

RECEIVED

MAY 29 1997

620

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number 207, 209, and 211 Ashby Street
city, town Americus (n/a) vicinity of
county Sumter code GA 261
state Georgia code GA zip code 31709

(n/a) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

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

Category of Property:

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

Number of Resources within Property:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	3	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	3	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: n/a

Name of previous listing: n/a

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards _____
Signature of certifying official Date May 19, 1997

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register Barbara Fitts 6/29/97

determined eligible for the National Register _____

determined not eligible for the National Register _____

removed from the National Register _____

other, explain: _____

see continuation sheet _____

for _____
Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER/Folk Victorian

OTHER/Shotgun

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	wood
roof	metal
other	n/a

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Ashby Shotgun Row Historic District is located north of downtown Americus in the historically African-American neighborhood of McCoy Hill. The area surrounding the three houses is a mixture of mostly modern and few historic buildings. The three wood-framed buildings are situated side-by-side on one wide deep lot, which historically was three narrow deep lots, near the edge of the pavement on the south side of Ashby Street. The three houses are shotgun-type buildings with Folk Victorian-stylistic features built c.1908 to c.1912. Each house has a full-width front porch supported by simple square or turned columns, shed roof, center interior chimney, ventilation grill in front gable, transom located over front door, and six-over-six double-hung windows. The interiors of the houses are one room wide and three rooms deep with no hallway. The interior doors do not line up from front to back, but alternate from one side of the room to the other. A double-sided fireplace is located in the middle of the wall between the front two rooms in all three houses. The landscaping consists of the remains of concrete steps leading from the road to the each of the houses, grass, and mature trees located behind the houses. The three houses are currently being rehabilitated as part of a Community Development Block Grant received by the city of Americus and as mitigation for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Also, the three houses received a Georgia Heritage 2000 Grant in 1996.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
ETHNIC HERITAGE : AFRICAN AMERICAN

Period of Significance:

c.1908-1947

Significant Dates:

c.1908 Construction of the house at 209 Ashby Street
c.1910-1912 Construction of the houses at 207 and 211 Ashby Street.

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

n/a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District is composed of three early 20th-century houses built in the historically African-American neighborhood of McCoy Hill. The district is significant in the area of architecture as excellent examples of the shotgun-type houses with Folk Victorian-style features located in a uniform row along Ashby Street. Each of these three houses retains its character-defining features including a long, narrow form, three-room-deep floor plan with no hallway, front porches with architectural ornamentation, and front-gabled roofs. They are characteristically lined up one beside the other, narrow ends toward the street, on small narrow lots. The Folk Victorian style was popular in both urban and rural parts of the state from the 1870s to the 1910s. The style was used as a way to apply stylistic elements to unadorned traditional house forms, such as the shotgun. According to the Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Setting context, the shotgun house was predominantly an urban phenomenon, built mainly for low-income workers between the 1870s and the 1920s. The shotgun house was especially popular in larger cities. Once common in Americus, and in this neighborhood in particular, such shotgun houses are now increasingly rare due to the city's housing programs. These three shotgun houses are among the finest remaining in Americus.

The district is significant in the area of ethnic heritage: African American for its association to the historically African-American neighborhood of McCoy Hill. The neighborhood was settled by freed slaves during the Reconstruction Era in the 1870s. This neighborhood was the principal African-American neighborhood in Americus, which prospered from the 1890s through the 1940s. According to the Historic Black Resources context for Georgia: "In most urban areas, black communities evolved out of the exclusionary housing policies initiated in the late 19th century and sometimes made official through legislation in the early 20th century. Many black communities achieved a level of economic self-sufficiency that has since been unsurpassed." The neighborhood historically contained a wide variety of houses, churches, stores, a school, and a hospital. Much of the historic neighborhood has been lost during the late 20th century due to abandonment, deterioration, urban renewal-type programs, and street widening. Along with these three shotgun houses, relatively few historic buildings remain today to mark this historic neighborhood. The Dismuke Storehouse, listed in the National Register in 1996, was built in 1899 and is one of the last historic corner stores remaining within the McCoy Hill neighborhood. The Campbell Chapel A.M.E. Church, approved by the Georgia National Register Review Board in January 1997, is located a few blocks from the Ashby Street shotgun houses and is significant as a major landmark in the neighborhood. Within the Historic Black Resources context, the three shotgun houses are significant since the African-American residents living within the neighborhood were "instrumental in founding churches, schools, businesses, and other institutions which gave distinctive form and substance to black life."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

National Register Criteria

The Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District is eligible under Criterion A for its association to the late 19th-century development of the African-American neighborhood of McCoy Hill. The district is eligible under Criterion C for its excellent examples of shotgun-type houses with Folk Victorian elements.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

n/a

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District begins in c.1908 with the construction of the house as 209 Ashby Street and ends in 1947, the end of the historic period.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District consists of three contributing resources with no noncontributing resources.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

The three houses are located in the McCoy Hill neighborhood, encompassing Academy, McCoy, Poplar, Winn, Jefferson and Ashby streets. The area was originally the residential property of a prominent antebellum attorney and confederate general, Henry Kent McCay. The modern misspelling results from the name's pronunciation not matching the spelling.

During the Reconstruction Era in the 1870s, the site of the neighborhood was used for public executions even as freedmen were establishing a black neighborhood in the immediate vicinity. After the destruction of the Old McCay Home in the early 1880s, the site became the location of the city's first public school for blacks, McCoy Hill School, built in 1884. With the earlier addition of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in 1882, the neighborhood began to grow as the predominant black neighborhood in Americus. The residents of the neighborhood were a mixture of black working class and professional class. Two of the city's preeminent black educators, professors Georgia W.F. Phillips and Alfred S. Staley, lived in the McCoy Hill neighborhood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

During the past few decades, the neighborhood has suffered from urban renewal practices and loss of residents. However, several of the houses in the McCoy Hill neighborhood have been rehabilitated with Community Development Block Grants and used as low-income housing.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Wynter, Desi L. "Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District," Historic District Information Form, August 30, 1995. On file at the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Merritt, Carole. Historic Black Resources: A Handbook For the Identification, Documentation, and Evaluation of Historic African-American Properties in Georgia, 1984. On file at the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

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

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**
date issued: January 23, 1993
- previously listed in the National Register**
- previously determined eligible by the National Register**
- designated a National Historic Landmark**
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #**
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #**

Primary location of additional data:

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

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): n/a

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Approximately 0.5 acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 761720 Northing 3552180

Verbal Boundary Description

The Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District is indicated on the attached tax map with a heavy black line.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District encompasses the three shotgun-type houses located side-by-side on one lot. Modern intrusions are located on either side of the district boundary.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Amy Pallante/National Register Specialist
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** May 1997

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

name/title Desi L. Wynter/Acquisition Relocation Coordinator
organization City of Americus
street and number P.O. Box M
city or town Americus **state** Georgia **zip code** 31709
telephone (912) 924-4411

- () **consultant**
() **regional development center preservation planner**
(x) **other: Acquisition Relocation Coordinator/City of Americus**

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

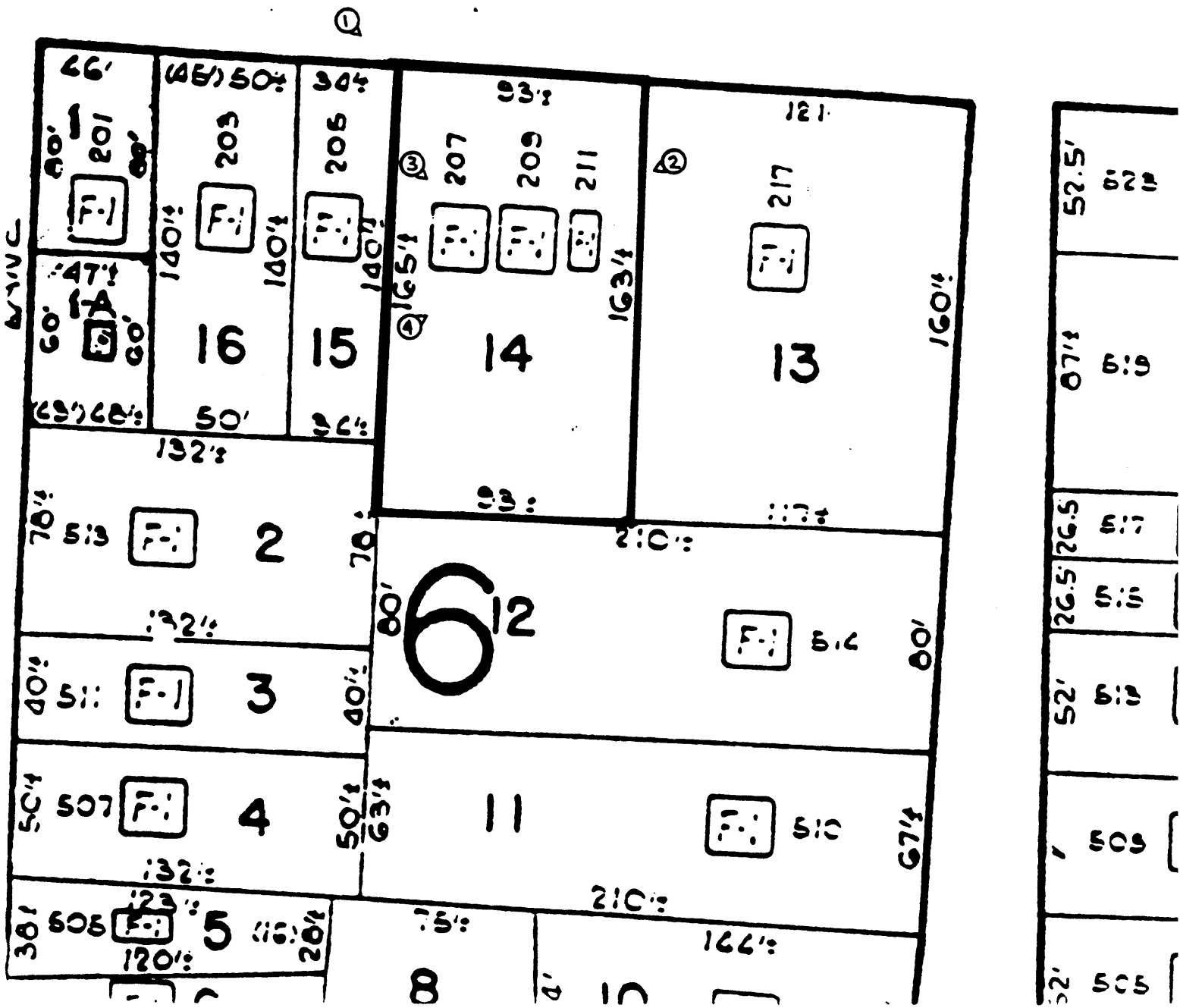
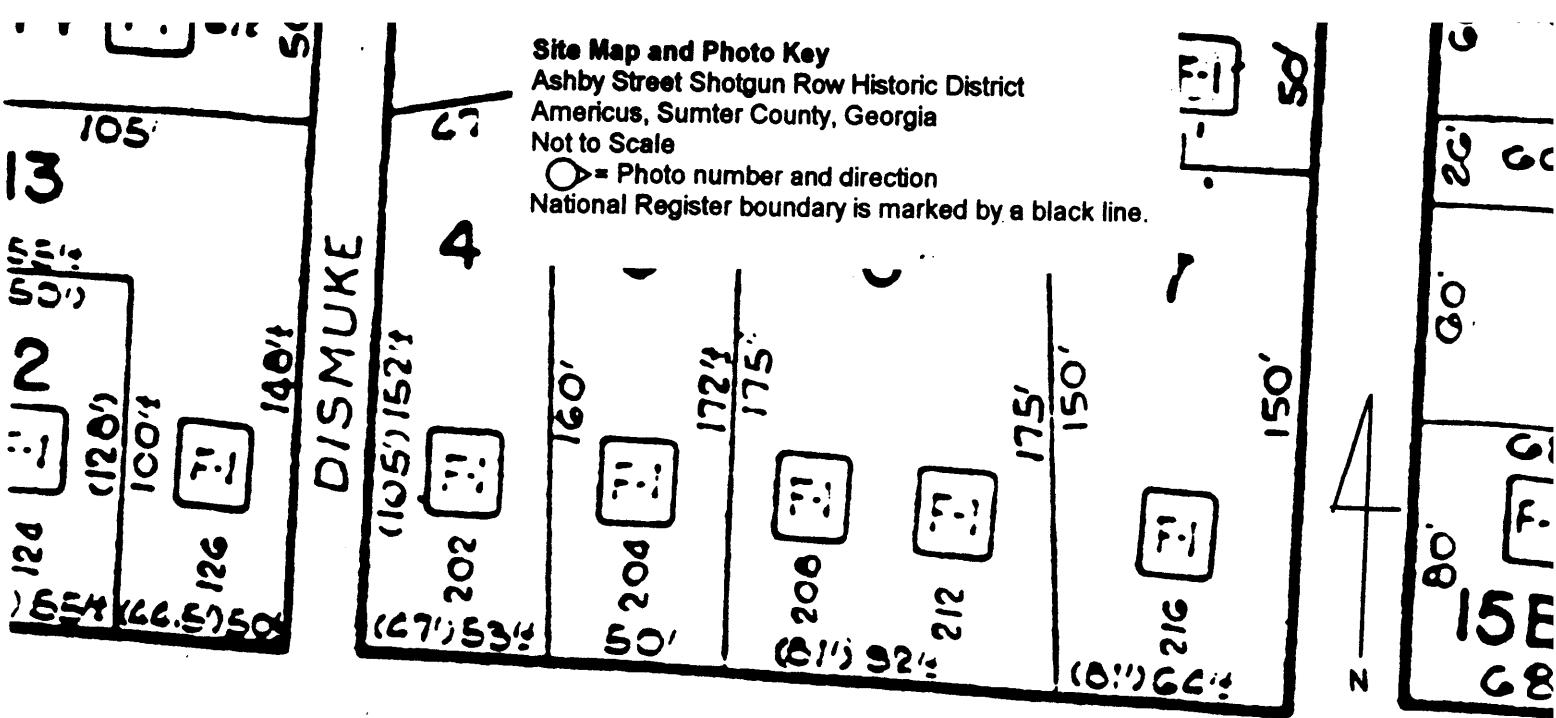
Name of Property: Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
City or Vicinity: Americus
County: Sumter
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: December 1996

Description of Photograph(s):

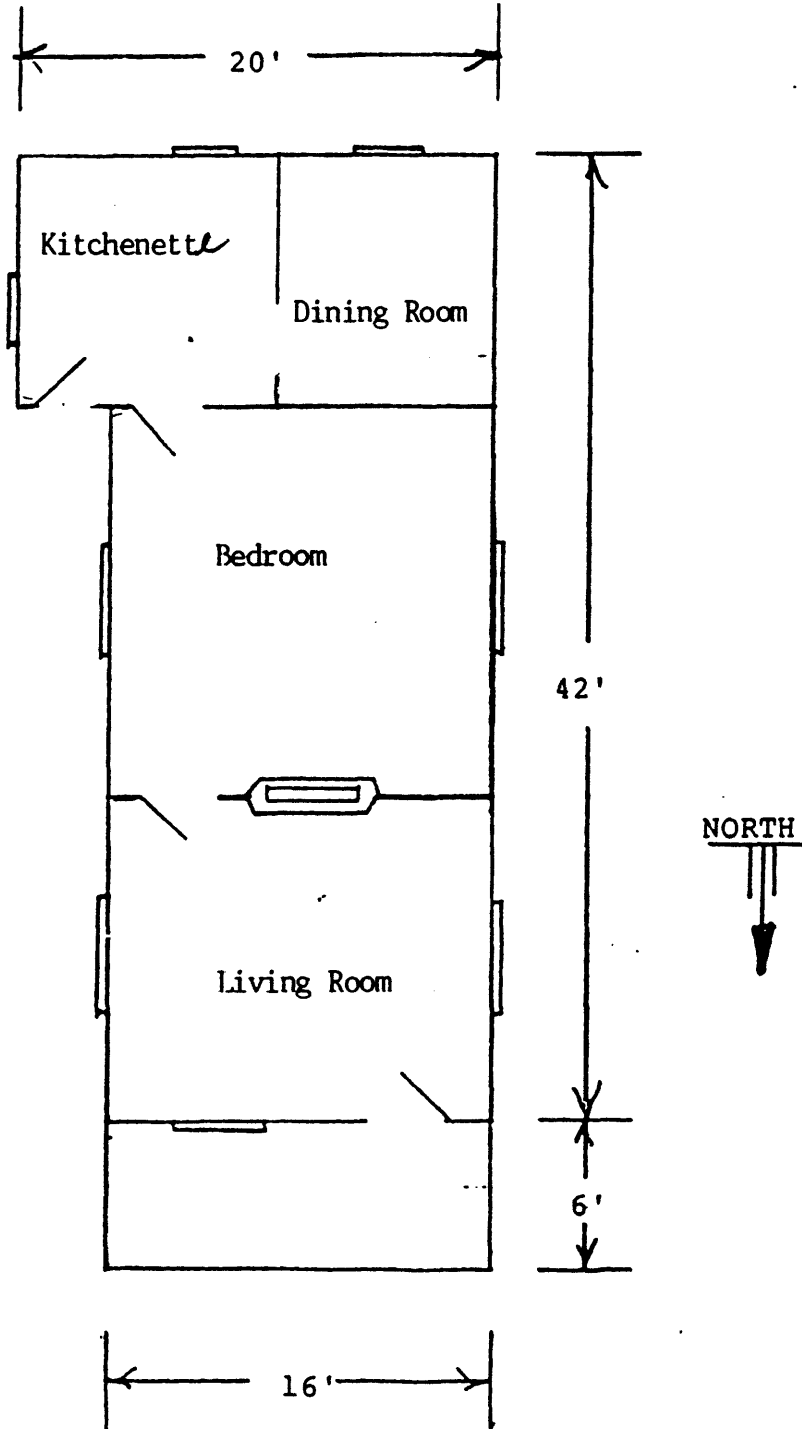
- 1 of 4 View of the three houses; photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 4 View of the three houses; photographer facing southwest.
- 3 of 4 View of the detailing along the front porch; photographer facing southeast.
- 4 of 4 View of the rear of the houses; photographer facing northeast.

Site Map and Photo Key
 Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
 Americus, Sumter County, Georgia
 Not to Scale

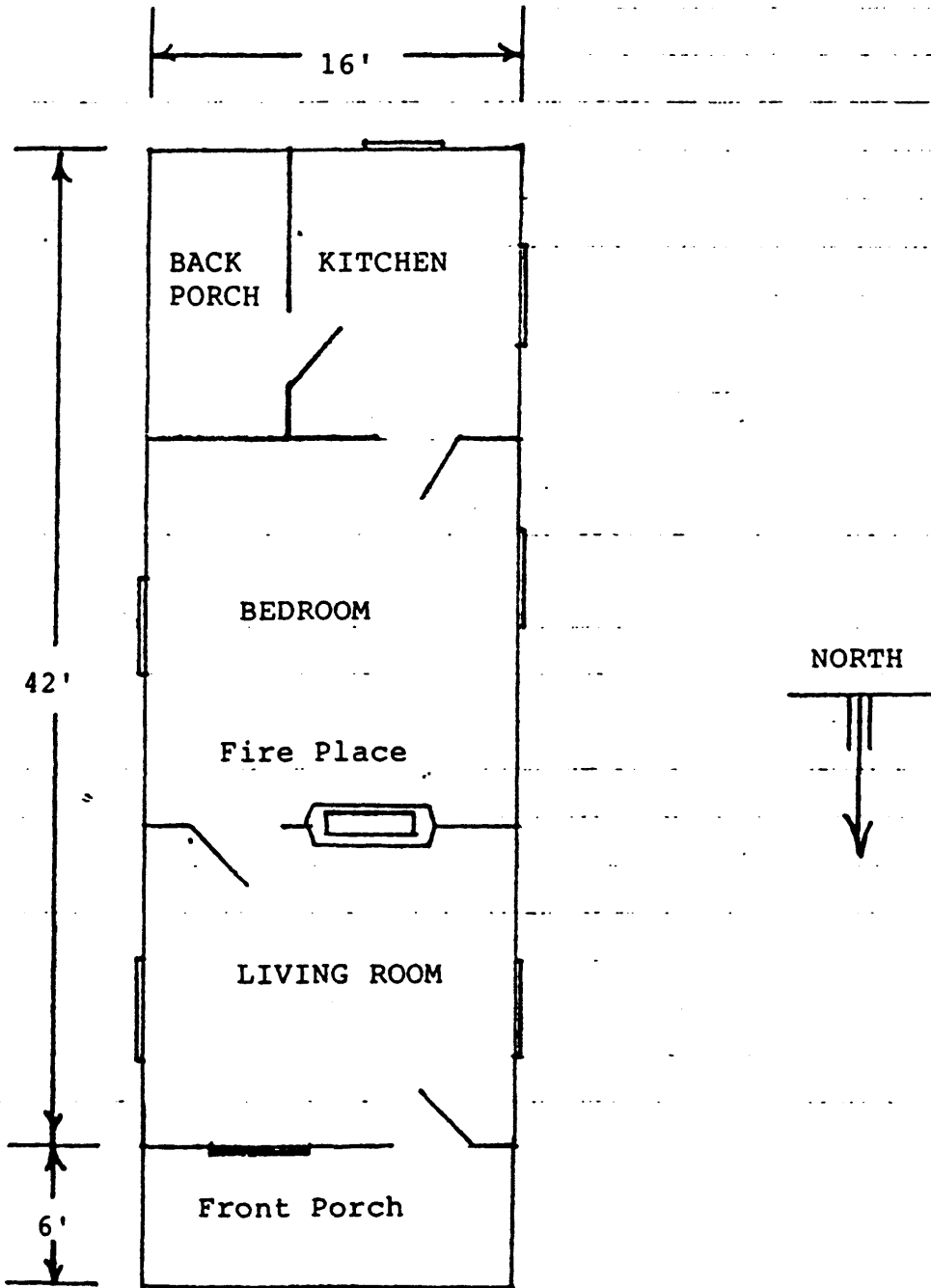
⊙ = Photo number and direction
 National Register boundary is marked by a black line.



Floor Plan
Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
Americus, Sumter County, Georgia
Not to Scale
207 Ashby Street



Floor Plan
Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
Americus, Sumter County, Georgia
Not to Scale
209 Ashby Street



Floor Plan
Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District
Americus, Sumter County, Georgia
Not to Scale
211 Ashby Street

