

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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JONES STREET

Continuation sheet RESIDENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT Item number

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Name: Jones Street Residential Historic District.

*Jones, Baker, and Old Carnesville Rd*

Location: In Lavonia, Franklin County, Georgia, northwest of the Lavonia central business district on either side of Jones Street, with a few structures on Baker Street and Old Carnesville Road.

Acreage: 9 acres.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary of the Jones Street Historic District is described by the heavy black line on the attached map of the Lavonia multiple resource area. This boundary encompasses an intact historic residential neighborhood in Lavonia. The district is bordered by railroad tracks to the east, the central business district to the southeast, the West Avenue-Roberts Street residential historic district to the southwest, non-historic residential development to the west, and non-historic commercial and residential development to the north.

UTM Reference: (A) Z17 E306370 N3812710  
(B) Z17 E306320 N3812400  
(C) Z17 E306150 N3812320  
(D) Z17 E306050 N3812550

Photographs: See photographs Nos. 8 through 14.

Description:

The Jones Street Historic District encompasses an intact neighborhood of 14 historic residential structures. These buildings line either side of Jones Street, with several structures located to the rear of Jones Street on Baker Street and the Old Carnesville Road. The houses are detached, wood-framed, single family residences with the exception of one brick residence and one outbuilding of rock. Styles represented within the district include vernacularized versions of Victorian Eclectic and one structure of Neoclassical design. The Neoclassical styled structure is located at the corner of Baker and Jones Streets and is the only building within the district which faces Baker Street. This two-story brick structure has a pedimented two-story portico at the entrance. This porch is supported by twin Corinthian columns with pilasters of identical design, and has dentil molding and an elliptical window in the pediment. The overall feeling of this structure is one of symmetry which contrasts with the rambling character of the Victorian Eclectic

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Description: (Continued)

structures which dominate the district. All of these Victorian-styled structures tend to be rather plain.

Two structures located in the northwest corner of the district which have the earliest construction dates are Plantation-Plain style with narrow proportions and end chimneys. Several structures in the central part of the district on Jones Street are of later Victorian design and feature high hipped roofs, wide front porches (one which wraps around two sides of the structure and is supported by chamfered posts), and symmetrically-placed gables on the front facades with decorative attic vents. The one-story frame cottage at the corner of Jones and Baker Street has been altered with the removal of a second floor following a fire and the change of orientation from Baker to Jones Street. The remainder of the structures are modest one-story cottages, interspersed in the southern portion of the district.

Most of these structures are located centrally on their small rectangular-shaped lots, with similar setbacks from the road. Two structures at the corner of Jones Street and the Old Carnesville Road are an exception and have setbacks a greater distance from the road. The Neoclassical-styled residence serves as a focal point on its over-sized lot which is surrounded by roads on three sides. The lots are informally landscaped with trees, shrubbery, lawn, and several fences. The district is dominated by the presence of pecan trees, most numerous in the western section. There are a few outbuildings associated with these structures. The most obvious is the rock house adjacent to the Victorian cottage at the corner of Jones and Baker. This structure appears to have been a game room and is built with flat rocks set on top of one another which give the structure a "dry wall" appearance.

The front yards along Jones Street tend to blend together in a continuous streetscape. Sidewalks and utility poles line both sides of Jones Street and Baker Street. The Old Carnesville Road section contains two structures which have been altered and the character is somewhat more rural. There are no intrusions within the district. The streets in the district are extensions of the original gridiron plan for the city.

Statement of Significance:

Architecture. The Jones Street historic district is significant in terms of architecture because of its intact collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses which line a major street and give this section of the city a distinct residential neighborhood character. The cohesive character is created by the relation of house styles and types sited at uniform setbacks with continuous landscaping. The predominance of Victorian-inspired architecture within this district represents the kind of domestic styles found in small communities in this part of the state which were established in the late nineteenth century. Within the broad category of Victorian-era architecture this district includes a

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Statement of Significance: (Continued)

range of vernacularized versions. The district represents approximately 40 years of architectural development in Lavonia. This development is illustrated by the modest Victorian dwellings of Plantation-plain proportions, the rambling character of the later Victorian homes, and the Neoclassical residence which is a focal point within the district.

Landscape Architecture. The Jones Street historic district is significant in terms of landscape architecture since the trees, shrubs, and lawns create the cohesive quality of the district. The architecture is related to the land through the use of foundation shrub plantings and grassed yards interspersed with large hardwood and evergreen trees. The entire district is tied together through the continuously landscaped front yards. There are a few exotic evergreen trees within the district which contrast with the predominance of pecan trees. The pecan trees give the district its informal character. The presence of pecan trees in almost grove-like placements reflects the overall character of the multiple resource area.

Community Planning and Development. The Jones Street historic district is significant in terms of community planning and development because it represents one of the oldest residential neighborhoods in Lavonia. This district is also important for the way in which it incorporates a portion of the city's original gridiron street plan. The Jones Street area was developed on land described as Block Number 6 of the city's original plat. This block was shown as a large rectangular-shaped tract without the presence of a road. It appears that the Jones residence was constructed around 1887 on a 35-acre tract which bordered Block 6 on the north. A road connecting the Jones House with Lavonia evidently evolved, and small urban-sized lots, primarily 100' x 300', were laid out along this road. The side street, known today as the Old Carnesville Road, was apparently the early route to Carnesville, the county seat. The district is also significant for containing a country road which has evolved into a city street. The setback of the two structures at the corner of Jones Street and the Old Carnesville Road, which is a greater distance from the road than other structures within the district, documents the original meandering character of the road. This road was later altered to its present day, fairly straight alignment, which resulted in the relocation of the two Victorian cottages at the southeastern section of the district. These two structures which were originally located in the path of the present road were moved back to the same setback as the Methodist parsonage at the corner of Jones Street and Baker Street. Relocation of these structures, and realignment of the road, took place after World War II.

Local History. The Jones Street district is significant due to its association with prominent citizens within the Lavonia community. The district, which evolved at the northern corner of the central business district, developed as a result of the activities

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Statement of Significance (Continued)

in the town center. The establishment of the railroad brought a variety of business concerns into this community. Many of those who made their livelihood in the town center chose the Jones Street area for their residences.

Dr. A. G. Jones, a medical doctor, maintained his residence and a 35-acre farm at the northern section of the district. Other individuals of importance who lived within the district included: Dr. Albert Gary, an eye doctor; J. J. Hardy, owner of the local newspaper; C. P. Ray, a businessman who owned a funeral home, cotton gin, and a farm in the county; B. F. Cheek, a railroad agent who acquired the Ray House from C. P. Ray; and a succession of Methodist ministers who lived in the parsonage at the corner of Baker and Jones Streets. This parsonage structure is associated with the Methodist Church which is located to the east. (The present church structure is a replacement of the original church building which burned in 1947.)

Form Prepared By:

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