

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 Springfield Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Railroad and 2nd avenues to the southwest, Early Street to the northwest, Laberta Circle and Cedar Street to the northeast, and 3rd and 4th streets to the southeast

N/A
N/A

 not for publication
city or town Springfield vicinity _____
state Georgia code GA county Effingham code 103 zip code 31329

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Dr. David C. Crass 02/09/2021
Signature of certifying official/Title: Dr. David C. Crass/Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO Date
Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs
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:

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:) _____

Lisa Delino

4/2/2021

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Springfield Historic District
 Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
 County and State

5. Classification

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

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

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
281	86	buildings
10	1	sites
14	0	structures
2	1	objects
307	88	Total

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

Effingham County Courthouse (NR80001016)
 Effingham County Jail (NR06000845)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling, multiple dwelling,
 secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE/ general store, specialty
 store

GOVERNMENT/ city hall, firehouse, municipal
 building, county courthouse, jail

SOCIAL/ meeting hall

RELIGION/ religious facility

FUNERARY/ cemetery

EDUCATION/ school

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ theater

AGRICULTURE/ silo

INDUSTRY/ water tower

HEALTH CARE/ medical business

LANDSCAPE/ park

TRANSPORTATION/ rail-related

OTHER/ gas station

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling, multiple dwelling,
 secondary structure

COMMERCE/TRADE/ specialty store

GOVERNMENT/ city hall, firehouse, municipal
 building, county courthouse

SOCIAL/ meeting hall

RELIGION/ religious facility

FUNERARY/ cemetery

EDUCATION/ other

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ theater

AGRICULTURE/ silo

INDUSTRY/ water tower

HEALTH CARE/ medical business

LANDSCAPE/ park

TRANSPORTATION/ rail-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Folk Victorian

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
 Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN
 MOVEMENTS/ Bungalow/Craftsman, Other:
 Carpenter Gothic

MODERN MOVEMENT/ Ranch Style

Other: Eichleresque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK; CONCRETE

walls: WOOD/ weatherboard; BRICK; STUCCO;

ASBESTOS; CONCRETE;

SYNTHETICS/ vinyl

roof: ASPHALT; METAL/ tin

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

OTHER/ Single-Retail, Multiple-Retail, Two-Part
Commercial Block, I-House, Hall-Parlor,
Central Hallway, Georgian Cottage, Georgian
House, Gabled Wing Cottage, Gabled Wing
House, Side-Gabled Cottage, American Small
House

other: _____

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 Springfield Historic District, located about 25 miles northwest of Savannah, encompasses the intact historic resources of central Springfield and is centered on the city's original, 1821 gridded street plan. As the county seat for Effingham County, Springfield includes the historic county courthouse (1909) and jail (1935) and was laid out with the courthouse placed on elevated land one block from the commercial area with a park immediately adjacent. This layout follows the "Augusta" plan town, a defined community type for courthouse towns in Georgia. The commercial area is along Laurel Street and has mainly one- and two-story masonry buildings of the single-retail, multiple-retail, and two-part commercial block types. Most storefronts are plain in design with minimal detailing and directly abut the sidewalk. This area also contains several historic gas stations, churches, the Mars Theatre (c.1940), the Springfield Masonic Lodge (1960), and the site of the former train depot (demolished c.1976). Residential areas extend to the northeast, southeast, and southwest of Laurel Street, with informal landscaping on varied lot sizes. The terrain is mostly flat with sandy soil and vegetation common to the Coastal Plains. Earlier residences are typically situated near the front of lots to create expansive backyards, while later houses have larger setbacks and driveways. The majority of houses are wood frame, with weatherboard, brick veneer, vinyl, and asbestos being the most common exterior claddings. Houses within the district represent the wide range of types and styles popular in the late-19th to mid-20th century, but most common are bungalows and ranch house types. Residential stylistic influences are somewhat limited and generally vernacular, but elements of Craftsman, Folk Victorian, and Colonial Revival styles are represented, among others. Typical house alterations include enclosure of porches and carports, window replacement, application of vinyl siding, and rear additions. The city's public school was Effingham Academy, which had several locations within the district before landing at Ash and Madison streets in 1941, where a complex of several buildings developed over time. There are also two historic parks, one cemetery, three silos, a railroad spur, a water tower, one historic highway marker, and one historic monument within the district.

Narrative Description

NOTE: Portions of the following description were written by Brian LaBrie, Marion Ellis, and Emily Taff of Ray, Ellis & LaBrie Consulting, as part of the "Springfield Historic District," Historic District Information Form, December 12, 2018, on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Atlanta, Georgia. The description has been edited by Cynthia Catellier, National Register Historian, Historic Preservation Division.

The Springfield Historic District is located in the city of Springfield, which is the county seat of Effingham County. Springfield is in Georgia's Coastal Plains region between the Savannah and Ogeechee rivers. The terrain is mostly flat with sandy soil and minimal elevation changes. No spot in the Springfield Historic District exceeds 75 feet above sea level. Forming the core of the historic district, Springfield was first platted on a northwest to southeast axis in a traditional grid pattern in 1821.

There has been little change in the city's core layout, which forms the heart of the Springfield Historic District. The original 1821 street grid remains intact, with two significant expansions, in 1907 with the railroad's arrival, and during the nationwide post-WWII development boom. In 1907, an expanded grid survey map was produced by R.A. Blandford, Chief

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

Engineer for the Brinson Railway (Blandford Survey 1907). The 1907 survey is a continuation of the grid plan adding lots to the south and east of the 1821 plat. The influence of the original grid plan for Springfield remains evident throughout the district with the exception of a small portion of post-WWII resources, which follow a typical mid-century development pattern.

Buildings in the Springfield Historic District consist of commercial, institutional, governmental, and residential properties. Most of the governmental and institutional buildings are found on Pine Street with commercial development lining Laurel Street, the city's main commercial corridor. Railroad tracks run parallel to Laurel Street on the west. The 1909 Effingham County Courthouse is one block east of Laurel Street on Pine Street. Residences are interspersed on all roads in the district, and there are a limited number of commercial buildings located in areas that are primarily residential. At least three buildings in the district are known to have been designed by architects; Savannah architect Hyman W. Witcover designed the 1909 Effingham County Courthouse (NRIS #80001016), and Walter P. Marshall designed the Springfield United Methodist Church and the Effingham County Jail (NRIS #06000845).

Also within the district are a variety of contributing sites, structures, and objects including three silos, two historic parks, one cemetery, a water tower, a well, a railroad spur, and two historic monuments.

BUILDINGS, SITES, STRUCTURES, AND OBJECTS

COMMUNITY LANDMARK BUILDINGS

The Effingham County Courthouse is located at 901 North Pine Street. Built 1909, the monumentally scaled two-story building is crowned by a balustraded dome reminiscent of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello (Photos 1 and 3). Neoclassical features include red brick with red-tinted mortar, white trim, and a heavy Neoclassical-style cornice below the parapet wall on all façades. A two-story pedimented portico projects from the front elevation of the building supported by six stone columns. First-story windows are segmentally arched with a decorative keystone. Second-story windows are rectangular. An addition in 1933 added office space on the second floor and sanitary facilities on the first floor (Thomas 1980).

The Effingham County Jail is located at 1002 North Pine Street just northwest of the historic courthouse. Built in 1935, it is a two-story, brick building in the Colonial Revival style, constructed with materials similar to the courthouse (Photo 7). The jail is a side-facing T-shape, with a cross-gable roof covered in corrugated sheet metal. There are brick parapets on the gable ends and three chimneys with corbelled chimney caps. A one-story, recessed porch is on the front façade with a shed roof, supported by brick arches. There are four entrances, one of which is a metal exterior staircase leading to the second-story jail area, which served as a fire escape. The first floor was designed as living quarters for the jailer and his family with an interior stair leading to the second floor and the jail area, which retains the iron bars on the upstairs windows. The iron jailworks were made by the Manly Jail Works Company of Dalton, Georgia. The jail was deactivated in 1993 and the building became a museum operated by the Historic Effingham Society, Inc. A concrete wheelchair ramp was added in the 1990s (Thomas 2006).

Effingham County Fire and Rescue is located at 303 North Pine Street (Photo 55). The rectangular, one-story, concrete block, building with a brick veneer façade was constructed in 1964. The front elevation has four large overhead doors and a pedestrian entrance.

Mars Theatre is located at 106 South Laurel Street. Built c.1940, it is the only extant, identifiable theater in the district (Photo 142). The rectilinear, concrete block building has a paraged front elevation with glass block and curvilinear bulkheads forming the theater entrance. Concrete block engaged piers are found along the side elevations and align with each step down of the parapet wall. A one-story flat-roofed addition projects from the north side elevation.

Springfield Lodge is located at 127 North Laurel Street (Photo 132). Also known as Lodge #440 of the Free and Accepted Masons (F&AM), the two-part commercial block building was built in 1960 with the lodge upstairs and a restaurant at street level. Currently, the Masons utilize both floors.

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

Three buildings in the district originally served as schools; however, all now serve other purposes.

Springfield Graded School is located at 501 North Oak street (Photo 60). Now a private residence, the simple wood frame, front gabled building, built c.1894, “was a one-teacher school with about 40 pupils from the first through the eighth grades” (Renfro 2004, 102). According to local residents, the building was purchased in 1935 for use as a family home. Additions to northwest side and a front porch were likely added at this time, as seen today.

Treutlen Building is located at 403 Crawford Street (Photos 56 and 57). Constructed in 1936 to replace the Springfield Graded School, the building originally reflected elements of the Craftsman style. However, a 1955 fire necessitated the building’s substantial rehabilitation, resulting in the flat roof, stuccoed exterior, and multi-light metal windows seen today.

Effingham Academy is a complex of buildings located at 405 North Ash Street and served Springfield’s students starting in 1941. Initially constructed with Works Projects Administration (WPA) labor and federal funding (Renfro 2004, 102), the buildings now supplies offices for the Effingham County Board of Education (Photos 66, 67, 68, and 69). The complex consists of six contributing red brick buildings constructed, and re-constructed, over several decades and connected via covered walkways or enclosed hyphens. It has a mix of gable and flat-roofed forms with traditional and mid-century influences. Included in the complex is the main school building, which originally had a T-shaped footprint, side-gabled wings, and a central porticoed entrance which faced the end of East Madison Street. However, a fire in 1953 destroyed all but the northern portion of this building, which remains intact today with its side-gabled roof and cross gable (Photo 68). The portion of the building north of the cross gable is an addition constructed after the fire. To the south, this building is connected via a largely glass-enclosed hyphen to a front-gabled building with rafter tails and a three-bay brick portico. The 1941 gymnasium building is at the north end of the complex and has a similar brick portico with three square bays and a double-door entrance with multi-light transom (Photo 66). Windows in the gymnasium building are 9-over-9 double-hung with minimal white trim. By at least the start of the 1957-1958 school year, a modern, flat-roofed building was constructed between the main building and the gymnasium (Photo 67).

There are three church buildings in the district, two remain active as places of worship, and one has been repurposed for use as office space.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 303 North Laurel Street. The church is a good example of the Carpenter Gothic style with its patterned shingles, tall pointed-arch windows, and vertical towers with steeply pitched roofs (Photo 127). The cornerstone was laid in 1909 and the congregation first met at this building in 1912 (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2017). Originally, there were separate entrances at each corner tower for the male and female parishioners. A central entrance to be used by all parishioners was constructed in 1959 and the former entrances were converted into windows (Exley 2011). According to local historian Susan Exley, John and Jim Tebeau were the contractors of this church.

Springfield United Methodist Church is located at 210 Cleveland Street. Congregation buildings have occupied this site since the late-19th century, and the extant Neoclassical Revival-style building was erected and dedicated on September 11, 1949 (Photo 86). The architect was Walter P. Marshall with T.D. Slater as contractor. The sanctuary building is brick veneer with white trim and a Doric-columned full-height portico. Throughout the bulk of the building, windows are typically six-over-six pairs while 24-light windows with fanlights demarcate the sanctuary on both side elevations. The current building was expanded in 1953 with an educational annex, in 1979 for additional office and Sunday School space, and in 1988 for more Sunday School space (Springfield United Methodist Church 2017).

Springfield Baptist Church was located at 601 North Laurel Street. When the congregation relocated out of the district in 1991, the building was repurposed to serve as office space for the county government (Photos 116 and 117). Although, the county removed the steeple and subdivided the interior for office space, the building remains recognizable as a former front-gabled church with portico and a two-story flat-roofed addition.

COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL BUILDINGS

The commercial and retail buildings in the district consist of single retail and multiple retail types as defined in “Commercial Types in Georgia” and two-part commercial block buildings as described by Richard Longstreth in *The*

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture. There are also multiple historic gas station type buildings as defined by Chad Randl in *Preservation Brief 46: The Preservation and Reuse of Historic Gas Stations*. Commercial and retail buildings in the district date to between c.1900 and c.1970, the greater number of which are on Laurel Street. The majority are plain in design with minimal detailing, have little to no ornamentation, and are not associated with a particular architectural style. Along Laurel Street, the district's primary commercial corridor, storefronts directly abut the sidewalk with the exception of the historic gas station type buildings, which have a deeper street setback. Exterior masonry varies between brick, brick veneer, concrete block, with some contemporary vinyl over the masonry. Most of the commercial and retail buildings in the Springfield Historic District are one-story. Many of these buildings have parapets on the front elevation concealing flat roofs, which slope, or step, downwards toward the rear (Photo 119, 133, and 138).

The single retail type is a single unit built either standing alone or next to others and serves a wide variety of uses. Built mostly in the 1880s through the 1950s in small to large towns, single retail buildings have flat or sloping roofs and usually 3-bay facades. Good examples include 104 North Laurel Street (Photo 138), and 109 North Laurel Street (Photo 136). Both of these buildings feature a central entrance flanked by display windows.

The multiple retail type consists of two or more identical retail units built together for rental income. These typically have retail spaces which could be operated separately or together as space was needed. These are one-story buildings with flat or sloping roofs and identical facades and storefronts, and are usually 3-bays wide. Multiple retail buildings were built mostly in the 1910s through the 1950s in small towns or urban settings. An example of the multiple retail type in the district is 606 North Laurel Street (Photo 119).

The two-part commercial block type building is characterized by a horizontal division into two distinct zones, clearly separated from each other reflecting different uses inside the building. The two zones may be of similar or differing uses. The lower-zone, at street level, typically indicates public space, while the upper zone typically suggests use for more private spaces (Longstreth 2000, 24). The street level of the two-part commercial block building at 127 North Laurel Street, the Springfield Lodge #440 F&AM, was historically used as commercial space while the upper-level was reserved as meeting space for the Masons (Photo 132). The c.1908 two-part commercial block building at 102 North Laurel Street (Photo 138) was built as the Mingleddorff and Bird dry goods store to accommodate retail space on the first floor and storage and offices above.

There are five historic gas stations and automobile service garage buildings in the district, all of which are located along Laurel Street. Early gas stations typically consisted of a gas pump, or pumps, next to a small building, a trend that continued throughout the historic period. The stations often provided both fuel and mechanical repair, and the gas pumps were often sheltered by a canopy, which was either attached to the main building or freestanding.

House-Type Gas Stations. By the early 1920s, oil companies, distributors, and private entrepreneurs were building new stations. In response to complaints about the intrusion of gas stations into residential areas, the industry adopted conventional forms to make their stations look more like houses. The clues for customers to know that such buildings were gas stations were the gasoline pumps, a sign, and the increasingly popular canopy linking the pump island and the building (Randl 2008). There are three house-type gas stations in the district. All have removed the gasoline pumps and are now used for non-automobile-related purposes but read clearly as former gas stations. At the intersection of Madison and Laurel streets, 406 North Laurel Street, built c.1920, has a hipped roof canopy supported by brick columns connecting to the main brick building and two additions on the north end of the building (Photo 126). The additions, which appear to have been service bays, are infilled with siding but still readable. At 116 North Laurel Street, the c.1900 wood frame building with a cross-gable canopy has a chimney indicating a cozy fireplace inside (Photo 134). Located at 102 South Laurel Street, the c.1940 brick building has a hipped-roof canopy supported by heavy brick columns with variegated brick pattern matching the main building (Photo 141).

Box-Type Gas Stations. Box-type gas stations appeared in the early 1930s, blending Art Moderne and International Style motifs. They featured flat roofs and unadorned exteriors of stucco, terra cotta, porcelain enamel steel, or structural glass

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

panels. The form and layout of box stations were also influenced by the Great Depression, when station owners added service and repair bays (emphasizing the characteristic rectangular footprint of box stations), as well as expanded sales areas to market lucrative accessories and add additional revenue opportunities. Large display windows and glazed service bay doors highlighted these products and services (Randl 2008). There are two box-type gas stations in the Springfield Historic District. The building at 107 North Laurel Street, built c.1970, features a flat roof and masonry exterior (Photo 137). Its use as a former service station is evidenced by its increased setback from the street. The building at 503 North Laurel Street is a rectilinear, single-story, stucco building, built c.1943, with a stepped parapet and flat roof (Photo 123). Large service bay and window openings convey its continued use as an automobile service station.

There are three contributing mid-20th century, stand-alone, single-story commercial resources that do not conform to a defined academic type. These are 107 North Maple Street, built c.1960 (Photo 80); 601 North Ash Street, built c.1962 (Photo 37); and 401 North Laurel Street, a building with an A-frame northern half and a mansard roofed southern half.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

The majority of the contributing resources in the Springfield Historic District are residential. The oldest concentration of houses in the district is within the boundaries of the 1821 plat. The earliest residential resource, the Jones-Smith House at 701 North Oak Street, is a Georgian house which dates to c.1833 (Photo 50). There are several early-20th century houses on the commercial corridor of Laurel Street. There are also several early-20th century houses facing the railroad tracks on Railroad Avenue, corresponding to the introduction of the Brinson Railroad in 1907 and the expanded town grid. The eastern, western, and southernmost portions of the district are comprised of a mixture of 20th century residential buildings corresponding to the post WWII development in the district.

House types represented in Springfield Historic District according to the statewide context, statewide context, *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, are as defined below:

The I-house is one room deep with a distinctive tall, narrow profile. Floor plans include central hallway, hall-parlor, double-pen, and saddlebag and often have a rear shed or porch. These houses were most popular from the 1840s to the 1880s in Georgia, although it is a fairly rare house type in many areas of the state. The house at 601 North Oak Street c.1860 (Photo 51) is a central hallway type I-house with original lapped siding, two-over-two windows, simple corner boards, and sparse use of dentils along the cornice. The house at 202 North Laurel Street c.1892 (Photo 130) is also a central hallway type I-house, but is stylistically simple with a symmetrical front elevation, a central entrance with sidelights and a transom, and gable-end chimneys.

The hall-parlor cottage is a two-room house with unequal-sized rooms and one front door, and is usually gable-roofed. These were popular in Georgia in the last half of the 19th century and the first three decades of the 20th century. The type is noted for being adaptable and expandable, which often occurs as the extremely small footprint is adapted for modern living. Examples of this type in the district are 702 North Ash Street (Photo 33), a 1925 example at 905 North Ash Street (Photo 28), and 306 Early Street, which dates to c.1920 (Photo 17).

The central hallway cottage has two rooms with a central hall and centered front door. It is usually gable-roofed with end chimneys. These were popular from 1830 to 1930 in Georgia. Good examples of this type in the district, both featuring a symmetrical front elevation with a central door, are the c.1910 502 North Railroad Avenue (Photo 114), and the c.1900 206 First Street (Photo 90).

The Georgian cottage is a four-room symmetrical house with a central hall, usually hip-roofed with interior or end chimneys. Good examples of this type in the district include 102 Early Street (Photo 6), built c.1920, with its symmetrical front elevation, paired chimneys, and central door, and 204 Early Street (Photo 10), built c.1925, with its symmetrical elevations, a transom over the central doorway, and historic metal roof.

The Georgian house is a two-story version of a Georgian cottage, i.e. two rooms flanking a central hallway on both floors. This house type was popular from the first decades of the 19th century to well into the 20th century. The earliest example in the district, 701 Oak Street (Photo 50), was constructed c.1833 and is vernacular in style but maintains the symmetrical

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

façade emphasizing the central entry and hall. Other examples in the district, all of which were constructed c.1900, are 703 North Oak Street (Photo 49), 704 North Maple Street (Photo 47), and 503 North Ash (Photo 42).

The gabled wing cottage is a three- or four-room house that is L- or T-shaped in plan, with intersecting gable roofs. These cottages were typically popular from 1875-1915. The c.1910 gabled wing cottage located at 905 North Maple Street is a good example of the type with its T-shaped floor plan still evident, even with its rear addition (Photo 24). This cottage features original siding, historic six-over-six windows, and fine detailing of its boxed eaves. Other examples in the district are the c.1930 504 North Maple Street (Photo 61), and the c.1870 212 North Railroad Avenue (Photo 111), although both houses have been altered over time.

The gabled-wing house is the two-story version of the gabled wing cottage. T-shaped and usually gabled, the gabled wing house type is far less common than the gabled wing cottage. Most examples were built in the last quarter of the 19th century for well-to-do occupants, more often in Georgia's towns and cities rather than its rural areas. The c.1900 house at 102 North Railroad Avenue is L-shaped which is unusual for a gabled wing house, but it retains historic lapped siding, two-over-two windows, boxed gable returns, and simple corner boards (Photo 109).

The side-gabled cottage is a four-room house without a hallway, with one or two front doors and a broad end-gabled roof. These were popular in Georgia from 1895 to 1930. The c.1938 side-gabled cottage at 106 First Avenue is a good example with its symmetrical elevation and broad gabled roof (Photo 105).

The bungalow is long and low in proportion, has a rectangular footprint, with an irregular floor plan, featuring integral porches and low-pitched roofs. The popularity of this house type was from 1900 to 1930 in Georgia. Bungalows can be further classified by their roof type: front-gabled, side-gabled, hipped, and cross-gabled. A good example of the front-gabled subtype in the district is 404 North Maple Street, built in 1946, with its prominent front-gabled roof, rectangular form, brackets, and four-over-one windows (Photo 63). Good examples of the cross-gabled subtype in the district are 301 North Laurel Street, built in 1929, with its prominent side gable, exposed rafter tails, brackets, and four-over-one windows (Photo 128) and 401 North Oak Street, built in 1927, with its cross-gable form, exposed rafter tails, brackets, and six-over-one windows (Photo 59). Particularly interesting in the Springfield Historic District are the corner lot bungalows with a front door and porch situated on both street facades. These include 206 West Third Street, built c.1948 (Photo 101), 402 North Maple Street, built c.1946 (Photo 65), and 604 North Maple Street, built c.1925 (Photo 44). All of these examples feature porches with a masonry pier underneath the porch supports.

The American Small House (also called Minimal Traditional) is a compact three-, four-, or five-room house with an irregular floor plan, usually with a moderately pitched end-gable roof, which sometimes has small wings or ells. Often a side porch would be integrated into the plan by use of an ell on a side elevation, and often the roofline would be punctuated with dormers. This house type was popular in Georgia from the 1930s into the 1950s. A good, although large, example of this type is 702 Maple Street, built c.1947 (Photo 46), with its integrated side porch creating an irregular floor plan, and dormers.

The ranch house is defined by several architectural features and is most often described as "long and low," standing one-story in height. Ranch houses can have multiple roof types, but pitches are often low, and commonly have projecting overhanging eaves. Ranch houses tend to have unobscured front entryways, and facades often feature tripartite windows, with a central picture window and flanking double-hung windows. Bedrooms tend to be clustered at one end with the garage or carport and more public spaces, such as the living room and dining room, at the other end. Screened porches are often incorporated into the house's overall plan, located on the side, front, and rear elevations.

Drawing its influence from early-19th century vernacular architecture of California and the American Southwest, the ranch house serves as a ubiquitous representation of the mid-20th century. A nationwide response to the post-WWII housing shortage took advantage of advancements in standardized construction materials and techniques, and the ranch house was among the most commonly used suburban forms from the late 1940s to the 1970s (Sullivan 2010, 10-16). In Georgia, red brick is the most common exterior finish, while materials such as wood and stone can provide aesthetic contrast. Ranch houses in the Springfield Historic District are typically red brick, but there are examples of mixed materials such as brick and permastone, brick and wood cladding, and concrete block. Corresponding with the post-WWII growth in the

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

Springfield Historic District, the majority of the ranch houses were built between 1941 and 1975. Ranch houses are found throughout the district.

Ranch houses are further defined by their subtype, and the following subtypes are found in the Springfield Historic District:

Bungalow subtype of ranch house is long, low, and as deep as it is wide, generally square plan, with a large hip roof. Examples within the district are 607 Ash Street (Photo 34) and 605 North Ash Street (Photo 35). Both are red brick with hipped roof and are nearly square in plan.

Compact subtype of ranch house is small and simple, and it is proportionately a rectangle but almost square in form with a length-to-width ratio of less than 2:1. Often the subtype can be expanded with a carport. Examples within the district are 119 Webb Drive (Photo 39), with its compact rectangular form, historic two-over-two windows, metal porch supports, and mix of cladding materials, and 103 Cedar Street (Photo 73) with its compact rectangular form, hipped roof, jalousie windows, concrete block exterior, and integral carport.

Linear subtype of ranch house is a simply massed ranch like the compact but longer with a length-to-width ratio of 2:1. It may have slight projections or recessed elements that may telescope in and out, but the overall effect is of a long, narrow linear form. Good examples are 302 Early Street (Photo 16) and 110 North Ash Street (Photo 79), as they have telescoping projections along their long elevations. Also, 1104 Maple Street (Photo 23) is a good example with its long, low form, shallow projecting ell at one end, and the integral carport. All three have a variety of windows and are all red brick masonry.

Half courtyard subtype of ranch house features a half-courtyard formed by the intersection of two wings of the house with both wings containing living space. 702 East First Street (Photo 74) is a good example of this type. Overall, it is L-shaped with the ell to the rear of the house creating the half courtyard on the southwest, side elevation.

Rambling subtype of ranch house appears to "ramble" over its lot with at least three setbacks and offsets. Rambling ranches have complex roof systems. 505 Early Street (Photo 27) is a good example of this ranch house subtype with its variety of materials (permastone and brick), variety of windows, projecting front ells at each corner, and two projecting rear ells that give it an X-shape.

Alphabet subtype of ranch house is a catchall category for ranch houses that conform in plan to a letter of the alphabet, for example T-shaped, Y-shaped, and V-shaped houses. An example of this in the district is the c.1958 house at 401 North Maple Street (Photo 64). This house looks like a compact ranch house subtype until the aerial is viewed and the stem of the T can be seen extending from the rear of the house.

Split foyer subtype of ranch house typically has a partially submerged first floor with the entrance at grade allowing access to a foyer. From this foyer, a partial flight of stairs down leads to the first floor, and a partial flight of stairs up leads to the second floor. This subtype utilizes a variety of materials including brick and siding and creates a variety of windows opening with windows found as singles and grouped in twos and threes. An example of this subtype is located at 111 Lake Drive (Photo 32).

Another residential building type in the district is the apartment complex.

Apartment complex is defined in the statewide historic context, "Georgia's Modern Apartment Complexes" as consisting of at least three multi-apartment buildings developed on a relatively large scale using an overall site plan with integral landscaping (Johnston 2003). Located on Second Street between Oak and Gum streets, the c.1970 Springfield Manor complex consists of three contributing two-story, multi-family, walk-up apartment buildings. The lower-level of each matching building is brick with an upper-level of vertical siding topped by a Dutch gable roof with wide overhanging eaves. The windows are double hung, and the doorways are recessed. All three buildings face the parking area with a rectangular, fenced landscaped area in the center.

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

SITES

Springfield Cemetery, a contributing site, is not specified on the 1821 plat; however, it is found on the 1907 survey between the north - south streets of Oak and Maple and the east - west streets of Elbert and Cleveland (Photos 81 and 82, 83, 84). The large city cemetery, which was allotted two full blocks on the 1907 survey, shows the cemetery divided between "White" and "Colored" sections. The cemetery is now roughly in the center of the district encompassing four city-blocks. Most of this large square area is sandy ground, while the northeast quadrant is grassed. The grassy area is the portion of the cemetery originally set aside for Black burials. Along North Oak Street, the cemetery is enclosed with a half brick wall fence topped with iron pickets punctuated by three entrances with decorative arched iron scrollwork. The center entrance arch, at the terminus of Cleveland Street, displays the name Springfield Cemetery (Photo 83). The cemetery is partially fenced with chain link while the grassy northeast quadrant is unenclosed by fencing.

Ulmer Park is a contributing site between the east - west streets of Franklin and Crawford and the north - south streets of Pine and Oak. Encompassing two full blocks or Lots 20 and 23 from the 1812 plat, this land remained undeveloped until the early-to-mid-20th century (Photos 53 and 54). The entire community utilizes the park, and it served as the ballpark for non-school related activities. Additionally, the site contains five contributing structures (See STRUCTURES below).

Annex Ballpark is a contributing site located on the southern portion of the Effingham Academy grounds (Photo 70). The Annex Ballpark appears to have been an informal ballpark for the school, and it first appears on the 1965 aerial. Additionally, the site contains three contributing structures (See STRUCTURES below).

Historically Vacant Lots were platted but never built upon. There are seven of these contributing sites within the district; three of the historically vacant lots are within the 1907 expansion plat and six are in the areas developed later in the 20th century. All of the historically vacant lots are heavily wooded and add to the character and feeling of the district.

STRUCTURES

Grain Silos are three contributing metal structures built c.1960. The round structures with peaked metal roofs are located on Second Street between Pine Street and an alley (Photo 91).

The Water Tower is one contributing structure located at the northeast corner of Early and Pine Streets (Photo 5). The c.1945 cylindrical metal water tank has a standpipe through the center which connects it to the city's water supply. With "Springfield, GA" painted on its side, the water tower has a domed bottom and top and is supported by a steel frame tower. The tower is still used for the city's water system (Turner 2017b).

The Railroad Spur is one contributing structure located south of Second Street between South Laurel Street and Railroad Avenue and is no longer in use (Photo 148). The rail spur was sited to come right up to the railroad depot (demolished c.1976), which fronted South Laurel Street. It serves as a reminder of the prominence of the railroad and the commercial activity it brought to the district.

Well 2, a contributing structure, is a single story, square cinder block shed/enclosure with a flat roof built in the mid-20th century and located between 407 and 411 East Second Street.

Ulmer Park has five contributing structures; two concrete block dugouts, a concrete block snack bar, and a concrete block maintenance shed which date to the 1940s or 1950s (Photos 53 and 54). An additional contributing structure in the park is an octagonal roof gazebo supported by eight heavy wooden piers resting on a concrete pad.

Annex Ballpark contains three contributing structures. There are two c.1965 wooden dugouts and one c.1965 wooden ticket booth all covered with slanted shed roofs (Photo 70).

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

OBJECTS

The Obelisk is a contributing object and was erected on the courthouse square by the Salzburger Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy April 26, 1923.

George Washington Highway Marker is a contributing object. It is a three-foot tall rusticated granite marker on a concrete base at 601 North Laurel Street (Photo 118). The marker is the result of the 1932 resolution by the Daughters of the American Revolution to rename a stretch of the road that ran from Savannah to Augusta to commemorate George Washington's 200th birthday (Atlanta Constitution 1933).

ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

While many of the buildings in the Springfield Historic District lack an architectural style, some buildings are high style, and some have elements of styles as defined by the statewide context, *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, and Marcus Whiffen's *American Architecture Since 1780*. Buildings in the district feature elements of the Neoclassical Revival, Craftsman, Carpenter Gothic, Folk Victorian, and Colonial Revival styles. At least two of the ranch houses can be defined as Eichleresque style and there are multiple examples of Plain style ranch houses as well.

Neoclassical Revival style combines Greek and Roman detailing, drawing upon the earlier Classical Revival and Greek Revival styles. It was popular in Georgia from the 1890s through the 1930s. In houses, the most notable feature of the style is a dominant full-height front portico with classical columns. The façade is usually symmetrical and has a central entrance usually surrounded by pilasters, elaborated with fanlights, sidelights, and a transom. A classical cornice with dentils and modillions is also a common feature. The roof is usually low-pitched and may have a balustrade. In the district, the Argyle at 503 North Ash Street built c.1912 is excellent example of a Neoclassical Revival style house (Photo 42) and the 1909 Effingham County Courthouse is an excellent example of a Neoclassical Revival style government building (Photo 3).

Craftsman style was very popular in Georgia in the early-20th century. Houses constructed in the Craftsman style are typically asymmetrical and exhibit distinctive elements meant to emphasize materials and craftsmanship such as low-pitched roofs with wide eaves and exposed rafter tails, decorative beams or brackets at the eaves within wide gables, and full- or partial-width porches supported by square columns set on heavy masonry piers. Windows are usually double-hung and often consist of a multi-paned sash over a single-pane sash. Examples of Craftsman style houses are found throughout the district including 301 North Laurel Street c.1929 (photo 128), 901 North Oak Street c.1923 (Photo 13), and 404 North Maple Street c.1946 (Photo 63).

Carpenter Gothic style features include steeply pitched roofs and gables, gingerbread ornamentation, fancy scroll work, barge boards, carved porch railings, and strong vertical design elements, such as board and batten siding. Window trim typically replicates the masonry trim of English Gothic cathedrals, and windows reflect pointed arch form associated with Gothic Revival styles. The style was a popular choice for churches during the mid-to-late 19th century, exhibiting simple, practical, and yet fanciful old-world charm. An example of the Carpenter Gothic style in the district is the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 303 South Laurel Street (Photo 127).

Folk Victorian style became popular in Georgia during the mid-to-late 19th century. Houses are generally simple in form and exhibit Victorian-era decorative details taken from more elaborate styles such as Queen Anne. Gingerbread ornamentation including brackets and spindlework are applied to porches, roof gables, and around window and door openings. Some examples feature additional or irregular roof gables that have been added to break up the traditional massing of the house. Applied Folk Victorian ornamentation can be seen at 502 Early Street built in 1913 (Photo 20), at 308 South Railroad Avenue on the 1908 George Brinson home (Photo 100), and at 102 North Railroad Avenue, a house built c.1900 (Photo 109).

Colonial Revival style gained lengthy popularity in Georgia beginning in the 1890s and extending through the mid-20th century. It is even found through the 1960s and 1970s, applied to ranch house types. Most buildings in the Colonial Revival style are symmetrical with a central entry framed by pilasters or columns. Broken pediments, fanlights, and

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

sidelights are common around entrances. Windows are double-hung and multi-paned. The roof may be hipped or have a side gable. Examples of this style on a ranch house can be found at 110 N. Ash Street (Photo 79) and 503 Early Street (Photo 26). The houses at 305 North Oak Street (Photo 58) and 702 N Maple Street (Photo 46) also exhibit the style, but on different house types. Another good example of Colonial Revival style, but not applied to a house, is the Effingham County Jail at 1002 North Pine Street (Photo 7).

Eichleresque style is a variant of the broader Contemporary style, according to the statewide context study by Richard Cloues, *Ranch Houses in Georgia: A Guide to Architectural Styles*. Its hallmark is a broad and very low, front gable roof with exposed structural elements. Some of these houses may feature a near "blank" front elevation to the public street. Examples within the district are 202 North Ash Street (Photo 71) and 105 Laberta Circle (Photo 40). Both have broad, low, front gabled roofs, exposed structural rafters, and near blank front elevations.

Plain style is devoid of architectural embellishment. According to the statewide context study by Richard Cloues, *The Ordinary Iconic Ranch House; Mid-20th Century Ranch Houses in Georgia*, the red brick ranch house in the Plain style is the signature ranch house in Georgia. Good examples of Plain style ranch houses in the district, all constructed in red brick with shutters lending them a small element of the Colonial Revival style, include 205 Third Street (Photo 102), 103 First Avenue (Photo 106), 1005 Maple Street (Photo 21), and 501 North Maple Street (Photo 62).

LANDSCAPING CHARACTERISTICS

The Springfield Historic District has a mature leafy tree canopy. The soil is sandy and exposed throughout the district wherever grass refuses to grow. There is little formal landscaping, and one of the only intentional landscapes is found in the two blocks of Cleveland Street between Laurel Street and the cemetery, which has a boulevard lined with mature live oaks in the center median (Photo 85). Curbs and sidewalks are inconsistent throughout the district, but they tend to be present on the more trafficked streets including North Pine, Laurel, Early, and Ash streets (Photos 2, 8, and 9). There are a few low rollover curbs on Ash Street (Photos 28, 31, and 43). Where there is no curb, there is a slight dip on either side of the road to aid in drainage. Within the highly commercial section of South Laurel Street, new sidewalks have a red brick curb strip (Photos 132, 133, and 138). Recent non-historic streetscape improvements along Laurel Street include marked street parking between bulb-outs planted with street trees and low-maintenance grasses.

Most of the residential lots in the district have well-kept lawns with a variety of shrubs, bushes, small ornamental trees, and large trees. The trees and other vegetation are typical of the Georgia Coastal Plains. Water oaks, live oaks, and loblolly pines make up the majority of the large trees in the district. Dogwoods and other common ornamental trees such as crepe myrtles and the occasional Bradford pear are popular residential landscaping trees, particularly in front of mid-20th century houses. The few houses along Laurel Street and a handful of the oldest houses on Oak Street, such as 601 North Oak Street (Photo 51) and 301 North Laurel Street (Photo 128), have yards defined by a fence. Elsewhere in the district, few residential properties are fenced, the great majority of the expansive lawns extend into neighbors' yards, with little or no boundary definition.

Behind the residential streets of Oak and Maple, run two unpaved alleys (Photo 18). One of the alleys is identified as Gum Street, while the other is unnamed. These alleys provide access to the rear of the rather deep residential lots of Oak and Maple streets. Many of the residential properties have a detached garage or shed behind the house. Houses built since the 1950s often have an attached garage or carport, though some mid-century houses on older lots retain outbuildings from a previous era. Due to these deep residential lots, the district contains several secondary resources that are not clearly visible from the right of way and were not evaluated. Secondary resources clearly visible from the right of way are included in the counts and marked on the historic district map. The extended street pattern for the post-WWII development in the Springfield Historic District follows the original grid layout with the exception of the mid-century residential streets of Lake Drive and Laberta Circle.

ALTERATIONS

Alterations to contributing residential buildings in the district include replacement of windows and exterior doors (Photos 36, and 90), application of vinyl siding (Photos 17, 41, and 90), and porch or carport enclosures (Photos 22 and 48). While

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

these types of alterations reduce the historic integrity of the buildings, most can still easily be interpreted as historic resources and are considered contributing to the historic district.

Local historian, Norman Turner, recalls that when houses were built along Ash Street, some of the materials (i.e. windows and siding for gable infill) for the houses and outbuildings were salvaged from abandoned buildings outside of town. This frugality can result in ranch houses with salvaged siding, or outbuildings that predate the main house. An example of this is seen in the three-over-one windows found on the 1953 house at 105 South Ash Street (Photo 77).

Commercial resources in the district have also been altered over time. Typical alterations include replaced doors and awnings or the addition of brick veneer. Some commercial buildings have a mansard-like parapet roof, which was likely added in the 1960s or 1970s when this was a popular method of concealing HVAC and electrical equipment. Examples of mansard roof changes within the period of significance in the district are 104 North Laurel Street (Photo 138) and the Springfield Lodge at 127 North Laurel Street (Photo 132).

Overall, the Springfield Historic District retains integrity of materials, workmanship, and design through its historic and original character-defining features, the elements of which are still evident today in its buildings. These elements include fenestration patterns, massing, and overall scale. The contributing resources reflect the feeling and setting of a city that developed during the historic period from the 19th century into the 20th century. Integrity of association and location is derived from the district's direct link with the history of Georgia as the county seat of Effingham County.

NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

The noncontributing resources in the district are comprised of buildings, sites, and one object. The noncontributing buildings were either constructed after the period of significance (Photo 76) or have undergone alterations that have resulted in a significant loss of historic integrity (Photo 120, 124, and 145).

There is one noncontributing site, a non-historic playground at the corner of Cleveland and Oak streets. There is one noncontributing object on the courthouse square, a monument that was erected after the period of significance.

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
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.)

Community Planning and Development

Commerce

Architecture

Period of Significance

1821-1975

Significant Dates

1821 Springfield platted

1907 Brinson Railway established

1945 End of WWII generated economic expansion

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hyman W. Witcover

Walter P. Marshall

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Springfield Historic District begins in 1821 with the platting and implementation of the city grid and ends in 1975 with the last substantial wave of residential construction.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

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

The Springfield Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of community planning and development as a good example of an “Augusta” plan town, a defined courthouse town type per Joan Niles Sears’ *The First One Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia*. In this town type, the courthouse square is located one block away from the commercial area, with the courthouse sited on a higher elevation than the neighboring business district. The city’s original 1821 street grid remains intact, with two significant expansions; in 1907 with the railroad’s arrival, which bolstered the city’s commercial prominence, and with the post-WWII development boom, which brought substantial residential growth. Springfield grew slowly for its first century, as a lack of transportation routes made it difficult to access. In 1907, the Brinson Railway was established connecting Springfield to Savannah and Augusta. It began to prosper as the center of commerce for the surrounding agricultural-based economy, making the district also locally significant under Criterion A in the area of commerce. Its early-20th century economy relied on the distribution of a variety of wholesale and retail goods and a range of services, and it was a primary location for the buying and selling of these goods and services in Effingham County. It is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its representative collection of commercial and residential building types and architectural styles commonly found in Georgia towns from the late-19th to mid-20th century. Commercial types, as defined in “Commercial Types in Georgia,” include single-retail and multiple-retail types, as well as two-part commercial block types as defined by Richard Longstreth in *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. House types in the district, as defined in the statewide context, *Georgia’s Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, include hall-parlor, central hallway, I-house, Georgian cottage and Georgian house, gabled-wing cottage, side-gabled cottage, bungalow, American Small House, and a wide variety of ranch house subtypes. Stylistic influences in the district include Folk Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Carpenter Gothic, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival.

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

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Springfield Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of community planning and development for its intact historic town plan. Springfield is a good example of the “Augusta” plan town, one of the four major types of county seat town plans which prevailed in Georgia from the late-18th through the early-20th century, per Joan Niles Sears’ *The First One Hundred Years of Town Planning in Georgia*. This plan also reflects the founding of Springfield as the Effingham County seat. In Georgia, generally only county seat communities were laid out in one of these distinctive manners. The character-defining features of the plan type exhibited in the Springfield Historic District include the courthouse square location, which is one block east of Laurel Street, the town’s main commercial corridor and its intact 1821 grid plan plat.

Springfield, as the Effingham County seat, was derived from an already-existing community (Sears 1979, 14). Initially, its early settlement occurred along the main thoroughfare between Savannah and Augusta. Before being platted, Springfield was, “a linear settlement typical of the early highway communities [that] had developed” along this road (Sears 1979, 82). The Augusta “plan was dependent on a wide important street, typically a hold-over from an earlier settlement . . . in which the courthouse was located to face down a short street toward the main thoroughfare” (Sears 1979, 16). Springfield mirrors this layout with the placement of the original courthouse one block east of Laurel Street, approached by Rabun Street, and sited on a slightly higher elevation than the rest of the town. According to Sears, “As in many Georgia county towns, good use was made of the topography to add importance to the building which signified law and order to the community” (Sears 1979, 82).

Springfield was platted in a traditional grid pattern by the County Surveyor, Lara (Zara) Powers, in 1821. Within the downtown, each block was assigned a number one through forty-seven. Block eight, which was one block east of the

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

main road, was reserved for the "court house." Powers adapted the trajectory of the main road, originally Washington Street now Laurel Street, to follow the straight lines of his grid plan (Sears 1979, 82). Reinforcing the importance of the plan is the early concentration of historic commercial and community landmark buildings near the courthouse square including the jail building at 206 Early Street and the oldest houses in the district being located within one block of the courthouse square. In its nearly 200 years of existence, the original grid plan has been expanded during two significant periods of development, the introduction of the railroad in 1907, and the post-WWII development boom.

Architectural development in the Springfield Historic District reflects the economic factors and major periods of community growth which contributed to the district's expansion. The arrival of the railroad in 1907 served to bolster the dominance of Laurel Street, the commercial corridor in the town plan, as the railroad was laid parallel to it. In 1907, the engineer R.A. Blandford performed a survey that expanded the 1821 grid by creating additional blocks to the south and east, retaining the grid pattern. When the rail spur and railroad depot were placed in this newly platted area, south of Cleveland Street and the original 1821 grid boundary, commercial development shifted away from the courthouse square in closer proximity to the rail spur and depot. Extant buildings reflecting this early-20th century period of growth include the 1907 Brinson Building at 130 South Laurel Street (which is currently used as Springfield City Hall), the 1908 two-part commercial block building at 102 North Laurel Street, the c.1940 Mars Theatre at 106 South Laurel Street, the c.1940 House-Type gas station at 102 South Laurel Street, and the c.1910 single-retail commercial building at 125 South Laurel Street. Adding to the historical association of the development of the railroad, early-20th century houses line Railroad Avenue, which runs parallel to Laurel Street on the west side of the railroad tracks.

The final phase of growth and development in the Springfield Historic District aligns with the nationwide post-WWII development boom. The residential resources in the district serve to reflect this period of growth and development. The continued importance of early community planning is evidenced by the post-WWII residential development patterns which extend the 19th and early-20th century street grid patterns with the exception of two residential streets in the northeast portion of the district, Lake Drive and Laberta Circle, which embraced the curvilinear street patterns growing in popularity in the mid- to late-20th century. Extant residential resources support the continued importance of the original city planning instruments. Nearly all pre-1940 development in the Springfield Historic District occurred within the 1821 plat or the 1907 survey. With the exception of the houses aligned with the railroad tracks on Railroad Avenue, and three early-20th century houses near the intersection of Ash and Early Streets, all residential development outside the boundary of the 1821 plat or the 1907 survey occurred in the mid-20th century.

COMMERCE

The Springfield Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of commerce as the historic commercial center of Effingham County. Initially selected as the county seat due to its geographically central location, Springfield's lack of transportation corridors limited its growth. However, when the railroad was established in 1907, Springfield's commercial importance flourished. Springfield served as a commercial center for goods, services, and commodities in Effingham County. Such commercial centers generally featured a range of entertainment venues, communications-related buildings, retail and dry goods stores, drug stores and soda fountains, offices, and gas stations.

Extant historic buildings in the Springfield Historic District represent many of these historic commercial activities including the Mars Theatre at 106 South Laurel Street, the former Exchange Telephone Company building at 202 North Laurel Street, retail and dry-goods stores such as the Brinson Store at 130 South Laurel and Mingledorff and Bird dry goods at 102 North Laurel, the Rexall Pharmacy building at 504 North Laurel, five historic gas stations, as well as three grain storage silos. These historic buildings and the commercial activity they reflect are directly related to the economic development and prosperity of the community and its surrounding region.

Additionally, the Springfield Historic District was home to several industries and businesses made possible by and located along the railroad. One such industry in the district was animal feed production. Feed for hogs and other animals was

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

produced by mixing agricultural products and stored in the three grain silos on Second Street. Feed was shipped by train to other communities along the rail line and sold at stores in the Springfield Historic District. Feed stores were operated from the building across the street from the silos at 202 East Second Street and from the front porch of the house at 112 North Laurel Street (Turner 2017b).

ARCHITECTURE

The Springfield Historic District has local significance under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its representative collection of commercial, governmental, and residential buildings as well as churches and schools dating from the 19th century through the latter part of the 20th century. The district contains good representative examples of the types and styles typical of historic commercial and residential buildings found in small Georgia cities and reflect prevailing design and construction traditions of small cities and towns in Georgia.

Commercial types found in the district that were popular and important to the development of small cities in Georgia include single-retail, multiple-retail, and two-part commercial block buildings, as well as historic gas station types, as defined in the statewide context "Commercial Types in Georgia," Longstreth's *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*, and Randl's *Preservation Brief 46: The Preservation and Reuse of Historic Gas Stations*, respectively. Commercial buildings in the district are a varied collection of small attached and freestanding buildings of masonry construction with common setbacks along the sidewalk. Most date from between 1900 and 1970, and are on Laurel Street, the district's main commercial corridor which runs parallel to the railroad tracks.

Residential buildings include good examples of several types built between c.1833 and 1975, such as the I-house, hall-parlor cottage, central hallway cottage, Georgian cottage and Georgian house, gabled-wing cottage and gabled-wing house, side-gabled cottage, bungalow, and American Small House as defined in the statewide context, *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*. Additionally, the district features a significant number of intact ranch houses with a high degree of integrity identified in *The Ranch House in Georgia* including the bungalow, compact, half courtyard, linear, rambling, split foyer, and alphabet subtypes.

The district also contains architecturally significant community landmark buildings including the Neoclassical Revival style Effingham County Courthouse (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980) and the Carpenter Gothic style Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. At least two architects designed buildings in the district, they are Hyman W. Witcover and Walter P. Marshall, both from Savannah and both of whom are credited with buildings in Savannah and the Southeast. Hyman W. Witcover designed the Effingham County Courthouse building and Walter P. Marshall designed the Springfield Methodist Church and the Effingham County Jail.

Extant historic houses in the district feature elements of the Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, and Folk Victorian styles as defined by the statewide context, *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings*. Examples of the Neoclassical Revival style are the house at 503 North Ash Street. The Colonial Revival style is represented on the houses at 305 North Oak Street and 702 N Maple Street. Craftsman style is found throughout the district on houses built in the 1920s through the 1940s, including 301 North Laurel Street, 901 North Oak Street, and 404 North Maple Street. The district has several excellent examples of houses with Folk Victorian style attributes, such as 502 Early Street, 308 South Railroad Avenue, and 102 North Railroad Avenue.

The district contains an excellent assortment of ranch house types including those in the Plain style at 205 Third Street, 103 First Avenue, 1005 Maple Street, and 501 North Maple Street, and at least two in the Eichleresque style at 202 North Ash Street and 105 Laberta Circle.

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following history was written by Brian LaBrie, Marion Ellis, and Emily Taff of Ray, Ellis & LaBrie Consulting as part of the “Springfield Historic District,” Historic District Information Form, December 12, 2018, on file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Community Affairs, Atlanta, Georgia. The history has been edited by Cynthia Catellier, National Register Historian, Georgia Historic Preservation Division.

18th Century

Effingham County was one of Georgia’s original eight counties formed in 1777 from the colonial parishes of Saint Matthew and Saint Philip. It was named in honor of the Earl of Effingham, “an ardent supporter of colonial rights” (White 1855, 426). Effingham County was originally larger than it is today; however, portions were removed from Effingham when Screven and Bryan counties were created in 1793 and 1794, respectively.

Colonial settlements in Effingham County had been along the Savannah River and the Old Augusta Road. Ebenezer, located along the Savannah River, had been Effingham County’s main town prior to the Revolutionary War. Ebenezer was settled by a group of Protestant expatriates from Salzburg (Barlament 2017). After the Revolutionary War left Ebenezer in ruins, the residents eventually relocated, many of those descendants were founders of Springfield (Jones 1984, 135). On February 7, 1799, the state legislature passed an act which called for the Commissioners of Effingham County to select and purchase land for a permanent, centrally located county seat. Commissioners were also instructed to “lay out lots for sale and use the proceeds to erect a courthouse and jail” (Renfro 2004, 57).

19th Century

Early settlement in Springfield occurred along the main thoroughfare between Savannah and Augusta. Before being platted, Springfield was, “a linear settlement typical of the early highway communities [that] had developed” along this road (Sears 1979, 82). County surveyor, Lara (Zara) Powers adapted the trajectory of the main road, originally Washington Street now Laurel Street, to follow the straight lines of his grid plan (Sears 1979, 82). Springfield as the county seat conforms to the Augusta plan, as it derived from an already-existing community (Sears 1979, 14). The Augusta “plan was dependent on a wide important street, typically a hold-over from an earlier settlement . . . in which the courthouse was located to face down a short street toward the main thoroughfare” (Sears 1979, 16). Springfield mirrors this layout with the placement of the original courthouse one block east of Laurel Street, approached by Rabun Street, and sited on a slightly higher elevation than the rest of the town.

Despite being the county seat, Springfield’s growth was slow. Some early development can be attributed to the construction of the first school with a combination of local and state funds in 1829. The building (no longer extant) was in the block northwest of the present Treutlen Building at Pine and Crawford streets, facing the courthouse square. According to Norman Vincent:

The reputation of this early academy was excellent and parents from all over the county as well as other counties purchased lots and built homes in Springfield to send their children there to be educated. The first growth of the town was directly attributed to the interest of the educational facilities at this academy. A near population explosion was the result of twenty lots being sold in 1829! (Renfro 2004, 250)

In 1839, the Central of Georgia Railroad was constructed, paralleling the Ogeechee River on the county’s western side and bypassing Springfield. George White, in his account of Effingham County in the 1840s noted that “formerly, many citizens of Savannah were in the habit of resorting in Springfield during the summer season; but the facilities for reaching the upper parts of the State, have caused it to be no longer a place of any great resort” (White 1855, 222–223).

The first Effingham County Courthouse was constructed in Springfield c.1857. The 1821 plat shows Lot 8 as reserved for the “court house.” It was a two-story wooden building, approximately 38' x 80' with a large porch facing Early Street. This

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

courthouse was used until c.1908 when the building was auctioned off to make room for the new courthouse (Renfro 2004, 253). In 1858, Springfield "had but two stores and the mail was brought from Guyton once a week" (Renfro 2004, 252). The Civil War resulted in destruction of some buildings in the town, while others survived (Renfro 2004, 252). In 1879, Springfield had about 40 citizens, about 100 in 1887, and still under 200 in 1896. Meanwhile, six miles to the west, the town of Guyton was flourishing on the Central of Georgia rail line.

20th Century

1900-1920

By the turn of the 20th century, Springfield was still much smaller than nearby Guyton. In 1900, the town consisted of "about twelve houses, one store operated by B.E. Mingledorff, and two churches" (Renfro 2004, 254).

Things began to look up when George M. Brinson, called by the newspapers at that time "one of the livest wires in South Georgia" chartered a railroad to run from Savannah to Athens, stopping in Springfield (Atlanta Constitution 1906). When George M. Brinson plotted the course for the railroad through Springfield it helped bolster the local economy and boost its desirability. The railroad allowed for farm goods to be transported from surrounding areas to downtown Springfield and stored either at the depot or the adjacent storage bin. By the mid-20th century, agricultural produce that would be turned into feed for animals was stored in the silos off Second Street. The feed was brought into town by train or truck. The first passenger train reached Springfield from Savannah on May 27, 1907, and the first freight train came through on August 3, 1907. Brinson's investment in the railroad brought new vitality to the Springfield Historic District in the early-20th century.

Brinson bought land around the town of Springfield. On June 27, 1907, engineer, R.A. Blandford performed a new survey and laid out additional town lots, tripling the size of Springfield. The expanded 1907 Blandford survey retained the 1821 survey's grid and the 210' by 210' lots as 1.25-acre blocks. The majority of the city blocks were divided into three or four parallel lots approximately 52' or 66' wide x 210' deep. That same year, 1907, Brinson brought a trainload of people from Savannah to Springfield and auctioned off these new town lots to those in attendance. In the course of one day, 96 town lots in Springfield were sold (Turner 2007).

The railroad and the new train depot, which was located at 200 South Laurel Street (demolished c.1976), shifted commercial activity to the south end of Laurel Street, away from the courthouse square. A railroad spur line was laid parallel to South Laurel Street. The passenger and freight depot was located along this spur. The spur also passed directly behind the Brinson Store, today's City Hall, at 130 South Laurel Street. The Brinson Store operated as a repair shop, offices, and store for the Brinson Railroad (Turner 2017b). Brinson built a home for his family just across the railroad tracks at 308 South Railroad Avenue. "By early 1908, there were three businesses under construction at the intersection of Laurel and First Streets" (Renfro 2004, 254).

In 1908, Mingledorff and Bird dry goods store moved from the corner of Oak and Rabun Streets, across from the courthouse, to 102 North Laurel Street, near the train depot. With an already long history of retail in Springfield, Mingledorff and Bird sold everything including "groceries, china and glassware, overalls, shirts, men's underwear, cloth, thread, buttons, ribbons, lace, women's dresses and underwear, umbrellas, window shades, shoes, school supplies, men's and ladies' hats, novelties, accessories, perfumes and colognes, and candy" (Renfro 2004, 259).

As testament to Springfield's burgeoning importance to Effingham County, in 1908 a new brick courthouse was commissioned to replace the old wooden building. Completed in 1909, the red brick Neoclassical Revival style building "owes a debt to the designs of Thomas Jefferson as well as to the flamboyant American Neoclassical Revival that had swept the country a decade or more earlier. It is equally clear that the building symbolized the progress that everyone knew the shiny new rails would bring to Springfield" (Caldwell 2002, 550). The original construction of the two-story building is of load bearing masonry with red-tinted mortar and white trim. The building's front façade features a grand portico supported by six massive stone columns and is capped by a dome reminiscent of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.

Springfield Historic District

Name of Property

Effingham County, GA

County and State

Additional modernizations that Brinson brought to the Springfield Historic District in the early-20th century include a small electric power plant, two artesian wells, and the town's first telephone (Turner 2007). In March 1909, Effingham Electric and Telephone connected their lines with that of Southern Bell (Renfro 2004, 256). In 1907, the Exchange Bank of Springfield (not extant) was organized by local stockholders (Renfro 2004, 258). Bank employee, Mr. W.H. McCartney, who came to Springfield from Virginia, built the large Neoclassical Revival style brick house at 503 North Ash Street that bears the name "Argyle" in its attic window in 1912. Also, 1912 saw the completion of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Renfro 2004, 254).

Brinson's finances took a significant hit during the 1907 Bankers' Panic, and he was bankrupt by 1914 (Turner 2017a). The Brinson Railroad Company was reorganized as the Savannah and Western Railroad, and finally as the Atlanta and Savannah Railroad (Caldwell 2002, 550). Springfield's growth began to stagnate.

1920-WWII

In the 1920s and 1930s, Springfield carried on like many other small cities in the South. Springfield grew very slowly over the next decades. The jail that stands at the corner of Early and Pine Streets was built in 1935. It is constructed of red brick with red tinted mortar to compliment the materials used in the 1909 courthouse. The jail contained living quarters for the sheriff on the first floor and jail cells on the second floor (Renfro 59-60). In 1936, the present Treutlen Building at 403 Crawford Street was built to replace the outdated c.1894 Springfield Graded School, which was converted to a residence. In 1937, Savannah Electric and Power Company extended power lines to Springfield.

In the 1930s, the Springfield Historic District was served by several drugstore-soda fountains which were important social centers in American towns from the 1920s through the 1950s. Thanks to Prohibition (1920-1933), soda fountains "replaced taverns as social gathering places. By 1929, roughly 60 percent of American drugstores had fountains" (Higby 2002). Though the Great Depression did not spare the pharmacy business, drugstores were not hit as severely as some retail trades and "soda-fountain delights continued to attract the populace to American drugstores during the 1930s" (Higby 2002). Additionally, "most pharmacists augmented their income by selling a variety of inexpensive necessities, such as toiletries, household chemicals, soaps, flavorings, and tobacco products" (Higby 2002, 68). Springfield had at least three drugstore-soda fountains on Laurel Street, including Dr. George Strange's Drug Store and soda fountain at 606 North Laurel Street (Photo 121); Ingram's Drug Store at 101 North Laurel Street with Dr. Ein Collum's office and Dr. A. D. Gnann's dentist office next door at 105 North Laurel Street; and Webb's Drugs Store at 412 North Laurel Street, a Rexall affiliate opened by W.R. Webb in 1936 (Renfro 2004, 267).

In 1940, the Mars Theatre at 106 South Laurel Street opened providing a modern movie-going experience. It could seat 300 patrons and was a favorite hangout for residents of all ages. When opened, the theatre was segregated, and Black patrons had to sit in the balcony. The theater was restored in the 2000s and offers movies again today (Mars Theatre 2017).

The Effingham Academy on Ash Street at the end of Madison Street, a Work Projects Administration (WPA) building, opened in 1941. It included the extant gym with a cafeteria in the rear, and a long school building which paralleled Ash Street (portions of which are the main building today). From River to River:

A new brick modern twelve-room single story building was constructed at the end of Madison Street on Ash Street with a modern heating system and running water and indoor restrooms. It was completed with W.P.A. labor, federal funding, and assistance from the entire community. A modern and well-equipped brick gymnasium was also constructed with shower baths and dressing rooms. One classroom was used by the agriculture teacher and one room used for a kitchen in connection with the lunch program. An agriculture building was also used as a canning plant and shop. A library and laboratory was also included (Renfro 2004, 102).

By 1941, the office and equipment for the Exchange Telephone Company was in the c.1892 two-story house at 202 North Laurel Street. "The plug-in switchboard measured about 4½ feet high by 2½ feet wide and was powered by its own

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

generator. There were three operators and four linesmen. Monthly service cost was \$1.50 and a three-minute call to Savannah was about 20 cents” (Renfro 2004, 267).

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, civilian volunteers were enlisted by the Civilian Defense for many war-time services. To prepare for possible attack, Effingham County’s Civilian Defense leaders ordered 1,000 gas masks, 200 small pumps, six large pumps, and 800 feet of fire hose. By April 17, 1942, an air-raid siren was installed at the Exchange Telephone Company building (Turner 2005).

POST-WWII to 1970s

Evidence of the nationwide post-WWII housing boom is abundant in Springfield. A relative surge in population after the war increased the town’s built environment. While the residential lots of Springfield reflect the growth of the town over the years, with houses from the 19th and every decade of the 20th century, there is a surfeit of houses from the 1940-1975.

The post-WWII building boom is evidenced across the state by the proliferation of ranch houses constructed at that time. This postwar ranch house phenomenon is supported by the large number of ranch houses in the Springfield Historic District. Many of the postwar residences were built on vacant lots in the already platted sections of the district, and new streets such as Lake Drive and Laberta Circle opened on the northeast side of town. A handful of mid-century houses appear to have replaced older houses, such as 808 Ash Street, constructed in 1949, which has older outbuildings.

New residences and new residents brought new vitality to the Springfield Historic District. The Nancy Hanks II, a passenger train connecting Savannah with Atlanta, which stopped at Springfield, made the first trip on July 17, 1947 (McKay 1971).

Brothers Henry and Thomas Webb started a concrete block plant called I.T. Webb in 1946 (no longer extant). The small concrete block factory was wedged between the railroad and the spur (Hodgson 2017). I.T. Webb’s concrete block plant produced concrete blocks that were used in the construction of buildings within the district, including the Mars Theatre at 106 North Laurel Street, Walt’s Appliances at 405 North Laurel Street, the two Box-Type gas stations at 503 North Laurel Street and 107 North Laurel Street, the Springfield Lodge at 127 North Laurel Street, as well as 412 North Laurel Street and 109 North Laurel Street. Additionally, blocks from the plant were used to construct the structures in Ulmer Park.

By 1950, Ray Webb, a relation of the concrete block plant owners, developed the residential streets of Webb Drive and Laberta Circle out of a farm field on the northeast side of town. Houses in the new subdivision were owner-built. New house construction in the post-WWII years was also concentrated along South Ash and Cedar streets.

Other mid-20th century industry included animal feed production. Feed for hogs and other animals of the residents of Springfield was stored in the silos on Second Street. The feed was distributed at the local feed stores, such as at 112 North Laurel Street (the front porch was a feed store and the family lived in the house behind in circa 1970 and 202 East Second Street (Turner 2017b).

In 1953, a fire destroyed all but the northern half of the Effingham Academy main building, leaving the gymnasium and rear buildings intact. The school reopened a year later. By the start of the school year of 1957-1958 a modern, flat-roofed building had been constructed between the main building and the gymnasium. Based on the surge in residential development in the 1950s and 1960s, this new building was to accommodate the growth in the student body, which was for White students only until the late 1960s when it was integrated (Weitman 2017, Thomas 2017, and Griffin 2017). The school remained in use until 2004 when a new Effingham County elementary school was built outside the district. The Academy complex with its various buildings and additions now serves as the offices of the Effingham County Board of Education.

Other businesses operating in the Springfield Historic District in the 1950s and 1960s included Snooks’ Food Store at 109 South Laurel Street, Walt’s TV, Appliance, and Furniture at 405 North Laurel Street, Dixie (formerly Exchange) Telephone Company at 202 North Laurel Street (Weitman 2017). Mingleorff and Bird store at 102 North Laurel Street, the

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

Springfield Rexall Pharmacy at 412 North Laurel Street, and the Springfield Motor Company, which sold Chevrolet automobiles at 606 North Laurel Street (Renfro 2004, 268). In addition to these businesses, the Effingham County Fire and Rescue was constructed in 1964 at 203 Pine Street.

1970s TO PRESENT

Throughout the historic period, other than the county government, there were no major employers in the city limits of Springfield. Residents of Springfield were able to work in town as county employees, or in the commercial and retail businesses (Turner 2017b & Renfro 2017). Outside of town, Springfield residents found employment in or near Savannah where jobs were available at the Port Authority and factories like Union Camp or Dixie Crystal.

On May 1, 1971, the Nancy Hanks II, a passenger train connecting Savannah with Atlanta, made its last run (McKay 1971). The train provided service for those visiting family and for those who worked in the Savannah area. The post-WWII residential building boom was essentially over by 1975. The depot was demolished c.1976 (Turner 2017b).

Springfield remains the county seat of Effingham County. Much of the built environment of the Springfield Historic District today is from the mid-19th to late-20th century. The district developed slowly over almost 200 years and never fully filled out as evidenced by the seven historically vacant lots within the district boundaries.

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

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Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

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County and State

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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: _____

Effingham County Jail (NR 06000845), Effingham County Courthouse (NR 80001016)

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 244 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 32.375041 | Longitude: -81.316220 |
| 2. Latitude: 32.378331 | Longitude: -81.311488 |
| 3. Latitude: 32.378385 | Longitude: -81.308720 |
| 4. Latitude: 32.375830 | Longitude: -81.306467 |
| 5. Latitude: 32.367620 | Longitude: -81.302712 |
| 6. Latitude: 32.367013 | Longitude: -81.305748 |
| 7. Latitude: 32.366451 | Longitude: -81.309632 |
| 8. Latitude: 32.364920 | Longitude: -81.308731 |
| 9. Latitude: 32.363198 | Longitude: -81.311027 |
| 10. Latitude: 32.366632 | Longitude: -81.315651 |
| 11. Latitude: 32.370627 | Longitude: -81.315174 |
| 12. Latitude: 32.372685 | Longitude: -81.314106 |
| 13. Latitude: 32.373075 | Longitude: -81.316262 |

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

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

The boundary of the Springfield Historic District is indicated by the heavy black line on the attached boundary map, which is to scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The proposed boundaries include the intact and contiguous historic resources in the city of Springfield.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cynthia Catellier, National Register Historian
organization Georgia Historic Preservation Division date February 2021
street & number 60 Executive Park South, NE telephone 404-486-6372
city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30329
e-mail cynthia.catellier@dca.ga.gov

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.)

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: Springfield Historic District
City or Vicinity: Springfield
County: Effingham State: Georgia
Photographer: Brian W. LaBrie
Date Photographed: April 26, 2017 and March 18, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 148. View along Rabun St. from N. Laurel St. Front, southwest facade of historic Effingham County Courthouse, 901 N. Pine St. Photographer facing northeast.
2 of 148. View along N. Laurel St. from Rabun St. (outside of district). Photographer facing southeast.

Springfield Historic District

Effingham County, GA

Name of Property

County and State

- 3 of 148. Southwest facade of historic Effingham County Courthouse, 901 N. Pine St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 4 of 148. Northeast facade 904 N. Pine St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 5 of 148. Southeast elevation of water tower corner of Early St. and N. Pine St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 6 of 148. Southeast facade of 102 Early St. from Rabun St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 148. Northwest facade of jail, corner of Early St. and N. Pine St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 8 of 148. View down N. Pine St. adjacent to Jail. Photographer facing southeast.
- 9 of 148. View down Early St. from corner of N. Pine St. and Early St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 10 of 148. Southeast facade of 204 Early St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 11 of 148. Southeast facade of 206 Early St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 12 of 148. Southwest facade of 903 N. Oak St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 13 of 148. Southwest facade of 901 N. Oak St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 14 of 148. Southwest facade of 803 N. Oak St. Photographer facing north.
- 15 of 148. View across parking of New Judicial Complex, 700 N. Pine St. Photographer facing south (Outside district).
- 16 of 148. Southeast facade of 302 Early St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 17 of 148. Southeast facade of 306 Early St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 18 of 148. View down Gum St. alley from Early St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 19 of 148. Northwest facade of 401 Early St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 20 of 148. South corner of 502 Early St. Photographer facing north.
- 21 of 148. Southwest facade of 1005 N. Maple St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 22 of 148. East corner of 1102 N. Maple St. Photographer facing west.
- 23 of 148. East corner and northeast facade of 1104 N. Maple St. Photographer facing west.
- 24 of 148. West corner of 905 N. Maple St., corner of Early St. Photographer facing east.
- 25 of 148. West corner of 805 N. Maple St. Photographer facing east.
- 26 of 148. Northwest facade of 503 Early St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 27 of 148. Northwest facade of 505 Early St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 28 of 148. Southwest facade of 905 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 29 of 148. Southwest facade of 901 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 30 of 148. Northeast facade of 808 N. Ash St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 31 of 148. View down Lake Dr. from N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 32 of 148. West facade 111 Lake Dr. Photographer facing east.
- 33 of 148. North corner of 702 N. Ash St. Photographer facing south.
- 34 of 148. Southwest facade of 607 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 35 of 148. Southwest facade of 605 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 36 of 148. Northeast facade of 606 N. Ash St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 37 of 148. South corner and southwest facade of 601 N. Ash St. Corner of Webb Dr. Photographer facing north.
- 38 of 148. View down Laberta Cir. From Webb Dr. Photographer facing southeast.
- 39 of 148. West corner 119 Webb Dr. Photographer facing east.
- 40 of 148. South corner 105 Laberta Cir. Photographer facing north.
- 41 of 148. Northeast facade of 602 N. Ash St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 42 of 148. Southwest facade of 503 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 43 of 148. View along Jefferson St. from N. Ash St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 44 of 148. East corner of 604 N. Maple St. Photographer facing west.
- 45 of 148. West corner of 603 N. Maple St. Photographer facing east.
- 46 of 148. Northeast facade of 702 N. Maple St. Photographer facing south.
- 47 of 148. North corner of 704 N. Maple St. at Jackson St. Photographer facing south.
- 48 of 148. Along northeast facade of 304 Franklin St., on Gum St. Photographer facing south.

Springfield Historic District

Effingham County, GA

Name of Property

County and State

- 49 of 148. South corner of 703 N. Oak St. Photographer facing north.
- 50 of 148. South corner of 701 N. Oak St. Photographer facing north.
- 51 of 148. Southwest facade 601 N. Oak St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 52 of 148. Southwest facade of 503 N. Oak St. Photographer facing east.
- 53 of 148. Southwest facade of dugout at Ulmer Park, 210 N. Jefferson St. Photographer facing north.
- 54 of 148. View of south corner of Ulmer Park at 210 N. Jefferson St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 55 of 148. Southwest facade of 303 N. Pine St. Photographer facing east.
- 56 of 148. South corner of 403 Crawford St. (Treutlen Building). Photographer facing north.
- 57 of 148. East corner of 403 Crawford St. from corner of Oak St. and Madison St. Photographer facing west.
- 58 of 148. South corner of 305 N. Oak St. Photographer facing north.
- 59 of 148. Southwest facade of 401 N. Oak St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 60 of 148. South corner of 501 N. Oak St. Photographer facing north.
- 61 of 148. North corner of 504 N. Maple St. Photographer facing south.
- 62 of 148. Southwest facade of 501 N. Maple St. Photographer facing east.
- 63 of 148. North corner of 404 N. Maple St. Photographer facing south.
- 64 of 148. Southwest facade of 401 N. Maple St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 65 of 148. Southeast facade (at Madison St.) of 402 N. Maple St. Photographer facing west.
- 66 of 148. Southwest facade of gymnasium, 405 N. Ash St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 67 of 148. North corner of office/classroom building, 405 N. Ash St. Photographer facing south.
- 68 of 148. North corner of classroom building, 405 N. Ash St. Photographer facing south.
- 69 of 148. Southeast facade of 405 N. Ash St. Photographer facing north.
- 70 of 148. View of Annex Ballpark, 405 N. Ash St. Photographer facing east.
- 71 of 148. Northeast facade of 202 N. Ash St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 72 of 148. Northwest facade 609 Cleveland St. Photographer facing south.
- 73 of 148. Southwest facade 103 N. Cedar St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 74 of 148. South corner of 702 First St., at Cedar St. Photographer facing north.
- 75 of 148. View along Ash St. from First St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 76 of 148. East corner 108 N. Ash St. Photographer facing west.
- 77 of 148. South corner 105 N. Ash St. Photographer facing north.
- 78 of 148. Southwest facade 107 N. Ash St. Photographer facing north.
- 79 of 148. East corner 110 N. Ash St. Photographer facing west.
- 80 of 148. Southwest facade of 107 N. Maple St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 81 of 148. View into cemetery from corner of Elbert St. and N. Maple St. Photographer facing south.
- 82 of 148. View from center of Springfield Cemetery. Photographer facing northwest.
- 83 of 148. View into Springfield Cemetery from Oak St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 84 of 148. View down Oak St. from Cleveland St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 85 of 148. View along Cleveland St. from Oak St. Photographer facing southwest.
- 86 of 148. East corner of 210 Cleveland St. Photographer facing west.
- 87 of 148. 204 N. Pine St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 88 of 148. View down N. Pine St. from Cleveland St. southwest.
- 89 of 148. Southeast facade 104 E. First St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 90 of 148. East corner 206 First St. and Oak St. Photographer facing west.
- 91 of 148. View down S. Pine St. from Second St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 92 of 148. Southeast facade 202 E. Second St. Photographer facing northwest.
- 93 of 148. 606 and 604 Hart St. Photographer facing north.
- 94 of 148. Hart St. Photographer facing northeast.
- 95 of 148. Northwest facade 503 E. Fourth St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 96 of 148. View down southwest side of S. Maple St. from Third St. Photographer facing east.

Springfield Historic District

Effingham County, GA

Name of Property

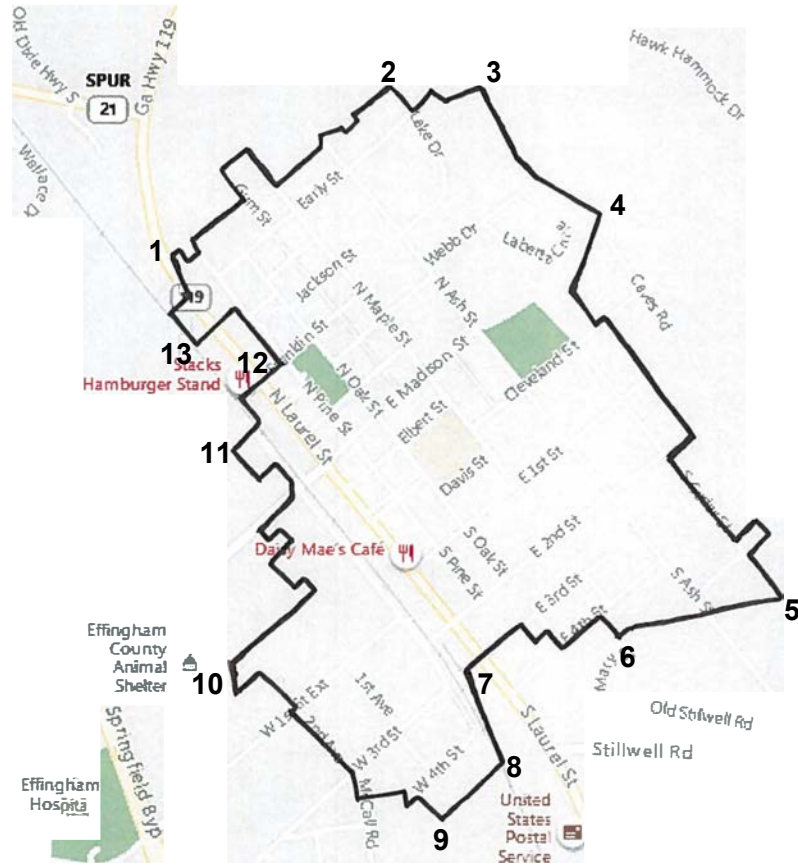
County and State

- 97 of 148. Northwest façade 301 S. Oak St. Photographer facing southeast.
98 of 148. 301-305 S. Laurel St. Photographer facing east (Outside district).
99 of 148. Shed, southwest side of S. Laurel St. Photographer facing west (Outside district).
100 of 148. East facade 308 S. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
101 of 148. Northwest facade 205 W. Third St. Photographer facing south.
102 of 148. Southeast facade 206 W. Third St. Photographer facing west.
103 of 148. Southeast facade 408 W. Third St. Photographer facing west (Outside district).
104 of 148. Northeast facade 114 First Ave. Photographer facing south.
105 of 148. Northeast facade 106 First Ave. Photographer facing south.
106 of 148. Southwest facade 103 First Ave. Photographer facing east.
107 of 148. Northeast facade 108 S. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
108 of 148. Northeast facade 202 S. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
109 of 148. Northeast facade 102 N. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
110 of 148. View across railroad tracks from 102 N. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing northeast.
111 of 148. Northeast facade 212 N. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
112 of 148. View along railroad from Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southeast.
113 of 148. View along railroad from Railroad Ave. Photographer facing northwest.
114 of 148. Northeast facade 502 N. Railroad Ave. Photographer facing southwest.
115 of 148. Northeast facade of 712 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing southwest (Outside district).
116 of 148. Former Sunday school building entrance at 601 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northeast.
117 of 148. Former sanctuary entrance at 601 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northeast.
118 of 148. George Washington Highway marker at 601 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northeast.
119 of 148. 606 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northwest.
120 of 148. 105 Jefferson St. Photographer facing east.
121 of 148. Northeast facade of 504-506 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing southwest.
122 of 148. South corner of 505 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
123 of 148. South corner of 503 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
124 of 148. East corner of 412 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing west.
125 of 148. South corner of 405 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
126 of 148. 401 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing west.
127 of 148. Southwest facade from south corner of 303 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
128 of 148. South corner of 301 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
129 of 148. South corner of 203 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing north.
130 of 148. South corner and northeast facade of 202 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing west.
131 of 148. West corner 129 N. Laurel St. at Cleveland St. Photographer facing east.
132 of 148. Southwest facade 127 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northeast.
133 of 148. East corner 122 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing west.
134 of 148. Northeast facade 116 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing southwest.
135 of 148. Northeast facade 112 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing southwest.
136 of 148. West corner 109 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing east.
137 of 148. 107 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing northeast.
138 of 148. 102-104 N. Laurel St. Photographer facing south.
139 of 148. Site of former concrete block plant along railroad. Photographer facing southeast.
140 of 148. Site of former concrete block plant along railroad. Photographer facing northwest.
141 of 148. North corner 102 S. Laurel St. Photographer facing south.
142 of 148. Northwest facade of 106 S. Laurel St. Photographer facing south.
143 of 148. Southwest facade 107-111 S. Laurel St. Photographer facing east.
144 of 148. West corner of 119-125 S. Laurel St. Photographer facing east.

Springfield Historic District
Name of Property

Effingham County, GA
County and State

- 145 of 148. East corner 130 S. Laurel St., corner of Second St. Photographer facing west.
- 146 of 148. View down S. Laurel St. from Second St. Photographer facing northwest
- 147 of 148. View down S. Laurel St. from Second St. Photographer facing southeast.
- 148 of 148. Site of former depot and rail spur branching from main rail line. Photographer facing southeast.



Scale bar: 250 m

© 2019 HERE. © OpenStreetMap

Springfield Historic District

Roughly bounded by Railroad and 2nd avenues to the southwest, Early Street to the northwest, Laberta Circle and Cedar Street to the northeast, and 3rd and 4th streets to the southeast. Springfield, Effingham County, Georgia

Source: Bing Maps, 2019

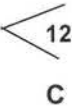
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4.	Latitude: 32.375830	Longitude:-81.306467	11.	Latitude:32.370627	Longitude:-81.315174
5.	Latitude: 32.367620	Longitude:-81.302172	12.	Latitude:32.372685	Longitude:-81.314106
6.	Latitude: 32.367013	Longitude:-81.305748	13.	Latitude:32.373075	Longitude:-81.316262
7.	Latitude: 32.366451	Longitude:-81.309632			


City of Springfield Historic District


City of Springfield Historic District


City of Springfield


Springfield Historic District
 Springfield, Effingham County, GA
 National Register Map

Photograph Locator  12

Contributing  C

Noncontributing  NC


Historically Vacant Parcel  HV

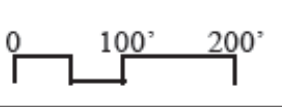
District Boundary 

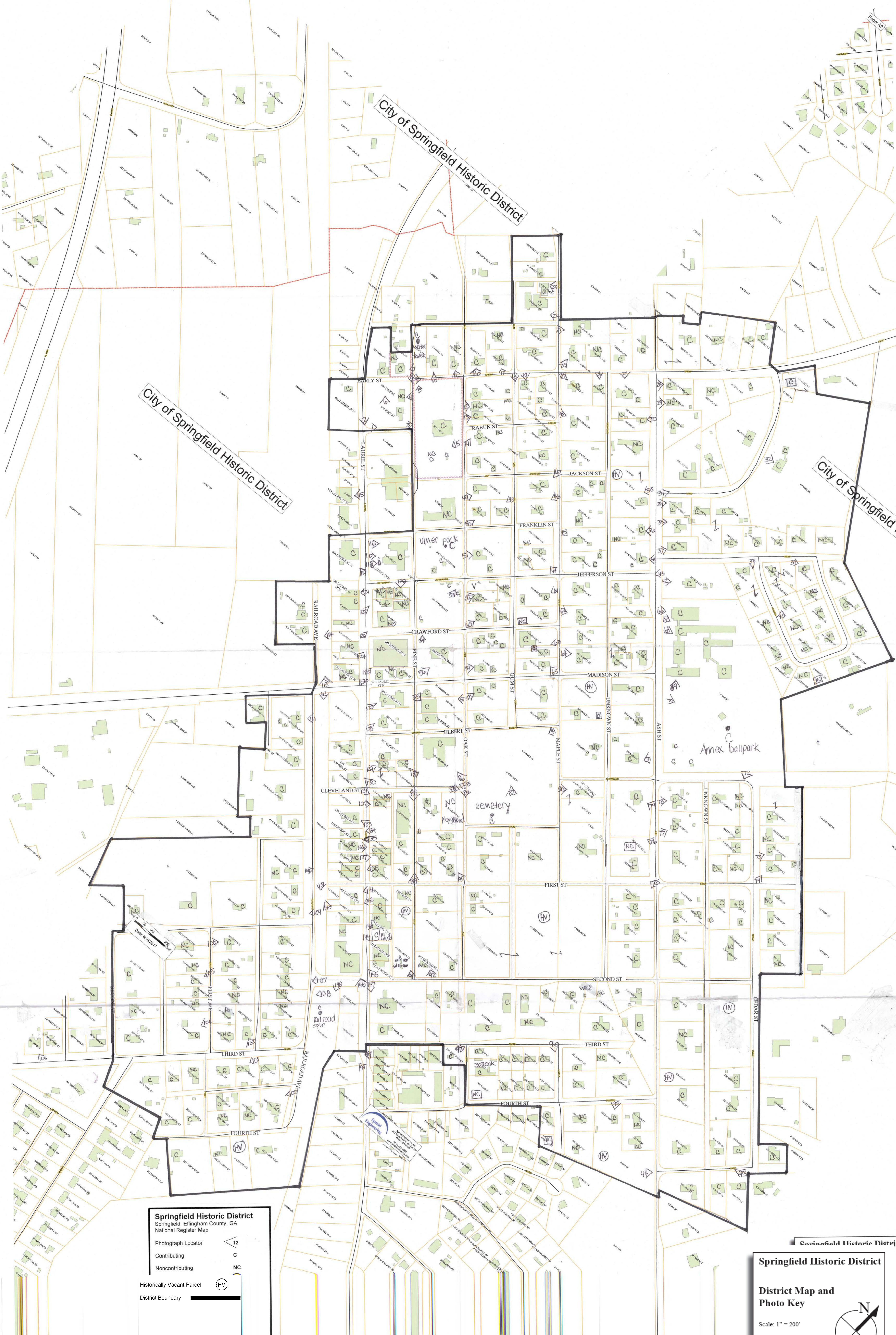
Springfield Historic District

District Map and Photo Key

Scale: 1" = 200'









GA_Effingham County_Springfield HD_001



GA_Effingham County_Springfield HD_024





GA_Effingham County_Springfield HD_071





GA_Effingham County_Springfield HD_101



HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
PASTOR
DR. JANET CRANE
SERVICES: 10:00 AM
SUNDAY SERVICE: 11:00 AM





Type Threads
Threads

1030



CITY OF
SPRINGFIELD

CITY OF
SPRINGFIELD

CITY HALL

IN BIRTH
LIVED BETTER

POLICE DEPT.

GA_Effingham County_Springfield HD_145

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 2/16/2021 Date of Pending List: 3/2/2021 Date of 16th Day: 3/17/2021 Date of 45th Day: 4/2/2021 Date of Weekly List: 4/2/2021

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 4/2/2021 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: AOS: Community Planning and Dev., Commerce, Architecture; POS: 1821-1975; LOS: local. The Springfield Historic District is locally significant in the area of community planning and development as a good example of an "Augusta" plan town. The courthouse square is located one block away from the commercial area, with the courthouse sited on a higher elevation than the neighboring business district. The city's original 1821 street grid remains intact, with two significant expansions; in 1907 with the railroad's arrival, which bolstered the city's commercial prominence, and with the post-WWII development boom, which brought substantial residential growth. Springfield grew slowly for its first century, as a lack of transportation routes made it difficult to access. In 1907, the Brinson Railway was established connecting Springfield to Savannah and Augusta. It began to prosper as the center of commerce for the surrounding agricultural-based economy, making the district significant in the area of commerce. Its early-20th century economy relied on the distribution of a variety of wholesale and retail goods and a range of services, and it was a primary location for the buying and selling of these goods and services in Effingham County. It is also significant in the area of architecture for its representative collection of commercial and residential building types and architectural styles commonly found in Georgia towns from the late-19th to mid-20th century.

Recommendation/ Criteria:

Reviewer Lisa Deline Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239

Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

February 16, 2021

Sherry Frear, RLA
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C St, NW, Mail Stop 7228
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Frear:

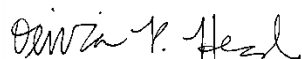
The enclosed contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Springfield Historic District, Effingham County, Georgia** to the National Register of Historic Places.

- PDF of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps
- PDF of selected digital photo images
- Physical signature page
- Original USGS topographic map(s)
- Sketch map(s)/attachment(s)
- Correspondence
- Other: Letters of support or notarized letters of objection

COMMENTS:

- Please ensure 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,



Olivia Head
National Register Specialist