

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Colquitt Town Square Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Cuthbert, 1st, College, and Main Sts. ~~at Courthouse Sq~~
See Continuation Sheet. N/A not for publication

city, town Colquitt N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~

state Georgia code 013 county Miller code 201

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners - less than 50.

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Miller County Courthouse

city, town Colquitt state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Structures Field Survey: Miller County has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia 30334

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Colquitt Town Square Historic District encompasses the contiguous historic commercial downtown of Colquitt. The district is located on a very low rise of ground at the center of Colquitt's square city limits. Principal streets intersect at right angles in this area, creating a modest gridiron pattern of a few blocks arranged around the central courthouse square. The blocks are generally subdivided into long, narrow lots fronting on to the main streets and backing up to alleys or service areas. Buildings on these lots are predominantly one story masonry commercial structures dating from the early 20th century; a few two-story structures are also present. These buildings border three sides of the courthouse square and share both party walls and a common setback from the sidewalks. The fourth (south) side of the square contains freestanding structures and vacant lots. Styles of architecture represented in the district are limited to Victorian Eclectic and Commercial. Brick, the principal building material, is used structurally and decoratively in foundations, piers, load-bearing walls, pilasters, spandrel panels, parapets, segmental arches, string courses, and corbelled cornices. It is complemented by concrete block in load-bearing walls, cast-iron columns in storefronts, and stone, pressed metal, and wood detailing. Some building interiors still retain their historic wood, plaster, and pressed metal finishes. In the center of the district, on a historic landscaped square, stands a contemporary courthouse built after fire destroyed its predecessor in the 1970's. Non-historic commercial properties that do not contribute to the character and appearance of the district are limited to a few mid 20th century structures. Landscaping in the district is confined to the historic courthouse square.

Boundaries for the Colquitt Town Square Historic District circumscribe the intact historic commercial area in downtown Colquitt. Non-historic commercial buildings and 20th century residential development surround the district.

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date entered

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An area around the courthouse square, including properties facing all four sides of the square and properties northeast and northwest of the square, along Cuthbert Street, First Street, College Street, and Main Street.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1902 - 1930s **Builder/Architect** Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Colquitt Town Square Historic District is historically significant in the areas of architecture and commerce. In terms of architecture, the district is significant for its fine collection of modest, small-town, early 20th century commercial buildings. These buildings, built after a disastrous fire in 1902 which literally destroyed downtown Colquitt, reflect the prevailing design principles and construction practices of commercial architecture at this time as they were applied in small southwest Georgia cities. Local interpretations of Victorian Eclectic and Commercial styles of architecture are well represented. Period details including piers, pilasters, columns, spandrel and parapet panels, segmental arches, string courses, and corbelled cornices are apparent throughout. The use of brick, both structurally and decoratively, in conjunction with cast iron, pressed metal, wood, and concrete block, is characteristic of early 20th century commercial architecture in Georgia. In addition to these architectural qualities, the district is also significant architecturally because of its concentration of historic commercial buildings arranged around the courthouse square which creates a distinct downtown environment in this part of Colquitt. This effect is enhanced by the relatively uniform scale and massing of the buildings, the consistent use of materials, compatible ornamentation, and the regular siting of buildings around three sides of the courthouse square. In terms of commerce, the district is significant because of its layout and its role as the principal commercial center for Colquitt and Miller County. The district has a gridded street plan that has been identified as characteristic of small Georgia cities founded and developed for commercial as well as civic purposes. The district served as the center for day-to-day commercial activities in the city and its surrounding agricultural countryside; these commercial activities included wholesaling and retailing, banking, professional services, hotel accommodations, and entertainment. Accommodation to the automobile is reflected by the district's two early 20th century gas stations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 16 acres

Quadrangle name Colquitt, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	7	1	5	8	3	0	3	4	5	0	7	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

1	6	7	1	5	8	2	0	3	4	5	0	5	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

1	6	7	1	6	0	3	0	3	4	5	0	5	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

1	6	7	1	6	1	1	0	3	4	5	0	7	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, National Register Coordinator

organization Historic Preservation Section, Georgia date February 22, 1983
Department of Natural Resources

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

city or town Atlanta state Georgia 30334

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon
 Elizabeth A. Lyon date 2/22/83

title State Historic Preservation Officer

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the
<u>John A. Wilson</u>	National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>3/31/83</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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References

Nellie Cook Davis, History of Miller County, Georgia, 1950 - 1980. (Colquitt, Georgia: Citizens Bank of Colquitt, 1980).

-----, Unpublished historical data.

Southwest Georgia Area Planning and Development Commission, Historic District Zoning Manual, Colquitt Georgia. (Camilla, Georgia: 1981).

