

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received **AUG 2 1983**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lower Avenue A Historic District

and or common

2. Location

Avenue A between N. 5th street and Turner - McCall Bl

street & number See Continuation Sheet N/A not for publication

city, town Rome N/A vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Floyd code 115

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<u>N/A</u> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners - less than 50.

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Floyd County Courthouse

city, town Rome state GA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records None

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Lower Avenue A Historic District is located in Rome, Floyd County, Georgia.. It is part of a late nineteenth-early twentieth century residential area known as DeSoto, which began as a separate suburban village on the Oostanaula's west bank across from Rome's Between the Rivers commercial and residential area. This area continued to develop as a suburb after its 1885 annexation by the city. Lower Avenue A Historic District has been isolated from the much larger Upper Avenue A Historic District to its north by Turner-McCall Boulevard. The district consists of nine houses along the east side of Avenue A. These structures are nearly all located on 50 foot by 200 foot lots and are set back uniformly from the street with minimal landscaping consisting of well-kept lawns with a few hedges and shrubs. The houses, built from the 1880s to the 1920s, are modest frame structures with little detailing. All but one are one story. All have porches and a number have a front gable that is centered above the porch roof.

Boundary

The nominated property consists of one of two areas remaining in Rome's Old Fourth Ward (DeSoto) that contains an intact group of historically significant structures. Vacant land and church parking lots are located on the west side of Avenue A in this block. To the north is Turner-McCall Boulevard, an old street drastically widened in the 1960s which cuts off Lower Avenue A from Upper Avenue A, once part of the same neighborhood. The Oostanaula River and newer development lie to the east. Commercial buildings and modern structures are located along north Fifth Avenue to the south.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1880s - 1920s **Builder/Architect** Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Summary Statement of Significance

Lower Avenue A Historic District is historically significant in terms of community planning and development and architecture. In terms of community planning and development, the district is significant for its development as part of DeSoto, an early suburb of Rome. In terms of architecture, the district is significant for its group of intact residences that documents lower-middle class housing types in Rome from the 1880s to the 1920s. These areas of significance support district eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

Community Planning and Development

The Lower Avenue A area developed originally as part of the village of DeSoto, an early suburb of Rome located on the flat land west of the Oostanaula River and Rome's historic commercial and residential center known as Between the Rivers. DeSoto began a slow growth in the 1870s and 1880s as Rome entrepreneurs and land companies laid out streets and sold lots in the area. The development moved northward into the Lower Avenue A residential area from North Fifth Avenue, the village's commercial center located immediately to the south of the Lower Avenue A Historic District. In 1885 DeSoto was annexed by the City of Rome, becoming the Fourth Ward. The construction of a bridge in 1886 connecting the DeSoto area with Between the Rivers, the arrival of a street car line, and the location in the immediate area of a number of industries that provided many jobs were three factors that contributed to the rapid growth of the whole neighborhood in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Its development as a suburb, quickly annexed by the city, is typical of the suburbs that began to appear nationwide as new theories about the advantages of suburban living developed and methods of transportation improved.

Architecture

The modest one-story frame houses with little detailing that make up the majority of the houses in this district document one type of housing typically found in Rome in the years around the turn-of-the-century. These simple, solid houses, some with a full front porch topped by a small central gable extending from a truncated hipped roof, and others duplexes, each with two small front porches, provide an intact picture of a once common housing stock associated with Rome's lower-middle class. Few intact areas with houses such as these remain in the city, adding to the significance of the Lower Avenue A Historic District.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approximately 2 acres

Quadrangle name Rome North, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	6	6	8	2	2	0	3	7	9	2	3	1	0
Zone	Easting							Northing						

B

1	6	6	6	8	2	3	0	3	7	9	2	1	6	0
Zone	Easting							Northing						

C

1	6	6	6	8	1	6	0	3	7	9	2	1	0	0
Zone	Easting							Northing						

D

1	6	6	6	8	1	5	0	3	7	9	2	3	1	0
Zone	Easting							Northing						

E

Zone	Easting							Northing						

F

Zone	Easting							Northing						

G

Zone	Easting							Northing						

H

Zone	Easting							Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary, outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed map, is described and justified in Section 7.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Books, National Register Researcher

organization Historic Preservation Section date July 25, 1983
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta state GA 30334

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Elizabeth A. Lyon date 7/27/83
State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Melvyn Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 9/1/83

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

Lower Avenue A Historic District

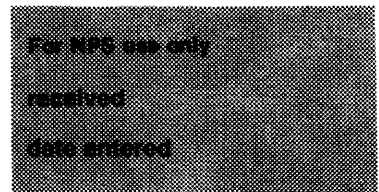
Bibliographical References

Continuation sheet

Item number

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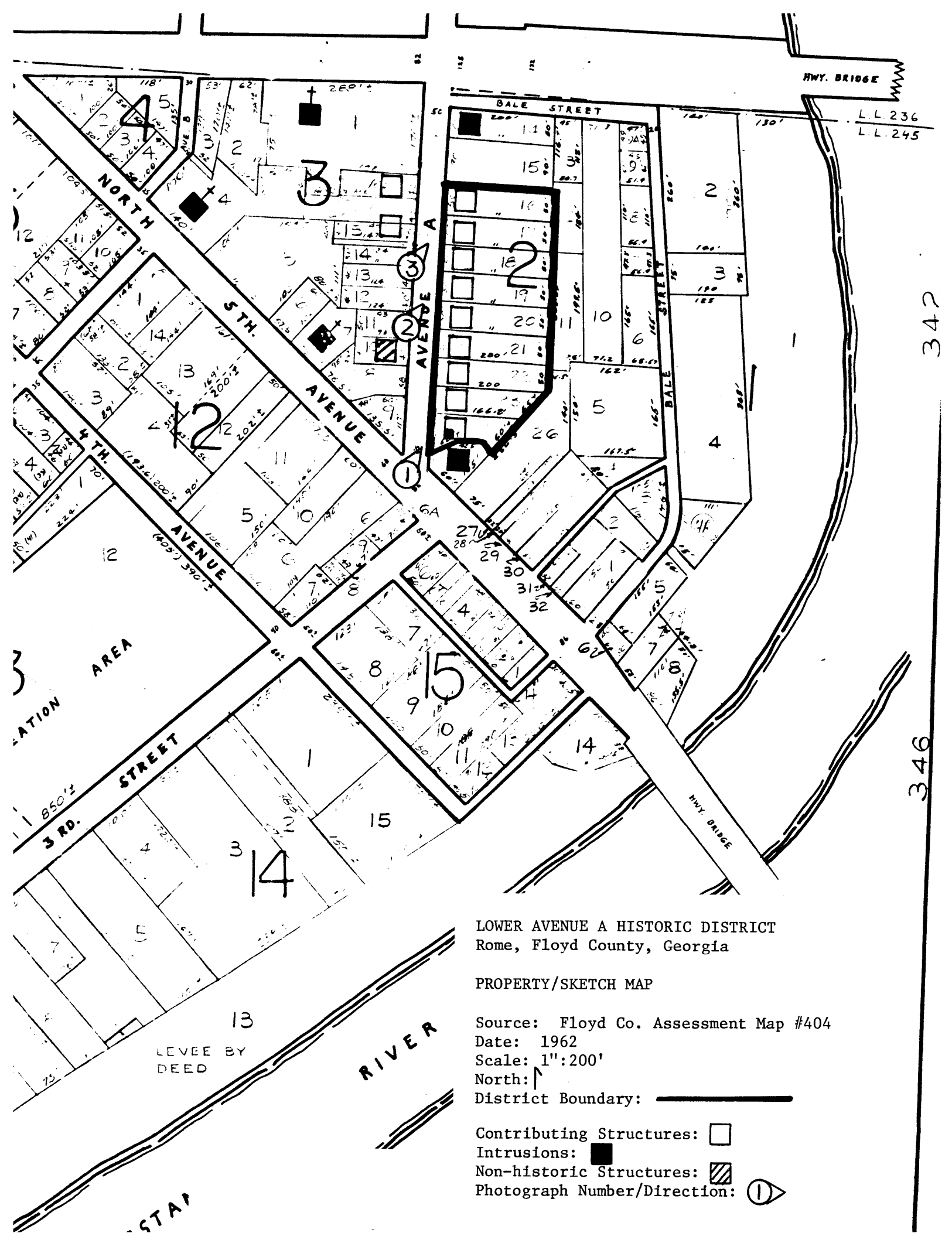
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LOWER AVENUE A HISTORIC DISTRICT
 Rome, Floyd County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

Source: Floyd Co. Assessment Map #404
 Date: 1962
 Scale: 1":200'
 North: ↑
 District Boundary: —————

- Contributing Structures: □
- Intrusions: ■
- Non-historic Structures: ▨
- Photograph Number/Direction: ①

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