feet by 73 feet) at 208 North Wall Street, immediately south of the First Baptist Church and across the street from the Calhoun National Bank's drive-in branch. Also in 1961, Scoggins-McBrayer Furniture, Inc. converted the old one-story Ballew Building, at the southeast corner of North Park Avenue and Harlan Street, into a three-story building. Scoggins-McBrayer moved into the new building (extant, altered) at 113 North Park Avenue in December 1961, but deferred the formal opening until the spring of 1962.

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By April 1962, the new Gordon County Courthouse (extant, altered) was nearing completion, and in June 1962, county officials completed their move into the building. The new 1st Federal Savings & Loan building (not extant) was completed in December 1962, and its grand opening was announced for January 2 through January 10, 1963. This modern building featured a façade of rose granite, white marble, and glass.

In February 1964, Bert Lance, president of the Calhoun National Bank, announced plans to construct a modern, 9,000-square-foot banking facility at 215 North Wall Street, across the street from the new 1st Federal Savings & Loan building. William F. Cann of Bank Building and Equipment Corporation of America, St. Louis, Missouri, was the architect. The new Calhoun National Bank (extant, with 1969 addition) opened on November 3, 1964. Its construction resulted in the demolition of the bank's drive-in branch.

It was announced in January 1965 that the Calhoun-Gordon County Library, housed in the Woman's Club Cabin in the Ladies' Park on North Park Avenue, would be moved to the Doughty Building on the corner of Court Street and South Wall Street—the building recently vacated by the Calhoun National Bank—and that the construction of a new library building was being studied. In November 1965, the City of Calhoun and Gordon County agreed to match federal funds to pay for a new library building; and in March 1966, the Calhoun-Gordon County Library Board announced plans to construct a modern, 6,905-square-foot, brick and glass building. The tentative site of the new library was the Ladies' Park and the plans called for the Woman's Club Cabin to be razed. By the end of March, the State Board of Education had approved the plans for the new library, and construction was scheduled to begin in August 1966. In late July 1966, the Woman's Club Cabin, rather than being demolished, was moved from the site; and by March 1967, the new Calhoun-Gordon County Library (extant, enlarged/remodeled 1988-89) was nearing completion. It was scheduled to open in May 1967. The engineer and architect were Lewis L. Zickel, P. E., and L. Miles Sheffer, A. I. A., of Zickel-Sheffer Associates, Atlanta.

Meanwhile, the Men's Park was not faring much better than the Ladies' Park in avoiding redevelopment. As early as March 1962, downtown merchants had petitioned the city to convert the Men's Park into a municipal parking lot. Unlike the Ladies' Park, which was owned by the city, the Men's Park was owned by the state and leased to the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which, in turn, leased the property to the city. The lease complication (the city could use the property only as a park under the terms of its lease from the railroad) and local support for retaining the park, described in 1965 as "just a grassed plot with no benches or facilities," prevented action for several years. On October 22, 1968, however, the city obtained a lease for the Men's Park from the State Properties Control Commission to become effective on December 21, 1969, the date the Louisville & Nashville Railroad's lease expired. The city understood that the railroad was agreeable to a new lease until December 21, 1969, and planned to convert the park into a parking lot. By October 1968, there was apparently little opposition to the proposal.

Also in October 1968, the old county jail, on the northeast corner of Piedmont Street and South Court Street, was razed for the construction of a new jail (not extant). Two months later, on December 23, a large fire gutted three business places on South Park Avenue. Mostly destroyed was the two-story Logan Building (1907), which comprised the north half of the block between Oothcalooga Street and Hicks Street.

In January 1969, Bert Lance, president of the Calhoun National Bank, announced the construction of a 9,650square-foot addition to the bank building at 215 North Wall Street that would more than double its size. This was the second expansion of the banking facility in five years. The first was a 1966 addition of six drive-in units (not extant) on the north side of the building. A few days later, the Calhoun National Bank announced that the civic center building (old Methodist church), purchased from the city, would be remodeled and converted into a community center. Again, these projects would be designed, constructed, and equipped by the Bank Building and Equipment Corporation of America, with William F. Cann as architect.

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As the Calhoun National Bank was being expanded on North Wall Street, the Citizens Bank of Calhoun, chartered in December 1967, opened a new banking facility (extant) in April 1969 at 315 South Wall Street, immediately south of the Miller Brothers building. A completely renovated Martin Theatre (former Gem Theatre), 114 North Wall Street, opened to the public on June 19, 1969. The theatre featured 567 new seats, draped and paneled walls, redone restrooms, a new ceramic tile front, an enlarged lobby and new concession stand, sound-proofed walls and doors, a new ticket office, new sound equipment and a larger screen, and a new red and gold décor. Rufus Bland, architect and engineer of Columbus, Georgia, was in charge of the work. The newly enlarged Calhoun National Bank (extant) and the remodeled CNB Community Center (not extant) held an open house on September 24, 1969. In October 1969, a Goodyear Service Store (extant, altered) opened at 205 South Wall Street, replacing a filling station on the site; and in November 1969, two, one-story stores (extant, altered) opened at 202 South Park Avenue, rebuilt from the fire-gutted Logan Building at the southeast corner of Park Avenue and Oothcalooga Street.

Like the construction and enlargement of the Calhoun National Bank resulted in the demolition of all the historic houses between Piedmont and Wall streets from the old Methodist church (civic center) north to Trammel Street, the construction of another large financial institution, the Calhoun Federal Savings & Loan Association, resulted in the loss of the remaining houses between Piedmont and Wall streets from Hicks Street north to the old Johnston-Hall Hospital building. The Calhoun Federal Savings & Loan Association (extant, 226 South Wall Street) was formally occupied on November 24, 1971. Construction was by the Southern Division of the Bank Building Corporation of America, Decatur, Georgia; and the architect was Charles P. Guariglia of St. Louis, Missouri.

The Starr-Mathews Insurance Agency built the building at 108 North Court Street (extant) in 1973, replacing a historic, two-story, cement block building on the site. In 1976 the Calhoun First Baptist Church built a new church on College Street. In April 1977, the old church property on North Wall Street was acquired by the 1st Federal Savings & Loan Association, which began the construction of a new, three-story building in March 1978. The new 1st Federal Savings & Loan Association building (extant), which replaced the two-story, 1962 building, opened in March 1980.

With the trend toward decentralized commercial development continuing, Calhoun's central business section began to decline. Beginning in the late 1960s, many of the property owners that remained downtown attempted to imitate their modern competitors by remodeling their traditional storefronts and historic facades using contemporary designs and materials. Many of these remodelings were done in coordination with the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce's downtown revitalization program, active in the mid-1970s. An example in the district is Haney Jewelry at 106 Court Street, remodeled in 1977.

Another approach to downtown revitalization, emphasizing historic preservation and the National Main Street Center's four-point approach, began in 1994 when Calhoun was designated a Georgia Main Street City. Participating in the Main Street Program has encouraged improvement to downtown properties and the removal of "modernizations" to expose the historic facades of downtown buildings. In 1997 the old Rooker Hotel, altered and vacant for more than twenty years, was purchased by the Calhoun-Gordon Arts Council. It was rehabilitated into an arts center that opened in January 2000, and an adjoining 200-seat performing arts theater was completed in 2004. In 2002 the old Gem/Martin Theatre (Moss-Johnson Building) was donated to the Friends of Calhoun's Gem Theatre, Inc. The building had been used as a men's clothing store from 1982 to 2002. The rehabilitated exterior of the building now looks much like it did as the Gem Theatre in the 1930s.

A design review process was initiated for a Downtown Calhoun Historic District on June 11, 2007, when the Calhoun City Council designated an area bounded by Line Street on the north, Piedmont Street on the east, Hicks Street on the south, and the CSX Railroad on the west as a local historic district. About the same time, a historic downtown Calhoun streetscape plan, a Transportation Enhancement Project, was completed along

Calhoun Downtown Historic District Name of Property (Expires 5/31/2012)

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Court Street. Streetscape changes included patterned brick sidewalks, replacement street ights, street furniture, and street trees. Phase 2 of the project, completed in February 2009, included sidewalks with brick accents, more "period" streetlights, and street trees along the west side of Wall Street, from Hicks Street to just north of Harlan Street.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

- Bell, Burton, J., comp. and ed. 1976 Bicentennial History of Gordon County, Georgia. Calhoun, Ga.: Gordon County Historical Society, 1976.
- Brown, John M. and Gordon County Historical Society. Yesteryears: Pictorial History of Calhoun and Gordon County, Georgia, 1830-1977. Calhoun, Ga.: Gordon County Historical Society, 1977.

Calhoun (GA) Times, 1916-1969 (Microfilm).

Calhoun (GA) Times and Gordon County News, 28 February 1979, Heritage Edition.

Georgia Department of Archives and History. U.S. Census records from 1870-2000.

Reeve, Jewell B. *Climb the Hills of Gordon*. Reprint ed., Greenville, S. C.: Southern Historical Press, Inc., 1979 and 1997.

Sanborn Map and Publishing Company, Ltd. Fire Insurance Maps for Calhoun, Ga., 1911, 1929, and 1948.

Sears, Joan Niles. The First One Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia. Atlanta: Cherokee Publishing Company, 1979.

Vanishing Georgia Collection, Georgia Department of Archives and History, Office of Secretary of State, in the Digital Library of Georgia. Calhoun, Gordon County, photographs. <u>http://cdm.sos.state.ga.us/cdm4/vanishing.php</u> (accessed March 10, 2011).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Calhoun Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Gordon County, Georgia County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 22 acres.

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

(Note: The following UTM references are in North American Datum 1927, in order to be consistent with the submitted USGS topographic map.)

1	16	687970	3819850	3	16	688230	3819220	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	_	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	16	688320	3819850	4	16	687850	3819220	
	Zone	Easting	Northing	_	Zone	Easting	Northing	

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached National Register map with a heavy black line, drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the intact, contiguous, historic resources associated with the downtown commercial area of the city of Calhoun. To the north of the district is non-historic commercial development, followed by historic residential development further north. To the east are non-historic commercial and institutional development and historic residential areas. To the south are mixed areas of historic and non-historic residential, commercial, and industrial development. To the west are the historic (National Register-listed) Calhoun Depot and the CSX Railroad tracks.

11. Form Pr	repared By				
name/title	Denise Messick, historian				
organization	Historic Preservation Division, GA Dept. of Natural Resources	_date A	pril 2011		
street & nun	ber 254 Washington Street, Ground Level	telepho	one (404)) 656-2840	
city or town	Atlanta	state	GA	zip code	30334
e-mail	Denise.Messick@dnr.state.ga.us				

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Calhoun Downtown Historic District Name of Property

Gordon County, Georgia County and State

name/title Dan H. Latham, Jr., preservation planner	
organization Northwest Georgia Regional Commission	date April 2011
street & number P. O. Box 1798	telephone 706-295-6485
city or town Rome	state GA zip code 30162-1978
e-mail dlatham@nwgrc.org	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Calhoun Downtown Historic District City or Vicinity: Calhoun County: Gordon State: Georgia Photographer: James R. Lockhart, Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources Date Photographed: November 2009

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 34. 100 North Piedmont Street. Photographer facing southeast.
- North Piedmont Street at North Court Street. Photographer facing south/southeast. 2 of 34.
- 3 of 34. 100 and 102 North Court Street. Photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 34. Wall Street at Court Street. Photographer facing southwest.
- 107-111 South Wall Street. Photographer facing west. 5 of 34.
- 6 of 34. South Wall Street near South Court Street. Photographer facing northeast.
- 7 of 34. 201-203 South Wall Street. Photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 34. 209-211 South Wall Street. Photographer facing southwest.

Calhoun Downtown Historic District Name of Property (Expires 5/31/2012)

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9 of 34.	200 block of South Wall Street. Photographer facing northeast.
10 of 34.	226 South Wall Street (outside district). Photographer facing southeast.
11 of 34.	311 and 307 South Wall Street. Photographer facing southwest.
12 of 34.	West Hicks Street near South Park Avenue. Photographer facing west/northwest.
13 of 34.	315 South Park Avenue. Photographer facing southwest.
14 of 34.	South Wall Street at Hicks Street. Photographer facing northeast.
15 of 34.	Court Street at Wall Street. Photographer facing south.
16 of 34.	Court Street at South Park Avenue. Photographer facingsouth.
17 of 34.	100 block of Court Street. Photographer facing southeast.
18 of 34.	South Park Avenue near Court Street. Photographer facing southeast.
19 of 34.	North Park Avenue at Harlan Street (outside district). Photographer facing south/southeast.
20 of 34.	100 Trammell Street. Photographer facing northwest.
21 of 34.	300 block of North Wall Street. Photographer facing west.
22 of 34.	308 North Wall Street. Photographer facing northwest.
23 of 34.	300 North Wall Street. Photographer facing southwest.
24 of 34.	215 North Wall Street. Photographer facing south.
25 of 34.	200-204 North Wall Street. Photographer facing southwest.
26 of 34.	215 North Wall Street. Photographer facing east.
27 of 34.	200 North Wall Street. Photographer facing west.
28 of 34.	North Wall Street at Harlan Street. Photographer facing southwest.
29 of 34.	201 North Wall Street. Photographer facing south.
30 of 34.	110-116 North Wall Street. Photographer facing west.
31 of 34.	106-108 North Wall Street. Photographer facing west.
32 of 34.	100 block of Court Street. Photographer facing northwest.
33 of 34.	101-103 Court Street. Photographer facing north.
34 of 34.	100 block of North Court Street. Photographer facing northeast.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Calhoun Downtown Historic District Name of Property Gordon County, Georgia County and State

Propert	y Owner:			
(Complete	this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)			
name	Multiple owners			
street &	number	telephone		
city or to	wn	state	zip code	

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Calhoun Downtown Historic District NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Gordon

DATE RECEIVED: 4/28/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/18/11 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/13/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000332

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:NOTHER:NPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:NSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:NNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN

REJECT G.S. 11 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA		
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE	_
TELEPHONE	DATE	_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 1 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 2 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 3 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 4 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 5 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 6 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 7 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 8 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 9 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 10 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 11 of 34


Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 12 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 13 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 14 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 15 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 16 of 34



Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 17 of 34



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Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 20 of 34



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Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 22 of 34



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Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 27 of 34



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Calhoun Downtown Historic District Gordon County, Georgia Photograph 34 of 34





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HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS COMMISSIONER DR. DAVID CRASS RECEIVED 2280 IVISION DIRECTOR

	APR 28 2011	
NAT	REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	

April 20, 2011

J. Paul Loether National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the following nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for your consideration:

Fischer, Dr. Luther C. and Lucy Hurt, House, DeKalb County, Georgia Calhoun Downtown Historic District, Gordon County, Georgia

Sincerely,

Burk

Gretchen Brock National Register & Survey Program Manager Historic Preservation Division

Enclosure