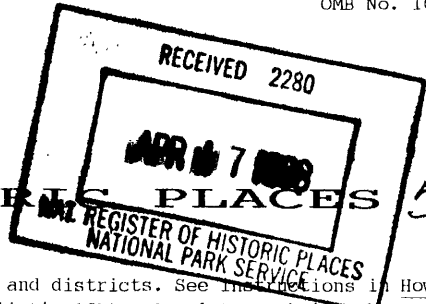


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM** 555



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Latta Downtown Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number along portions of East and West Main Streets not for publication ____
city or town Latta vicinity ____
state South Carolina code SC county Dillon code 033 zip code 29565

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally.
(___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 4/6/98
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy SHPO, S.C. Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 5-20-98

for _____
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>13</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
				Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Latta Multiple Resource Area
 Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub: <u>Professional</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Financial Institution</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Specialty Store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Department Store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Restaurant</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	Sub: <u>Professional</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Financial Institution</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Specialty Store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Department Store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Restaurant</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)
Late 19th and Early 20th
Century American Movements

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)
 foundation Brick
 roof Asphalt
 walls Brick, Sandstone
 other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important prehistory 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 a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Commerce

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Period of Significance

ca. 1895-ca. 1928

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

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

Name of repository: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 4.0 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing		
1	17	644120	3800600	3	17	644240	3800370	5	17	644100	3800540
2	17	644300	3800480	4	17	644140	3800440				

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Green Brigman, Manager
organization Latta Revitalization Commission date 15 December 1997
street & number P.O. Box 803 telephone (803) 752-5115
city or town Latta state SC zip code 29565

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name Multiple
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 5

Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
Dillon County, South Carolina
county and State

The Latta Downtown Historic District is a collection of fourteen commercial buildings along East and West Main Street in Latta, a district which is roughly bounded on one end by U.S. Highway 301 and on the other by the railroad which separates East and West Main Streets. Thirteen properties contribute and one property does not contribute to the character of this historic district. These properties were built from ca. 1895 to ca. 1928 and represent the development of Main Street as the commercial center of the town.

The Latta Downtown Historic District consists of the following contributing resources:

1. **Parham Building** (ca. 1895), 118-120 East Main Street: Northwest corner of U.S. Highway 301 and East Main Street. A two-story brick building constructed by Warren George on property purchased from the railroad,¹ this building features a corbeled cornice with stringcoursing and recessed panels above two sets of paired windows at 120 East Main and five single segmental-arched window openings with hood molds at 118 East Main (all covered with plywood in recent years). At street level, inset entrances remain largely intact including historic bulkheads. At top of 120 East Main Street's storefront opening is a historic amber-colored prismatic glass transom. An intact triple segmental-arched inset entrance with amber-colored vertical divided light transoms remains at 118 East Main, as well as at an additional, but smaller, segmental-arched asymmetrical storefront to the northwest. Side windows on east elevation of 120 East Main have segmental-arched hood molds. Low, stepped horizontal buttresses flank the base of the building on this side elevation along with visible steel tie-rods below windows. Built as a hotel, it also had rooms where salesmen showed their wares and was called the "Drummers' Show Room." In 1998 120 East Main houses Tom's Used Furniture, while 1118 East Main is vacant; at the left of 118 Main Street facade is an additional entrance which housed a barber shop.
2. **116 East Main Street** (ca. 1928): A two-story brick building with a double-layered dogtooth corbeled cornice and recessed brick panels above and below two sets of paired windows with one-over-one, double-hung sash. Original asymmetrical inset entrance is intact with the exception of modern shingled canopy. Horizontal-paneled door with single-light transom at right of storefront accesses a stair to second floor. A soldier course visually divides street and upper level. Originally an alley infill, it first housed a funeral parlor. In 1998 it is vacant.

¹Interview with John Parham, Latta, S.C., 29 November 1997.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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-
3. **McMillan Building (ca. 1920), 110-112 East Main Street:** A two-story buff-colored brick building featuring a corbeled cornice and recessed paneled parapet with brownstone coping; a corbeled brick and brownstone stringcourse separate storefront from upper floor. Second floor windows of six-over-six panes (112 East Main) and wood and louver infill (110 East Main) have brownstone jack-arched lintels. 110 East Main was built as the Bank of Latta and features a stair entrance to second level at right, a brownstone triple-arcaded East Main Street entrance wraps onto the alley and runs full depth of building with continuous brownstone-capped semicircular arched windows (most partially brick-infilled). Square headed, brownstone-capped entrances occur half-way and at last bay of alley elevation. Brownstone-capped arcade features a continuous drip mold. 110 East Main was later an ice cream parlor and then a post office. In 1998 it houses The Laundry Center. 112 East Main was built as a hardware store; in the 1940s and 1950s it was a movie theater. In 1998 it houses RJK Frames and Things, a gourmet coffee and frame shop.²
4. **Cox Building (ca. 1923), 104,106 and 108 East Main Street:** A one-story brick building laid in five-to-one common bond. Has zigzag corbeled cornice and a prismatic glass transom (only at 106 and 108 East Main) obscured by a metal awning. Original storefront is intact at both 106 and 108 East Main. 104 East Main was built as a drugstore by Skillit Rogers and was later Smith Drug Store, Bailey Drug Store, and finally Shelley Drug Store; in 1998 it is vacant and has a modern storefront. 106 East Main has display windows on each side of a recessed entrance. It was built as a dry goods store and closed in the 1960s; in 1998 it is vacant. 108 East Main has a stepped parapet designed to disguise the gently-sloping built-up roof, a wood-infilled side-display window opening, a brick-infilled loading bay and segmental-arched window, and a segmental-arched loading door on alley (east) elevation. Decorative tie rods are visible on this elevation. 108 East Main was a Ford dealership, then a grocery store until the late 1960s; in 1998 it is vacant with a partially-collapsed roof.
5. **102 East Main Street (ca. 1920):** A one-story brick building laid in six-to-one common bond with a slightly-projecting brick coping along the top of the parapet. Has metal awning and a modern storefront. Above commercial storefront is a soldier course lintel. Building was a meat market in early 1920s, later a post office; then was a five-and-ten cent store. Later Shelley Drug Store bought it and remained there until the mid-1960s. In 1998 it houses Delta Loans.

²Interview with Shirley Kopituk, Latta, S.C., 12 November 1997.

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Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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6. **100 East Main Street** (ca. 1928): A one-story brick-veneered corner building laid in stretcher bond with corbeled cornice and canted entrance with modern block glass transom and other infill; brick pilasters along both elevations. Modern fixed triple-sash window on East Main Street facade and single, fixed-glass window on side (railroad) elevation. Building was brick-veneered after train derailment caused extensive damage. Built as a drugstore owned by Ed Bethea and later by Skillit Rogers, it later served as the Farmers and Merchants Bank, then the Latta Depository. In 1998 it houses Carolina Community Bank.
7. **102 West Main Street** (ca. 1910): A large two-story brick building constructed in six-to-one common bond with pointed-arch, recess-paneled corbeled parapet that wraps east (railroad) elevation. Second floor windows on both front and side elevations feature segmental-arched openings, voussoirs, and cast keystones. Windows on West Main Street facade have faux louvered shutters. Windows on east elevation have been infilled with plywood; however, all retain wood frames. It has a corbeled stringcourse between first and second floors with decorative tie-rods still visible on the facade and east elevation. Commercial storefront has been altered. It has a single loading bay door on the east elevation; built as a department store by M.H. Bloom. In the 1930s and 1940s was a post office; later a used furniture store. In 1998 it houses Jones Discount Store.
8. **101 East Main Street** (ca. 1912): A two-story brick building with deeply corbeled cornice. A corner building with segmental arched portals that access historic canted inset entrance. Slightly projecting brick surrounds frame portal entries, windows, and East Main Street stairwell door. Second floor has segmental-arched windows with six-over-one, one-over-one, and four-over-one sash on south facade and west (side) elevation. Interior features a decorative beam-and-coffered ceiling, as well as the original bank vault. Has fireplaces with small mantels. Built by E.L. Berry as Farmers and Merchants Bank. In succession served as a grocery store, fish market, antique store, record store, and trucking office. In 1998 it houses Different Strokes Art Gallery on Main Street and Meekins Bargain Shop in rear of building with entrance on west (railroad) elevation.
9. **Kornblut's Department Store** (ca. 1906), **103 East Main Street**: A two-story brick building with a deeply corbeled cornice. Windows on second floor have segmental arches with drip molds. Historic alteration was made in 1930s with Carrara glass treatment of entire storefront. Painted signs on facade advertise "Quality since 1906" and "FASHIONS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY."

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 7 Page 8

Latta Downtown Historic District

name of property

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Interior has original pressed-metal ceiling. Right (west) side was originally a drugstore, while left (east) side has always been Kornblut's Department Store. In 1998 it is still operated as same by Moses Kornblut, son of the original owner.³

10. **105-107 East Main Street (ca. 1918):** A two-story brick building with zigzag corbeled cornice with plain brick parapet. Above and between windows on second floor with eight-over-two vertical panes and soldier course lintels are recessed basket-weave brick panels. A brick soldier course panel is present below windows, while a simple soldier course lintel caps each storefront. A prismatic stained glass transom runs the width of each storefront, onto east (side) elevation, and above the stairwall entry at far right of East Main facade. Side elevation's storefront window under prismatic glass transom has been infilled with brick. A large service bay is located midway the side elevation, while single windows toward rear of first floor and all along second floor. A corbeled, stepped parapet is visible along side elevation. Built as a frame livery stable by M.H. Cox, then rebuilt ca. 1918 as Latta Motor Sales, a Ford dealership; later Town Hall and Jail. In 1998 105 East Main houses Service Insurance Agency, operated by the grandson of the original owner; and 107 East Main houses Johnson's Florist.
11. **111 East Main Street (ca. 1920):** A one-story brick building with corbeled cornice and recessed panels above storefront. Original transom has been replaced by wood and commercial storefront has been altered. Has stepped parapet on west (alley) elevation. Built as a grocery store, it was bought by Mr. I. Cohen and operated as a clothing store until his death, after which his son Leonard Cohen continued the business until the 1980s. In 1998 it houses an independent church.
12. **113 East Main Street (ca. 1920):** A one-story brick building with corbeled and dogtoothed cornice and stringcoursing. Storefront has been altered to obscure iron-front piers. Built as a general merchandise store, it later became a grocery store. In 1998 it houses Fashions Above Fashions Barber College.
13. **115 East Main Street (ca. 1920):** A one-story brick building with corbeled cornice and recessed panels. Wood paneling obscures original transom for storefront which still has its original inset entry. Iron columns on each

³Interview with Moses Kornblut, Latta, S.C., 25 July 1997.

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Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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side of entrance bear the name "Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Company." Originally part of three joined buildings with interior archways between them. Built by Clyde Parham, it housed a ladies' clothing store and was later a drugstore, then in the 1950s and 1960s it housed a furniture store. In 1998 it houses Nam's Restaurant.

One property does not contribute to the character of the Latta Downtown Historic District:

14. **117 East Main Street** (ca. 1920): A one-story brick building, with extensive modern alterations. The upper portion is covered with shingles. Original recessed entry is intact with iron columns in front that bear the name "Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Company." The side (east) elevation, facing a small park, is clad in vertically-applied planks so as to obscure the effects on the common wall of a fire which destroyed the building next door. The building was one of three of Clyde Parham's stores that later became a gift shop. Nathan Epstein opened a fine sportswear store in the early 1960s and operated it until the early 1970s. In 1998 it houses a beauty salon and antique store.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 8 Page 10

Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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Statement of Significance

The Latta Downtown Historic District is significant for its high concentration of intact examples of early twentieth-century commercial architecture and as an illustration of Latta's role as a center of trade and commerce in Dillon County during the period ca. 1895-ca. 1928.

The town was founded as the result of a by-pass railroad line chartered by the Florence Railroad in 1882, a line running almost directly north and south from Pee Dee, near Florence, to Fayetteville and Wilson, North Carolina.⁴ Six years later railroad officials, deciding that a loading station was needed seven miles south of Dillon, established one in what is now Latta. The new station was named for Robert J. Latta, a native of York, S.C., who surveyed the right-of-way for the Florence Railroad and made plans for the future expansion of the station into a town.⁵ Latta soon became a thriving little town and stills boasts a wide Main Street and arterial connections, all planned by Robert Latta.

Latta was incorporated as a town in what was then Marion County on 23 December 1890. Dillon County was created from Marion in 1910.⁶ The town's boom period was from the turn of the twentieth century to the 1920s, when Latta became a major tobacco market in the Pee Dee region of the state. Trade from the rich farming section surrounding the town supported a variety of mercantile establishments such as grocery stores, drugstores, a hotel, two banks, and several dry goods stores concentrated in a block east of the railroad on Main Street.

⁴Durward T. Stokes, History of Dillon County (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1978), p. 122.

⁵Ibid., 124.

⁶W.W. Sellars, A History of Marion County (Columbia: R.L. Bryan Company, 1902), p. 555.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 9 Page 11

Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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MAJOR REFERENCES

INTERVIEWS

Kopituk, Shirley M., Latta, S.C., 12 November 1997.

Kornblut, Moses, Latta, S.C., 25 July 1997.

Parham, John M., Latta, S.C., 29 November 1997.

OTHER

Marion County Courthouse, Marion, S.C.

Certificate of Incorporation of the Town of Latta, 1890

Sellers, W.W. A History of Marion County. Columbia: R.L. Bryan Company,
1902.

Stokes, Durward T. The History of Dillon County. Columbia: University of
South Carolina Press, 1978.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Section 10 Page 12

Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Latta Downtown Historic District is shown as the black line marked "Latta Downtown Historic District" on the accompanying Dillon County Tax Map # 104-8, drawn at a scale of 1" = 100'.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The district includes fourteen commercial properties along East and West Main Streets in Latta and retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Section PHOTOGRAPHS Page 13 Latta Downtown Historic District
name of property
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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property: Latta Downtown Historic District
Location of Property: Along East and West Main Streets
Latta, Dillon County, S.C.

Name of Photographer: Robyn Fairey Richardson
Date of Photographs: October 1997
Location of Original
Negatives: S.C. Department of Archives and History,
Columbia, S.C.

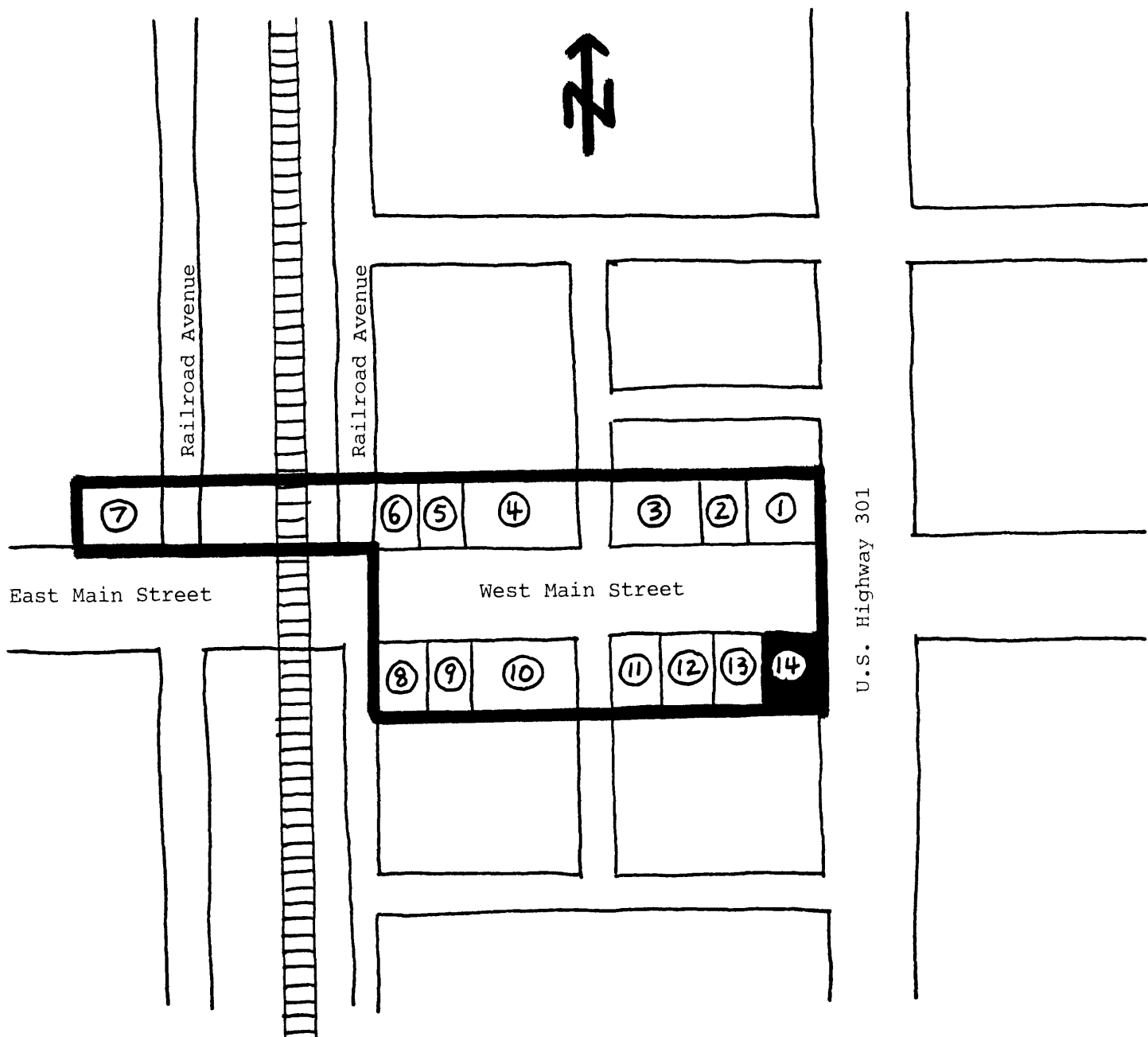
1. Parham Building, 118-120 East Main Street
118 East Main Street
2. Parham Building, 118-120 East Main Street
120 East Main Street
3. 116 East Main Street
4. McMillan Building, 110-112 East Main Street
112 East Main Street
5. McMillan Building, 110-112 East Main Street
110 East Main Street
6. McMillan Building, 110-112 East Main Street
110 East Main Street
7. Cox Building, 104-108 East Main Street
108 East Main Street
8. Cox Building, 104-108 East Main Street
108 East Main Street
9. Cox Building, 104-108 East Main Street
106 East Main Street
10. Cox Building, 104-108 East Main Street
104 East Main Street
11. 102 East Main Street
12. 100 East Main Street
13. 100 East Main Street
14. 102 West Main Street
15. 101 East Main Street
16. 101 East Main Street
17. Kornblut Department Store, 103 East Main Street
18. 105-107 East Main Street
105 East Main Street
19. 105-107 East Main Street
107 East Main Street
20. 105-107 East Main Street
107 East Main Street
21. 111 East Main Street
22. 111 East Main Street

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Section PHOTOGRAPHS Page 14 Latta Downtown Historic District
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23. 113 East Main Street
24. 115 East Main Street
25. 117 East Main Street (Noncontributing)
26. Streetscape, North side of East Main Street
27. Streetscape, South side of East Main Street



**Latta Downtown Historic District
Latta, Dillon County, S.C. (Not to Scale)**

District Boundaries 

**Property Numbers are Keyed to Inventory
in Nomination**

Noncontributing Property 