

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAR 22 1988  
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Fort Payne Residential Historic District

and or common NA

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet NA not for publication

city, town Fort Payne NA vicinity of Congressional District 4

state Alabama code 01 county DeKalb code 049

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"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name various

street & number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. DeKalb County Courthouse

street & number 300 S. Grand Avenue

city, town Fort Payne state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date 1970-present \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Fort Payne Historic District is located in the northeastern section of Alabama, the most mountainous area of the state. Situated in a valley, Fort Payne is bounded on the northwest by Sand Mountain and on the southeast by Lookout Mountain. The irregular-shaped residential district consists of approximately 34 acres adjacent to the old commercial center. The district is laid out in a grid-iron plan with the main streets running northeast to southwest, following the natural contour of the valley. The district is roughly bounded on the southeast by Grand Avenue, which clearly separates the district from modern commercial development. Forrest Avenue is the northwest boundary which runs along the ridge of the mountain. The district extends beyond its northern corner to include Elm and Curry Streets, which wind up the mountain ridge. The district is bounded on the northeast by 5th street, NW, and on the southwest by 4th Street, SW. The district's boundaries are delineated to encompass the strongest concentration of historic buildings.

The historic district represents a middle-class residential neighborhood built by Fort Payne's civic and business leaders. The district clearly reflects Fort Payne's two major building periods. The first, 1888 through 1891, was a result of rapid speculation stimulated by the area's rich mineral deposits. The introduction of hosiery mills in 1909 once again stimulated the community's economic development from 1909 through the 1930s. The building boom of these two distinct periods clearly defines the present character of the historic district.

While most of the buildings in the district are vernacular in design, the district reflects the popular tastes of middle-class domestic architecture during these two periods. From the first period, 1888 through 1891, the Queen Anne style is represented in the district's most monumental residences, including the Rice House (#74). But the most prevalent style from this period is the vernacular Victorian residences which are more restrained in the use of Queen Anne decorative elements. This includes the front-gable roof type (#50) and the cross-gable type (#62). The district also has several modest examples of the Stick style (#67). Although scattered throughout the district, buildings from this period are located predominantly near the mountain ridge on Forrest Avenue, Elm Street, and Curry Street.

The district's second period of development, 1909 through 1938, includes several fine examples of the American Foursquare, which represent the most prominent residences of this period. This includes the Isbell House (#32) and Wolfes House (#55). In keeping with the precedence of simpler, more modest buildings, the most prevalent style during this period is the Craftsman-inspired Bungalow (most notably, #42, #49 and #25). There are also several modest local interpretations of Tudor Revival Cottages (#11 and #14). The buildings from this period are infilled between earlier buildings but are found in greater numbers on Alabama and Grand Avenues.

(continued)

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** c. 1880 - 1938      **Builder/Architect** unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

CRITERIA A & C - INDUSTRY & ARCHITECTURE

Fort Payne Residential Historic District is locally significant as Fort Payne's best concentration of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century, middle-class domestic buildings built during the city's two distinct industrial booms; including good examples of the Queen Anne style, American Foursquares, and Bungalows. There is a correlation between the construction of residences in the district and the need for middle-class housing created by the speculative boom of the iron industry (1888-1891), and later, the hosiery mill industry (1909-1938).

\*                    \*                    \*                    \*                    \*                    \*                    \*

The first period of economic development (1888-1891) resulted from the discovery of coal and iron ore in the surrounding mountains. Hordes of speculators, mainly New Englanders, descended on Fort Payne to profit from the newly created iron industry, and accelerated property values. The city's population increased 400% during this short period, resulting in a residential boom. The newly arrived New England industrialists and speculators constructed their homes in the Queen Anne style, a style not yet prevalent in Alabama.

The quality and the quantity of mineral resources were exaggerated and Fort Payne experienced a severe economic depression until the introduction of the first hosiery mill in 1909. From 1909 through 1938 Fort Payne was one of the South's leading hosiery manufacturing centers. The mills were the area's largest employers, which stimulated house construction in Fort Payne. Infilled between earlier buildings, large American Foursquares and modest Bungalows were erected in the district during this period.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 34<sup>+</sup>

Quadrangle name Fort Payne

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	6	6	1	7	1	2	0	3	8	1	2	3	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

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

C 

1	6	6	1	7	0	8	0	3	8	1	1	3	9	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

1	6	6	1	6	9	4	0	3	8	1	1	4	7	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

1	6	6	1	7	1	9	0	3	8	1	2	3	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary includes the highest concentration of historic residences associated with the original city limits of Fort Payne. The boundaries are highlighted on the attached copy of the district map.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steven M. Kay/Cultural Resources Coordinator

organization Alabama Historical Commission date October 1987

street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 205 261-3184

city or town Montgomery state Alabama 36130

# 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 National Park Service

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 3/10/88

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

 date 5/4/88

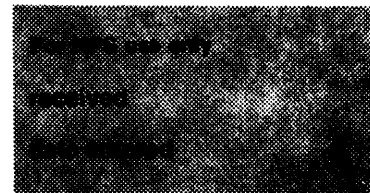
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Fort Payne

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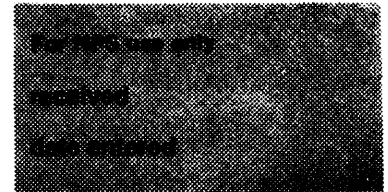
Bounded on the southeast roughly by the north sides of Grand Avenue, N.W., and Alabama Avenue, S.W.; northwest roughly by the back property lines along the north sides of Alabama Avenue, S.W. and Forrest Avenue, N.W.; extending north roughly by the south side of Elm Street; northwest roughly by the south side of 5th Street, N.W.; and southwest roughly by the north side of 4th Street, S.W.

Inclusive Street Numbers:

Grand Avenue, N.W.	204 - 606 even
Alabama Avenue, S.W.	100 - 310 even
Alabama Avenue, N.W.	100 - 405 even and odd 503 - 603 odd
Forrest Avenue, N.W.	200 - 422 even and odd
1st Street, N.W.	207
2nd Street, N.W.	206, 207, 307 - 315 odd
4th Street, N.W.	207 - 308 even and odd
Elm Street, N.W.	450 - 458 even
Curry Street, N.W.	500 - 501

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Located in the southeastern edge of the district are two historic church buildings, one from each building period. The 1st Presbyterian Church (#3), c.1880s, is a Gothic Revival building with decorative vergeboard and crossbracing in the front gable and window crowns. Located next door is the 1st United Methodist Church (#2), c. 1922-1928. The Greek Revival building exhibits a prominent entrance portico with four large Doric columns.

There are several architectural decorative features that are prevalent throughout the district. Most all of the buildings are frame, with only six historic brick buildings. Despite the style and period of the building, most all exhibit a prominent front gable or pediment. This is seen in the Queen Anne style buildings (#68), the Foursquares (#55) and Bungalows (#24). The use of various shingle types in the gable to create patterns is a popular decorative device in the district (#66). The use of brackets and exposed rafter ends under the overhanging eaves is frequently employed (#12, #20). The use of classical details is another popular decorative element, most notably the use of Doric columns and pediments (#55 and #57).

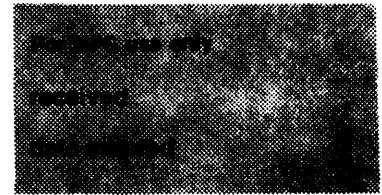
The district contains several obtrusions, including the Methodist Church parking lot on the corner of Grand Avenue and 2nd Street, N.W., and the telephone company service vehicle parking lot located between buildings #8 and #9 on Grand Avenue. The district has 19 noncontributing buildings. Eleven of the noncontributing buildings are modern, including a 1985 library. Six of the noncontributing buildings are residences constructed in the early 1940s. Only two of the noncontributing buildings are historic buildings that have undergone major alterations which have resulted in the loss of integrity.

Many of the contributing historic buildings in the district have experienced modern additions and alterations with modern replacement materials. This includes aluminum and vinyl siding, wrought iron, porch enclosures, modern windows, and false window shutters. Despite these alterations, the district has maintained its integrity as a middle-class, late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century residential neighborhood.

Contributing	61
Noncontributing	20
Total	81

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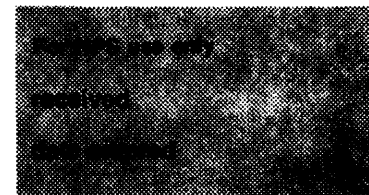
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FORT PAYNE HISTORIC DISTRICT: CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

1. 204 Grand Avenue, N.W. (Methodist Administration Offices; original parsonage): c. 1937; American Foursquare; brick; 2 story; hipped roof; one story, full length porch supported by 4 fluted Doric columns, with entablature; 3 bays, entrance door centrally located; 6/6 windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 1)
2. 206 Grand Avenue, N.W. (First United Methodist Church): c. 1922-1928, 1956; Greek Revival; brick; concrete foundation; 2 stories on raised basement; front gable roof; main elevation: full height entry portico, 4 unfluted Doric columns supporting a pediment; 5 double 1/1 stained glass windows separated by pilasters; side elevation: 6 full length stained glass windows; 6 square stained glass windows below water table; 1956 brick addition: 2 stories on raised basement; flat roof; bays separated by pilasters; 1 multi-paned casement window per bay. (Roll 1, Neg. 2, 3, 4)
3. 300 Grand Avenue, N.W. (First Presbyterian Church): c. 1880; Gothic Revival; one story; asymmetrical, irregular plan; front gabled roof; square corner bell tower topped with curved hipped roof and spiral; central door with one-story pedimented entry porch; flanked by 1/1 stained glass windows; Gothic detailing includes vergeboard and crossbracing in gable; band of single paned stained glass windows on second story; frame church bricked-over in early 1980s and one story addition on south side elevation. (Roll 1, Neg. 5, 6)
5. 306 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1930s; one story, frame, clapboard siding, side gable roof; 3 bay, entrance door centrally located; double 6/6 windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 8)
6. 314 Grand Avenue, N.W. (Stanley House): c. 1890; Vernacular Victorian; 1 1/2 story; frame; square plan; hipped roof broken by prominent cross gables with returns; fishscale shingles in gables; wide overhanging eaves, brackets; circular wrap-around porch, supported by 10 Doric columns, 1/1 triple windows and single pane with transoms. (Roll 1, Neg. 9)
7. 400 Grand Avenue, N.W. (Richardson House): c. 1923; Bungalow; 1 story; brick; side gabled roof with low pitched front facing cross gable; overhanging eaves with knee braces; porch supported by square brick piers; aluminum siding. (Roll 1, Neg. 10)
8. 406 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1927; 1 story; brick; side gable roof with prominent low pitched center cross gable with single pane window; central door with roof overhang supported by brackets; 6/6 double and triple windows; porte cochere on north side; frame addition on south side. (Roll 1, Neg. 11)
9. 414 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1928; Vernacular Tudor Revival cottage; one story; covered in stucco; side gable with facade dominated by steep cross gables;

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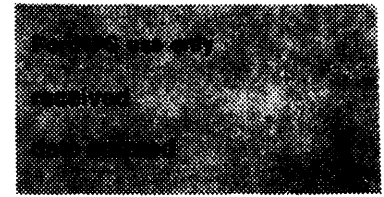
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- massive central chimney on main elevation; inset porch supported by square piers; 6/1 windows and modern replacement windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 13)
11. 510 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1930; Vernacular Tudor Revival cottage; 1 story; brick; cross gable; inset porch; stone foundation; replacement windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 14)
  12. 602 Grand Avenue, N.W. (Jacoway House): c. 1922; American Foursquare; 2 stories; square plan; frame; hipped roof with small shed roof dormer; one-story, full length porch supported by square columns on brick piers, brick porch rail; wide overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails; 4/4 windows; one-story addition on south side elevation. (Roll 1, Neg. 15)
  14. 606 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1928; Vernacular Tudor Revival cottage; 1 story; stucco; side gabled roof with prominent cross gable; 6/6 triple window, and multi-paned casement windows; stone foundation and porch. (Roll 1, Neg. 18)
  15. 603 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1910; vernacular; one story; frame; steeply pitched hip roof with 2 cross front gables; one-story, full length porch that terminates in a porte cochere; porch supported by Doric columns; small multi-paned colored glass window in front gables; single pane windows with multi-paned leaded glass transoms. (Roll 2, Neg. 22)
  16. 206 6th Street, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; one story; frame; front gable roof; inset porch; supported by square columns on piers; overhanging eaves; brackets; 6/1 windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 23)
  17. 507 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; small cross gable; wrap-around porch supported by double square columns or brick piers; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; brackets; 5 vertical panes over single pane windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 24)
  18. 505 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; inset porch supported by square columns on brick piers; 4 vertical panes over single pane windows; aluminum siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 25)
  19. 503 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; front gable roof; front gable wrap-around porch supported by square columns on brick piers; aluminum siding; replacement windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 26)



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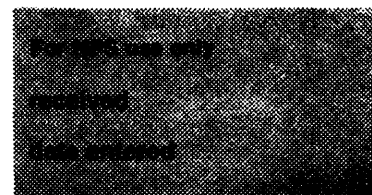
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20. 405 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (French Flats): c. 1889; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; full height, full length porch with balcony, supported by 2 tiers of square columns; wrought iron balcony on second story; wide overhanging eaves, paired brackets; 2/2 windows; double entrance doors. (Roll 2, Neg. 27)
22. 207 4th Street, N.W. (Campbell House): c. 1906; Vernacular; 2 stories; frame; irregular plan; side gable roof; dominant cross front gable; 1 story wrap-around porch, supported by square columns; 2/2 windows; new stone under porch; vinyl siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 29)
23. 208 4th Street, N.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; front gable roof; 4 small windows in attic; inset porch supported by battered columns on stone piers; replacement windows; vinyl siding in gables. (Roll 2, Neg. 30)
24. 303 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow, one story; frame; irregular plan; side gable roof with 3 overlapping front cross gables; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; wrap-around porch; supported by brick piers; 6/6 windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 31)
25. 301 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1925; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; two front cross gables; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; wrap-around porch, supported by battered columns on brick piers; 4 vertical panes over single pane windows.
27. 213 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1927; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; center cross gable; modern replacement siding, porch alteration.
31. 207 Second Street, N.W. (House): c. 1930s; Bungalow; 1 story; brick; side clipped gable roof; front gable porch, supported by brick piers, enclosed porch. (Roll 2, Neg. 10)
32. 206 Second Street, N.W. (Isbel House): c. 1924, American Foursquare; brick; 2 story; low pitched hipped roof; central cross gable; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; knee braces; 1 story, full length porch, supported by brick piers; wrought iron balcony on second story; entrance door surrounded by side lights and transom; 1/1 windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 32)
33. 207 1st Street, N.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; stone foundation; clipped end gable roof with central cross gable; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; 4 vertical panes over single pane; front entrance altered, new door and side lights; aluminum siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 5)

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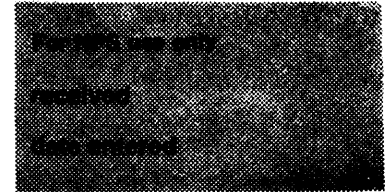
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34. 310 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; one story; frame; low pitched front clipped gabled roof; wide overhanging eaves; inset porch; square columns on brick piers. (Roll 1, Neg. 26)
37. 304 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1938; 1 story, frame; cross gable L plan; porch inset in L, supported by 4 square columns. (Roll 1, Neg. 29)
38. 302 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; 1 story; frame; front gable roof; front gable porch, supported by brick piers; 4 vertical panes over single pane windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 30)
39. 300 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; 1 story; frame; front gable roof; porch supported by square columns on piers; 4/1 windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 31)
40. 212 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow, 1 story, frame, front clipped gable roof; knee braces; porch supported by piers; 4 vertical panes over single pane. (Roll 1, Neg. 32)
42. 204 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; one story; frame; irregular plan; cross clipped gable roof; porch supported by battered columns on brick piers; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; large triangular knee braces; shingles in gables. (Roll 1, Neg. 34)
43. 202 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1889; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; front gable roof, with various shingle patterns. (Roll 1, Neg. 35)
44. 200 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (Malone House): c. 1890; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; side gabled roof; full length, one story porch with flat roof, spindle work supports, banister balcony on top; 2/2 and 1/1 windows, shingles in gables; undergone numerous alterations. (Roll 2, Neg. 0, 1)
45. 108 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; one story; side gable roof; front gable porch supported by square columns on brick piers; exposed rafters and braces; 4 vertical panes over single pane window; altered; modern awning on porch; asbestos. (Roll 2, Neg. 2)
46. 106 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; front gable; front gable porch supported by new columns; 4 vertical panes over single pane windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 3)
47. 100 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; cross front gable entry porch; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; screen porch on side; asbestos. (Roll 2, Neg. 4, 6)

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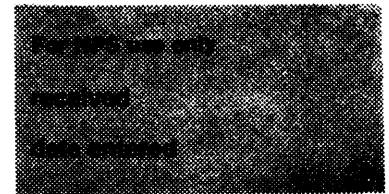
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48. 100 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1890; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; side gable roof; wrap-around porch, spindle-work supports; overhanging eaves; modern replacement windows; aluminum siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 7)
49. 108 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (Campbell House): c. 1919; Bungalow; one story; frame; cross clipped gable roof; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends; knee braces; row at triple windows in attic gable; full length porch supported by brick square columns on piers; decorative beveled glass panes over single pane windows; aluminum siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 8, 9)
50. 200 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1882; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; irregular plan; front gable roof; one story, side gable ell on north side elevation; one story wrap-around porch, spindle-work supports; bay window on front story, 1/1 windows; aluminum siding. (Roll 2, Neg. 11)
51. 204 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1930s; 1 story; stone; front gable roof; pedimented entrance porch; screen porch on side elevation; overhanging eaves; exposed rafter ends. (Roll 2, Neg. 12)
54. 302 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; 2 front cross gables; entrance porch supported by double square columns on brick piers; 4 vertical panes over single pane windows. (Roll 2, Neg. 15)
55. 308 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1915; American Foursquare; 1 1/2 story; square plan; brick; low pitched hip roof; hipped central dormer, with row of four windows; central entrance flanked by side lights; pedimented entrance porch supported by fluted Doric columns; entrance porch flanked by large, multi-paned double windows; one story sleeping porches flank either side of main house; modern wrought iron balustrade on terrace. (Roll 2, Neg. 16)
57. 404 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (Sawyer House): c. 1888; Queen Anne; 2 story; frame; irregular plan; steeply pitched hip roof, with prominent cross gables; one story wrap-around porch, with central pediment; supported by fluted columns; 1/1 windows; fishscale shingles in gable ends; porch enclosed with screen. (Roll 2, Neg. 18)
58. 401 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1889; Queen Anne; 2 story; hipped roof with corner tower and cross gable on side elevations; front facing gable dormer; 1 story wrap-around porch, supported by turned posts; shiplap siding; various shingle patterns in gable. (Roll 3, Neg. 11, 12)

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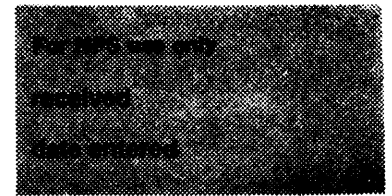
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61. 257 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1890; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; gable-on-hip roof; central balcony with hipped roof; cut-out banister; 1 story wrap-around porch supported by classic columns; main entrance surrounded by side lights and transom; replacement windows; vinyl siding. (Roll 3, Neg. 10)
62. 255 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1890; Vernacular Victorian; 2 story; frame; side gable roof; prominent cross gable projection; L shape plan; large bay first story; various shingles in gable; 1/1 windows; two-story porch has modern replacement supports and balustrade; vinyl siding. (Roll 3, Neg. 9)
64. 311 2nd Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1938; 1 story; frame; side gable; central entrance porch supported by columns; double 6/6 windows; side porch. (Roll 3, Neg. 17)
65. 313 2nd Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; front gable roof; front gable porch, supported by square columns on brick piers; overhanging eaves, knee braces; new carport on side elevation. (Roll 3, Neg. 16)
66. 315 2nd Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1890s; Vernacular Victorian; 2 stories, frame; front end gable roof; one story wrap-around porch; new supports; various shingle patterns in gable; 2/2 windows; new cinder block foundation. (Roll 3, Neg. 15)
67. 200 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (Dr. Haralson House): c. 1889; Vernacular Victorian Stick style; 2 1/2 stories; frame; front gable roof; one story full length porch, supported by turned columns on brick piers; decorative stickwork includes: various width lap siding, horizontal bands, stickwork in gable, various shingles in gable; 2/2 windows; side porch rebuilt in 1980 with reproduction spindle-work balustrades and supports. (Roll 3, Neg. 8)
68. 202 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1888; Vernacular Victorian; 2 stories; frame; front gabled roof; one story full length porch with pediment, supported by square columns on brick piers; 1/1 pane windows, top panes outlined with small, colored panes; various shingles in gable; front porch screened. (Roll 3, Neg. 7)
69. 206 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 1/2 stories; low pitched end gabled roof; shed dormer with four small dormer windows; overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends; full length porch, supported by square columns on brick piers; front porch screened. (Roll 3, Neg. 6)
70. 250 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (The Oaks): c. 1884; remodeled 1908, 2 stories; frame; low pitched hip roof; central projection with pediment; one story curved portico with balcony, supported by double classical columns; flanked by pedimented porches; porte cochere on north side elevation; 1/1 windows; entrance door flanked by side lights and transoms. (Roll 3, Neg. 5)

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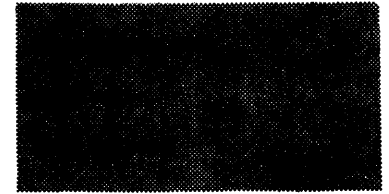
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74. 404 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (Rice House): c. 1889; Queen Anne; 2 1/2 stories; frame; steep pitched hip roof; dominant front facing gable supported by brackets; 2 bay windows on first story; 1 oriel window on second story; one story full length porch with wrought iron balcony, supported by Doric columns; shingles in gable; 4/1 windows; side porch addition. (Roll 3, Neg. 1)
75. 422 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (Davis House): c. 1920; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; 2 overlapping projecting cross gables; overhanging eaves; knee braces; board and batten; replacement windows; garage addition on side elevation. (Roll 3, Neg. 0)
76. 501 Curry Drive, N.W. (House): c. 1888; Vernacular Victorian; 2 stories; frame; side gable roof; one story, wrap-around porch; shingles in gable; 1/1 windows. (Roll 3, Neg. 23)
77. 500 Curry Drive, N.W. (House): c. 1888; Vernacular Victorian; 1 story; frame; side gable roof; one story wrap-around porch; shingles, braces and brackets in gable end.
78. 458 Elm Street, N.W. (House): c. 1888; Vernacular Victorian; 2 stories; frame; cross gable roof; irregular plan; one story, wrap-around porch; overhanging eaves, exposed rafter end. (Roll 3, Neg. 22)
79. 456 Elm Street, N.W. (House): c. 1960; Ranch House; one story; low pitch hipped roof; brick and frame. (Roll 3, Neg. 21)
80. 454 Elm Street, N.W. (House): c. 1888; Vernacular Victorian; 2 stories; frame; hip roof with cross gable; central projection; stickwork in gable; overhanging eaves, exposed rafter ends; one story porch enclosed. (Roll 3, Neg. 20)
81. 450 Elm Street, N.W. (House): c. 1888; 2 stories; frame; cross gable roof; one story wrap-around porch; turned balustrade; decorative brackets; shingle in front gable; 1/1 windows. (Roll 3, Neg. 19)

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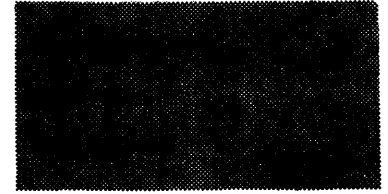
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FORT PAYNE HISTORIC DISTRICT: NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

4. 302 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1930s; Classical Revival; frame; two story; side gable roof with cross gable; L shaped plan; full height entrance porch, square columns; 8/8 windows; bay on first story, large carport addition on south side; metal ironwork balconies. (Roll 1, Neg. 7)
10. 504 Grand Avenue, N.W. (Public Library): c. 1985; 1 story; brick; irregular shaped; 1 story entrance portico supported by brick piers; 8/8 windows.
13. 604 Grand Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1940s; 1 story; frame; side clipped gable roof; 2 gable dormers; 6/6 windows; modern Colonial Revival porch. (Roll 1, Neg. 16, 19)
21. 403 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1940s; 1 story, frame; cross gable roof; inset porch; supported by frame columns. (Roll 2, Neg. 28)
26. 215 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1920s; Bungalow; 1 story; frame; side gable roof with front cross gable; four square columns.
28. 211 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1880; Vernacular Victorian; one story; frame; side gabled roof; modernized, altered 1944.
29. 209 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1970; Rambler; one story; brick; hipped roof.
30. 203 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1950; 1 story, L shaped cross gable roof, stone.
35. 308 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1970s; 1 story; brick; hip roof; cross gable; 3 bay. (Roll 1, Neg. 27)
36. 306 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1940s; 1 story, frame; pedimented entrance porch, supported by double columns; vinyl siding. (Roll 1, Neg. 28)
41. 208 Alabama Avenue, S.W. (House): c. 1888; Queen Anne; 2 story; frame; irregular plan; steeply pitched hipped roof; dominant front and side cross gables; tower on second floor corner; overhanging eaves, brackets; wrap-around porch; renovated 1980s, added 3rd story and roof to tower; new porch; shingles; tinted storm windows. (Roll 1, Neg. 33)
52. 208 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1970s; 1 story, brick; cross gable; irregular plan; large picture window. (Roll 2, Neg. 13)

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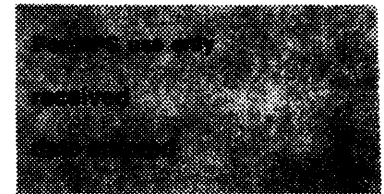
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53. 214 Alabama Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1970s; 1 story; brick; side gable; recessed porch. (Roll 2, Neg. 14)
56. 301 4th Street, N.W. (House): c. 1960; Ranch; 1 story, hipped roof; brick; carport on side. (Roll 2, Neg. 17)
59. 306 4th Street, N.W. (House): c. 1950; one story; brick; side gable; front cross gable; 6/6 windows; side porch, asbestos. (Roll 3, Neg. 13)
60. 308 4th Street, N.W. (House): c. 1940s; one story; frame; side gable; 3 bay. (Roll 3, Neg. 14)
63. 307 2nd Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1940s; 1 story; frame; side gable; front cross gable; inset screen porch; 6/6 windows; carport on side. (Roll 3, Neg. 18)
71. 300 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1960s; 1 story, brick; hipped roof; large picture window. (Roll 3, Neg. 4)
72. 304 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1970s; 1 story; brick; end gable; columned entrance porch. (Roll 3, Neg. 3)
73. 400 Forrest Avenue, N.W. (House): c. 1970s; 1 story; brick; side gable; prominent front gable; inset porch. (Roll 3, Neg. 2)

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HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Although Fort Payne was founded in the first half of the 19th century and has served as the DeKalb county seat since 1876, Fort Payne remained a small rural farm community of approximately 500 people until the late 1880s. At this time C. O. Godfrey, a New England businessman, tried to promote the town as a manufacturing center due to its proximity to untapped natural resources. Godfrey formed the Fort Payne Land and Improvement Company in 1887 and solicited the northern states for investors. The company, however, had little success.

The promotion did interest W. P. Rice, a New England capitalist and banker. Rice, along with several other investors, saw the great mining and manufacturing potential in the area and formed the Fort Payne Coal and Iron Company in November 1888. The company actively campaigned in the New England states to promote Fort Payne as an ideal manufacturing center surrounded by an unlimited wealth of iron ore and coal. The company was able to sell 50,000 shares of stock at \$100 per share in just five days.

The Fort Payne Coal & Iron Company purchased vast amounts of land surrounding Fort Payne in hopes it contained a high yield of iron ore, coal, kaolin clay, and lime. The company invested \$1,900,000 in industrial plants, coke ovens, and other equipment. The company began to construct a mineral railroad that was designed to link the rich coal regions of the South to the Atlantic Ocean. Only 14 1/2 miles of the line was completed, however.

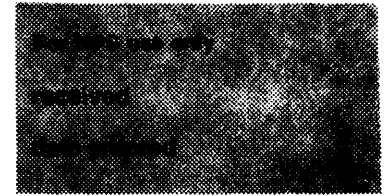
Fort Payne attracted other speculative manufacturing companies during this period, such as the Bay State Furnace (1889); Fort Payne Furnace (1890); Fort Payne Mill and Steel Company (1890), the largest of its kind in the South; the Alabama Builders' Hardware Company; and the Fort Payne Stove Works (1890) among others.

But the largest speculative business remained the Fort Payne Coal & Iron Company. The company took the lead in preparing the small community for the horde of investors and speculators who descended on Fort Payne. The 1889 population of 531 dramatically increased to 2,698 in just one year. The company spent \$1,250,000 to develop Fort Payne as an attractive and modern community. New improvements included designing the gridiron street plan, surveying lots, grading streets, and building water and sewage systems. The Company hired Charles Landstreet of Fairfax, Virginia, to beautify the city. Landstreet's projects included designing public parks, planting trees and flowers, and developing the Maniton Caves as a dance hall and social center. Other private investment companies developed the Fort Payne Opera House (NRHP 4/28/70), and the grand Fort Payne Hotel (demolished).



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It was during this period that the Fort Payne Historic District was first developed. The Fort Payne Coal & Iron Company purchased a vast amount of land in Fort Payne to develop as a speculative subdivision. After the land was surveyed, subdivided, and landscaped, it was sold to the many investors and businessmen who came to live in Fort Payne. The Fort Payne Coal & Iron Company made credit easy for the purchase of real estate by requiring only one-third cash and the balance in one or two years at six percent.

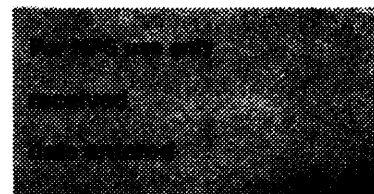
The new residential neighborhood attracted some of the most prominent Fort Payne citizens during this period. W. R. Rice, one of the original incorporators of the Fort Payne Coal & Iron Company, built his residence at 404 Forrest Avenue. The house was sold in 1895 to Major Godfrey, one of Ft. Payne's first mayors. C. O. Godfrey, another early Fort Payne promoter, erected his house at 202 Forrest Avenue. M. T. Sawyer, the founder of the DeKalb Abstract Company that did much of the original survey and title work, built his house at 404 Alabama Avenue. Judge Haralson built his home at 250 Forrest Avenue. Captain William Minot, a master craftsman, built a home at 401 Forrest Avenue, and the Methodist minister lived at 255 Forrest Avenue. Several prominent merchants built homes in the district, such as 200 Forrest Avenue and 314 Grand Avenue.

After 1 1/2 years of economic prosperity based on speculation, it was realized that the county's mineral resources had been exaggerated in respect to quantity and quality. The grade of ore proved to be so inferior that the furnaces and rolling mills were unable to operate at a profit. By 1891 the mines, furnaces and mills were closed even after a futile attempt of consolidation and floating a bond issue. Real estate values dropped below the 1887 level, forcing many bankrupt investors to sell or abandon their property. Many of the large homes were sold for lumber or scavenged for fuel. So many people exited Fort Payne that its population dropped by a thousand.

Coupled with the nationwide panic of 1893, Fort Payne was in the depths of depression until 1897 when the stove foundry, lime works and clay works resumed operations. It was not until a decade into the 20th century that Fort Payne experienced an economic recovery. In 1909 the abandoned Alabama Builders' Hardware Manufacturing Company main building (NRHP 5/8/86) was purchased for the Florence Hosiery Mill. The mill began operating in 1913, producing ribbing, knitting and looping services. The name was changed in 1915 to the W. B. Davis and Son Hosiery Mill and became Fort Payne's largest industrial company. The mill served as a major impetus for the local expansion of the industry which earned Ft. Payne the title of "Sock Capitol of the World." Between 1920 through 1940 the mills were the principal employer of Fort Payne's population.

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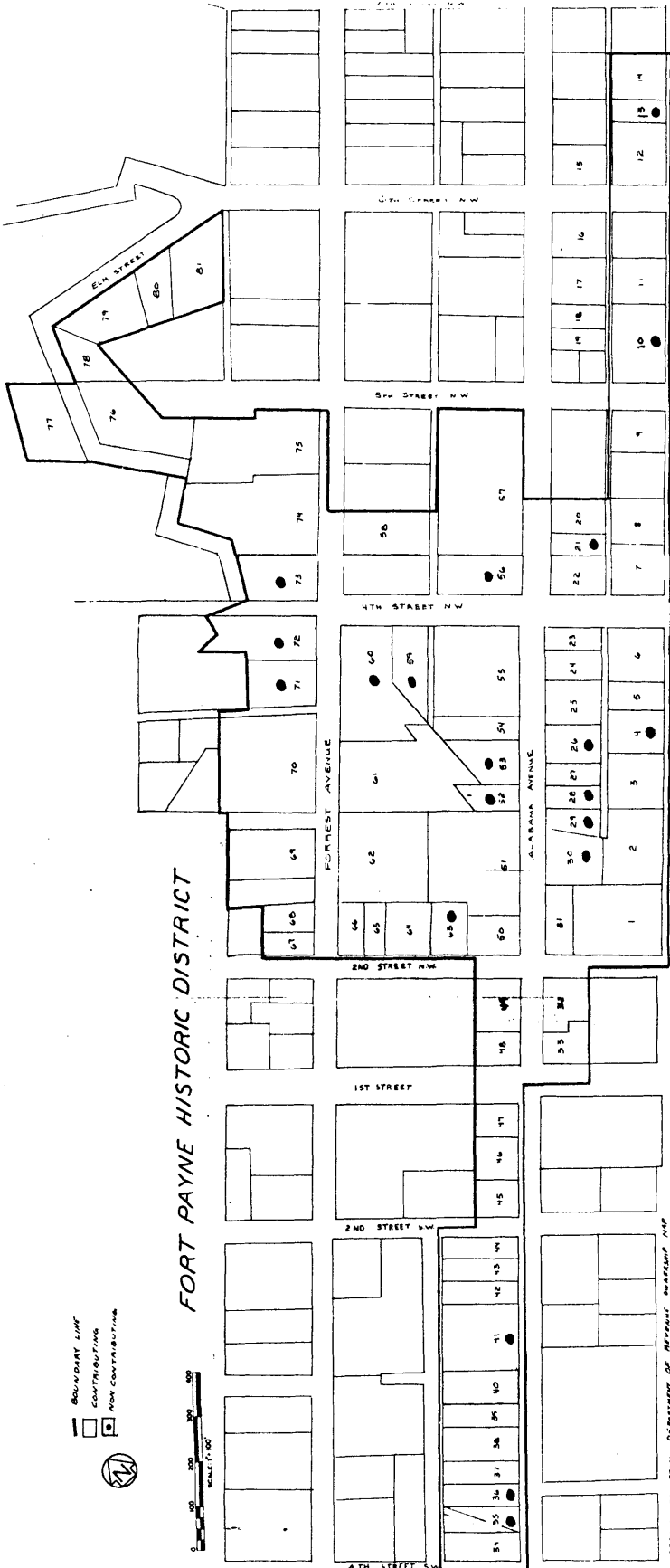
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**FORT PAYNE HISTORIC DISTRICT**

BOUNDARY LINE  
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REPRODUCED FROM DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE HISTORIC MAP