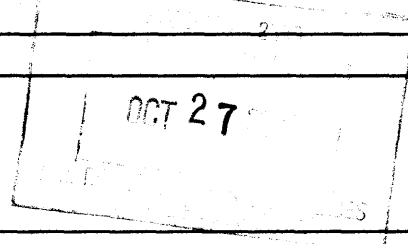


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Pembroke Historic District**
other names/site number **N/A**



2. Location

street & number **Centered on U.S. Highway 280 and Main Street.**
city, town **Pembroke** () vicinity of
county **Bryan** code **029**
state **Georgia** code **GA** zip code **31321**

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	132	55
sites	0	0
structures	2	0
objects	0	0
total	134	55

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 1

Name of previous listing: Bryan County Courthouse (listed June 14, 1995)

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

W. Ray Luce
Signature of certifying official

10-19-04
Date

fed W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. 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:

see continuation sheet

Edson H. Beall 12/18/04

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling, hotel

Commercial: business, specialty store, department store

Social: meeting hall

Government: courthouse, post office, correctional facility

Religion: religious facility

Recreation and Culture: theater

Transportation: rail-related

Current Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

Commercial: business, specialty store

Social: meeting hall

Government: courthouse

Religion: religious facility

Transportation: rail-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late Victorian: Italianate

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements: Bungalow/Craftsman

Modern Movement: International Style, Ranch Style

Other: central hall house, Georgian house, gabled-ell house

Materials:

foundation Concrete

walls Wood

roof Asphalt

other Walls: Brick

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Pembroke Historic District encompasses the historic commercial, residential, and community landmark buildings associated with the development of the southeast Georgia city of Pembroke. Located in the coastal plain of Georgia, the city is sited on a small rise in the sand hills, an important factor in the choice of the town site. Pembroke is bounded by the Canoochee River to the south and Mill Creek to the east. Both are tributaries of the Ogeechee River.

Pembroke was established in 1889 when the Savannah and Western Railroad built its line through Bryan County with a depot at Pembroke. The town is laid out in a gridiron plan with the rail line running east to west through the center of the commercial district. The rail line and right-of-way lies in the center of a wide, mostly open swath that includes Bacon Street (U.S. Highway 280) north of the tracks, South Railroad Street south of the tracks, and park-like landscaping on both sides of the rail line. The commercial buildings on the north side of the railroad right-of-way share common party walls and common setbacks along the sidewalk beside Bacon Street (photos 1, 2, and 4). In most cases, the buildings occupy the entire lot. The larger free-standing buildings along South Railroad Street are set on larger lots with setbacks from the road. These include the Chevrolet dealership and the former United States Post Office--Pembroke (photos 8 and 12-13).

The area adjacent to the railroad right-of-way contains the two-story brick Pembroke Police Department, which was built in 1931 (photo 11), and the fire department, which was constructed in 1967 (photo 7). The broad right-of-way includes a memorial park dedicated by the city, which includes a brick walk, fountain, benches, and plantings that include flowering bushes and live oak trees (photos 6-7 and 11).

Pembroke's commercial buildings are mostly concentrated along U.S. Highway 280 between Strickland and Main streets (photos 1-2, 3, and 6). These are attached one- and two-story brick buildings constructed in the first two decades of the 20th century. Typically built in the Italianate style, the buildings are set close to the street and feature storefronts with a center entrance flanked by large, plate-glass windows, arched windows at the second-floor level, and topped with a corbeled

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7—Description

brick cornice. The buildings in the district feature a variety of styles and materials, all dating from the early to mid 1900s. Brick is the most common structural material, sometimes embellished with stone or terra-cotta trim. Some storefronts are supported with cast-iron columns. Significant commercial and community landmark buildings in the historic district include:

(Old) Jail. Gibson Street, 1900 (photo 39). The small, brick jail was moved to its current location from the previous county seat of Clyde. The building features a reinforced door, iron bars across the windows, and a metal-clad hip roof and chimney. The interior iron jail cells remain intact. The building is slated for renovation as a museum of local law enforcement.

Morgan's Dry Goods and Furniture Store. U.S. Highway 280, 1910 (photo 2, center). Built and operated by Julius Morgan, one of Pembroke's earliest businessmen and an active member of the city council. The "Gold Block," as it was known, was two-story brick building on the corner of U.S. Highway 280 and Main Street. The 12-bay, multi-business building, the largest in Pembroke, was first devoted to furniture sales, and later the town's first Chevrolet dealership. The intact three-bay portion of the block features arched display windows and recessed entrance. The next three bays have been altered and the six westernmost bays were demolished and replaced by the Pembroke Senior Center. The block also housed the Hotel Julius Morgan, a barbershop, and the offices of local physicians W. K. and W. E. Smith.

Monroe's Grocery (now the Farm Bureau Building). U.S. Highway 280, 1910 (photo 2). A two-story brick commercial building that was part of the Gold Block. The three-part storefront was altered from the original design. The arched windows above and the corbeled brick cornice remain intact. The second floor served as a hotel.

(Old) United States Post Office. U.S. Highway 280, 1910 (photos 2, second from right). A two-story brick commercial building that served as the city's post office during the 1930s. The second-story was added in 1937 when city attorney Roscoff Deal established offices in the building. The terra-cotta frieze was reinstalled above the second floor.

Solomon Smith Hardware Store. U.S. Highway 280, 1910 (photo 2, right). A one-story brick commercial building distinguished by its pilasters, brick panels and dentil cornice, and terra-cotta frieze. The building served as a hardware store from the 1910s to the early 1930s. In the late 1930s, J. Dixie Harn, city clerk and mayor, established a general store in the building. Later, the building housed an automobile dealership, furniture store, and pawnshop. From 1995 to 2001, the Bryan County Times newspaper was published in the building.

Sims Building, U.S. Highway 280, 1920 (photo 1, center). A two-story brick commercial building with two recessed storefronts. The entablature features a corbeled-brick cornice and stepped parapet. The building housed a grocery store on the first floor and apartments above. After a fire in 1999, the building was renovated and currently houses the Coffee Hop restaurant on the ground floor. The second floor remains residential.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

Telephone Exchange. U.S. Highway 280, 1920s (photo 1, extreme right). A two-story beige-brick commercial building at the corner of U.S. Highway 280 and College Street. The building includes a recessed storefront entrance, three windows above, and a corbeled-brick cornice. This building housed the Pembroke Telephone Company, which maintained its central switching machinery on the second floor. The first floor was a gasoline filling station.

Pembroke Police Department. Main Street, 1931 (photo 11, center right). A small two-story building constructed at the edge of the railroad right-of-way. The walls are concrete block covered with stucco and the hip roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The building originally served as the Pembroke Police Department (town marshals). In the 1940s, when the condition of the original city hall building began to deteriorate, the Pembroke City Council met in the second-floor meeting room. In the 1990s, the building was converted to a welcome center and currently includes the offices of the North Bryan Chamber of Commerce.

Tos Theater. U.S. Highway 280, 1938 (photo 4, right). A two-story gable-front brick movie theater constructed at the corner of U.S. Highway 280 and Church Street. The theater was an important fixture for the city's youth in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s. The Tos was Pembroke's first building constructed for the purpose of screening movies. Films had been shown in the old Masonic Hall on the edge of downtown for several years before S. G. Tos, one of the few Jews in Pembroke, built and operated the theater. The theater, which did not include a concession stand, relied on the adjacent drugstore to provide patrons with candy, popcorn, and sodas. Seating and restrooms were racially segregated.

Morrison's Drugstore. U.S. Highway 280, 1935 (photo 2, left). A plain one-story brick commercial building that first served as a drugstore with the city's most popular soda fountain. Located adjacent to the Tos Theater, the soda fountain provided snacks for moviegoers.

Old Hotel. South Railroad Street, 1900 (photo 14). A two-story, gable-front building constructed of frame and clad in weatherboard. A two-story porch spans the main façade. Hotel guests included railroad travelers and railroad workers. It is among the oldest buildings in Pembroke.

Gas Station. South Railroad Street, 1940 (photo 14). A small brick gas station comprising a covered pump area and an office. The entire structure is covered with a hip roof. The gas station, which served as the main gasoline and service station in downtown Pembroke, was converted to the Food Bank in the early 1990s.

Chevrolet Dealership. South Railroad Street, 1940 (photos 12-13). A large, brick building with metal-frame windows and a segmental-arched roof that provides uninterrupted interior space. This building served as a car dealership from 1940 to the 1970s. It is currently occupied by Pembroke Millworks, which manufactures door systems.

Bryan County Courthouse. College Street, 1943 (photo 41). The large, two-story brick courthouse was built after the Bryan County seat of government was moved from Clyde to Pembroke in 1937.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7—Description

Designed by Walter P. Marshall, the courthouse, which is located south of the commercial district on College Avenue, is set in the center of a large lot that is landscaped with pine trees, azaleas, and flower beds. The courthouse is a five-part Palladian design with a side-gabled main block and tetra-style portico. Two one-story wings adjoin the main block by small hyphens. A clock is located in the pediment above the entrance. Alterations to the courthouse include two-bay additions that extend the length of the side wings.

Former United States Post Office—Pembroke (photos 7-8). South Railroad Street, 1959. A one-story, steel-framed International Style building. The post office is clad in brick with expansive aluminum-framed windows on the main façade and the east side. Characteristic of modern architecture, the post office features simple geometric massing, flat roof, emphasis on modern materials, and a lack of references to past historical styles. The post office is the last community landmark building constructed in Pembroke and the only International Style building in the historic district.

Most of the houses in the historic district were built along transportation corridors in proximity to downtown and the railroad. Subdivisions were established in the northeast corner of the historic district and in the southwest part of the city. Houses north and south of the rail line represent well-known Georgia house types and architectural styles from the 1890s through the mid-20th century: Georgian- and center-hall-plan houses, Queen Anne-type houses, gabled-ells, and bungalows. These were built in the Folk Victorian, Queen Anne, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival styles. Most of the houses in the historic district are one-story tall and built of wood frame.

The earliest and largest houses are located in the block north of the commercial district. Strickland Street includes examples of two-story, double-pile Colonial Revival-style houses with full-width front porches built between 1910 and 1920 (photos 17 and 19). A large, two-story Queen Anne type house, which was built in 1912, is also located on Strickland Street (photo 18). Some of the city's most prominent residents lived in the area centered on Strickland, among them the Warnell family headed by State Senator Charles Warnell, the Bacon family, the Smith family that included physicians W. K. and W. E. Smith, and Judge Pembroke Williams, the city's namesake.

Most houses in Pembroke are vernacular dwellings based on regional building traditions that were influenced by popular styles of the period. Typical house types include Georgian, central-hall, and gabled-ell cottages and bungalows. Center-hall-plan houses (photos 27, 38, and 55) and gabled-ell houses (photo 47) were built in the first decades of the 20th century. Smaller hall-parlor houses were also built in the historic district during the early 1900s, including examples on Main Street (photos 44 and 46).

The predominant house type in the historic district is the bungalow built in the Craftsman-style (photos 15, 20, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 40, 43, and 45). Built from the 1910s through the 1930s, bungalows were constructed in all parts of the district, especially in the subdivision in the northwest corner of the district bounded by Georgia, Anne, and Burkhalter streets and Warnell Avenue. Pembroke's bungalows are one-story frame houses that often feature porches across the front and

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

are usually covered with a gable-front or hip roof. Craftsman-style elements include shallow-pitched gable roofs supported by brackets, exposed rafter ends, and battered porch posts. Sash windows are often configured with a multi-light upper sash and a single light in the lower sash.

The George Washington Carver development is the second subdivision in Pembroke. Centered on in the intersection of Bing and Kent streets, the Carver subdivision is an African American neighborhood that has lost substantial historic integrity and is excluded from the historic district. The subdivision comprises manufactured houses, nonhistoric houses, and historic houses that have lost historic integrity (photo 52).

Houses built after World War II include the American Small House, a distinctive house type that emerged during a period of desperate economic conditions during the Great Depression and immediately after WWII (photos 36, left, and 37). This was a large-scale effort to provide well-designed, well-built affordable small houses that are in no sense traditional. American Small Houses are compact, one-story, gable-roofed houses w/ usually four main rooms. The exteriors are plain with no architectural style and little ornament. Some appear vaguely as Cape Cod houses in form.

Ranch houses in the historic district were built from 1940s into 1960s (photo 29); those built prior to 1959 are considered contributing to the district. The term "ranch house," is an all-encompassing term for mid-20th century single-family house with a distinctive one-story height and long, narrow form, and long, low proportions. Plans include L- and U-shapes as well as plain rectangular forms. These were often built together in large suburban subdivisions. Ranch houses often include carports and garages (photo 42). All "true" ranch houses have zoned interior plans with private spaces for bedrooms and bathrooms at one end and public spaces for living and family rooms at the other end. Floor plans are open with public rooms and flowing into one another. This house type could be designed in any number of styles, including Colonial Revival, Modern, Contemporary and California, also called Western Style. In Georgia, most ranch houses were built in the hip-roofed Colonial Revival style. Shed and gabled-roofed Modern, Contemporary, and California styles are rarely seen in Georgia.

Three churches are located in the historic district. The Pembroke Methodist Church on College Street was built in 1947 (photo 26). It is a brick Colonial Revival-style church with a gable-front roof, tetra-style portico, and cupola. The Pembroke Christian Church on U.S. Highway 280 is a brick Colonial Revival-style church built in 1945 (photo 5). The gable-front building was renovated in 1965. The noncontributing church building located on College Street includes additions to the building and dramatic changes to its setting (photo 23).

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture
Commerce
Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance:

1889-1959

Significant Dates:

1889—Savannah and Western Railroad built a depot that began the development of Pembroke.
1905—Pembroke chartered.
1937—Seat of Bryan County moved from Clyde to Pembroke.
1943—Bryan County Courthouse built on College Street in Pembroke.
1959—International Style post office built on South Railroad Street in Pembroke.

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Adams, Tom (builder)
Edwards, Ulysses (builder)
Marshall, Walter P. (architect)
Wimple, Paul (builder)

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

Pembroke was established in 1889 when the Savannah and Western Railroad built its line through Bryan County with a depot at Pembroke. The town was chartered in 1905, and in 1937 the Bryan County seat was moved from Clyde to Pembroke. Named for local resident Pembroke Williams, Pembroke grew rapidly between 1890 and 1910 on the strength of the local forestry and cattle industries. The town had several sawmills and turpentine distilleries. Large amounts of lumber, raw pilings, and other goods were stockpiled along the railroad right-of-way. Between 1900 and 1930, most of the one- and two-story attached commercial buildings that form downtown Pembroke were constructed. Most of the residential buildings were built between 1890 and 1950.

The Pembroke Historic District is significant in the area of architecture because its residential, commercial, and community landmark buildings constructed from 1890 to 1959 reflect styles and types popular in Georgia during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The commercial buildings in Pembroke are good examples of late-19th and early 20th century commercial buildings. Morgan's Gold Block, with its arcaded brick storefronts on the first floor and offices above, is the largest commercial building in the district. Other examples along U.S. Highway 280 include the Solomon Smith Hardware Store and the Sims Building. These attached, brick commercial buildings feature the recessed storefronts and ornamental brickworks that characterizes the two blocks of commercial buildings on the north side of U.S. Highway 280 between Strickland and College streets. South of the rail line along South Railroad Street the commercial buildings are mostly freestanding structures. The brick Chevrolet dealership and the adjacent gas station both represent the migration of businesses south of downtown where land was available for larger buildings.

The Pembroke Historic District is significant because its houses represent styles and types of architecture popular in Georgia from the 1900s through 1959, as documented in the statewide historic context, *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings*. The earliest houses in Pembroke are center-hall-plan houses with a central hall flanked by two principal rooms. These single-pile houses are built of wood frame and covered with a side-gable roof. Another early house type is the Georgian house in which a central hall divides four principal rooms. The gabled-ell is another early house type. Built of wood frame, the gabled ell is defined by a front gable and side wing set parallel to the street. The main entrance in the wing may lead to a hall passage or a hall-parlor plan. The center-hall, Georgian, and gabled-ell houses are vernacular house types that were built across Georgia in the first decades of the 20th century. These house types, which are among the oldest forms of domestic architecture in the state, represent aesthetics, use of interior space, and patterns of domestic life that drew from vernacular traditions common to Georgia and the South.

The most numerous house type and style in the historic district is the Craftsman-style bungalow. Influenced by the English Arts and Crafts movement and the wooden architecture of Japan, the Craftsman style represents a break from popular revivals of historical styles. The Craftsman style produced carefully designed houses which emphasized materials, especially woodwork, and the way materials were put together. Craftsman houses were located across the state in rural, small towns,

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

and urban settings from the 1910s through the 1930s. Entire neighborhoods of Craftsman-style houses were commonly built. Pembroke features excellent examples of Craftsman-style bungalows.

Pembroke includes excellent examples of post-World War II houses. The American Small House is a distinctive house type that emerged during a period of desperate economic conditions immediately before and after WWII. This was a large-scale effort, sometimes called the "Small House Movement," to provide well-designed, well-built affordable small houses that are in no sense traditional. The historic district also includes outstanding examples of ranch houses that were built between 1945 and 1959. The ranch house first developed in California at the beginning of the 20th century based on the sprawling Spanish house type that is closed to the street and opens to an interior courtyard. In Georgia, ranch houses were built in large numbers after World War II. Early examples have square plans and are not as long and linear as later examples. Ranch houses are further characterized by their low, horizontal proportions and low hip roofs. Carports and garages have been integrated into the design, such the house on College Street (photo 42).

Pembroke includes significant community landmark buildings. The Bryan County Courthouse is an excellent example of a Colonial Revival-style courthouse. Its five-part Palladian plan includes a large four-column pedimented entrance. The Tos Theater, a two-story brick building, remains largely intact with entrances, seating, and restrooms that were designated for use by African Americans during the period of segregation. The Christian Church and the Pembroke Methodist Church, both small brick churches, represent not only religion but important social institutions. These buildings remain largely intact and are important community landmark buildings. The former United States Post Office—Pembroke, completed in 1959, is the last community landmark building constructed in Pembroke. With its flat roof, asymmetrical plan, expansive areas of glass, and lack of traditional ornament, the Pembroke post office is an excellent example of the International Style of architecture and the only example modern architecture in the city.

The historic district is significant in the area of commerce because its commercial buildings represent Pembroke as a center of commerce in north Bryan County and parts of Liberty, Bulloch, Evans, and Effingham counties. Between 1890 and 1910, the town of Pembroke grew rapidly on the strength of its local forestry and cattle industries. The town had several sawmills and turpentine distilleries along with numerous stores, such as dry goods and hardware stores, that catered to city residents and businesses. The downtown commercial buildings were mostly built between 1900 and 1930. The one- and two-story attached brick buildings were built on the north side of the rail line between College and Strickland streets where businesses were concentrated. Later buildings, such as the gas station and Chevrolet dealership, were built along South Railroad Street on the south side of the rail line. The city's distinctive commercial development on both sides of the rail line represent the theme of commerce in Pembroke.

Pembroke is also significant in the area of community planning and development because the town's plan is representative of cross-rail communities established alongside the railroad in Georgia at the end of the 19th century. Cross-rail plans were laid out on both sides of the established rail line with streets parallel and perpendicular to the line. This plan is an important type of community plan

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

documented in the statewide historic context, "Georgia Community Development and Morphology of Community Types." The rail line and its right-of-way is the central feature around which the city's growth and development was organized. Lumber, raw pilings, and other goods were stockpiled in the center of town along the railroad right-of-way and large numbers of cattle were penned in town awaiting shipment by rail. Thus, the open space in the center of town was necessary to support the city's rise as a regional center of commerce. In Pembroke, the rail line and rail bed are intact and actively used by the Seaboard Coast Line.

National Register Criteria

A—Because Pembroke served as the center of commerce for Bryan and its surrounding counties, as reflected in district's commercial buildings. Pembroke is significant in the area of community planning development because the town's plan is representative of cross-rail communities in Georgia

C—Because the historic district includes excellent examples of commercial, residential, and community landmark buildings that typify those built in Georgia towns from the 1880s to 1959.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

The period of significance for the Pembroke Historic District extends to 1959. The historic district meets Criterion Consideration G because it continues to achieve significance into a period less than fifty years before the nomination. The completion of the former United State Post Office—Pembroke represents the last community landmark building constructed in the city. Located on South Railroad Street, the post office was an important community landmark building because it was center for community activity in the small town.

The post office, with its reliance on modern building materials, asymmetry, and lack of references to past architectural styles, is significant as the only example of the International Style of architecture in Pembroke. After World War II, the International Style filtered into Georgia's rural communities through a host projects funded by local, state, and federal funds. These projects principally included schools built to accommodate the growing number of baby boomers, health centers that were built serve migrant and rural populations, and new, modern post offices. In some cases, these buildings inspired the construction of International Style residential and commercial buildings or, like Pembroke, they remained the town's only example of modern design.

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1889 when the Savannah and Western Railroad established a rail line through Bryan County with a depot in Pembroke. (The depot is not extant, but the rail line and right-of-way is at the center of town.) The period of significance ends in 1959 with the completion of the United States Post Office--Pembroke. The post office represents the last major community landmark building constructed in Pembroke.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

Contributing resources in the historic district are those constructed between 1889 and 1959 that are significant for the themes of architecture, commerce, and community planning and development and which retain historic integrity. This includes residential, commercial and community landmark buildings in the historic district. Contributing commercial buildings will remain largely intact and unobscured by false facades or pent roofs. Although the storefronts may have been reconfigured, the brick frame, which includes the sides and upper parapet, must survive. Most houses in the historic district were built within the period of significance. In addition, contributing houses will retain their historic form, massing, and design and a predominant amount of historic materials. Contributing houses may include enclosed porches and aluminum or vinyl siding. The contributing structures are the cross-rail plan of Pembroke and the rail line that runs through the center of town.

The noncontributing buildings were built after 1959 or have lost sufficient historic integrity so that they no longer convey their historic significance. This includes several commercial buildings in which wood-shingled pent roofs obscure the historic facades (photo 1). New construction in the historic district includes the Chevron gas station on Main Street (photo 24) and the county offices located in the block north of the county courthouse.

Noncontributing commercial buildings include the Pembroke Senior Center, built in 1993 (photo 2, center left). The one-story brick building features nine arched bays. The Computer Wiz, built in 2000, is two-story masonry building covered in stucco (photo 1, center left). The Computer Whiz was built after J. D. Harn grocery store, built c.1910, was destroyed by fire in 1999. The Pembroke Restaurant, built in 2001, is two-story brick-veneered commercial building (photo 1, center left). It was built after the George Edwards grocery store, built in c.1930, was destroyed by fire. The Adams/Lanier Drug Store, built in 1920, was rebuilt with a brick-veneered exterior shaded by a wood-shingled pent roof (photo 1, center left). The drugstore is currently home to a branch of the Department of Juvenile Justice. Pembroke Furniture, built in 1920, includes a large wood-shingled pent roof that obscures the original façade (photo 1, center).

Noncontributing houses include those in which the historic design, form, or massing has been substantially altered by, for example, a large front-facing addition. Loss of historic fabric may also result in a building determined to be noncontributing.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

During the 1880s and 1890s, southeast Georgia was at the height of its importance as a producer of lumber and naval stores, including turpentine and pine tar. During this time, rail lines were expanded and new communities were founded for the purpose of collecting and marketing forest products. Pembroke was established in 1889 when the Savannah and Western Railroad built its line through Bryan County with a depot at Pembroke. The railroad built a station at milepost 32 in Bryan County, roughly halfway between Savannah and Statesboro. Initially, a rail car was placed on a siding to

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

serve as a depot. Pembroke Williams, for whom the town is named, became the first stationmaster of the depot.

Between 1890 and 1910, the town of Pembroke grew rapidly. It was chartered as the City of Pembroke in 1905. The town prospered on the strength of the local forestry and cattle industries. The town had several sawmills and turpentine distilleries along with numerous stores, such as dry goods and hardware stores that catered to city residents and businesses. Lumber, raw pilings, and other goods were stockpiled in the center of town along the railroad right-of-way and large numbers of cattle were penned in town awaiting shipment by rail. A commissary for turpentine stills and several houses and stores were built in the city. Pembroke served as the main marketing center for north as well as portions of Bryan County and portions of Liberty, Bulloch, Evans and Effingham counties.

The downtown developed into its present form between 1910 and 1930. Prominent local businessman Julius Morgan built "Morgan's Gold Block," a row of one- and two-story brick commercial buildings at the corner of U.S. Route 280 and Main Street. The Gold Block had its own electrical generating plant and was the first electrified commercial building in Pembroke. Most commercial buildings are located on the north side of U.S. Route 280 in the three blocks between College and Strickland streets. The primary residential neighborhood is located north of the commercial district as far as Smith Street. These houses include some of the oldest and largest houses in the historic district. The south side of route 280 is mostly residential development with some free-standing commercial buildings along Railroad Street, such as the Chevrolet dealership, gas station, and Pembroke Masonic Lodge.

In 1937, the Bryan County seat was moved from Clyde to Pembroke because of the expansion of Ft. Stewart. A new Colonial Revival-style courthouse was completed in 1943 on College Street south of Railroad Street. In 1959, the United States Post Office—Pembroke was built on South Railroad Street. The International Style building served as an important center for community life and was the last community landmark building constructed in the historic district.

9. Major Bibliographic References

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Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources. *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings*. Atlanta: Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1991. J. Dixie Harn, Interview by Ty Potterfield. 1983.

Minutes of the Pembroke City Council. 1919-1950.

Pembroke Historic Preservation Committee. Interviews by John Butler. 2002.

Roth, Darlene. Georgia Community Development and Morphology of Community Types. 1989. On file at the Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia

Sullivan, Buddy. From Beautiful Zion to Red Bird Creek. Pembroke, Ga.: Bryan County Commission, 1999.

Tom Bacon. Interview by Ty Potterfield. 1983.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 135 acres

UTM References

A)	Zone 17	Easting 440779	Northing 3555852
B)	Zone 17	Easting 441510	Northing 3555961
C)	Zone 17	Easting 441777	Northing 3555722
D)	Zone 17	Easting 441219	Northing 3554775
E)	Zone 17	Easting 440733	Northing 3555312

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

The historic district boundary includes the historic downtown and historic residential neighborhoods north and south of the rail line.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Steven H. Moffson, Architectural Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 156 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 101
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** June 15, 2004
e-mail steven_moffson@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title John Butler
organization City of Pembroke
mailing address P.O. Box 130
city or town Pembroke **state** GA **zip code** 31321
telephone (912) 653-5655
e-mail pembrokecitygov@yahoo.com

- () **property owner**
- () **consultant**
- () **regional development center preservation planner**
- (X) **other: Chamber of Commerce**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Same as above.
organization (if applicable)
mailing address
city or town state zip code
e-mail (optional)

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Pembroke Historic District
City or Vicinity: Pembroke
County: Bryan
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: April 2003

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 56

1. Commercial buildings, U.S. Highway 280, photographer facing northwest.
2. Commercial buildings, U.S. Highway 280, photographer facing northwest.
3. Commercial buildings, Main Street, photographer facing north.
4. Commercial buildings, U.S. Highway, photographer facing northwest.
5. U.S. Highway, photographer facing northwest.
6. Commercial buildings, railroad right-of-way, photographer facing northeast.
7. Fire department (left) and post office (right), railroad right-of-way, photographer facing north.
8. United States Post Office—Pembroke, photographer facing southwest.
9. Commercial building, South Railroad Street, photographer facing southeast.
10. Pembroke Masonic Lodge, Main Street, photographer facing north.
11. Commercial buildings with police department building (foreground), railroad right-of-way and U.S. Highway 280, photographer facing northwest.
12. Chevrolet dealership, South Railroad Street, photographer facing southeast.
13. Chevrolet dealership, view from Gibson Street, photographer facing northwest.
14. Old Hotel (left) and gas station (right), South Railroad Street, photographer facing southeast.
15. Mikell Street, photographer facing northwest.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

16. Burkhalter Street, photographer facing southwest.
17. Strickland Street, photographer facing northwest.
18. Strickland Street, photographer facing northwest.
19. Strickland Street, photographer facing northwest.
20. Strickland Street, photographer facing northwest.
21. Church Street, photographer facing northwest.
22. Church Street, photographer facing northeast.
23. Church, Church Street, photographer facing southwest.
24. Main Street, photographer facing southeast.
25. Nonhistoric development, College Street, photographer facing northwest.
26. Pembroke Methodist Church, College Street, photographer facing northwest.
27. College Street, photographer facing north.
28. College Street, photographer facing northeast.
29. Camelia Drive, photographer facing east.
30. Patrick Street, photographer facing west.
31. Park Avenue, photographer facing northwest.
32. Park Avenue, photographer facing east.
33. Patrick Street, photographer facing east.
34. Patrick Street, Warnell Avenue, photographer facing northeast.
35. Burkhalter Street, photographer facing northeast.
36. Burkhalter Street, photographer facing east.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

37. Burkhalter Street, photographer facing northeast.
38. South Railroad Street, photographer facing southeast.
39. Old Jail, College Street, photographer facing southeast.
40. College Street, photographer facing northwest.
41. Bryan County Courthouse, College Street, photographer facing northeast.
42. College Street, photographer facing northwest.
43. College Street, photographer facing southeast.
44. Main Street, photographer facing northwest.
45. Main Street, photographer facing northeast.
46. Main Street, photographer facing northwest.
47. Main Street, photographer facing northeast.
48. Main Street, photographer facing north.
49. Mary Street, photographer facing east.
50. Letford Street, photographer facing northeast.
51. Benton Street (Not in historic district), photographer facing northeast.
52. Benton Street, photographer facing northwest.
53. Bucks Lane, photographer facing northwest.
54. Bucks Lane, photographer facing southwest.
55. South Railroad Street, photographer facing southwest.
56. south Railroad Street, photographer facing southwest.