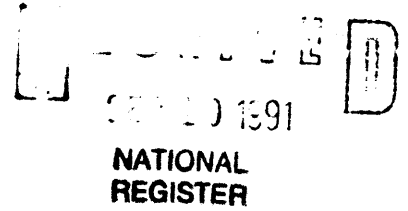


United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16).

1. Name of Property

historic name
other names/site number Central Tuka Historic District

2. Location

street & number along parts of E Front, W Front, Fulton, & S. Main n/a not for publication
city, town Tuka n/a vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Tishomingo code 141 zip code 38852

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Tuka (Tuka MPS)
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
Signature of certifying official: Kenneth H. P. Paul, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Date: SEPT. 13, 1991

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. [ ] See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
[X] 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:)
Signature of the Keeper: Patrick Andrews
Date of Action: 11/1/91

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: business  
department store  
speciality store  
financial institution

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: business  
department store  
speciality store  
financial institution

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Late Victorian Commercial vernacular  
Early 20th Cent. Commercial vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick, concrete  
walls brick  
roof (not visible)  
other \_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Central Iuka Historic District encompasses the historic commercial center of Iuka. It is a roughly rectangular area two and a half blocks in length and two blocks in width, consisting mostly of two rows of small-scale late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial buildings arranged in an L-shaped configuration, facing an open area that once contained the railroad depot. Several other commercial buildings are located immediately behind those that face the open area. The district is bounded on the south by the Southern Railroad tracks, on the west by Pearl Street, on the north by Eastport Street, and on the east by the rear lot line of the row of buildings that face Fulton Street. A non-historic church that faces north toward Eastport Street at the northwest corner of the district has been excluded from the nominated area.

The district contains 33 buildings, 29 of which date from the period of significance, 1896 to 1940, and 4 of which are non-historic. Of the contributing buildings, 3 were reportedly built by 1900, when a newspaper report said that there were three brick buildings facing the railroad, but several others appear to have been built very soon after that date. Most of the contributing buildings were built before 1925 and appear on both the 1925 Sanborn map (the only one made for Iuka) and a 1925 panoramic photograph. (These constitute the major records of the historic appearance of the district during its prime.)

The buildings constructed before about 1920 are generally two-story, rectangular brick commercial buildings with shallow roofs hidden by parapets. The most architecturally distinctive buildings are the two turn-of-the-century commercial buildings at the southern end of the Fulton Street row. These are the J. C. Jourdan Store (#1) at 129-131 Fulton Street, built about 1896, and the W. W. Harris Store (#2) at 127 Fulton Street. Another distinctive early building, located at 100 West Front Street (#22), features prominent cast iron piers. Buildings dating after about 1920 are generally one story in height but of similar traditional commercial character. The only buildings that do not conform to these types are a former service station at 101 South Main (#31), and two noncontributing buildings -- a wood snack bar at 108 West Front Street (#26) and a garage (#32) associated with the service station. The other two noncontributing buildings are both one-story commercial buildings (#29 and #33) built after 1940.

The Southern Railroad Depot, which formerly stood at the southern edge of the district area, was a one-story hip-roofed brick building with wide eaves supported by long curved brackets. It was built in 1907, replacing an earlier depot. Although it was the most important artifact of Iuka's history as a railroad town, it was demolished by the Southern Railway Company about 1985. The site is now vacant. (Because there is nothing left at the site, it is not listed in the district inventory.)

See continuation sheet

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## INVENTORY OF BUILDINGS

The buildings of the Iuka Central Historic District are listed here in the following order: along the east side of Fulton Street from south to north, to the west side of Fulton Street, along Front Street from east to west, and lastly three buildings on Main Street (see map of district). The buildings are rated as contributing or noncontributing according to the following criteria:

- C Contributing buildings are those that retain their physical character from the district's period of significance (1896-1940) and add to its sense of place, time, and historical association with the commercial development of Iuka.
- N Noncontributing buildings either postdate the period of significance of the district or have been so greatly altered that they do not convey a sense of place, time, and historical association. There are no intrusive buildings in the district.

Fulton Street

- C 1. 129-131 Fulton. Built ca 1896. Very significant two-story, rectangular brick building with a turn-of the century commercial vernacular character showing Romanesque influences. Has basement doors opening toward railroad on south and alley on east. Upper façade has 6 segmentally-arched 1-over-1 double-hung windows surmounted by corbelled brick decorative arches. Above these are 6 ventilation ports with metal grilles and 2 tiers of segmental brick decorative arches. The storefront retains its original iron piers but the rest of the storefront is a recent replacement. Built by prominent local merchant and civic leader J. C. Jourdan to house his mercantile business.
- C 2. 127 Fulton. Built ca 1900. Very significant two-story brick building of commercial vernacular design with vaguely Gothic influences. Has basement door opening to alley on rear (east). Upper front façade has three slender 2-over-2 windows with elaborate corbeled brick hood moldings, above which are three grille-covered ventilation ports and a richly-detailed corbeled parapet. The storefront has been infilled with aluminum and plate glass in recent years. This building housed the W. W. Harris Store about 1900.
- C 3. 125 Fulton. Built ca 1900. Two-story brick building of commercial vernacular design. Upper façade has three slender windows with new sash in recessed panels under a decorative brick parapet. Storefront has original iron piers but has been unsympathetically filled in with brick with inappropriate door and windows in recent years. Around 1900 this was the T. L. Brown Store.

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- C 4. 123 Fulton. Built ca 1900-1915. Two-story brick commercial vernacular building very similar to 125 Fulton and similarly altered.
- C 5. 119-121 Fulton. Built ca 1910. Double-width two-story brick vernacular commercial building. Upper façade has six segmentally-arched windows (of which five are 1-over-1 and one is a mismatched 9-over-9 replacement) set within recessed panels, above which are six small ventilation ports also set within recessed panels. Parapet has denticulated cornice. The two aluminum and plate glass storefronts are non-historic. Non-historic metal canopy across front. The area directly above the storefront and canopy is obscured by a signage panel that extends across the façades of 119-121, 117, and 117-B.
- C 6. 117 Fulton. Built ca 1910. Two-story brick vernacular commercial building. Upper façade is asymmetrical, with one slender 1-over-1 window on the far right and three wider 1-over-1 windows across the remainder of the façade, all set within recessed panels with denticulated upper edges arranged in shallow undulating curves. The parapet has denticulated cornice. Aluminum and plate glass storefront is non-historic. Non-historic metal canopy across front with a large signage panel above it. Interior retains intact pressed metal ceiling and original floor.
- C 7. 117-B Fulton. Built ca 1910. One-story brick vernacular commercial building. Upper façade has ventilation ports set within three recessed panels. Parapet has corbeled cornice. Aluminum and plate glass storefront is non-historic. Non-historic metal canopy across front with a large signage panel above it. Interior retains intact pressed metal ceiling and original floor.
- C 8. 111 Fulton. Built ca 1925. Double-width one-story brick commercial building, the southern (right-hand) part of which is slightly wider than the northern part. Two non-historic aluminum and plate glass storefronts. Simple upper façade has four small vents set in a plain brick wall ornamented only by brick stringcourses and a rowlock course.
- C 9. 107 Fulton. Built ca 1924. Narrower double-width one-story brick commercial building. Façade articulated by brick piers. Simple upper façade has four vents within two recessed panels. The storefronts have been unsympathetically filled in with brick with inappropriate door and windows in recent years.  
The 1925 Sanborn map shows an automobile repair shop in this building.

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- C 10. 105 Fulton. Built ca 1924. One-story brick commercial building similar in character to 107 Fulton, and similarly altered by the unsympathetic infilling of the storefront with brick and inappropriate door and windows. Upper façade has two vents set in large recessed panels.  
The 1925 Sanborn map shows this building being used for automobile sales.
- C 11. 103 Fulton. Presumed to have been built ca 1925. A marginally contributing one-story brick commercial building whose façade has been obscured in recent years by metal siding. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 12. 101 Fulton. Built ca 1930. One-story brick commercial building with two narrow storefronts. Upper façade is simple brick parapet with a denticulated course and two vents. Two non-historic aluminum and plate glass storefronts.
- C 13. 102(?) Fulton. ca 1930. One-story brick commercial building; may have originally had two storefronts but storefront configuration has been altered in recent years. Unadorned brick upper façade. Building now has a wood and metal canopy, supported by wood posts, that was added in the 1980s, and that links it to the bank building next door at the NW corner Front Street and Fulton.  
This building does not appear on the 1925 Sanborn map. It was formerly used as a theater, but now houses offices for the Iuka Guaranty Bank.

### Front Street

- C 14. Iuka Guaranty Bank Building, about 125 East Front St. Built ca 1912. Two-story brick commercial building with chamfered SE corner. Has been covered with stucco and has undergone other alterations, including the replacement of all windows with tinted, single-pane windows with anodized aluminum casings, the construction of a wood and metal canopy on both street façades, and the addition of a pent roof above the second-story windows on both street façades. Despite its extensive alterations, the building still retains its historic massing and proportions, and enough of its original design that it is recognizable as a historic element of the district.  
Originally built as the Iuka Guaranty Bank building. The 1925 Sanborn map shows a bank occupying the SE corner part of the first story, and the Post Office occupying one of the Fulton Street bays.

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- C 15. 123 East Front St. Built ca 1910. Two-story brick commercial building, the façade of which may have been reworked in recent years, for its detailing is not consistent with other early twentieth-century buildings in the area. Upper façade has four unevenly-spaced windows capped with rowlock bricks. The windows are now filled with modern single panes. Above these are four ventilation ports and a single band of dentilation. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 16. 121 East Front St. Built ca 1925 (?) Short two-story brick commercial building. Upper façade has two 1-over-1 double-hung windows with segmental tops in an unadorned stretcher-bond wall that is capped by a corbeled cornice. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 17. 119 East Front St. Built ca 1905-15. Another short two-story brick commercial building, equal in height to 121 E. Front next door. This building has three 1-over-1 double-hung windows with segmental tops in an unadorned common-bond wall that is capped by a denticulated, corbeled cornice. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 18. 115-117 East Front St. Built ca 1920. One-story brick commercial building with two narrow storefronts. Upper façade is simple brick parapet articulated by pilasters, with a corbeled cornice and two vents. Two non-historic aluminum and plate glass storefronts.
- C 19. 109 East Front St. Built ca 1920. Two-story brick commercial building. Upper façade has three 1-over-1 double-hung windows surmounted by an unadorned parapet with corbeled cornice. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 20. 107 East Front St. Built between 1900 and 1915. Two-story brick commercial building. Upper façade has three 1-over-1 double-hung windows above which is a corbeled belt and two vents. The parapet is decorated with an elaborate corbeled cornice. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.
- C 21. 105 East Front St. Built ca 1907. Double-width two-story brick vernacular commercial building. Upper façade has six flat-topped 1-over-1 windows surmounted by a corbeled band and a pressed metal cornice (the only one that survives in the district). The two aluminum and plate glass storefronts are non-historic.

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- C 22. 100 West Front St. Built ca 1896. Very significant two-story brick building of commercial vernacular design with vaguely Gothic influences. Upper front façade has three slender 4-over-4 windows with elaborate corbeled brick hood moldings, above which are three grille-covered ventilation ports and a richly-detailed corbeled parapet. The storefront retains its four cast iron piers and bracketed iron lintel beam, but the spaces between the piers have been infilled with an inappropriate door and windows in recent years.  
In 1898 the Cumberland Telephone Exchange was located on the second story.
- C 23. 102 West Front St. Built or given new façade between 1930 and 1940 (?). One-story brick commercial building with simple, unadorned upper façade. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.  
A one-story brick commercial building stood on this site in 1925, housing a drugstore.
- C 24. 104 West Front St. Built or given new façade ca 1930. One-story brick commercial building. Upper façade consists of a panel recessed between plain brick pilaster strips and bordered across the top by a projecting band of brick. The aluminum and plate glass storefront and metal canopy are non-historic.  
The 1925 Sanborn map shows an automobile repair shop at in what appears to be this same building.
- C 25. 106 West Front St. Built or given brick veneer ca 1930. Two-story brick or brick veneer commercial building. Brickwork is tied into that of 104 W. Front next door. (The 1925 Sanborn map shows a two-story wooden building at this location, so the façade must date after 1925.) Upper façade has two 3-over-1 windows capped by odd triangular pediments of yellow brick laid flush with the walls. Above these are two recessed panels detailed like one on 104 W. Front. The storefront consists of a double-leaf door set back between plate glass windows over brick bulkheads.
- N 26. 108 West Front St. Built in 1950s(?). Tiny, one-story wooden building housing a snack bar. Non-historic.
- C 27. 112 West Front St. Built before 1925 but later given new façade. One-story brick commercial building with unadorned upper façade similar to that of 102 W. Front St. Storefront has original configuration of center door recesses between plate glass windows over brick bulkheads, but door and aluminum trim are recent, as is the metal canopy. Interior retains an early pressed metal ceiling.

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Mississippi

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- C 28. 120 West Front St. Built ca 1905-10. One-story brick commercial building. Upper façade has three recessed panels. Storefront has remodeled in recent years.  
The 1925 Sanborn map shows a garage in this building.
- N 29. 122 West Front St. Built as City Hall in 1954. Non-historic one-story brick commercial building with recessed center door spaced between two windows filled with glass block.

South Main Street

- C 30. 106-122 South Main. Rebuilt or repaired following a 1938 fire; similar building shown on this site on 1925 Sanborn map. A block of four one-story brick commercial units articulated by plain brick pilasters. Unadorned upper façades between the pilasters. All four storefronts have been reworked in recent years. A non-historic shingled, wood canopy supported by wood posts extends across entire front.
- C 31. 101 South Main St. Built ca 1930. Small, one-story brick veneer former service station with hipped roof. Square office has center door with two-light transom, flanked by 6-over-1 double-hung windows. In front of office is a porte-cochere extending to an "island" that formerly had gas pumps. The roof over the porte-cochere is carried by plain brick piers. The building is surrounded by concrete paving.
- N 32. Adjacent to 101 South Main. Built ca 1950. Non-historic two-bay garage. Noncontributing.
- N 33. 105(?) South Main St. Built ca 1950. Non-historic one-story brick-veneered wood-frame commercial building, housing a restaurant. Noncontributing.



**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)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
<u>Commerce</u>	<u>1896-1940</u>	
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	Cultural Affiliation	
_____	<u>n/a</u>	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	
Significant Person	Architect/Builder	
<u>n/a</u>	<u>unknown</u>	
_____	_____	
_____	_____	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Central Iuka Historic District is locally significant as the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century commercial area of Iuka, representing its prosperity as a railroad town from the turn of the century through the 1920s, and its continuity as a commercial center through the 1930s. The significance of the district and its context are addressed in the cover documentation for the Historic Resources of Iuka, under the title "Iuka as a Railroad Town and Spa, 1870-1925."

The period of significance extends roughly 45 years, from 1896, when the oldest surviving buildings were erected in the aftermath of a disastrous fire that destroyed most of the commercial area, to 1940, the end of the decade of the 1930s. Although the time span of the context in the cover documentation ends in 1925, the ending date of the period of significance has been extended to 1940 to recognize the continuity of commercial activity and commercial construction in the district through the 1930s. Buildings constructed in the district in the 1930s are architecturally consistent with those built in the 1920s.

The district has unfortunately lost its most important railroad-related building, the 1907 depot, which was demolished about 1985, but despite this loss the district retains most of the physical character it possessed in the 1920s. There has, however, been some loss of architectural character, especially on the storefronts; for this reason the district is more important as a testament to the commercial history of Iuka than for the architecture of the buildings per se.

Although much of Iuka's commercial activity has moved out to the peripheral highways in recent years, the Central Iuka Historic District remains the central business district of the city.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

See bibliography for Historic Resources of Iuka cover document.

This nomination as written is a revision of an earlier text prepared by Joan Embree of Starkville, Mississippi.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Approximately 8 acres

UTM References

A 

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

C 

1	6
---	---

3	9	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	5	2	4	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B 

1	6
---	---

3	9	1	2	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	5	2	6	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

D 

1	6
---	---

3	9	1	0	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	8	5	2	5	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary extends from the Southern Railway tracks northward on Pearl Street to the alley north of Front Street, eastward on the alley to the rear property line of the building at 106-122 S. Main Street, northward on this line to Eastport Street, eastward on Eastport Street to the alley east of Fulton Street, southward along this alley to The Southern Railway tracks, and westward along the railroad to Pearl Street.

See continuation sheet

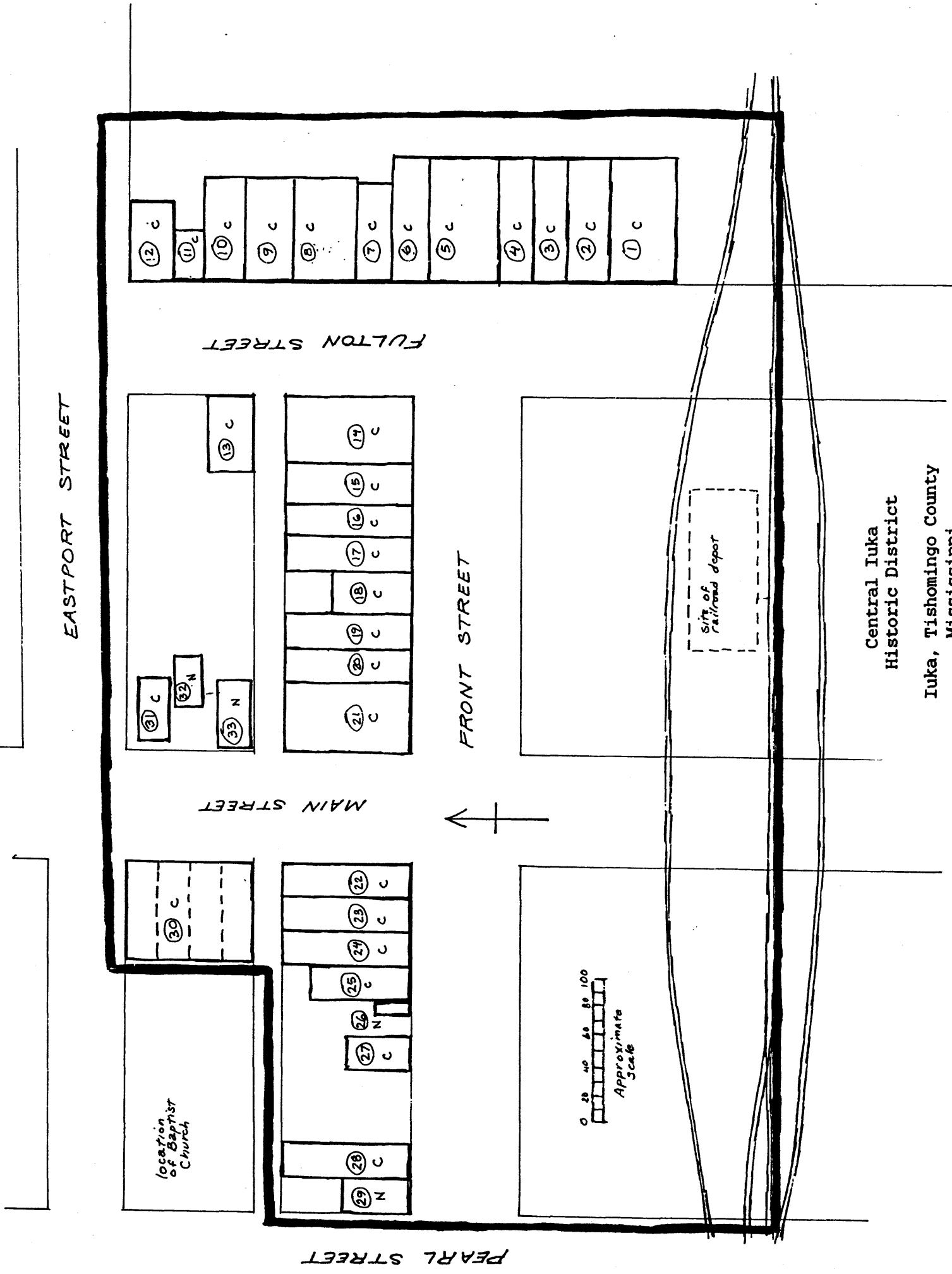
Boundary Justification

This boundary includes the buildings that constitute the historic commercial center of Iuka, but excludes a non-historic church that faces away from the district at its northwest corner.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard J. Cawthon, Chief Architectural Historian  
organization Miss. Dept. of Archives & History date revised August 1991  
street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (604) 359-6940  
city or town Jackson state MS zip code 39205



EASTPORT STREET

FULTON STREET

MAIN STREET

FRONT STREET

PEARL STREET

Location of Baptist Church

31 C

32 N

33 N

13 C

21 C

19 C

18 C

17 C

16 C

15 C

14 C

29 N

28 C

27 C

26 N

25 C

24 C

23 C

22 C

30 C

Site of railroad depot

0 20 40 60 80 100

Approximate Scale

Central Iuka  
 Historic District  
 Iuka, Tishomingo County  
 Mississippi