

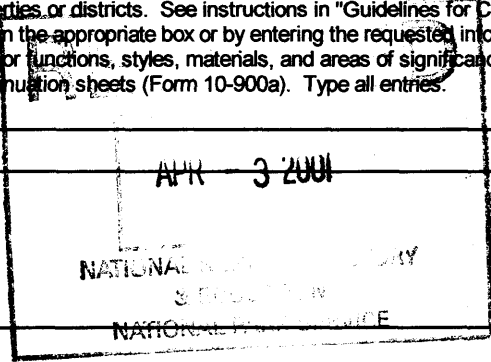
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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 Stevens Street Historic District
other names/site number n/a



2. Location

street & number Along Stevens Street, one block northwest of the Thomas County Courthouse.
city, town Thomasville (n/a) **vicinity of**
county Thomas **code** GA 275
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 31799

(n/a) not for publication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:

Contributing

Noncontributing

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|----|
| buildings | 341 | 83 |
| sites | 0 | 0 |
| structures | 3 | 0 |
| objects | 0 | 0 |
| total | 344 | 83 |

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 3

Name of previous listing: Church of the Good Shepard

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.

W. Ray Luce 3/30/01
Signature of certifying official Date

W. Ray Luce, Division Director
Deputy 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

Edson H. Beall 5/10/01

() determined eligible for the National Register _____

() determined not eligible for the National Register _____

() removed from the National Register _____

() other, explain: _____

() see continuation sheet

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/hotel
EDUCATION/school
RELIGION/religious facility
RECREATION/sports facility

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
COMMERCE/store
COMMERCE/warehouse
RELIGION/religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman
OTHER/Folk Victorian

Materials:

foundation brick, concrete
walls wood, concrete, brick, metal
roof metal, asphalt
other n/a

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Stevens Street Historic District is a collection of residential and community landmark buildings associated with a historically African-American neighborhood in Thomasville, Thomas County, Georgia. The neighborhood is one block northwest of the Thomasville central business district. The district area was laid out in a gridiron plan in 1853 by Jeremiah Wilson.

The earliest period of development of the neighborhood dates to the c.1850s. Prior to the neighborhood's settlement by African-Americans, a few white residents built their homes along Stevens Street, which follows a ridge line. The land just west of Stevens Street slopes downward toward two creeks. The historic residence located at 523 North Stevens Street is a representative example of the antebellum residences built in the neighborhood by early white settlers. The two-story I-house features a side-gable roof, side-gable exterior chimneys, symmetrical front facade, and

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full-width front porch (see photo 23). The interior features a central hallway on both floors with one room located on either side of the central hallways.

Following the end of the Civil War (1861-1865), freed blacks began settling within the area of the district. The land within the district was subdivided and freed slaves from Thomasville as well as the surrounding counties settled in the neighborhood. Freed blacks settled in the district area because the land was considered undesirable by most Thomasville whites since it was low lying and the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad (now the CSX Railroad) was completed through the district area in 1868. The railroad track runs north to south in a curvilinear alignment through the western part of the district area (see photo 6). Also, the district area was near the growing African-American commercial development along East Jackson Street south of the downtown commercial development.

The southern end of the district (West Monroe Street and West Clay Street) was the area of initial settlement by the freed slaves. This area features mostly narrow lots oriented toward the major east-west streets and fewer square lots oriented toward the north-south streets. The land is low lying and near two creeks. The architectural types of historic dwellings in this area consist of types popular in Georgia from the late 19th to early 20th centuries. These types include shotgun (see photos 33 and 36), saddlebag (see photo 31), and hall-parlor (see photos 34). By 1885, residential development had moved north to Webster Street and Oak Street. The residential development continued to be dense but the architectural types of residences began to change. The bungalow type becomes more prominent in this area of the district. Generally, the bungalow is the most commonly found architectural type within the district. In Georgia, the bungalow type is divided into four subtypes based on roof forms and roof orientation. Subtype examples of the bungalow represented within the district include hipped (see photo 19), side-gable (see photo 12; second house on the right), front-gable (see photo 12), and cross-gable bungalows (see photo 26). Many of these early 20th-century bungalows feature Craftsman-style architectural details including exposed rafter tails, knee brackets, overhanging eaves, three-over-one windows, and wooden porch supports on brick piers.

The community landmark buildings within the district include churches, a school, and two recreational facilities. The Church of the Good Shepherd (also known as the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church), located at 515 Oak Street, was built in 1894. The "U"-shaped building features the church and a school/parish hall connected by a wing. The attached school/parish hall was constructed in 1896 with additions constructed between 1907-1912 and again in 1923. (The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School were listed in the National Register of Historic Places on February 5, 1987.) The Good Shepherd Episcopal Church is a front-gable wood-framed building featuring a front-gable main vestibule. The building features decorative woodwork in the gables

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of the main building and vestibule, shiplap exterior cladding, six-over-six double-hung windows, and paired wooden main doors. The school is a two-story wood-framed building featuring a metal side-gable roof, steeple, shiplap exterior cladding, six-over-six double-hung windows along the side elevations and gable ends, a rear ell addition (see photo 29 and Attachment 1).

The Clay Street Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) building was constructed c.1890 and was originally located on the corner of Clay and Pine streets. The one-story wood-framed building was moved one block north in 1985 to its current location at the intersection of Pine and West Calhoun streets. It served as an educational wing to the Douglass High School (outside the district) and currently functions as the True Vine Church of Deliverance (see Attachment 2).

The dwelling, historically known as the Recreational Center, located at 400 West Calhoun Street was built c.1920. The building originally functioned as a recreational center for young men. The character-defining features of the one-and-a-half-story building include a gable-front roof, wood-frame construction with a brick veneer added c.1938, dormers, six-over-six double-hung windows, and a main entranceway featuring wooden double doors (see Attachment 3).

Historically, the neighborhood included corner stores. Many of these stores closed when the African-American commercial district along East Jackson Street developed (outside the National Register district). Currently, none of the corner stores within the district remain standing and the historic African-American commercial district has been mostly razed. A few surviving historic stores are located along North Madison Street (see photo 25). Many of the brick commercial building along North Madison have been razed to make way for parking lots and construction of new modern buildings.

The historic structures within the district include a bridge, the plan with its gridiron pattern of streets, remaining alleys, dirt roads, and the railroad alignment. The North Madison Street bridge, located over West Merrill Street, was constructed in 1938. The 11-span bridge features T-beam construction with concrete columns and Moderne-style balustrades. H-section helpers were placed at both ends of each span c.1970 to strengthen the substructure (see photos 6 and 7). The historic grid pattern and alleys are clearly discernible (see Attachment 4 and USGS topographic map). During the 1850s and 1880s the district grew north and the gridiron plan was continued. Several dirt roads remain within the district (see photos 2, 4, and 9). Two large open blocks within the grid pattern are located near the center of the district. The southern block (Block 9) was historically occupied by the Thomas County Jail which is now gone. The northern block (Block 11) was historically occupied by residences but these buildings were razed and public housing units constructed on the site. The Atlantic & Gulf Railroad (now the CSX Railroad) was completed through the district area in 1868.

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The tracks run in a north-south curvilinear alignment through the district. A historic plate girder railroad overpass is located over West Calhoun Street.

The landscaping within the district consists of informally planted yards. Landscaping features include mature hardwood trees, grass and dirt yards, and foundation plantings. The vacant lots within the district were the locations of houses and corner stores. During the late 20th century, abandoned and neglected buildings within the neighborhood were torn down.

The area outside of the district consists of the historic downtown area to the east, the Dawson Street Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 7, 1984, representing the historic white residential development of Thomasville to the northeast, and modern industrial development to the south, and nonhistoric residential development to the west.

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):

ETHNIC HERITAGE: AFRICAN AMERICAN
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ARCHITECTURE
EDUCATION
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
RELIGION

Period of Significance:

c.1850 TO 1951

Significant Dates:

| | |
|------------|---|
| c.1850 | Construction of the earliest residences along Stevens Street. |
| 1853 | The year the gridiron plan was laid out. |
| Late 1860s | Beginning settlement of the district area by freed slaves. |
| 1894 | Construction of the Church of the Good Shepard |

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

n/a

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Stevens Street Historic District is a significant intact African-American neighborhood that developed in Thomasville, Thomas County following the end of the Civil War. The district encompasses residential and community landmark buildings associated with one of Thomasville's earliest African-American neighborhoods. The district is significant in the areas of ethnic heritage: African-American, architecture, community planning and development, education, and religion at the state level of significance.

The Stevens Street Historic District is significant in the areas of ethnic heritage: African-American and community planning and development as a good representative example of a historically urban African-American residential neighborhood in Georgia. The district encompasses historic African-American resources from the late 19th century to mid-20th century. Prior to the district's development as African-American, a few white settlers of Thomasville built their homes along Stevens Street within the district area. The remaining residences from the early white settlement of the district include the c.1854 Greek Revival cottage located at 419 Stevens Street, the c.1850 I-house type house located at 523 Stevens Street, and the c.1850-1875 central hallway cottage located at 519 North Stevens Street. These white residents of Thomasville built their homes along North Stevens Street since the street's alignment follows the crest of a slope heading downward toward the low-lying floodplain of Oquina Creek and a second smaller unnamed creek (see Attachment 5). Following the end of the Civil War, freed slaves started to settle in the district area. Whites were discouraged from continuing to settle in the district area because the land was considered undesirable by most Thomasville whites since it was low-lying and sloping down toward two creeks. Also, the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad (now the CSX Railroad) was completed through the low-lying area in 1868. The area suffered from a lack of breezes and loud noises associated with the railroad. The Dawson Street Historic District (listed in the National Register of Historic Places September 7, 1984), a white residential neighborhood located just west of the Stevens Street Historic District (west of Madison Street), developed during the same period as the district area. The white residents of Dawson Street Historic District were removed from the problems of living at the bottom of the hill as well as from the noise and dirt associated with the railroad. This pattern is typical of Georgia communities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

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Along with geography, settlement patterns were determined by segregation practices. Even though Thomasville did not have zoning ordinances dictating where whites and blacks could settle within the city, such as in Atlanta and Augusta, the settlement of the town was influenced by the accepted "Jim Crow" segregation practices of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. According to the *African-American Historic Places and Culture: A Preservation Resource Guide for Georgia*: "Starting in the 1890s, 'Jim Crow' laws provided legal sanction for the increasing segregation of blacks from whites..." Since African-Americans could not settle in established white communities, they had little choice but to build their own communities which included schools, churches, stores, hospitals, and other institutions.

Another significant force in the African-American development of the Stevens Street Historic District was the accessibility to housing and social and cultural institutions. According to the *African-American Historic Places and Culture* resource guide, the lack of accessibility to white institutions by the "Jim Crow" practices "led to the establishment of strong black social and cultural institutions, like lodges, fraternal organizations, and schools, and to the founding of black-owned and operated businesses, which along with churches, formed the nucleus of Georgia's growing black neighborhoods and communities." The Stevens Street Historic District, with its remaining historic community landmark buildings representing churches, a school, and recreational centers surrounded by housing is an excellent example of this significant development pattern.

A well-recognized physical manifestation of these racial housing patterns and neighborhood development in the juxtapositioning in African-American neighborhoods of larger homes associated with the black middle class and smaller homes associated with the black working class. This phenomenon is much more pronounced in historically black neighborhoods than in white neighborhoods where there was more latitude for separating and grouping houses by size and class associations. This pattern is clearly evident in the Stevens Street Historic District where larger and smaller houses are located along the same streets and even in the same block (see photo 37).

The district is significant in the area of architecture for its good representative examples of mid-19th to mid-20th century residential and community landmark buildings. The significant architectural types within the district include shotgun, saddlebag, double pen, double shotgun, gabled ell, hall-parlor, central hallway, bungalow, Georgian cottage, and Queen Anne, as defined in *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*. The shotgun, saddlebag, gabled ell, double pen, hall-parlor, central hallway, and Georgian cottage were architectural types popular in Georgia during the mid-19th century into the early 20th century. These architectural types were constructed in both rural and urban settings and are associated with the laboring class. Many of the early black settlers into the Stevens Street Historic District were employed as domestic workers for the wealthy

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white families living in the adjacent Dawson Street Historic District neighborhood and as laborers working for the railroad and other nearby industries. Good representative examples of these architectural types are located in the southern section of the district. Good representative examples of the shotgun type are located along Walters Alley (see photo 36) and Pine Street (see photo 33). The significant character-defining features of the shotgun type include gable-front roof, off-centered front entrance with windows on one side, one-room wide, and no interior hallway. The shotgun houses were predominantly built in urban settings for low-income workers between the 1870s and the 1920s. A good representative examples of the saddlebag type is located at 513 Clay Street (see photo 31; second house on the right). The character-defining features of the saddlebag type include a side-gable roof, a centrally located interior chimney, and two main entrances (each opening into a room). The greatest number of saddlebags was constructed during the early 20th century as worker housing and mill village housing in Georgia's urban settings.

The Queen Anne cottage, Queen Anne house, side hallway, and bungalow architectural types were popular with the middle class and mostly urban areas of Georgia during the late 19th to the mid-20th century. The mixture of architectural types associated with the laboring class and middle class represents the pattern of different classes of African-Americans settling into one neighborhood. Since the emerging African-American middle class in Thomasville could not locate in established white middle-class neighborhoods due to segregation, they settled in the existing working-class African-American neighborhood of Stevens Street. Good representative examples of these middle-class architectural types include the bungalows along North Stevens Street. The character-defining features of the bungalow include the low-pitched roof with wide overhanging eaves, exposed rafter tails and brackets, integral front porches, and porch columns supported by brick piers (see photo 26). Bungalows were very popular in all regions of Georgia between 1900 and 1930. The type was popular with the middle-class and it is common to find entire neighborhoods consisting of the bungalow type.

A rare example of an I-house, an architectural type of house constructed in Georgia from the 1840s to the 1880s, is located at 523 North Stevens Street. The character-defining features of the house includes its two-story height, gable-end roof, gable-end chimneys, three-bay front facade with a centrally located main entrance, and an interior central hallway with one room located on each side of the hallway (this floor plan is repeated on the second floor) (see photo 23). The house was constructed c.1850 by a white resident of Thomasville.

The significant architectural styles represented within the district include Greek Revival, Folk Victorian, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival, as defined in *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*. The Greek Revival style was popular in Georgia during the mid-19th

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century and the other remaining architectural styles were popular from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century. The Greek Revival is represented by one of three residences predating the settlement of the freed slaves during the late 1800s. The c.1854 Georgian cottage-type residence built in the Greek Revival style is located at 419 North Stevens Street. The character-defining features of the style include a hipped roof, a wide entablature delicately decorated with dentils surrounds the house, Doric columns, Doric fluted pilasters around the door and window surrounds, and a trabeated main door surround (see Attachment 6). The Greek Revival style was popular in Georgia from the 1840s to the 1860s and became the first style to appear statewide.

An excellent representative example of the Folk Victorian style is located at 413 Oak Street. The side hallway-type house was built c.1900 and features Folk Victorian-style elements on the two-story front portico. The Folk Victorian style is characterized by decorative details being added to the porch, in the gables, and around the window and door openings. This detailing generally was taken from the elaborate styles, such as Queen Anne or Italianate, that were popular during the mid- to late 19th century. The Folk Victorian elements of this house include the spindled porch frieze, decorative brackets, and machine-turned balustrade (see Attachment 7). The Folk Victorian style is commonly found in both urban and rural parts of the state from the 1870s to the 1910s.

The significant community landmark buildings include the Church of the Good Shepard and School, Clay Street Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) building, and the Recreational Center. The Church of the Good Shepard and School, listed on the National Register of Historic Places February 5, 1987, is located at 515 Oak Street. The church was constructed in 1894 and is an excellent example of the Folk Victorian style. The front-gable wood-framed church features decorative wood patterns in the gables of the building, as well as in the gable of the enclosed front portico/vestibule. The school/parish hall is a vernacular two-story wood-framed building with a front-gable roof and steeple (see photo 29 and Attachment 1).

The Clay Street YMCA was built c.1890 and was originally located on the corner of Clay Street and Pine Street. In 1985, the building was moved to its current location at the intersection of Pine and West Calhoun streets. It served as an educational wing to the Douglas High School and currently functions as the True Vine Church of Deliverance. The building is an excellent example of a front-gable building. The one-story gable-front building features weatherboard cladding, overhanging eaves, a symmetrical front facade with a centrally located main door, and a pedimented front portico (see Attachment 2). (Because it was moved only a short distance within the historic neighborhood, this building still contributes to the historic district.)

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The Recreational Center, located at 400 West Calhoun Street, was built c.1920 and converted into a Colonial Revival-style single-family residence in 1938. The Colonial Revival style is characterized by hipped or side-gable with dormers, double-hung sashes with six-over-six or nine-over-nine panes, and masonry, masonry-veneer of wood exterior. The significant character-defining features of the one-and-a-half-story building include a gable-front roof, wood-frame construction with a brick veneer added c.1938, dormers, six-over-six double-hung windows, and a main entranceway featuring wooden double doors (see Attachment 3). This building is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style which was very popular in Georgia for a long period, from the 1890s through the 1940s and beyond.

The district is significant in the areas of religion and education for its association with the Church of the Good Shepard and School. The Church of the Good Shepherd was organized in Thomasville in 1893 under the leadership of Reverend Charles LeRoche, rector of Saint Thomas Church in Thomasville. The Church of the Good Shepherd was built in 1894 and the school/parish hall was built in 1923. To understand the overall significance of this historically African-American historic district, it is essential to understand the important role of the church in African-American communities. In *An Era of Progress and Promise 1863-1910: The Religious, Moral, and Educational Development of the American Negro Since His Emancipation*, the author explains that the most important and significant contribution to the African-American community was the construction of churches by those living within the communities. He continues to explain that one main reason why African-American churches were the main focus and were able to provide for those living within African-American communities was because "There was far more toleration for the Negro church than for any other Negro organization. In this way the church came to have a very large place in the life of the Negro people. It became and has remained the key to the higher progress of the masses." With this important role within the African-American community, the church went beyond just functioning as a religious institution. After the establishment of the Church of the Good Shepherd, the church provided a school for the education of the African-American children denied access to the established white schools in Thomasville.

The Church of the Good Shepard School functioned from 1894 to 1964. Until 1901 when public education for blacks was provided in Thomasville, this school served an extremely important role as one of four or five private schools in the city that educated black children. The school provided services, such as a library, that were not provided to Thomasville's African-American community by established white-sponsored schools and libraries.

The district is significant in the area of entertainment/recreation for its association with the Clay Street Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), located on the corner of Pine Street and West

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Calhoun Street, and the Recreation Center, located at 400 West Calhoun Street. Segregation of community buildings extended to recreational facilities in Thomasville. African-Americans built and opened their own recreational facilities since they were not able to attend white recreational facilities. The Clay Street YMCA and Recreational Center are two excellent and unusual-to-have-survived examples of recreational facilities built by African-Americans for use by African-Americans.

The Clay Street YMCA, constructed in 1890, is a one-story wood-framed building originally located on the corner of Clay and Pine streets. The building was moved one block north in 1985. The building currently functions as the True Vine Church of Deliverance. (Because it was moved only a short distance within the historic neighborhood, this building still contributes to the historic district.)

The dwelling, historically known as the Recreational Center, located at 400 West Calhoun Street was built c.1920. The brick veneer building features a two-story gable end with a low side addition with a flat roof (see Attachment 3). The building originally functioned as a recreational center for young men. The building was converted into a single-family residence in 1938. The center was built by William E. Gibson, a neighborhood resident and bricklayer. The center provided a place for the young African-American residents could meet to socialize. Other groups would use the facilities for meetings and parties. The center serviced young African-Americans and included space for dancing, a game room, and a swimming pool.

The Stevens Street Historic District is a good example of a historically urban African-American neighborhood settled during the late 19th century. The remaining historic residential and community landmark resources represent the neighborhood's steady progress under the stress of segregation, "Jim Crow" conditions, and the will towards self-determination.

National Register Criteria

The Steven Street Historic District is eligible under National Register Criterion A for its development as a significant African-American neighborhood encompassing residential and community landmark buildings. The district is eligible under National Register Criterion C for its good representative examples of architectural types and styles of residential and community landmark buildings.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

The Steven Street Historic District is eligible under Criterion consideration A for the Church of the Good Shepard, which derives its primary significance from its historical importance to the community in themes of social, cultural, and educational as well as religious life.

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Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins c.1850 with the construction of the Dr. Mosley House on North Stevens Street and ends in 1951, the end of the historic period.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The contributing resources in the Stevens Street Historic District retain their historic integrity and were constructed within the period of significance. The contributing structures within the district include the 1938 North Madison Street bridge, the historic gridiron plan of the district, and the Atlantic & Gulf Railroad (now CSX Railroad) alignment, which was completed through the district area in 1868. The noncontributing resources have either been drastically altered or were built after 1951 and therefore outside the period of significance.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

The majority of the Stevens Street Historic District lies within Thomasville's original land lot acquired by the county commissioner's as the county seat in 1827. The most southern portions of the district (south of Calhoun Street) originated primarily as a white middle-class neighborhood. By 1850 lots had been sold within the six blocks between Oak and Madison streets and Calhoun and Washington streets which lie within the district. By 1857, most blocks included at least one lot sold.

Residential development within the district began in earnest at the close of the Civil War (1861-1865) as an influx of newly freed slaves sought residence and opportunity in the city, a typical pattern throughout the South. With the 1866 radial expansion of Thomasville's city limits to one mile from the courthouse, the area within the Stevens Street Historic District west of Martin Luther King Boulevard came within the city limits. Whites no longer felt the area was desirable for settling which left the neighborhood to be settled by blacks. Large numbers of freed slaves moved to Thomasville from the outlying areas of Thomas County to find employment. The black settlers worked as domestics for the white homeowners in the Dawson Street Historic District neighborhood, worked for the railroad (completed through the district in 1868), and for the light industry that developed near the district.

Churches and a school were the earliest buildings constructed within the district neighborhood. The Church of the Good Shepard was organized in 1893 by the Rev. LaRoche, Rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, a white church in Thomasville. The school was founded in 1894 by John W.

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"Jack" Carter, a prominent African-American of Thomasville. The school operated until 1901 and houses grades kindergarten through fifth grade.

The neighborhood had its greatest period of development from the late 19th to the early 20th century. It was during this period that the developing African-American middle-class was moving into the neighborhood. Due to "Jim Crow" segregation of the late 19th century and early 20th century, the developing African-American middle-class could not settle in the established white middle-class neighborhoods. Both the African-American working and middle class lived side-by-side within the neighborhood. This pattern is reflected in the various architectural types of residences within the district. Residents within the neighborhood worked in the construction trades as the city grew to accommodate visitors and businesses. Others found employment in the skilled trades as gardeners, blacksmiths, cobblers, teachers, seamstresses, and dressmakers; and the unskilled trades as laborers, livery workers, domestic servants, and railroad employees. W.E. Gibson, a master bricklayer built his home at 308 West Calhoun Street during the early 1900s. Dr. William A. J. Mosley was a black medical doctor from 1913 to 1920 and purchased one of the antebellum homes along Steven Street. Dr. Martin Luther Walton, who lived at 323 West Monroe Street, was the first black dentist in Thomasville and practiced from 1918 to 1954.

Development in the district began to slow during the 1940s. During the following decades, the neighborhood suffered from neglect and lost building stock due to government-sponsored projects. Two blocks between Calhoun Street and West Jasper streets were razed for the construction of government-sponsored housing developments. However, the neighborhood has retained much of its historic character and is identified by the residents of Thomasville as an important African-American resource.

9. Major Bibliographic References

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 9--Major Bibliographic References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) 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:
- 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

Acreeage of Property

Approximately 175 acres

UTM References

| | | | |
|----|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
| A) | Zone 17 | Easting 214,239 | Northing 3,416,183 |
| B) | Zone 17 | Easting 214,700 | Northing 3,415,336 |
| C) | Zone 17 | Easting 213,767 | Northing 3,415,016 |
| D) | Zone 17 | Easting 213,664 | Northing 3,416,205 |

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Stevens Street Historic District is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached USGS topographical map and the attached National Register Map.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary for the Stevens Street Historic District includes the contiguous resources associated with the development of the district as one of Thomasville's first African-American neighborhood. The area outside of the district consists of the historic downtown area to the east, the Dawson Street Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 7, 1984, representing the historic white residential development of Thomasville to the northeast, and modern industrial development to the south, and nonhistoric residential development to the west.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office**name/title** Amy Pallante**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources**street & number** 156 Trinity Avenue, Suite 101**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303-3600**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** January 2001**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)** not applicable**name/title** Julie Turner/Historic Preservation Planner**organization** Star Point Preservation**street and number** 3039 Star Point Road**city or town** Franklin **state** Georgia **zip code** 30217**telephone** (770) 854-8813 **consultant** **regional development center preservation planner** **other:**

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

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Photographs

Name of Property: Stevens Street Historic District
City or Vicinity: Thomasville
County: Thomas
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: December 1997

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 39 View of front-gable bungalow along North Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 39 Streetscape view of Forsyth Street near North Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive ; photographer facing north.
- 3 of 39 View double shotgun house and pyramid cottage; photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 39 Streetscape view of Forsyth Street near North Madison Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 5 of 39 Streetscape view of North Broad Street near the CSX Railroad; photographer facing northwest.
- 6 of 39 View of CSX Railroad and North Madison Street bridge; photographer facing north.
- 7 of 39 Detail view of the North Madison Street bridge; photographer facing northwest.
- 8 of 39 View of St. Luke's Colored Methodist Episcopal Church; photographer facing north. (Historic congregation but noncontributing building.)
- 9 of 39 Streetscape view of Oak Street West Jerger Street; photographer facing northwest.

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Photographs

- 10 of 39 Streetscape view of North Stevens Street near West Walcott Street ; photographer facing northwest.
- 11 of 39 View of nonhistoric property and front-gable bungalow; photographer facing east on West Jerger Street.
- 12 of 39 View of front-gable and cross-gable bungalows; photographer facing southeast.
- 13 of 39 View of a Queen Anne cottage; photographer facing east.
- 14 of 39 Streetscape view of North Broad Street near West Jerger Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 15 of 39 View of the northeast corner of the intersection of West Webster Street and Pine Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 16 of 39 View of front-gable bungalows; photographer facing east.
- 17 of 39 Streetscape view of Pine Street near West Calhoun Street; photographer facing north.
- 18 of 39 View of front-gable bungalows; photographer facing northeast.
- 19 of 39 View of a hipped bungalow; photographer facing northeast.
- 20 of 39 View of central hallway-type house; photographer facing northeast.
- 21 of 39 Streetscape view of West Calhoun Street near Oak Street; photographer facing east.
- 22 of 39 View of nonhistoric house and Queen Anne-type house; photographer facing east.
- 23 of 39 View of the I-House; photographer facing northwest.
- 24 of 39 Streetscape view of West Calhoun Street near North Madison Street; photographer facing east.

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Photographs

- 25 of 39 Streetscape view of North Broad Street near West Calhoun Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 26 of 39 Streetscape view of North Stevens Street near West Calhoun Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 27 of 39 Streetscape view of West Clay Street near North Stevens Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 28 of 39 View of shotgun-type houses; photographer facing northeast.
- 29 of 39 View of the Church of the Good Shepard and School; photographer facing west.
- 30 of 39 View of the nonhistoric Francis F. Weston YMCA Center (built 1964; noncontributing building); photographer facing northeast.
- 31 of 39 Streetscape view of Clay Street near Pine Street; photographer facing east.
- 32 of 39 Streetscape view of West Clay Street near Short Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 33 of 39 View of shotgun-type houses; photographer facing northwest.
- 34 of 39 View of hall-parlor houses; photographer facing northwest.
- 35 of 39 View of side-hallway house with Folk Victorian-style elements; photographer facing West Monroe Street.
- 36 of 39 View of shotgun- and double shotgun-type houses; photographer facing northeast.
- 37 of 39 View of front-gable bungalow with Craftsman-style elements; photographer facing northwest.
- 38 of 39 Streetscape view of West Washington Street near Oak Street; photographer facing northeast.

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Photographs

39 of 39 Streetscape view of North Madison Street near West Washington Street; photographer facing west.

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Attachment 1
Clay Street YMCA



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Photographs

Attachment 2
404 West Calhoun Street/Recreational Center

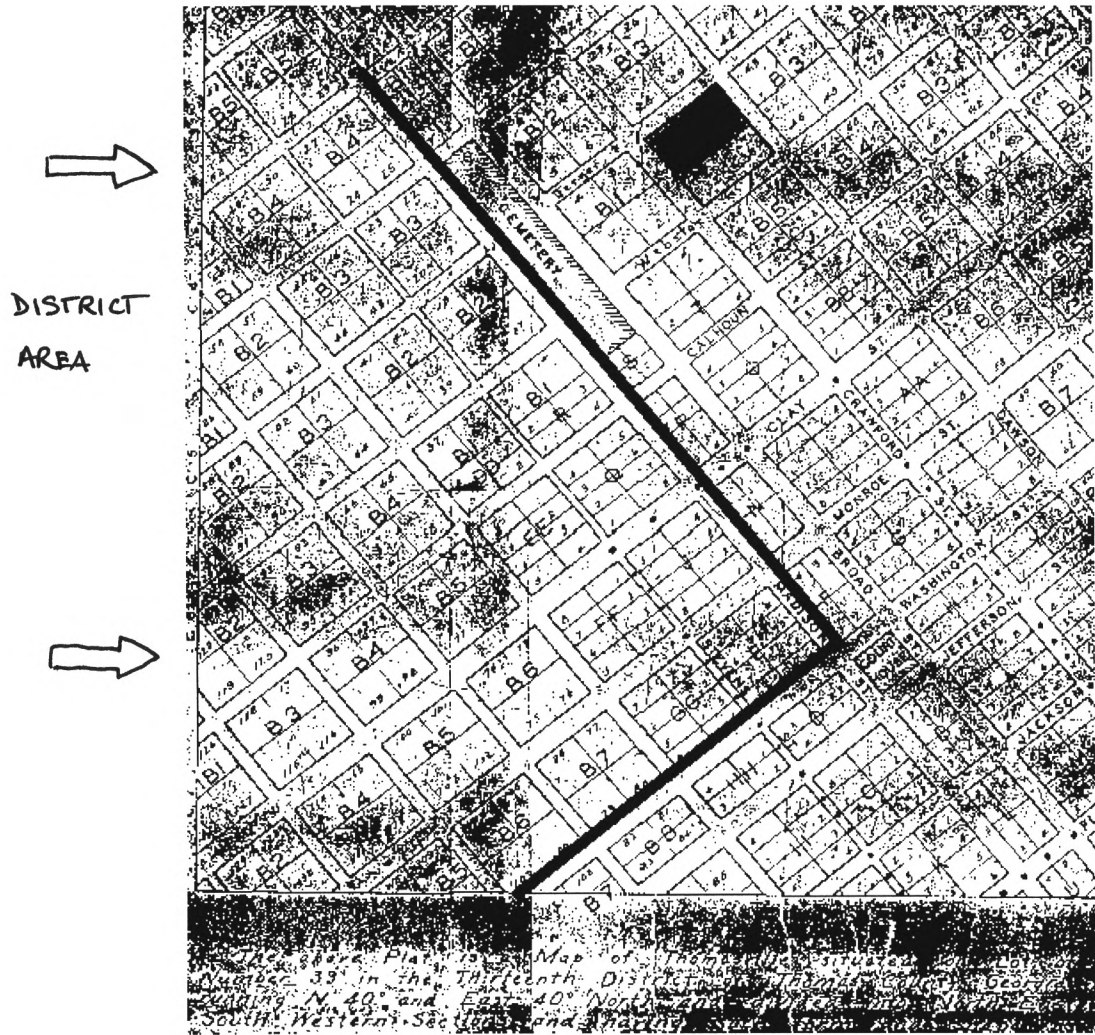


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Photographs

Attachment 3
Copy of 1859 Plat of Thomasville

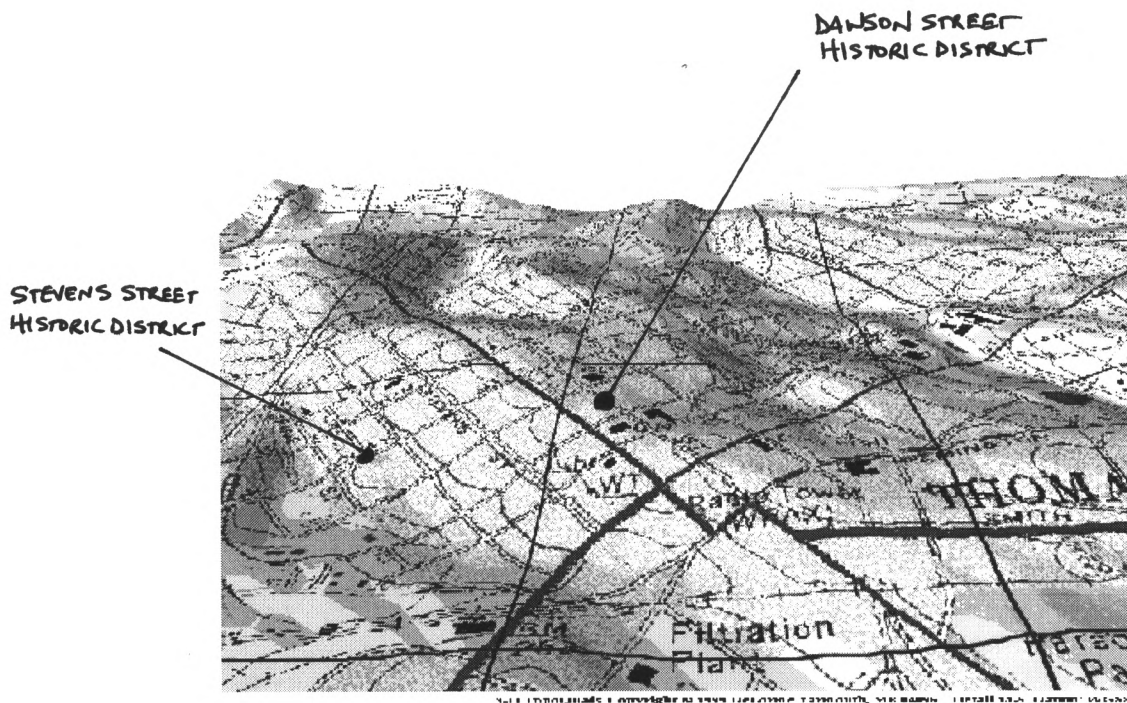


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Attachment 4
3D map of Thomasville



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Attachment 5
419 North Stevens Street
Greek Revival Style



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Attachment 6
413 Oak Street
Folk Victorian Style

