

904

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Church St., Gilmer St., Leake St., and Noble St.  not for publication  
city or town Cartersville  vicinity  
state Georgia code GA county Bartow code 015 zip code 30120

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this  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  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:  
 national  statewide  local

Dr. David C. Crass 17 September 2014  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Dr. David C. Crass/Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO Date  
Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  
Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:)  
Dr. [Signature] 11/12/14  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
 Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
 County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only one box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

	Contributing	Noncontributing	
	66	33	buildings
	0	1	sites
	1	1	structures
	2	0	objects
	69	35	<b>Total</b>

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

19 (see explanation below)

**Resources previously listed in the North Erwin Street Historic District (1994) nomination:**

Number of Resources within Property:	Contributing	Noncontributing
buildings	4	1
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	1	0
total	5	1

**Plus:** --- Bartow County Courthouse, a.k.a. the 1903 "Gold Dome" courthouse (individually listed in 1980) – 1 contributing building  
 --- Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church (individually listed in 1985) – 1 contributing building  
 (These combine for a total of 7 contributing resources within above district boundaries.)

**Resources previously listed in North Wall Street Historic District (1998) nomination:**

Number of Resources within Property:	Contributing	Noncontributing
buildings	13	2
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	13	2

(above # includes one bldg. that is no longer extant)

**Plus:** --- Grand Theatre (individually listed in 1984) - 1 contributing building  
 (These combine for a total of 14 contributing buildings within above district boundaries.)

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
 Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
 County and State

**Current classification of resources within the two previously listed district boundaries plus one individual listing outside districts** (Old Bartow County Courthouse, a.k.a. the 1869 "original" courthouse [individually listed in 1980] -- 1 contributing building):

Number of Resources within Property:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	19	1
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	2	0
total	21	1

*(Note: The above numbers reflect re-classifications of noncontributing to contributing due to an extended period of significance and the addition of a previously undocumented resource. The total number of resources is not consistent with the previous tables due to loss of a building and/or inconsistencies in counting in the previous nomination.)*

**Number of resources in newly added acreage of Cartersville Downtown Historic District** (excluding previously listed individual properties and districts):

Number of Resources within Property:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	65	33
sites	0	1
structures	1	1
objects	1	0
total	67	35

*(Note: The above total of 67 does not match the first table labeled "Number of Resources within Property" because it excludes the Felton Monument, which is being added to this nomination as a newly documented contributing object within the boundaries of the previously listed North Erwin Street Historic District. It also excludes a building in the same district that is being reclassified from noncontributing to contributing.)*

**Total combined number of resources within Cartersville Downtown Historic District:**

Number of Resources within Property	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	84	34
sites	0	1
structures	1	1
objects	3	0
total	88	36

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE: business, professional,  
financial institution, specialty store, restaurant,  
department store, warehouse

GOVERNMENT: city hall, government office, post  
office, courthouse

RELIGION: religious facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater,  
monument/marker

TRANSPORTATION: rail-related

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: business, professional,  
financial institution, specialty store, restaurant,  
warehouse

GOVERNMENT: government office

RELIGION: religious facility

RECREATION AND CULTURE: theater,  
monument/marker, museum

LANDSCAPE: plaza

TRANSPORTATION: rail-related

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, Romanesque

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS:

Beaux Arts, Colonial Revival, Classical Revival,  
Italian Renaissance

MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK

walls: BRICK  
TERRA COTTA

roof: ASPHALT

other: METAL  
GLASS

## 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 Cartersville Downtown Historic District consists of the intact 35-acre commercial and government center that developed from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Located in the Etowah Valley, near the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, the district is mostly flat with some slightly undulating terrain. Downtown streets are aligned in a grid pattern that runs both perpendicular and parallel to the north-south railroad line which bisects the town. Most commercial development is located along three blocks of Main Street (an arterial thoroughfare), plus two blocks on both sides of the railroad depot, in an area known as the Public Square. A 1982 overpass spans the railroad tracks on the north side of the district, with several historic buildings located "under the bridge." Contributing resources in the district consist primarily of attached commercial buildings dating mostly from the late 1870s to the early 1930s. They typically have red brick facades of one to two stories in height with first-floor storefronts and upper-floor windows and cornices. There

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

is also a good intact collection of government, religious, and transportation-related buildings. Community landmarks include the former Western and Atlantic (W & A) train depot (1854 with 1902 modifications), two historic courthouses (the original from 1869, and the "Gold Dome Courthouse" from 1903), the former U. S. Post Office (1914), the former First Baptist Church (1905), the Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church (1906), the former Cartersville City Hall (1916-1917), the Grand Theatre (1924), and the former Southern Bell building (1940). Overall integrity is good, with the exception of storefront alterations on some commercial blocks.

---

### **Narrative Description**

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is the core historic commercial area and central business district of Cartersville. Cartersville is the county seat of Bartow County, located in northwest Georgia, approximately 45 miles from Atlanta. The district includes commercial, government, religious, and community landmark buildings. It covers approximately 35 acres, including about 10 acres that were previously listed in the National Register. The streets are laid out in a slightly skewed north-south and east-west grid pattern. Main Street, an arterial thoroughfare, includes a portion of State Route (SR) 113 and SR 293 running east-west through the southern portion of downtown. The railroad tracks run north-south through the center of downtown in a rectangular open area known as the Public Square. A 1982 highway bridge spans over the railroad tracks at the north side of the Public Square. The central commercial core consists primarily of one- and two-story, attached, brick buildings with first-floor storefronts. A few blocks on the northwest, west, and south edges have less regular layouts with several stand-alone buildings. The district is surrounded by historic and modern commercial and residential development.

The following previously listed National Register nominations in downtown Cartersville are within the boundaries of the Cartersville Downtown Historic District:

- Old Bartow County Courthouse (constructed 1869, listed 1980)
- Bartow County Courthouse (constructed 1903, listed 1980)
- Grand Theatre (constructed 1924, listed 1984)
- Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church (constructed 1906, listed 1985)
- North Erwin Street Historic District (listed 1994, includes Bartow County Courthouse and Sam Jones United Methodist Church within its boundaries)
- North Wall Street Historic District (listed 1998, includes Grand Theatre within its boundaries)

In addition, there was a multiple property documentation form entitled "Historic and Architectural Resources in Downtown Cartersville, Georgia" completed in 1994. It was the cover document for the two previous district nominations. However, the multiple property listing is not being used as the primary basis for this nomination, because the Cartersville Downtown Historic District reflects an extended period of significance (beyond 1944) to include mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century resources up to 1964.

Cartersville is in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. Pine Mountain, one of the highest points in Bartow County, is located approximately three miles east of the district near Interstate 75. From this point, the terrain gradually decreases in elevation extending west toward downtown. The area around the Public Square is relatively flat, but the 1903 courthouse is located on a hilltop just west of the square in the district (photograph 8). Moving southwest beyond the district along SR 61/113, the land flattens out further and is low-lying adjacent to the Etowah River outside town.

Historic transportation routes within the district include state highways, city streets, and railroad lines. Cartersville was established and flourished largely because of a transportation network that has flowed directly through downtown (photograph 23). From around 1850 to the early 1900s, the rail lines (first the W & A, later

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

two more rail lines) were most important and ran through the middle of downtown. From the 1920s to the 1940s, the Dixie Highway (now portions of SR 293 in Cartersville) served as an important road network through downtown connecting the Midwest to Florida. The construction of the four-lane US Highway 41 east of downtown in the 1950s, along with the ending of passenger rail service, shifted a significant portion of traffic away from downtown. However, a bypass around the community has never been built, and Main Street (SR 113/293) continues to serve as a heavily-used thoroughfare for local and regional east-west traffic (photographs 6 and 18). The continuation of traffic through the decades helped downtown retain some businesses during the transition toward commercial strip development on the edge of town east along Main Street and north along the adjacent U.S. Highway 41 (Joe Frank Harris Parkway). The north section of the district includes the 1982 Church Street overpass bridge (a noncontributing structure) that goes over the railroad and over a historic commercial area now known as "Under the Bridge" (photograph 27).

Public Square (photograph 15) is not a traditional square, but is an elongated rectangular plaza, including several parking lots, running north and south on both sides of the railroad tracks. The current CSX rail line runs north-south through the middle of the "square," alongside the historic W & A railroad depot (photograph 1). (The railroad line is a contributing structure, and the plaza next to it is considered a noncontributing site due to major landscape alterations.) Cartersville was designated as a county seat after the railroad came through, therefore relegating the courthouse to a less dominant location than the railroad depot. Both historic courthouses are slightly removed from the center of downtown in secondary locations, which is an unusual configuration for Georgia towns. Main Street (SR 61/113/293 in downtown) runs east-west to form the southern edge of the square. Cartersville is considered a "cross-rail" town because the grid of streets follows the layout of the railroad lines in both parallel and perpendicular orientations.

The landscape characteristics of the district are typical of many small downtown business districts in Georgia. The features include paved streets in front of the commercial buildings with concrete sidewalks, curbs, streetlights, planting strips, benches, and street trees. Streetscape improvements were completed by the city around 2006. The Public Square includes a non-historic fountain in what is now called Fountain Plaza. Several older oak trees, called "Founders Oaks," are adjacent to the fountain. Around the 1903 courthouse there is a green lawn with larger trees that is defined by a low granite wall. A few detached buildings have small yards with trees and shrubs, although this is not typical of the district. There are several surface parking lots, mostly near the railroad, but also scattered throughout the district. Other than the Fountain Plaza, there are no parks within the downtown historic district. There are also no continuous rear alleys, although some buildings have rear service entrances (photograph 22).

The district also includes three historic monuments (all contributing objects). The Bartow County Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy unveiled a monument in December 1908 on the southeast corner of the grounds of the 1903 courthouse (photograph 9). (It was previously listed as a contributing object in the North Erwin Street Historic District.) Typical of many monuments in the South, it depicts a Confederate soldier facing north. Also on the same block is the Felton Monument (photograph 4), a stone obelisk dedicated in 1908 to William Harrell Felton, a politician, surgeon, and minister who served eight terms in the Georgia legislature and six terms in the U. S. Congress. The third monument is the Friendship Monument, a stone memorial surrounded by a cast-iron fence near the train depot. It was erected in 1860 in the town of Etowah, moved to downtown Cartersville in 1927, removed in the 1960s, and moved back to Cartersville in 1999. The monument was initiated by local businessman Mark Cooper to honor 38 friends who aided him in a financial crisis.

Some of the important community landmark buildings in the downtown district are the former W & A train depot (1854), which is now a visitor center; the original county courthouse (1869), which is now the Bartow History Museum; the second courthouse (1903), which is known locally as the "Gold Dome Courthouse" and is now the location of the Etowah Valley Historical Society; the former U. S. Post Office (1914), which houses city government administrative offices; the Grand Theatre (1924); the former city hall (1916-1917); and two historic churches, among others. *(Note: While the Grand Theatre is spelled throughout this document as*

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

*shown on the 1984 National Register form, most later sources spell it as "theater.")* The downtown no longer has any historic hotels, though several were lost over the years. The current Bartow County Courthouse/Frank Moore Administration Building (1992) is just outside the western boundary of the district and the Booth Western Art Museum (2003) is just outside the northern boundary. The current Cartersville City Hall (1987) and the Cartersville-Bartow Chamber of Commerce (1997) are also outside the district to the west.

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is composed primarily of commercial row buildings fronting sidewalks without setbacks (photographs 3, 5, 6, and 12). Late 19<sup>th</sup>- to early 20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings that share party walls are mostly located on or adjacent to the Public Square (including the streets of Public Square, Wall Street, Erwin Street, Gilmer Street) as well as on most of Main Street. Buildings to the south of West Main Street are more likely to be detached and to have been built later, including a couple of warehouses (photograph 24) and former service stations (photograph 26). The eastern section of the district, closest to U.S. Highway 41 (Joe Frank Harris Parkway) includes the free-standing Four Way Diner (photograph 25) at the intersection of Main Street and Gilmer Street. Other detached buildings are on the western section of the district (photographs 7 and 16). The northwest section of the district includes the 1903 courthouse and other free-standing buildings related to government and religion. A large mixed-use building known as Integrity Plaza (2004) and the historic First Presbyterian Church (listed in the National Register in 1991) are to the immediate west of the district outside the boundaries.

The majority of the buildings in the Cartersville Downtown Historic District are one- and two-story commercial buildings typical of many Georgia towns. The 1869 Italianate courthouse (photographs 13 and 14) set the standard for many decades for the exterior appearance of the downtown commercial buildings, especially for finish materials and window configurations. Brick facades are common. Although some buildings were painted, many retain the medium-red, unpainted, brick design similar to the 1869 courthouse. The windows of many downtown buildings also have tall, narrow, designs similar to those of the original courthouse. The two churches in the district, Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church (photograph 10) and the former First Baptist Church (photograph 19) each have significant portions of stained-glass. There is some use of cast iron in the district, plus a few distinctive mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century materials such as Carrara structural glass (photograph 2, lower façade). Glazed terra cotta covers the façade of the Grand Theatre (photograph 11). The 1903 "Gold Dome Courthouse" and adjacent 1906 Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church stand out for their distinct tall white Corinthian columns. (The dome of this courthouse has long been used as a symbol of the county government.)

Many of the buildings in the district fit into Richard Longstreth's definition of one-part commercial blocks and two-part commercial blocks, as defined in *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture* (1987). The attached multiple-story buildings that were constructed from the late-19<sup>th</sup> through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries often display the characteristics of the two-part commercial block (photograph 3). They have two distinct zones with a horizontal division; the first floor has a public use, such as a store or office, and the second floor has more private function, such as storage or residential uses. As the 20<sup>th</sup> century progressed, single-story one-part commercial buildings became more popular due to increasing emphasis on the horizontal and street-level accessibility (photograph 12). The rise of the automobile had a strong correlation to less dense development and an increased need for parking. Some free-standing commercial buildings, such as the 1940 Southern Bell office had a more residential appearance. Cartersville followed national trends in architecture as its downtown evolved.

Stylistic influences in downtown Cartersville were similar to other Georgia towns. Late Victorian-era buildings have elements of the Italianate and Romanesque Revival styles with brick corbelling, stone arched lintels, and/or segmentally arched windows. Buildings constructed in the early 1900s reflect classical influences (such as Neoclassical Revival and Colonial Revival), featuring columns, pilasters, keystones, and symmetrical facades. The Grand Theatre (1924) is an example of the exuberant Beaux Arts style, which set the theater apart as a community centerpiece (photograph 11). As the century progressed, classical elements became less pronounced (as in the Stripped Classical style) with simple cornices and a brick suggestion of pilasters,

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

eventually transitioning to more plain box-like buildings (photograph 28). The 1939 Legion Theater (photograph 17) is an example of Streamlined Moderne design. Warehouses and other utilitarian buildings from most periods tend to represent their function with almost no stylistic adornment (photograph 24). The following paragraphs discuss some of the important community buildings.

#### Western and Atlantic (W & A) Train Depot (1854, remodeled 1902)

The area that would become Cartersville was settled in anticipation of the W & A rail line, completed between Atlanta and Chattanooga in 1850. In 1854, the train depot at Cartersville was completed adjacent to the tracks in the center of town (photograph 1). It was constructed by John E. Jordan, and included a passenger waiting room, indoor storage area, and outdoor platform extending to Main Street. The depot was extensively modified in 1902; local contractor, Eugene Smith, designed additions for the building, including a new bay window and a high roof line. The exterior was originally red brick until some point in the early 1900s when it was painted an off-white/light beige color. The depot once had a long freight room, making the building extend almost 200 feet from Cherokee Avenue to Main Street. In 1972, then-owner CSX demolished the southern section of the building, but left the passenger waiting room adjacent to Cherokee Avenue. The depot remained vacant for years until around 1990 when the interior was renovated and the exterior was returned to its unpainted red-brick design. Portions of the 1850s walls (made with locally fired brick) remain, but most of the depot reflects the 1902 period. The main hipped roof has a wide overhang with wood knee-bracing. Windows have stone lintels and sills. The depot currently serves as the offices of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and as a visitor center.

#### Old Bartow County Courthouse/"Original" 1869 Courthouse, 4 E. Church Street (1869)

Before the Civil War, the county seat of then-Cass County was Cassville. During the Civil War, the county was renamed Bartow County to honor a fallen Civil War veteran. In May 1864, General William T. Sherman's troops burned Cassville, and its citizens declined to rebuild the courthouse. By an act of the Georgia legislature in 1866, the question of the new county seat was addressed. A referendum was held, and Cartersville was chosen over Cassville. In 1867, at a cost of \$20,000 dollars, construction began for a new Bartow County courthouse on Church Street in Cartersville and the building was completed in 1869 (photographs 13 and 14). The two-story rectangular-shaped building has an unpainted red-brick exterior. It has tall, narrow, windows similar to other institutional and commercial buildings of the period. The roof is slightly pitched. It is one of the few courthouses in Georgia to exhibit the Italianate style, and it is also a rare Reconstruction-era public work. The building was used as a courthouse from 1869 to 1903, when the new "Gold Dome" Courthouse opened just west of the downtown square at the corner of Cherokee Avenue and Erwin Street. From 1903 to approximately 1980, the 1869 courthouse building was used for a variety of commercial enterprises. For several years in the early 1900s, Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and photographs show that it was used as a grocery and bulk warehouse. Later, it was used as a roller skating rink. Images from the 1950s show that it was a furniture store. From approximately 1980 to 2010, the building was vacant. In 2010, the City of Cartersville renovated the building for use as the Bartow History Museum. This building was originally listed in the National Register in 1980, as part of the "County Courthouses of Georgia" thematic nomination.

#### Bartow County Courthouse/"Gold Dome Courthouse," 115 W. Cherokee Avenue (1903)

In 1903, a new larger courthouse was completed west of the downtown square on a hilltop (photographs 8 and 9). Local histories indicate that the original 1869 courthouse suffered from the distracting noise of the nearby trains. Another factor may have been that it was time for a more stylish courthouse to reflect Cartersville's increasing status in the "New South" era in Georgia. The timeline coincides with the remodeling of the train depot and other new construction in Cartersville. The new two-story courthouse's most recognizable feature is its central, three-stage, ribbed, gold-domed clock tower showing time in each of the four directions. The courthouse was designed in the Neoclassical Revival style by Kenneth McDonald and Company and James



Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

W. Golucke. The contractor was Fred Wagner. The plan is similar to six other Neoclassical Revival courthouses that Golucke designed in Georgia, after he had completed several earlier courthouses with Romanesque and Beaux Arts-style influences. The courthouse has a four-sided Greek cross plan with porticos and entrances on each side. The pedimented porticos have Corinthian columns and pronounced cornices with both modillions and dentils. Rectangular windows with emphasized keystones are on the front and side facades. The rear windows have plain stone lintels. The courthouse has a granite block foundation.

The building was used as a courthouse from 1903 to 1992, when the current Bartow County Courthouse/Frank Moore Administration Building was completed on the western side of the same property (outside the district). The current courthouse and the historic 1903 courthouse are separated by a large parking lot. The historic "Gold Dome" courthouse is currently used mostly for storage but also includes the offices of the Etowah Valley Historical Society. The 1903 courthouse was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 as part of the "County Courthouses of Georgia" thematic nomination; it was later included in the North Erwin Street Historic District, which was listed in the National Register in 1994.

First Baptist Church, 114 W. Cherokee Avenue (1905)

The First Baptist Church of Cartersville is a Romanesque Revival-style red-brick building (photograph 19). The church cornerstone was laid on November 15, 1904, and services commenced on July 9, 1905. Designed by James W. Golucke, the building has a red-brick, stretcher-bond façade, with a stone foundation and cross-gabled parapet roof. It has a cross plan with entrances in the front corner towers, which have different heights and roof shapes. Other features include corbelled brick details, round-arched window and door openings, and stained-glass rose (or wheel) windows in the front- and side-facing gables. Subsequent additions to the building date from the late 1900s. Cartersville First Baptist Church voted in the fall of 2000 to purchase 34 acres of land on Douthit Ferry Road and in 2004 the congregation occupied its new facilities. Since approximately 2009, the former church building has been used as an annex for offices of Bartow County government. The former First Baptist Church is included in the North Erwin Street Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church, 100 W. Church Street (1906)

The Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church is the current home of one of the county's oldest Methodist congregations (photograph 10). It was named for one of Cartersville's most famous citizens, Sam Porter Jones (1847-1906). Sam Jones was a Methodist minister who became a nationally known evangelist who preached revivals across the United States. The Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church is a Neo-classical Revival-style building with a full metal and stucco entablature and a portico supported by four Corinthian columns. The contractor was Eugene W. Smith and the architect was Walter T. Downing. The church was built of beige brick with granite trim and rough-hewn granite blocks for the half-basement. The below-ground half-basement contains a modernized meeting and dining room. The main floor contains a two-story sanctuary with its original pews, fluted Corinthian pilasters, original wainscoting, and a rounded-arch altar or chancel area. Original brass hardware remains throughout the building, as do the original steam heat and electrical fixtures. Changes include the excavation of the basement in 1933 to create more space, the addition of stained glass windows in 1945, the remodeling of the chancel or altar area in 1973, and the installation of a new organ.

The sanctuary building has been used by this congregation since its construction. In approximately 2004, a new Family Life building was constructed across Church Street and a pedestrian bridge was built to connect the two buildings. The Family Life building is outside the district. The sanctuary building was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985, and was later included in the North Erwin Street Historic District listing in 1994.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

U. S. Post Office, 1 N. Erwin Street (1914)

The former U.S. Post Office, located at 1 North Erwin Street, is an Italian Renaissance Revival-style building with beige stretcher-bond brick and a hipped slate roof (photograph 20). A cornerstone dates the original post office construction as 1914. It has open eaves, exposed rafter ends, and a symmetrical facade. The central section of the front façade (corresponding to the interior lobby) features a five-bay arcade with white Georgia marble arches, fluted Corinthian pilasters, and arched five-part windows in the arcade. The other windows are 12/12 double-hung sash. Other details include a double-door front entrance, three-part semicircular fanlight, a molded brick water table, and decorative brick panels. The building's unpainted, light-brick exterior is similar to that of the Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church sanctuary building nearby. The building served as the U.S. Post Office until approximately 1965 when a new post office opened east of downtown on Church Street near U.S. Highway 41. The interior of the building was altered for use by the local school board and city offices in 1969 and 1979. The vestibule and lobby are partially intact and feature vaulted ceilings, wood birch pilasters, and white tile floors. Since the 1990s, the building has been used as city administrative offices. The building is a contributing resource in the North Erwin Street Historic District, which was listed in the National Register in 1994.

Cartersville Hall, 19 N. Erwin Street (1916)

Offices for the Cartersville city government were located in various tenant spaces around the Public Square until the first free-standing city hall was built in 1916 at the corner of Church Street and N. Erwin Street. The first Cartersville City Hall is a two-story red-brick building (photograph 21). It was built by contractors R. W. Smith and E. W. Smith. Initially the front portion served as city hall and the rear portion as the fire department. It has a three-bay symmetrical facade with recessed double-entry doors framed with fluted wooden pilasters and a simple wooden entablature. There are brick semicircular arches over the first floor windows on the front facade. The north side windows are rectangular, double hung, sash with 12/12, 9/6, 9/9, and 6/6 configurations. The interior features a central hall with stairs to one side. The building was expanded in the rear c.1970 and has been used over time for administrative offices and the headquarters of the police and fire departments. The North Erwin Street Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1994, includes the city hall building. After being used for city government operations continuously for nearly 100 years, the building became vacant in 2012 when a new public safety headquarters opened outside of downtown.

Four Way Diner, 31 E. Main Street (1916)

Since at least 1916 (per Sanborn Fire Insurance maps), food and drinks have been sold in the tiny (25-by-25-foot) one-story red-brick building at the corner of E. Main Street and Gilmer Street known since 1931 as the Four Way Diner (photograph 25). The building caught fire in 1993, but firefighters subdued the blaze, and the community united in its effort to save the landmark, which is still operating. The corner building has a hipped roof, painted brick, and wooden windows.

Grand Theatre, 3 N. Wall Street (1924)

Since 1910, property near the corner of Wall Street and Market Street (now Cherokee Avenue) has continuously served as a site of entertainment. That year the Greenwood Theatre was constructed inside the Exchange Hotel at the corner of Wall and Market streets. In 1911, a contest to rename the theater was held, resulting in the new name, Grand Opera House. Performances included live shows, orchestra concerts, and plays. Also featured were silent "moving pictures." A fire broke out in 1923 in the stable located adjacent to the opera house. The entire block was destroyed, including the theater. The theater was rebuilt on a smaller scale using some of the outer walls of the building, which were still standing. The theater reopened in 1924 with the new name, the Grand Theatre.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

In 1929, the first "talkie", or motion picture with synchronized picture and sound, debuted. At this time, a complete refurbishing of the theatre was begun by architects Daniell and Beutell. In 1930, the Grand Theatre reopened with its current façade in an elaborate Beaux Arts style (photograph 11). The front is veneered in glazed terra cotta, and the sides and rear are unadorned brick. The upper-facade cornice is flanked with classical urns, a railing of stone balustrades at each end, and "faux fenestration" of three oriole windows. It is a good example of the opulent theaters built in the 1920s and 1930s as movies became a popular form of entertainment.

The Grand Theater was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984; later it was included in the North Wall Street Historic District listing in 1998. In 2004, the theatre was again rehabilitated. The Grand's interior was restored to its Art Deco design of the 1930s. Terrazzo flooring was added to areas of the lobby. All restrooms were refurbished with black and white tiling and accommodations for more patrons. Facilities for handicapped visitors were expanded and improved. The lobby was enhanced with detailed wood paneling, wooden columns and coved lighting. Inside the theatre, walls were inlaid with detailed woodwork and new roomier seats were installed.

#### Central Office of Southern Bell, 101 N. Erwin Street (1940)

The only commercial building in the North Erwin Street Historic District (listed in 1994) is the 1940 former central office of Southern Bell. A residential-type commercial building, it is a red-brick side-gabled building with a rear extension, three-bay asymmetrical facade, semicircular arched entry in the front gable, semicircular fanlight over entry, and boxed cornice. There are lunette vents in the side gables and rectangular double-hung, 6/6 windows. The side chimneys have been removed.

#### Other contributing and noncontributing resources

The commercial areas of the district that were described in the introductory paragraphs of this section have the largest number of the contributing buildings. Young Brothers Pharmacy (1881), the Legion Theater (1939) and Ross's Diner (1940) are among other well-known local establishments that are contributing buildings. There are no schools or clubhouses within the district.

Noncontributing resources are those resources that are either less than 50 years old (constructed after 1964) or are over 50 years old but have lost their historic physical features due to additions, alterations, or deterioration to the extent that these are unrecognizable as historic. Overall integrity in the district is good, though noncontributing buildings tend to be grouped together, in some cases where there were fires, such as on the block between Erwin Street and the Public Square (south of Cherokee Avenue). Ground floor alterations, storefront changes, and interior remodeling are not major factors in determining whether buildings are contributing, as this was typical for those buildings that remained in use. However, when non-historic changes have completely obscured the front of a building, those are considered noncontributing properties. Most of the noncontributing resources in the Cartersville Downtown Historic District are older buildings that have lost their historic integrity due to significant alterations, such as the application of false facades and reworked storefronts. For example, on the block of 5-19 S. Gilmer Street, major alterations make most of the buildings noncontributing.

The only noncontributing structure is the Church Street overpass (1982), and the only noncontributing site is the modern plaza (or park) south of the railroad depot. The contributing objects are the three monuments described previously. The one contributing structure is the railroad line.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

TRANSPORTATION

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1854-1964

**Significant Dates**

1854 – W&A railroad depot built

1869 – first courthouse built

1903 – second courthouse built

1924 – Grand Theatre built

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Downing, Walter T. (architect)

Golucke, James W. (architect)

McDonald, Kenneth (architect)

Smith, Eugene W. (builder)

Wenderoth, Oscar (supervising architect)

Emery, John W. (builder)

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the construction of the earliest extant building, the W & A railroad depot, and ends at the historic period in 1964 when most of the land inside the boundaries had been developed and few new buildings were being constructed in the downtown core of Cartersville.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

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

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant under Criteria A and C at the local level as a good example of a downtown business district that served as the commercial center of the county and region. Cartersville exists as it does today largely as the result of three major factors: its location in the Etowah Valley; the siting of transportation routes (first the railroad and later the highways); and its status as the county seat of Bartow County. The nearby Etowah River, along with soil and mineral deposits, made the valley amenable for both agriculture and industry. Location of the Western and Atlantic (W & A) Railroad through the region in the 1850s also encouraged industry and commerce. Thus, Cartersville grew to become a regional commercial and government center. The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant in community planning and development for its intact historic town plan. Using the typology described in *Georgia Community Development and Morphology of Community Types* (Roth, 1989), Cartersville fits the pattern of a cross-rail town that was designated as a county seat after the railroad came through, therefore giving the courthouse a less dominant location than the railroad depot. In the area of commerce, Cartersville's significance derives from its role as the historic commercial center of Bartow County. 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 district is also significant in politics/government for the presence of buildings directly related to activities and events associated with city and county government, such as the two historic courthouses and administrative offices. In the area of transportation, the district is significant because of the role that the railroad played in the development of the town into an important center for commerce in northwest Georgia. The district is also significant in architecture for its good representative collection of commercial, ecclesiastical, and government buildings that reflect design and construction traditions commonly found in Georgia towns. Stylistic influences include late-Victorian styles, such as Italianate and Second Renaissance Revival, plus examples of early-20<sup>th</sup>-century versions of classical styles and the more stripped-down styles of the Modern Movement. Prominent architects who designed buildings in the district include James W. Golucke (1857-1907) and Walter T. Downing (1865-1918).

---

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

Architecture

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant in the area of architecture for its good collection of intact 19<sup>th</sup>- and early to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century commercial and community landmark buildings (including religious and government buildings) that represent prevailing design and construction traditions of cities and towns in Georgia. Significant architectural styles represented by the resources within the district include Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Italian Renaissance Revival, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Beaux Arts, Stripped Classical, and Streamlined Moderne.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

Cartersville has many good intact examples of commercial buildings. They illustrate how commercial architecture developed from the late 1800s through the 1960s. Reflecting Late Victorian influences, the turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings often have decorative brick corbelling, parapet roofs, recessed entrances, and stone-arched lintels or segmental-arched windows. Buildings from the early 1900s reflect various classical revival influences with columns, pilasters, keystones, and symmetrical facades. Later Stripped Classical-style buildings have understated details, such as suggestions of pilasters and simple cornices, on otherwise unadorned buildings. Mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century buildings are even more modest with plain wall surfaces and box-like shapes. The 1939 Legion Theater is a good example of a Streamlined Moderne building with Art Deco influences. More functional buildings, such as warehouses and service stations, tend to be free-standing and more utilitarian in appearance but display distinctive elements of their time.

The central business district is focused on the blocks surrounding the historic railroad line and depot, since these existed before Cartersville was a county seat. Commercial buildings in the district include good examples of both free-standing and attached one- and two-story buildings. Storefronts tend to be attached and aligned contiguously along the Public Square, Wall Street, and Main Street. Other buildings along the edges of the district stand independently. Other character-defining features of many of the late 19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century commercial buildings include: simple rectangular forms; fronts that face directly onto the sidewalk, usually with a common setback; large display windows; architectural ornament primarily on the front and sometimes side facades; and parapet rooflines, some with recessed or decorative panels. Most are one story in height, and brick is the most common material. A few storefronts have cast-iron or wood columns. Several two-story examples have second-story segmental-arched windows and ornamented projecting cornices. Other stylistic elements include brick corbelling and dentils, patterned brickwork and frieze paneling, and transom windows. The former office of Southern Bell (1940) is a good example of a later commercial building that was influenced by residential architecture with Colonial Revival influences. It was intended to look more like a free-standing dwelling than an office.

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District also contains several architecturally significant community landmark buildings. Usually free-standing, these were the most elaborate and modern in town and reflected the architectural trends of their period. As centerpieces for public gatherings, they provide a sense of place and cohesiveness for the citizens and symbolize permanence, stability, and strength of a community. Some are government related, such as the 1869 Italianate courthouse and the 1903 Neoclassical Revival courthouse. The former U. S. Post Office (1914) and the former Cartersville City Hall (1916) are both good examples of the use of classicism in government buildings. Two churches were built in different architectural styles depending on date of construction, but use either classical or Romanesque elements. The 1924 Grand Theatre demonstrates how theaters were often built to be the largest and most stylistic buildings in a town. It features Beaux Arts and Italian Renaissance Revival elements with an exuberant terra-cotta façade.

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is also significant for several buildings designed by prominent architects. The 1903 Bartow County Courthouse was designed by Kenneth McDonald & Company and J. W. Golucke & Company. Kenneth McDonald (1852-1940) was a regionally prominent architect from Louisville, Kentucky. Known for his courthouse and jail designs, he worked with his brother Harry McDonald in the McDonald Brothers Company (1873-1897) and later with John Francis Sheblessy (1901-1905). The associate architect on the courthouse project was James W. Golucke (1857-1907) who was a prominent Atlanta architect known for the 20 courthouses he designed in Georgia. Most of his buildings reflect the Romanesque Revival style, as seen in the First Baptist Church of Cartersville, which Golucke also designed and which was completed in 1905.

Walter T. Downing (1865-1918) was a noted Atlanta architect who designed the Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church in 1906. With offices in Atlanta and Chattanooga, he designed many public buildings, high-

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

rise offices, and private homes in both Georgia and Tennessee. The contractor for the church building was Eugene W. Smith, who was also contractor for the c.1917 Cartersville City Hall (along with R. W. Smith) and the expansion of the W & A train depot (in 1902). The original portion of the railroad depot had been constructed by John E. Jordan in the 1850s.

As the United States supervising architect from 1912 to 1929, Oscar Wenderoth (1873-1938), who designed mostly post offices, was the architect for the Cartersville U.S. Post Office. This post office is an Italian Renaissance Revival building that was completed in 1915. John W. Emery was the contractor.

### Community Planning and Development

In the area of community planning and development, the Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant because it retains its historic town plan built on a grid around the 1850s railroad line and depot. It was the railroad that was central to the layout of downtown Cartersville, and shaped much subsequent development. Since Cartersville was chosen as the new county seat in 1867, the courthouse was located in a less dominant location, rather than as part of the more usual layout in which roads converge on a central courthouse square. The first courthouse (1869) was adjacent to the railroad tracks near the Public Square (but not central to it), and the second courthouse (1903) was on a hill one block away from the Public Square and the depot. Reinforcing the importance of the plan was the concentration of commercial and community landmark buildings that developed around the railroad and also around the principal streets and subsequent government buildings. This creates a distinct downtown or central business district.

Based on historian Darlene Roth's categories in *Georgia Community Development and Morphology of Community Types* (1989), Cartersville appears to fit the pattern of a cross-rail town where the town developed almost simultaneously with the railroad and has at its heart a junction of roads and tracks. A main road (such as Main Street in Cartersville) crosses the railroad perpendicularly. This results in a street grid that develops out in right angles from this intersection. When a town that initially developed for another reason (such as the railroad) gets designated as a county seat, the courthouse is not as dominant. This is referred to by Roth as the "Augusta model." While this plan is in contrast to that of towns with a central courthouse square, several county seats in Georgia developed this way. Today's downtown district clearly reflects Cartersville's beginnings and growth. The layout of the downtown is virtually unchanged from the period of significance.

### Commerce

In the area of commerce, the district is significant as the historic commercial center of Bartow County and the surrounding area, as was typical for a county seat. It provided for the day-to-day needs of both town and rural residents. The arrival of the railroad in the 1850s was essential to Cartersville's development and financial success. The county's economy relied mostly on agriculture, mining, and textile mills, but downtown Cartersville supported the offices and ancillary services for many of these industries. Some warehouses and other business enterprises appeared along the railroad corridor. Cartersville has an intact concentration of commercial buildings centered on the Public Square, Main Street, and Wall Street. Historic commercial activity included the distribution of groceries, general merchandise, clothing, medicines, and other commodities to county residents. Along with retail activity, professional service providers, such as artisans, tradesmen, lawyers, bankers, and pharmacists, also utilized the downtown buildings. Restaurants and theaters, such as the Grand Theatre (1924) and the Legion Theater (1939), provided entertainment. Communications-related activities are represented by the former post office (1914) and the former Southern Bell office (1940), both on North Erwin Street. By the 1920s automobile sales and servicing shops appeared, as represented by the former stations on Main Street and Gilmer Street, now used for other businesses. Cartersville retains many extant buildings related to commerce, and even some of the older businesses themselves survive. The Young

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

Brothers Pharmacy and the Four Way Diner on West Main Street are both long-term establishments. Ross's Diner on North Wall Street has been in the same family since the 1940s.

### Politics and Government

The Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant in the area of politics and government as the county seat of Bartow County, and because of the presence of buildings directly related to activities and events associated with city, county, and federal governments. Throughout much of Georgia's history, the county has been the most important and powerful form of local government. County governments made and enforced laws through county commissioners, sheriffs and judges, who were traditionally the most important local political figures. County governments also provided essential public services including building and maintaining roads and water/sewer systems. They were responsible for administering important aspects of the legal system such as the court system, birth and death records, wills and probate, and property deeds and taxes. Through county school boards, they provided for public education throughout the county. Significant county government buildings in Cartersville include the first courthouse (1869, one of Georgia's oldest extant courthouse buildings) and the 1903 Neoclassical Revival-style courthouse. City government provided some early municipal amenities, as can be seen in the fire department in the rear of the 1916 city hall. City Halls tended to be smaller and less architecturally distinguished than county courthouses, as is the case in Cartersville. The federal government is represented by the elaborate U.S Post Office constructed in 1914. In most communities, the postal service was the only physical expression of the federal government.

### Transportation

In the area of transportation, the Cartersville Downtown Historic District is significant because of the role the railroad and the automobile played in the development of the town as an important center for commerce in northwest Georgia. Railroad transportation first led to Cartersville's rise as a community. Cartersville has been identified as a cross-rail town where the town developed almost simultaneously with the railroad. The railroad helped shape the city in the late 1800s and early 1900s and the automobile has impacted the city's development since the 1910s. Associated resources include the former train depot (1854, remodeled 1902), the railroad line, and former service stations along the Old Dixie Highway.

The Western and Atlantic (W & A) line began construction in 1838 and by 1850 through-train service was instituted. Cartersville was on the line between Chattanooga and Atlanta, two growing rail centers. In 1854, the W & A built a depot in Cartersville. The rail line through the center of town shifted Cartersville's economy from primarily agricultural pursuits to industry, trade, and commerce. By 1872, Cartersville had grown in size to a point where it was incorporated as a city and it became an important regional transportation center. Industry began to locate in and around the city, as indicated by the existence of the W & A railroad car factory in Cartersville in 1873.

By 1885, the East and West Railroad (E & W) of Alabama had constructed a second depot in Cartersville, north of the W & A. Serving for many years as the Seaboard Airline depot, this building stood until 1918. The W & A and E & W depots, along with the 1869 courthouse, were the landmark buildings near the town's Public Square until commercial establishments began to surround the depots. Many industries in the area relied on the railroad through Cartersville to ship their products, which allowed the viable commercial district in downtown Cartersville to emerge in the late 1800s. After passenger trains stopped arriving in downtown Cartersville in the 1950s, CSX proposed to demolish the historic W & A depot and construct a new station at another location. The depot was underused for a long period of time until 1972, when the freight storage and platform portions of it were demolished. Today, the passenger area of the depot remains and has since been rehabilitated; it is now a visitors center and also houses the Downtown Development Authority.



Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

In addition to the railroad, Cartersville owes much to the major highways that brought prosperity to the downtown area. By the 1920s, the construction of the Dixie Highway, which connected the Midwest to Florida through Georgia (and in Bartow County through downtown Cartersville) played a significant role in the transition of Cartersville from a rail and horse-and-buggy town to an auto-centered town. The arrival of the road helped to spur the commercial growth of downtown by bringing more people and auto-related businesses to Cartersville. Automobile dealerships, gasoline stations, and auto-parts stores replaced livery stables and buggy stores. Although the construction of the four-lane U.S. Highway 41 east of downtown shifted north-south traffic away from downtown, Main Street continues today to serve as a heavily-used thoroughfare for east-west traffic, as it has been for decades. Former service stations in the district are now used for businesses such as a hair salon and an ice cream shop.

---

**Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

*(Note: The first sections of the following historic context are edited excerpts from the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources in Downtown Cartersville, Georgia" prepared by Leslie Sharp in 1994; the historic context for the multiple property form was prepared by Dale Jaeger and Susan Casey, based on documentation by David J. Brown. That text was updated and expanded to include the years after the 1940s by Beth Gibson and Richard Osborne in 2013. The text was also edited by staff of the Georgia Historic Preservation Division in 2014.)*

Cartersville, the county seat of Bartow County, exists as it does today largely as the result of three major factors: its location in the Etowah Valley; transportation (first via rail, later via highways); and its place as the county seat of Bartow County. The valley covers the lower half of the county, and its minerals, river, and soils make it amenable to both industry and agriculture. Location of the Western and Atlantic (W & A) railroad through the region in the 1850s also encouraged industry and commerce. From these forces, Cartersville grew to become a regional center for commerce, government, and industry.

Early Settlement – 1800s

After the discovery of gold in north Georgia in 1828, the State of Georgia usurped Cherokee lands and created the county today known as Bartow and nine others in 1832. Subsequently, European-American settlers arrived in anticipation of the 1840s construction of the Western & Atlantic Railroad.

The area known today as Cartersville, located in the southern part of the county, began as a hamlet called Birmingham along a stagecoach route between Rome and Marthasville (now Atlanta). Cartersville was named for Farish Carter, a frequent traveler along the route, who was an east Georgia entrepreneur with land holdings across the state. The town of Cartersville was incorporated on February 1, 1850, as a part of Cass County. The county was later renamed Bartow County during the Civil War in honor of Francis Bartow, a Georgia native and political leader of the Confederate States of America (CSA) who became the first brigade commander of the CSA to die in 1861 at the First Battle of Manassas.

The growth of railroad transportation first led to Cartersville's rise as a community. The W & A line began construction in 1838, and by 1850 through-train service was instituted. Cartersville was on the line between Chattanooga and Atlanta, two growing rail centers. North of Cartersville, the W & A had to follow a challenging route across a series of long ridges. In 1854, the W & A built a depot in Cartersville, constructed by John E. Jordan. This building was 40 feet by 124 feet, constructed of brick, and had large arches with wooden sliding doors. The depot included a passenger waiting room, a baggage/ ticket/freight office (combined), and a large warehouse space. The W & A was a key link in the chain of Southern railroads

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

between the Atlantic Ocean and the Mississippi River. (In 1890, the W & A was leased to the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway.)

Originally, Cassville, not Cartersville, was the county seat of Bartow County until Cassville was destroyed in November of 1864 in the Civil War. (Later, the seat of government was moved to Cartersville.) The Civil War also directly affected downtown Cartersville. After taking Atlanta to the south, General William T. Sherman made the decision to cut his supply lines and march to the sea. At this point, in November of 1864, his troops set fire to the Cartersville depot, burning the roof and floor, and damaging the brick walls.

According to the Etowah Valley Historical Society:

The former county seat of Cassville had been burned during the war and its citizens had declined to rebuild it, therefore an election was held between Cassville and Cartersville. Cartersville won by a vote of 1085 to 919. At a cost of \$20,000 dollars, a new county courthouse was constructed on Church Street at the railroad and was completed in 1869. It was called one of the 'finest edifices' in the state.

The end of the war saw Cartersville rebuilding with renewed vigor, as it became the county seat. Some former residents of Cassville and other parts of the county relocated to Cartersville after the Civil War. Downtown grew slowly in the late 1800s but was well-maintained. A major cornerstone of downtown, both then and now, is the First Presbyterian Church (not in the district, but individually listed in the National Register). Built prior to the Civil War, it was damaged during the war but was repaired and the historic sanctuary remains.

In 1866, brick was added to the inside walls of the depot and a new floor and roof were constructed, replacing what had been damaged during the Civil War. In 1867, the two-story brick Lay's Building was constructed by M.C. Jackson at the corner of W. Main Street and Public Square (41 S. Public Square – has since been modified). In 1871, the building was divided in two, with one side housing the Baker and Hall Hardware Company and the other the Baker and Hall Banking Company. During the next few years, a brick building, which housed the Stokey and Williams Department Store, was constructed on the corner of the Public Square and Cherokee Avenue (5 S. Public Square – has since been modified).

By 1872, Cartersville had grown significantly in size and was incorporated as a city. At this point, a viable commercial district began to emerge. An 1873 newspaper lists businesses and professionals such as attorneys, dentists, cotton merchants, a coffin maker, a saddle maker, grocery stores, hardware stores, real estate agents, dry goods stores, and carriage and buggy stores.

The 1880s saw continued growth in the commercial area, as more industries and a larger regional population was served. The Young and Nays Drug Store at 2 West Main Street opened, and has served as a pharmacy since that time. On its east exterior wall is located what is purported to be the first outdoor advertisement for Coca-Cola, painted in 1894. The original layer of paint was restored on the sign in the summer of 1989 in anticipation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its painting and the wall has been exclusively reserved for Coca-Cola since 1894.

By 1885, the East and West Railroad (E & W) of Alabama had constructed a second depot in Cartersville, north of the W&A. Serving for many years as the Seaboard Airline depot, this building stood until 1918. The W & A and E & W depots were the only focus of the town's Public Square until commercial establishments, which sold a variety of goods, began to surround the depots.

According to the 1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance map, a livery stable and carriage house was constructed facing Wall Street. After 1909, the entire structure was used as a livery stable. In 1916, the front half was demolished, leaving the rear section of the building. An addition was made to the rear to face Gilmer Street and the structure continued to be used as a livery stable for several years.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

The block of North Wall Street between Church Street and Cherokee Avenue was originally divided into seven lots after the land lottery in 1832 and housed a blacksmith's shop and a variety of other stores in the 1840s and 1850s. The 1885 Sanborn map shows that the block contained a grocery, a meat market, livery and carriage operation, a law office, a cobbler shop, barber shop, saloon, restaurant, a tenement, another livery, and wagon shop. The 1890 Sanborn map shows similar businesses with a doctor's office replacing the lawyer's office, a new candy store, a new barber shop, and the open area now designated as two separate mule corrals. The first brick commercial building in this block was built at the corner of Cherokee Avenue and Wall Street (1 N. Wall Street) and was owned by Thomas Hudson. The livery and carriage house was owned by Roberts and Hudson. The 1895, 1900, and 1905 maps show little change in this block of North Wall Street from the 1890 map until 1909 when the whole south side of the block is vacant, presumably torn down to make way for the theater and the new brick commercial buildings that appear on the 1916 map.

The 1885 Sanborn map also shows several different commercial uses in the overall district, including: dry goods and grocery stores, several drug stores, a cabinet shop, a farm implement store, banks, and a saloon. Many of these buildings were two stories in height on the west side of the square (15, 17, 19 S. Public Square, which were modified after fires in the 1970s). Two hotels faced each other on opposite corners of Market Street, the St. James and the Bartow House. A map of Cartersville, dated 1887, shows the three-story brick Bradley Building located on the corner of Cherokee Avenue and Public Square (5. S. Public Square). At the turn of the century or earlier, H.J. Halt operated the Imperial Saloon in the basement of the building. Patrons entered through the swinging doors from Cherokee Avenue.

During the 1890s, the Cartersville commercial district did not increase appreciably in number of buildings, but many of the merchants improved their buildings. One-story frame buildings were often replaced by one- and two-story brick buildings. This is especially true along the south edge of the district along Main Street. Businesses also changed hands, with the Southland House at the corner of Cherokee Avenue and Wall Street becoming the Majors Hotel, and then the Bartow Hotel by 1900 (later demolished around 1989 as a result of being damaged by fire in the 1980s; an infill building was constructed there at 2 S. Wall Street in 1992). The St. James became known as the Hotel Shelman, with a kitchen garden located on the rear two thirds of the property. In addition, the Louisville and Nashville railroad (L&N) had taken over the W&A depot by 1895. Gardens and feed yards in the district, and houses one block away, demonstrate the small-town character of this commercial area as late as 1895.

Aaron Knight opened Knight's Hardware in 1865, moving into a building at 24 W. Main Street in 1899. Later known as Knight's Mercantile, the hardware store operated until approximately 2003. The Knights also owned a planing mill and lumber yard northwest of downtown Cartersville. Scheuer Brothers was established in 1878 by Moses Scheuer, a German immigrant. His brothers, Isadore, Albert, Julius, and Mac, later helped run this general merchandise store. Jackson's Furniture was established in 1895.

Financial institutions also began to play a more prominent role in Cartersville's emergence as a commercial center in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The town's first bank, the Planters and Farmers Bank of Cartersville, was established in 1872 with a capital of \$100,000. In 1889, the First National Bank of Cartersville was formed with J.R. Wikle as president and with \$50,000 capital. Much of the success of this bank is attributed to the leadership of Joseph S. Calhoun, who served during this time as vice president of the American Bankers Association and on the executive committee of the American Bankers Association. In 1905, First National moved into a new building at the corner of W. Main Street and S. Erwin Street (34 W. Main Street – now significantly modified), where it maintained its rivalry with the Cartersville National Bank. Originally established in 1895 with W.S. Witham as president, Cartersville National Bank merged with the Home Savings Bank (established 1906) and Farmers and Merchants Bank (established 1906) in 1908. In 1929, Cartersville National Bank and First National Bank merged.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

### Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century - 1900-1920

The character of the commercial district changed in the early 1900s. Because of complaints of the distracting train noise, in 1901 the county commissioners initiated construction of a new courthouse, which was built on a hilltop several hundred yards from the tracks overlooking downtown. The new Bartow County Courthouse was completed in 1903. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 18, 1980, this building was designed by Kenneth McDonald and Company, with J. W. Golucke and Company as associate architects. This began a move of public buildings away from the Public Square and out of the original commercial area. The original 1869 courthouse remains and has since served as a skating rink, warehouse, grocery, and furniture store. After being vacant for several years, Ron Goss, a Cartersville native, local preservationist, and general contractor, renovated the building in 2010, and today it serves as the home of the Bartow History Museum. The 1903 "Gold Dome Courthouse" had its function replaced in 1992 by the current courthouse, known as the Frank Moore Administration Building, located just west of the downtown district at 135 W. Cherokee Avenue. The 1903 former courthouse is now home of the Etowah Valley Historical Society. Both historic courthouse buildings remain focal points of Cartersville today.

In 1902, changes were made to the railroad depot. A locally prominent contractor, Eugene Smith, designed additions for this building. On the south end, a 40-foot wooden addition with an extended roof line was added; on the north end, a 40-foot brick addition to be used as a waiting room was completed. This room had a much higher roof line and a new bay window.

In 1903, the trustees of the First Baptist Church bought a house and lot at 114 W. Cherokee Avenue. Prior to the 1900s, the congregation met in a small building west of the downtown district at 227 W. Cherokee Avenue, now used as a private residence. A landmark brick sanctuary was completed at 114 W. Cherokee Avenue in 1905, and the congregation met at this location until 2004, when they relocated to a new building southwest of downtown. The 1905 sanctuary features rose (or wheel) stained-glass windows. The building is currently used as an annex building for Bartow County government. Following the construction of the Baptist church, the Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church was built a block away in 1906.

Dalton Machine Works of Dalton, Georgia, and Withers Machine Shop of Cartersville designed many storefronts that survive today, including 25 N. Wall Street and some of the storefronts on the north side of W. Main Street between Erwin Street and Noble Street. The company stamp may be found on the bottom of the cast-iron facades of other tenant spaces along the block of N. Wall Street between Church Street and Cherokee Avenue.

Local contractor Eugene Smith built the Greenwood Theater (later the Grand Opera House) around 1910. Located on the east side of the square at 3 N. Wall Street, it was owned by Manning and Wink. The opening of the theater was delayed due to a fire in October, but the theater opened in November 1910. With the addition of the Greenwood Theater, this block of North Wall Street (between Church Street and Cherokee Avenue) became known as the cultural center of Cartersville. A large fire destroyed much of the southern half of this cultural block in 1923, and the theater reopened later in the 1920s as the Grand Theatre. It then accommodated movies when they were becoming popular. The first talking movie was shown at the Grand Theatre on May 9, 1929, just two years after the first "talkie" was shown in Atlanta. An earlier opera house, dating from the 1870s, had also been located in this same block of North Wall Street; it was closed in 1907.

Other enterprises appeared in the early 1900s. The Coca-Cola Bottling Company established offices south of downtown on Cook Street in 1906, and the Etowah Bottling Works was on the Public Square by 1909 at 25 N. Wall Street (this commercial space is currently used as a restaurant). Two motion picture theaters are noted on a 1916 map of the city at 3 N. Wall Street (current Grand Theatre) and 5 S. Public Square (Bradley Building

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

– currently offices). Within a few years, the Coca-Cola plant relocated to 26 Wall Street (currently office space) and the Etowah Bottling Works relocated to 25 E. Main Street (demolished later in the 1900s – now a 1984 building is located on this site).

According to family members, Ben C. Gilreath purchased the Bradley Building between 1910 and 1920, and maintained theaters and restaurants there for several years. The upper stories of the building were used by doctors, including Dr. Joe N. Weems. Also during this era, E. N. Hyatt remodeled the old Bartow House and renamed it the Hyatt Hotel (2 S. Wall Street – later the Davis Hotel). It was damaged due to a 1980s fire, demolished in the late 1980s, and now a 1992 retail and residential building is located at this site.

During the 1910s, city hall and the post office were both moved from the west side of the square to N. Erwin Street, continuing the trend begun by the county commissioners with the moving of the courthouse. The U. S. Post Office building at 1 N. Erwin Street, built in 1914, is a Neoclassical Revival-style, one-story building, typical to institutional buildings built in the early 20th century. Since the 1960s, when a new post office was constructed east of downtown, the building has been used for various institutional uses, and is now the city government administration offices. The 1917 city hall at 19 N. Erwin Street was built for \$11,480 by Eugene Smith and exhibits classical revival features popular for its time, such as an entablature over the front entrance way, a fanlight window on the side facade and pedimented side doorway. In 1970, a large rear addition enabled it to be used for public safety purposes. Since 2012, the building has been vacant, as the public safety headquarters is now located northwest of downtown.

The Dixie Highway (now SR 293 in Bartow County) came through Cartersville in the late 1910s. The arrival of the road helped to spur the commercial growth of downtown by bringing more people and auto-related businesses to Cartersville. Automobile dealerships, gasoline stations, and auto-parts stores replaced livery stables and buggy stores. Cartersville's early growth had been closely associated with the railroad and now the automobile also became an integral part of the area's industry and commerce. Around this time, the Four Way Diner was established in 1916.

By the first part of the 20th century, public utilities in Cartersville had also improved. Wells were originally located on the Public Square; however, in 1889 a water tower was built to increase supply, and this was purchased by the city in 1893. Around 1900, a privately owned gas plant was also purchased by the community. Cartersville's first electrical plant was built in 1907 and taken over by Georgia Power in 1917. By 1929, the newspaper noted that the entire business district had paved streets and there were 10 miles of sidewalks in the city. During the first decades of the 1900s, the park area north of Cherokee Avenue adjacent to the railroad tracks on the Public Square side was expanded and a fountain was added. In 2005, after having been dismantled for decades, pieces of the fountain were used to construct a re-creation of the fountain in the same location.

Manufacturing interests, while not located in the downtown area, helped the economic growth of the community. One of the most important industries was the American Textile Company (ATCO), a plant and mill village constructed on 600 acres two miles northwest of downtown in 1903. Owned by E.W. McClain, the company established the mill town of ATCO for its workers (National Register-listed in 2005). From 1903 until the late 1920s, the plant was used to manufacture cotton "drill" cloth. The plant doubled in size in 1927 so that it utilized 50,000 spindles. Goodyear bought the plant in the late 1920s and employed generations of members of the community until shutting down in 2003. Today, the narrow, tree-lined, streets still contain most of the original worker homes.

Increased manufacturing activity, especially in the textile industry throughout North Georgia, brought an increase in commercial activity in downtown Cartersville. Firms established during this period include A. G. White Company (1900) and M. Stein's (1923 - enlarged 1937). On E. Main Street, the Walton Building (later

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

known as the Cowan Building) was constructed in 1916 and first occupied by Dr. William Wofford and Judge Joe Moon. Sanborn maps indicate that in 1929 the second story of the Walton Building served as a lodge. Between 1924 and 1929, J.H. Gilreath constructed a two-story, brick building with a full basement on W. Main Street near the W & A Railroad.

Between 1910 and 1916, several one-story, brick, commercial buildings were constructed on the west side of Wall Street, facing the Public Square, between Cherokee Avenue and Main Street. These buildings have served as commercial and service-oriented establishments throughout their history. Specifically in the 1940s, documented uses included the Bartow Electric Company, McDaniel Electric Company, Watkins Plumbing, Dixie Supply Company, an auto parts store, appliance dealer, a grocery store, and a hardware store. These spaces, located at 12, 14, 18, and 20 S. Wall Street, have been the location of various retail and restaurant establishments since 2000.

### 1920s and 1930s

Changes to the commercial area continued through the 1920s. After burning in 1923, the Greenwood Theater was rebuilt in 1924 as the Grand Theatre. The Beaux Arts-style theater features decorative fresco work along the stage and stained-glass skylights. The 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance map shows the development of this block of North Wall Street (between Church Street and Cherokee Avenue) being similar to what it is today with attached commercial brick buildings, the theater (referred to in 1927 as "Movies"), and a free-standing warehouse which is marked with "sales" and no longer has a livery yard behind and around it. In 1927, there was a filling station on the southeast corner of the block.

Sometime between 1927 and 1929, a fire damaged a number of buildings on Wall Street (in the North Wall Street Historic District) between Cherokee Avenue and Church Street, facing the Public Square. In 1930, several new buildings were constructed to replace those that had burned. The one-story, brick building has housed a number of retail and service-oriented businesses in its history. Dr. Sewell, a local pharmacist, had a two-story commercial building constructed at 13 N. Wall Street in 1930 in the same location as one which was destroyed by a 1920s fire. This building functioned for a number of years as a drugstore and later as a Chevrolet dealership in the 1940s. From the 1950s to the 1990s, it served as retail and office space for a variety of tenants. From the 1990s to 2010, it served as the home of the Bartow History Museum. Since 2010, when the Bartow History Museum relocated to the 1869 courthouse at 4 E. Church Street, the non-profit Downtown Gallery has been located in this building.

With the exception of the Grand Theatre, most of the buildings of the 1920s and 1930s were simple and modest in detailing. After the loss of the Seaboard Depot, only the original depot remained and it was operated in the 1920s by the North Carolina and St. Louis Railroad. Park areas were established on the southeast of the square by 1916 and gone by 1927; conversely, on the northwest side of the square, park areas were established by 1916 and enlarged by 1927. The park area on the northwest side of the square still maintains a small area of benches surrounding the fountain, but the area decreased in size during the 1960s due to greater demand for parking spaces downtown.

By 1930, Cartersville's downtown had grown almost to its present size, and changes tended to be in terms of alterations instead of additions. The Hyatt Hotel at 2-4 S. Wall Street was renovated and later renamed the Davis Hotel (damaged by fire in the 1980s, demolished in the late 1980s, now the site of a 1992 infill retail and residential building).

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

### 1940s

The post-World War II era was a time of growth and change in Georgia and also in Cartersville. As veterans returned from war, the demand for housing increased. Local newspaper articles from 1946 demonstrate how the housing shortage was affecting Cartersville. However, all of the new residential construction was outside of the downtown historic district. But the housing increase meant the local economy was strong so the downtown business district was busy. Also, construction of Allatoona Dam five miles east of town in the late 1940s, plus the creation of Lake Allatoona, stimulated the postwar economy in Cartersville. In 1941, a *Bartow Herald* article referred to the dam project: "Biggest Single Development in History of City to Begin Soon."

By 1945, most of the extant buildings in downtown Cartersville had been constructed. Of the buildings currently in the downtown district, about 80 percent were constructed prior to 1945. The remaining extant buildings within the district were constructed from 1945 to 2005.

Thirteen extant historic buildings in the downtown district were constructed in the 1940s. Eight of these were built in 1940, four in 1945, and one in 1947. Four of the buildings are on Erwin Street, four are on Gilmer Street and four are on Main Street; and one building (constructed in 1940) is on Wall Street. This construction consists mostly of buildings that are one block away from the historic Public Square and either replaced an existing commercial building (typically a store) or filled an empty lot. The one exception is the building at 11 S. Gilmer, which was built in 1945 and replaced an Auto Sales and Service building (according to the 1927 Sanborn map); it is currently noncontributing due to alterations.

The east side of Erwin Street between Cherokee Avenue and Main Street changed after the time of the printing of the 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. During the 1940s, brick, one- and two-story, attached spaces were added at 10 S. Erwin Street (1945), 12 S. Erwin Street (1945), 16 S. Erwin Street (1945 – damaged by fire in the 1990s and now a vacant lot), and 18 S. Erwin Street (1945). A variety of businesses have occupied these offices since the 1940s. On the northern part of Erwin Street, the Central Office of Southern Bell was built in 1940 (101 N. Erwin Street).

During the 1940s, one-story tenant spaces were added onto existing spaces in the block of the west side of Gilmer Street between Cherokee Avenue and Main Street: 1 S. Gilmer Street (1940); 5 S. Gilmer Street (1940); and 11 S. Gilmer Street (1945). A variety of businesses have occupied these spaces since the 1940s. The spaces at 1 and 5 S. Gilmer Street replaced a free-standing general store (as shown on the 1927 Sanborn map).

Transportation was an important aspect of the downtown's commercial success and the city directories show businesses such as auto dealers, auto sales, auto repair shops, gas stations, etc. During the 1940s and 1950s, Warlick Jones ran Warlick Jones Chevrolet in a c.1930 two-story building at 13 North Wall Street, which was later home of the Floyd College & Etowah Educational Foundation. From the late 1950s to the 1990s, a variety of retail and office tenants were in this building; since the 1990s, it was first home to the non-profit Bartow History Museum and after they relocated to the 1869 courthouse in 2010, it became the home of the non-profit Downtown Gallery. During the 1950s and 1960s, Cartersville Auto Supply, a Dodge and Plymouth dealership, operated at 19 E. Main Street (a florist now occupies this space). South of Main Street on Gilmer Street, a large, one-story, flat-roofed, brick building at 121 S. Gilmer Street was constructed in 1940; this building has large windows divided into small square blocks. From the 1950s to the 1970s, it was home of the A.G. White Ford dealership. Since the 1980s, this building has been the home of Mission Tire, a Goodyear distributor. A landmark gas station for decades at 145 W. Main Street (corner of Noble Street) was Summey's station, a Pure gas distributor. Since closing around 2000, the building has been renovated and has housed a variety of commercial tenants.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

The Bradley Building at 5 S. Public Square was purchased by the Belk-Gallant Company (a department store) in the 1940s. The company remodeled the interior, adding display windows on the front facade. Belk remained there until the 1960s, when Maxwells Furniture moved in. The building was used as a furniture store and is currently office and retail space. A Belk-Gallant painted sign on the rear façade of the building (facing Erwin Street) is still faintly visible.

In 1945, A. G. Monfort purchased 151 W. Main Street and built a small commercial space there. Starting in 1948, the building housed a florist until approximately 2010; it is now a butcher shop. A Greyhound Bus station was located next to the florist at 155 W. Main Street; the building was constructed in 1930 and is currently a drycleaner.

The detached red-brick building known as the Lowry Building at 13 N. Erwin Street was built in 1947 for a father-and-son dentist team with the last name Lowry. The Lowry family practiced adjacent to city hall for many decades. The 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance map shows that the patriarch of the family was a general medical practitioner who had a private hospital just east of where this building is located. During the 2000s, the city purchased the property, and the building is now vacant.

Ross's Diner opened for service at 17 North Wall Street in 1947. The Ross family started the diner in a small wood-framed building, which was adjacent to the Chevrolet dealership (a two-story brick building at 13 N. Wall Street which is now the non-profit Downtown Gallery). The family remodeled the small building before opening and Ross's Diner is still in operation today at the same location, with its original lunch counter and furnishings.

Also in 1947, the upper story of the Lay Building at the corner of W. Main Street and Public Square was used as a radio station, WBHF, which was owned by W. Ryan Frier. The station later moved to a free-standing building west of downtown and operated there from the 1960s to the 1990s. During the 2000s, the radio station returned to downtown and now operates at 7 N. Wall Street adjacent to the Grand Theater.

A 1949 *Atlanta Journal Magazine* article described Cartersville: "The town's peaceful appearance through the mountain-top haze belies its bustling industry, its enterprising people and the traffic-jammed streets which look like Saturday every day of the week." One photo caption includes the words "Cartersville, one of Georgia's fastest growing towns." The magazine article includes an aerial view of downtown ("Cartersville ... From the Air") and a list of 19 landmarks and buildings. The following still exist: the 1903 courthouse; First Baptist Church; Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church; U. S. Post Office; Cartersville City Hall; Public Square; the 1869 courthouse (then a skating rink); Grand Theatre; railroad depot (then the Joint Railroad Station); First National Bank (then at the corner of W. Main and Erwin – building since modified); cotton warehouse and store of Jones Mercantile Co.; Cowan Building; Shackelford Building; the Greyhound bus station (at 155 W. Main - since modified); and the Wofford-Stanford Hospital (which is now offices for the county district attorney). The Braban Hotel, Gilmer Street Baptist Church, Davis Hotel, and Mary Munford Memorial Library have since been demolished.

### 1950s

Downtown Cartersville continued thriving through the 1950s. City directories suggest that consumerism was strong during this period. Among the downtown businesses were Sears & Roebuck on Public Square, shoe stores, a tire and appliance store, a Chevrolet dealership, a furniture store, and a drug store.

Five extant historic buildings in the downtown district were constructed in the 1950s. New construction continued on Erwin Street (three buildings) and also on Church and Cherokee streets. Again, most of these new buildings are within a block of the historic square and represent mostly infill construction that either replaced an existing commercial building or filled an empty lot.



Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia

County and State

Around 1950, a red-brick addition to the space at 16 E. Church Street was added to extend the building east. According to Jim Haigler, a Cartersville native and local architect (whose architectural practice has been in one of the two spaces now at 26 E. Church Street since the early 1970s), a variety of tenants have been in the adjacent space, including a pool hall and a gym, which is part of the same property that Haigler owns.

In 1950, a parsonage for the pastor of Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church was constructed at 102 N. Erwin Street, at the intersection of Church Street, just outside the district. This one-story residence has similar unpainted, light-colored brick as the adjacent 1906 church sanctuary building at 100 W. Church Street. Since the 1990s, this building has been altered and used for a variety of church functions and currently serves as the Youth House for the church.

The property at N. Gilmer Street and Church Street includes a large building constructed c.1953. It replaced a large structure shown on the 1927 Sanborn maps. The exterior of this structure has changed numerous times over the decades, as different tenants have used it. During the 1980s and 1990s, it was a branch campus of Floyd College (now called Georgia Highlands College and currently located on SR 20 north of downtown). During the 2000s, it has been used for the non-profit offices of the Teacher Resource Center. (Note: this building is just outside the proposed district.)

In 1955, a two-story, brick attached space was added at 22 S. Erwin Street, located at the intersection with W. Main Street. This building has housed a variety of tenants throughout the decades.

Around 1956, a two-story brick building was constructed at 113 S. Erwin St. It stands out in contrast to the mostly traditional, late 1800s and early 1900s appearance of most downtown buildings. The modernist style is prominently featured at the entrance with continuous windows that extend nearly from ground to the flat roof and reveal the interior staircase. The architect is unknown. The building has been used by various tenants for office use since construction. The building replaced a residence shown on the 1927 Sanborn maps.

The current law office building of White, Choate & Watkins, built c.1956, is located at 100 W. Cherokee Ave (corner Erwin St). The 1927 Sanborn maps show that an office building was formerly located on this site, but was near the road intersection. The one-story brick building, typical of post WWII construction, sits back from the street and has parking in front of the structure.

Sometime in the 1950s, the railroad company discontinued passenger service on their line running through downtown Cartersville, but this does not appear to have had a significant impact on the physical development of the historic district (per phone interview with Linda Cochran, county historian/genealogist and manager of the Etowah Valley Historical Society).

### 1960s

Cartersville's downtown was still busy in the 1960s. A photo caption from an L&N Magazine article in 1960 stated that Cartersville's Main Street "impresses visitors with its modern and well-stocked shops." The 1950s and 1960s brought industrial growth to Cartersville as textile plants and other industries located there, providing employment for many residents. Although downtown continued to thrive, competition from outlying businesses began to erode the importance of Public Square commerce. Shopping centers, supermarkets, and other stores on the four-lane US Highway 41 and other roads began to draw residents away from downtown.

During this time, commercial development downtown continued to expand toward the east side of the district as it had in the 1950s; however, in the 1960s, commercial development also expanded toward the west on

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

Main Street, where former houses were replaced with new commercial buildings. Several of these are outside the district boundaries. Three extant buildings in the downtown district were constructed in the 1960s. Constructed in 1963, the one-story brick structure at 100 W. Main Street (corner of Erwin Street) replaced two smaller attached commercial spaces shown on the 1927 Sanborn map. Since that time, it has served as offices for various tenants.

In 1965, a new post office for Cartersville was constructed east of downtown on Church Street (outside the district). It would be replaced in 1990 by another post office building on Liberty Drive, just off Main Street. The city purchased the historic U. S. Post Office building at the corner of Cherokee and Erwin for use by the school board. Later in 1979, the building was used as a city hall until the new city hall was constructed in 1987; currently the building houses city administrative offices.

During the 1960s, the historic Friendship Monument downtown was relocated. The monument was created in 1860 by Etowah businessman Mark Cooper to honor friends who had aided him during a financial crisis and had been moved from Etowah to Cartersville in 1927. However, by the 1960s, Cartersville's downtown needed more parking spaces so the monument was relocated again to a spot near Lake Allatoona. Subsequently, in 1999, the monument was moved back to Cartersville in conjunction with the city's Sesquicentennial Celebration.

Agan's Bakery opened downtown in a space at 1 W. Church Street in approximately 1967. Years later, in anticipation of construction of the Church Street rail overpass bridge in 1982, the business relocated to another downtown space at 141 W. Main Street. The property at 1 W. Church Street is now used as an office. Agan's Bakery is one of the longest-running downtown businesses, along with Four Way Diner, Ross's Diner, and Young Brothers Pharmacy.

### 1970 to Present

Continued development on the east and north sides of Cartersville during the 1970s compromised the importance of commerce around the historic Public Square. New shopping centers, large supermarkets, and other stores outside of the district drew consumers away from the historic downtown. The 1970s and 1980s marked the low point in the percentage of occupied space and number of prospering businesses in the district. Therefore, in the early 1980s, the Cartersville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was created to encourage revitalization. Since that time, the downtown has seen renewed growth from the rehabilitation of existing buildings and improved infrastructure.

Less than ten percent of the extant buildings in the downtown business district were constructed after 1970. As in previous decades, most of these new buildings are infill construction that either replaced an existing commercial building or filled an empty lot. Expansion toward the east side of the downtown district toward Tennessee Street continued, as well as new commercial development toward the west on Main Street, which had originally been residential. This new development is outside the district.

In 1970, a city hall annex was built onto the rear of the 1916 city hall building and the police and fire departments took over the historic city hall downtown. In the 1990s, the police department relocated to 178 W. Main Street when Owens Funeral Home constructed a facility north of downtown. In 2012, the police and fire departments relocated to a new public safety headquarters northwest of downtown. Currently, the former city hall building is vacant.

Two significant events occurred downtown in the early 1970s. In 1971, a fire at the west side of the Public Square damaged commercial tenant spaces at 15, 17, 19, and 31 S. Public Square. In 1972, the freight storage portion and platform of the train depot were demolished. After passenger trains stopped arriving in

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

downtown Cartersville in the 1950s, the depot became underused. Today, the passenger area of the depot remains and has since been rehabilitated. In the 1990s, the City of Cartersville renovated the interior and it is now a Visitor Center and also houses the Downtown Development Authority.

A large development occurred in 1977 just east of the downtown historic district at 102 E. Main Street. An entire block of Main Street between Gilmer Street and Tennessee Street was redeveloped for the new C&S Bank building (most recently Bank of America). The 1927 Sanborn Fire Insurance map shows that this block had previously included a grist mill, an auto repair shop, and five dwellings. The 1970 aerial photo shows that this block had previously included a variety of commercial infill buildings along with small parking lots. This new construction continued the pattern of the downtown area expanding east toward development that was happening adjacent to US Highway 41 and continued the pattern of new commercial buildings replacing residential buildings as the downtown grew.

Another significant event in the history of downtown Cartersville happened in 1977 when the Grand Theatre on the Public Square closed. The building was later used for small local performances during the 1980s. In the late 1980s, and then again in the early 1990s, the building was renovated and since then has been used for musicals, plays, dance performances, concerts, and civic events. The Anverse Foundation, owner of the theater since the late 1980s, funded another rehabilitation in the 2000s to provide for amenities, such as larger dressing spaces and enlarged restroom facilities for patrons. In addition, the space used by the Grand Theatre operations expanded to the adjacent tenant space at 1 N. Wall Street to have theater-related receptions. The "Grand" is a cultural centerpiece of downtown Cartersville. Since it was renovated it continues to be used for musicals, plays, dance performances, concerts, and civic events.

One of the most significant changes to the physical layout and historic character of downtown Cartersville since 1945 was the construction of a new concrete overpass in 1982. The need for an overpass over the train tracks indicates vehicular traffic through downtown was still strong at that time. The new bridge was constructed directly over Church Street (at the northern side of the historic district) and spans two blocks between Gilmer Street and Erwin Street. The historic buildings along Church Street beneath the overpass (between Wall Street and Gilmer Street) were later renovated. Local businessman John Lewis rehabilitated the front facades of commercial spaces in this part of Church Street during the 1990s. In the early 2000s, the city rehabilitated the rear exteriors of these spaces using state grants. This area of downtown includes a successful mix of retail and restaurants, commonly referred to as "Under the Bridge."

Another change to the historic character of downtown occurred in 1987 when the historic hotel building at the intersection of Cherokee Avenue and Public Square (most recently known as the Braban Hotel) was demolished and replaced with the new city hall building (1 N. Public Square).

In the 1970s and 1980s, new businesses located along U.S. Highway 41, their growth fueled by industry in the Etowah Valley, such as Union Carbide, Atlantic Steel, and Georgia Power, as well as a new form of transportation: the interstate highway. Cartersville had a 1980 population of 12,500 people, with over 40,000 people living in Bartow County.

Around 1989, the historic Coca-Cola sign on the side of Young Brothers Pharmacy on Main Street adjacent to the rail line was restored. The 1894 sign is believed to be the world's first outdoor painted wall advertisement for Coca-Cola. The restoration work received a Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation award in 1990.

In 1992, the historic Legion Theater (114 W. Main Street), a community landmark, was rehabilitated by John Lewis and Charles Cowan, Jr. The 1939 building still functions as a theater and also includes a loft apartment. The pair of businessmen also renovated the historic 1878 Scheuer Building (110-112 W. Main Street) in 1994;

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

this second project received assistance from the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

Between 1990 and 2005, properties bounded by W. Main Street to the north, Erwin Street to the west, and Leake Street to the south changed significantly. Around 1990, First National Bank at 34 W. Main Street ceased operations. During the 1990s, the bank building on the corner of W. Main Street and Erwin Street remained vacant. Since 2000, various tenants have occupied the space and it is currently the offices of a chiropractor. In 2000, the City of Cartersville acquired the parking lot adjacent to Erwin Street to the south of the building and currently maintains this lot. Around 2000, Taylor Farm Supply, which has operated for decades on the south side of downtown at 11 Leake Street, acquired the former bank drive-thru at the northeast corner of Erwin Street and Leake Street, and currently uses the property for storage. In 2005, a two-story brick building was constructed at 120 S. Erwin Street adjacent to the City parking lot; a tavern is on the ground floor and residential units are on the second floor.

Around 1993, there was a fire at 16 S. Erwin Street that burned through to the tenant space at 31 S. Public Square. As a result of this fire, the tenant space at 16 S. Erwin Street was cleared of everything but the façade. The space at 31 S. Public Square was rebuilt with a new building c.1996.

In 1997, a joint effort between the city and county governments led to the construction of the Chamber of Commerce building at 122 W. Main Street, which is located just outside the downtown historic district. Jim Haigler, a local architect who has maintained offices at 26 Church Street since approximately 1970, designed the building.

A significant development to impact the downtown historic resources occurred in 2003, when a large museum was constructed beside the train tracks on the north side of the Public Square downtown at 501 N. Museum Drive. The construction of the museum required the demolition of the old jail and sheriff's house and the Gilmer Street Baptist Church. Since it opened, the Booth Western Art Museum has had a significant impact on Cartersville, bringing visitors from throughout the region. The museum is 120,000 square feet of contemporary western American art; along with large galleries devoted to western illustration, a collection of presidential letters and portraits, western movie posters and contemporary Civil War art. The museum was developed by the Anverse Foundation, which also restored the Grand Theatre. The Booth Western Art Museum is located north of the Public Square, just outside the boundaries for the Cartersville Downtown Historic District.

A large building was constructed in 2004 at 148 W. Main Street, outside the western edge of the downtown historic district. Known locally as Integrity Plaza, the mixed-use development includes both retail and residential (fourteen loft-style condominiums).

Also in 2005, a fountain was created in the historic Public Square across from the new city hall. The new fountain was intended to restore the original fountain that had been located there. A historic postcard shows the original fountain there in 1908. The original fountain had apparently been dismantled; portions of the original fountain were found and were incorporated into the new one.

Around 2010, the exteriors of both the original 1869 courthouse and 1903 "Gold Dome Courthouse" were restored, through the use of various funding sources of the City of Cartersville (1869 courthouse) and Bartow County government (1903 courthouse).

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

### Summary

Since the end of WWII (1945), the downtown area of Cartersville has continued to develop steadily. However, the overall layout of the Cartersville Downtown Historic District has remained essentially unchanged. The original plan of the district is still evident today; subsequent development of the district has conformed to the historic street patterns and layout. The physical features that represent the original downtown plan are still evident, including: the Public Square defined by commercial buildings on the east and west sides, the railroad tracks running north-south through the middle of the Public Square, and the train depot. The street patterns remain intact and most historic buildings have not had major alterations. The original Public Square is still the heart of downtown.

During the period from 1945 to the present, commercial construction in the downtown area expanded to the east and west of the square along Main Street. As the town grew, the historic uses for the properties in the downtown district have shifted as well. Some houses on the perimeter of the district have now been converted to commercial uses. In 1945, there were three viable downtown hotels; there are none as of 2014. In 1945, downtown buildings were used for a variety of purposes. However, as Cartersville grew, commercial development outside of the historic district caused the downtown buildings to be used primarily for offices and institutional use by the 1980s. However, since the 1990s, due to efforts toward revitalization by the city and private property owners, as well as changing market demands and consumer preferences, the uses of downtown buildings have become much more diverse again. The downtown business environment of 2014 is vibrant and thriving, much more like the downtown business climate of 1953 than 1983.

The major physical changes to downtown since 1945 have been: the 1971 fire that damaged commercial tenant spaces at 15, 17, 19, and 31 S. Public Square; the new development and expansion to the east and west of the original downtown area (outside the historic district), where dwellings were replaced with commercial and government buildings, especially in the 1960s; the addition of the 1982 Church Street bridge; and the construction of the Booth Western Art Museum north of the district in 2003.

At the present time, the historic downtown commercial resources continue to serve the city of Cartersville which has grown significantly over the years: the city has doubled in size, from 10,000 people in 1970 to 20,000 people in 2013 and now covers 30 square miles. As the county seat, Cartersville has been – and continues to be – the commercial center of Bartow County and, as such, has provided resources for the nearby residents in surrounding areas of the county. But while the city and county have grown over the years since 1945, the physical changes to the downtown historic district have been relatively minimal.

---

### **9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

"\$1,000,000 Building Program." *Bartow Herald*, July 11, 1946. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.

"A City Showcases Its Wares." *L. & N. Magazine*, December, 1960. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.

"A Friendly Signpost for Air Travelers." *Daily Tribune News*, March 11, 1948. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.

Bartow Ancestors. "Original Cartersville Post Office." [www.bartowancestors.com](http://www.bartowancestors.com) (accessed October 24, 2013).

Cartersville Downtown Historic District

Bartow County, Georgia

Name of Property

County and State

Benham, Robert. "Outstanding African Americans in Cartersville and Bartow County." *150 Years of Cartersville, 1850-2000*. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia. Portions of the publication (including Justice Benham's article) on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Biggest Single Development in History of City to Begin Soon." *Bartow Herald*, December 18, 1941.

Brooks, Carolyn. "Grand Theatre." *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 1984. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Caldwell, Wilbur W. *The Courthouse and the Depot: A Narrative Guide to Railroad Expansion and Its Impact on Public Architecture in Georgia 1833-1910*. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2001.

Cartersville First Baptist Church. "Our Story." <http://www.cartersvillefirst.com/AboutUs/OurStory/tabid/76/Default.aspx> (accessed October 24, 2013.)

*Cartersville Centennial, 1872-1972*. Commemorative publication by the City of Cartersville, 1972. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Cochran, Linda Gossett (Office Manager and Genealogist, Etowah Valley Historical Society). Phone interview with Beth Gibson. Cartersville and Atlanta. September 16, 2013.

"County Courthouses in Georgia" thematic National Register nomination. On file at Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, Atlanta, Georgia. Listed 1980.

Dalton, Harris. "Cartersville Slow Getting Started But Has Full Head of Steam Now." *Bartow Herald*, June 6, 1963. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.

"Development of Downtown Cartersville – Historic Narrative 2013." Prepared by the City of Cartersville and provided by Richard Osborne, City Planner, Cartersville, Georgia.

"Developmental History/Historic Context" [of Cartersville]. Submitted via email from Jennifer Dickey's student project and received by the Historic Preservation Division on February 6, 2013. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Downtown Business District – Parcel Data August 2013" spreadsheet. Prepared by the City of Cartersville and provided by Richard Osborne, City Planner, Cartersville, Georgia.

Etowah Valley Historical Society. "Cartersville." <http://evhsonline.org/bartow-history/places/cartersville/> (accessed September 16, 2013).

First Presbyterian Church. "About Us." <http://www.cartersvillepres.org/> (accessed October 24, 2013).

"Genealogist: Linda Gossett Cochran." Etowah Valley Historical Society website, <http://evhsonline.org/resources/genealogy/genealogist-linda-gossett-cochran/> (accessed September 16, 2013).

"Grand Theatre History." <http://www.thegrandtheatre.org/Grand%20Theatre%20History.htm>. (accessed October 24, 2013).

Lewis, John S. Phone interview with Beth Gibson. Cartersville and Atlanta, Georgia. October 17, 2013.

Longstreth, Richard. *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Washington, DC: The Preservation Press, 1987.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

- Mallory, Katrina. "Historical Data" documents for downtown Cartersville historic buildings prepared for Mr. John S. Lewis, received by the Historic Preservation Division on 9-26-07. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Peters, Suzanne. "Cartersville, Georgia – Historic Context." October 16, 2011. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Roth, Darlene. *Georgia Community Development and Morphology of Community Types*. 1989. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church. "About Sam Jones." <http://www.samjonesumc.org/> (accessed October 24, 2013).
- Sanborn-Perris Map Company. Insurance Maps of Cartersville, Georgia. 1885, 1890, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1909, and 1916. Copies received from the City of Cartersville, Planning and Development, Cartersville, Georgia. Copies of 1927 map received from the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.
- Sharp, Leslie. "Historic and Architectural Resources in Downtown Cartersville, Georgia." *National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form*, 1994. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Sharp, Leslie. "North Erwin Street Historic District." *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 1994. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Sharp, Leslie. "North Wall Street Historic District." *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 1998. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Southern Scribe. "Four Way Diner." [www.southernscribe.com](http://www.southernscribe.com) (accessed October 24, 2013).
- Sparks, Andrew. "Cartersville ... Center of Industry, Mining and Agriculture." *The Atlanta Journal Magazine*, April 10, 1949: pp. 18-20. On file at Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.
- Thomas, Kenneth H., Jr. "Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church." *National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*, 1985. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.
- "Will Cartersville Hit 10,000 In 1950 Census?" *Daily Tribune News*, November 17, 1949. On file at the Bartow History Museum Archives, Cartersville, Georgia.

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

\*The following resources were previously listed (with dates of listing in parenthesis): Old Bartow County Courthouse (1980), Bartow County Courthouse (1980), Grand Theatre (1984), Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church (1985), North Erwin Street Historic District (1994), and North Wall Street Historic District (1998).

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

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

---

**10. Geographical Data**

---

**Acreage of Property** Approximately 25 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**  
**Datum if other than WGS84:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 34.166629 | Longitude: -84.800795 |
| 2. Latitude: 34.168262 | Longitude: -84.795345 |
| 3. Latitude: 34.164037 | Longitude: -84.793564 |
| 4. Latitude: 34.162581 | Longitude: -84.799486 |

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

The National Register boundary is indicated with a heavy black line on the attached National Register map, 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 Cartersville. To the north of the district are residential development and the 2003 Booth Western Art Museum. To the east is primarily non-historic commercial and institutional development. To the south are mixed areas of historic residential development and non-historic commercial and industrial development. To the immediate west are non-historic commercial and government buildings, as well as the 1853 First Presbyterian Church (listed in the National Register in 1991), transitioning into a residential area further to the west.



Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

name/title Beth Gibson, consultant  
organization Ray and Ellis, Consulting date Nov. 2013 (edited 9/14 by HPD)  
street & number 799 Penn Avenue telephone (404) 272-6325  
city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30308  
e-mail [gibsondeis@mindspring.com](mailto:gibsondeis@mindspring.com)

name/title Richard Osborne, city planner  
organization Cartersville Planning and Development date Nov. 2013 (edited 9/14 by HPD)  
street & number 10 N. Public Square (P. O. Box 1390) telephone (770) 387-5614  
city or town Cartersville state GA zip code 30120  
e-mail [rosborne@cityofcartersville.org](mailto:rosborne@cityofcartersville.org)

name/title Denise P. Messick, National Register Historian  
organization Historic Preservation Division, GA Dept. of Natural Resources date September 2014  
street & number 254 Washington Street, Ground Level telephone (404) 656-2840  
city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30334  
e-mail [denise.messick@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:denise.messick@dnr.state.ga.us)

---

**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.)

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

---

**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: Cartersville Downtown Historic District

City or Vicinity: Cartersville

County: Bartow

State: Georgia

Photographer: Charlie Miller, Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

Date Photographed: December 17, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 28. Railroad tracks and former W & A depot. Photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 28. 5 Public Square. Photographer facing west.
- 3 of 28. Commercial block at 5-17 Public Square. Photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 28. Historical marker and "Friendship Monument" at south side of Public Square. Photographer facing north.
- 5 of 28. 101-105 block of West Main Street. Photographer facing north/northwest.
- 6 of 28. 125-135 block of West Main Street. Photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 28. 151 West Main Street. Photographer facing northwest.
- 8 of 28. Bartow County "Gold Dome Courthouse" (1903). Photographer facing north/northwest.
- 9 of 28. Bartow County "Gold Dome Courthouse" and Confederate monument. Photographer facing northwest.
- 10 of 28. Sam Jones Memorial United Methodist Church. Photographer facing northwest.
- 11 of 28. Grand Theatre on North Wall Street. Photographer facing east/northeast.
- 12 of 28. 21-27 block of North Wall Street. Photographer facing north.
- 13 of 28. Old Bartow County Courthouse (1869). Photographer facing northeast.
- 14 of 28. Old Bartow County Courthouse taken from Church Street overpass. Photographer facing northeast.
- 15 of 28. Public Square and Wall Street taken from Church Street overpass. Photographer facing south/southeast.
- 16 of 28. Cherokee Avenue near Noble Street. Photographer facing southeast.
- 17 of 28. Legion Theatre and 108-114 block of West Main Street. Photographer facing southeast.
- 18 of 28. 10-20 block of West Main Street. Photographer facing east/southeast.
- 19 of 28. First Baptist Church on Cherokee Avenue. Photographer facing southeast.

Cartersville Downtown Historic District  
Name of Property

Bartow County, Georgia  
County and State

- 20 of 28. U.S. Post Office on North Erwin Street. Photographer facing east/northeast.
- 21 of 28. 19 North Erwin Street. Photographer facing east/northeast.
- 22 of 28. Alley behind 2-18 West Main Street. Photographer facing northwest.
- 23 of 28. Railroad tracks and buildings at south end of Museum Drive. Photographer facing northeast.
- 24 of 28. Warehouse inside southern boundary of district. Photographer facing northeast.
- 25 of 28. Four Way Diner at Main Street and Gilmer Street. Photographer facing southeast.
- 26 of 28. Former gas station at 121 South Gilmer Street. Photographer facing northwest.
- 27 of 28. Under the Church Street overpass. Photographer facing north/northeast.
- 28 of 28. 17 Church Street. Photographer facing southeast.

**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.

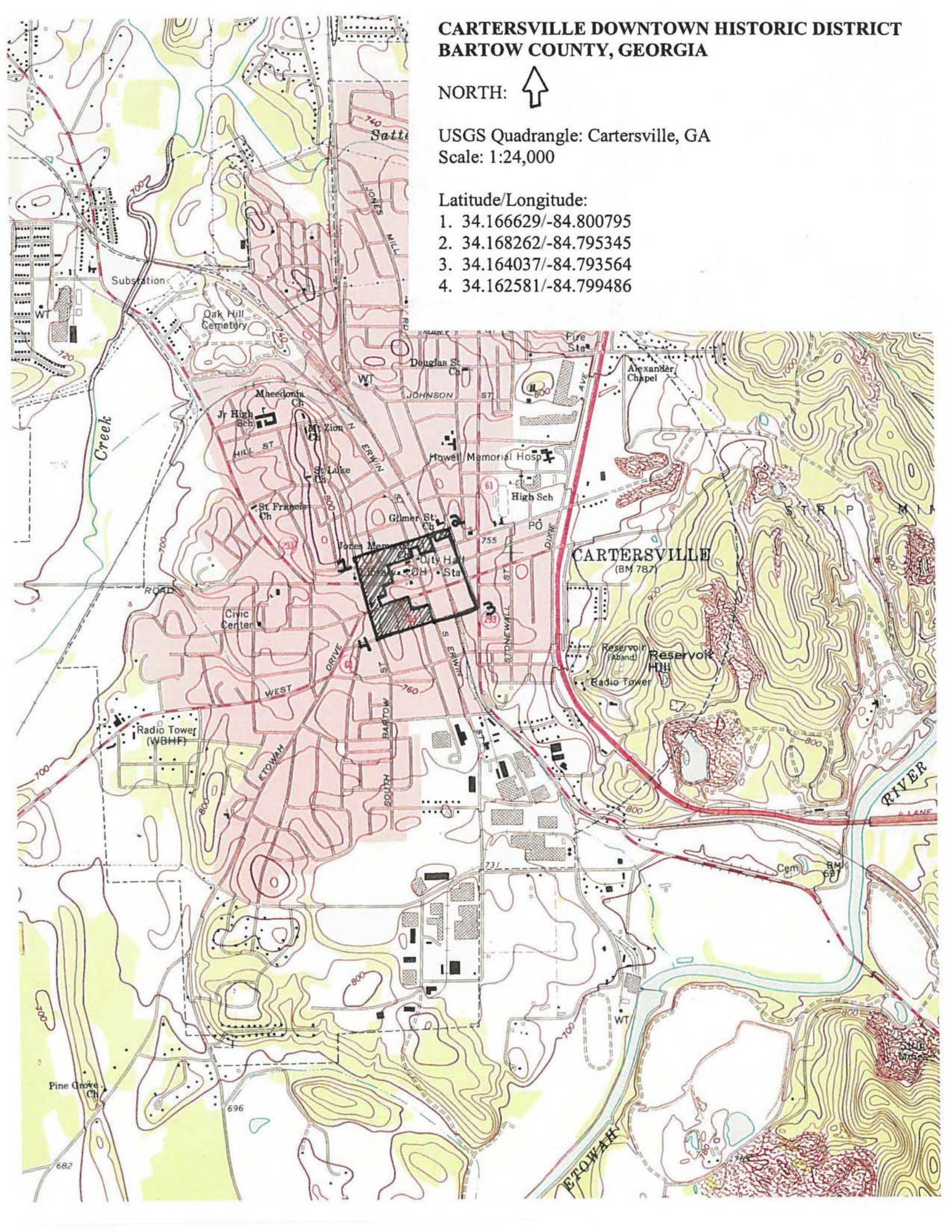
# CARTERSVILLE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA

NORTH: 

USGS Quadrangle: Cartersville, GA  
Scale: 1:24,000

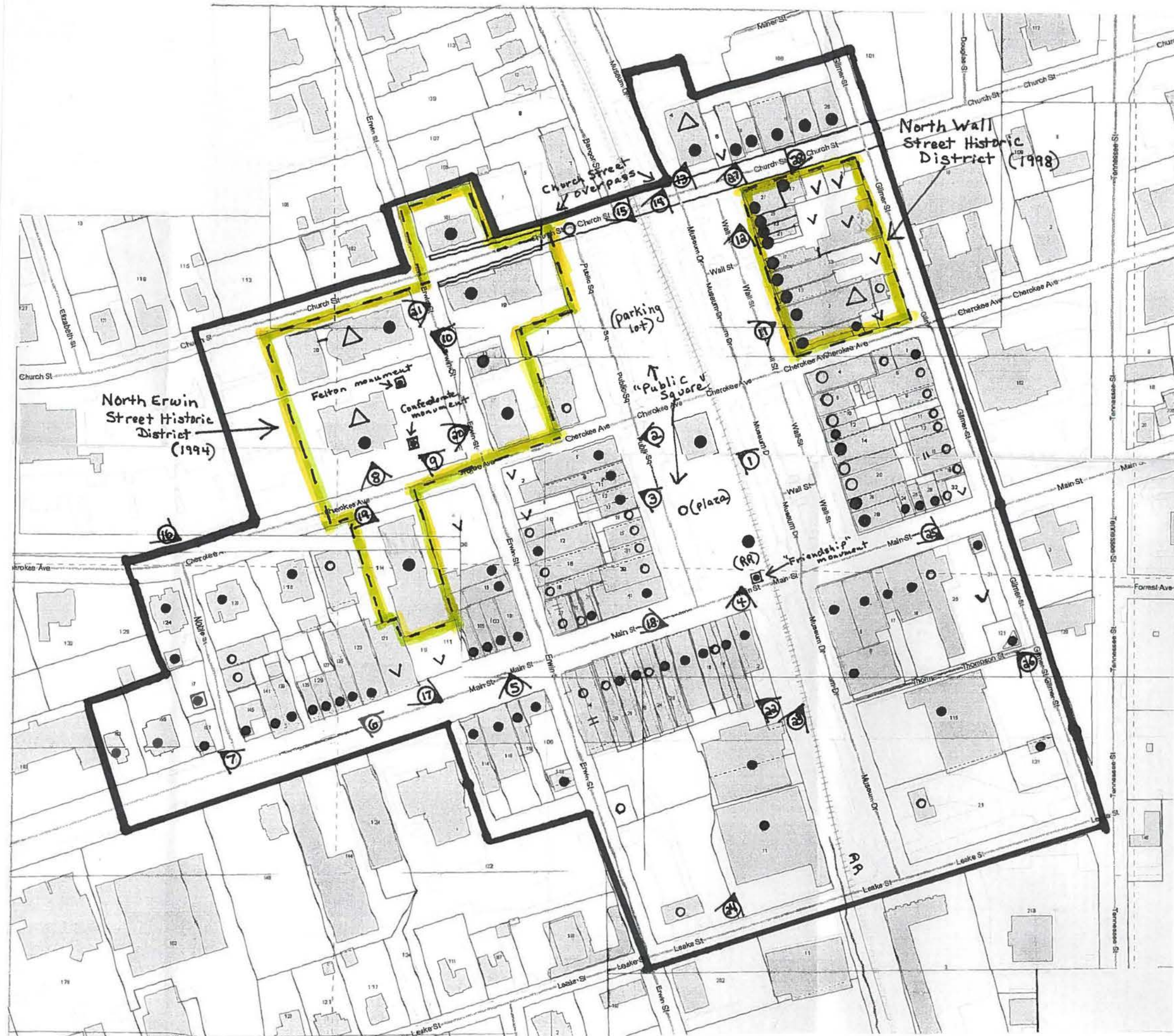
Latitude/Longitude:

1. 34.166629/-84.800795
2. 34.168262/-84.795345
3. 34.164037/-84.793564
4. 34.162581/-84.799486



CARTERSVILLE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 BARTOW COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 NATIONAL REGISTER MAP

- National Register Boundary:
- Previously Listed District:
- Previously Listed Individual Building:
- North:
- Scale: 1 inch = approx. 167 feet
- Base Source: Cartersville Planning and Development Office
- Contributing:
- Noncontributing:
- Vacant:
- Photograph/Direction of View:







PERROTTA, CAHN & PRIETO, P.C.



LEGACY  
OUTDOORS  
770.334.2704

LEGACY





Fancy



Fusion Dance Company



PROVOTEL, CAMPBELL HOTEL, ETC.







## FRIENDSHIP MONUMENT

The nearby marble shaft has the unique distinction of having been erected by a debtor in honor of his creditors. Losses during the panic of 1857 forced Mark A. Cooper, proprietor of the Etowah Iron Works, to offer his property for sale to satisfy a \$100,000 debt. Thirty-eight friends signed notes totaling that amount to save the enterprise. When the debt was repaid in 1860, Cooper erected this monument on which the names of his benefactors are inscribed.

609-81      CHURCH      HISTORICAL      COMMISSION      1982



HEARING AIDS

HEARING AIDS

JOHNSON  
Audiology  
HEARING AIDS AND TINNITUS REM.

HOURS  
MON-FRI 9:00-5:00  
SAT 9:00-12:00  
SUN 10:00-12:00

Megan Johnson, Au.D.  
Doctor of Audiology  
Coursney Guthrie, Au.D.  
Doctor of Audiology  
770-334-3082

Appraisal Partners, Inc.

103  
W. Main Street

APPRAISAL  
PARTNERS, INC.

OPEN

FOR TALK  
CALL 770-334-3082

M

StarLine  
RENTALS





DRY CLEANERS

HOMETOWN  
FINANCIAL & TAX SERVICES

Get Your MONEY FAST... We can HELP!  
Check it out!

HOMETOWN  
TAX SERVICES

HOMETOWN  
TAX SERVICES  
770-36...

COOMER - ATTORNEY AT LAW

COOMER

HMP

HOME MEDICAL  
PROFESSIONALS Inc.

125

LE  
CA  
DA  
78



**BUTCHER SHOP**



**Butcher Shop**

What's for

**DINNER**



• SUMMER SAUSAGE  
• FREE RANGE CHICKEN  
• BERKSHIRE PORK  
• SLAB BACON

TURDUCKENS  
• CAJON SPECIALTIES  
• SMOKEHOUSE PRODUCTS  
• SNACK STICKS  
• PACKAGE DEALS

**OPEN**

CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF



**DEER PROCESSING**  
[www.MyGourmetSteaks.com](http://www.MyGourmetSteaks.com)







Bring One for The Chipper!  
DEC 26TH - JAN 15TH  
All funds go to the State Capitol.



AM 1450 WBHF

STEPS OF  
FAITH

THE NATIVITY

12-21 2-7 PM  
12-22 3 PM

◆ GRAND ◆

CONCERT  
SOLD OUT

ATLANTA POPS

SAT DEC 14  
7 PM

CENTURY BANK  
of GEORGIA  
ENTERTAINMENT SERIES







A T E TRACK BAR + GRILL

THE RIVERSIDE STUDIO

NO SMOKING  
NO DRUGS  
NO ALCOHOL  
NO WEAPONS  
NO ANIMALS  
NO SHOES  
NO BIKES  
NO STROLLER  
NO BAGGAGE  
NO BAGS  
NO BICYCLES  
NO SKATEBOARDS  
NO SCOOTERS  
NO STROLLER  
NO BAGGAGE  
NO BAGS  
NO BICYCLES  
NO SKATEBOARDS  
NO SCOOTERS

WORLD OPS  
STREET



BARTOW HISTORY MUSEUM

BARTOW  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM

Bartow County Courthouse  
1884 to 1984

Pieces of the Past:  
The Laska Showers  
November 1922 -  
November 1923  
Newman Exhibit  
through March 5, 2014



BANK OF WISCONSIN MUSEUM







LEGION

PUMPHOUSE PLAYERS

YOU BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS! DEC 8-14

PUMPHOUSE THEATRE

SALE

JOY & LEAVE IT

SALE



1889

BARTON KNIFE  
AND GUN Co.

WINGS BURGERS OYSTERS

Jefferson's

28

GUN REPAIR

WE BUY GUNS



BARLOW COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT ANNEX

112

BARLOW COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT ANNEX

BARLOW COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT ANNEX







STOP

W 10

CFB

Historical marker plaque





design LAUREATE

STOP





4 WAY LUNCH

Main

MILLWOOD PLUMBING

THE KITCHEN MEDICAL

ICE CREAM

ICE CREAM

COCONUTS  
**ICE CREAM**

Enjoy  
**Coca-Cola**

COCONUTS  
**ICE CREAM**

COCONUTS

**COCONUTS**  
Smoothies

WAT LUNCH



ME & PIE

ME & PIE

APPALACHIAN GRILL

ME & PIE  
Cakes, Pastries, Breads  
123 Main St.  
Call: 555-1234

ME & PIE  
Cakes, Pastries, Breads  
123 Main St.  
Call: 555-1234



GREG'S  
PAWN  
SHOP

GREG'S

PAWN  
SHOP

PAWN  
SHOP

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cartersville Downtown Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Bartow

DATE RECEIVED: 9/26/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/12/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000904

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 11/12/14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA A & C

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE [Signature]

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 11/12/14

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.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER



September 22, 2014

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:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Cartersville Downtown Historic District, Bartow County, Georgia** to the National Register of Historic Places.

- Disk of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps as a pdf
- Disk with digital photo images
- Physical signature page
- Original USGS topographic map(s)
- Sketch map(s)/attachment(s)
- Correspondence
- Other:

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do  do not  constitute a majority of property owners.
- Special considerations:

Sincerely,

Lynn Speno  
National Register Specialist

Enclosures