

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Mark R. Edwards

Signature of certifying official

1-16-97

Date

Mark R. Edwards
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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

Elson A. Beall

2-21-97

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Beall

Signature, Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

COMMERCE/business

Current Functions:

RECREATION AND CULTURE/museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER/Folk Victorian

Materials:

| | |
|------------|---------|
| foundation | brick |
| walls | brick |
| roof | asphalt |
| other | n/a |

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Ewell Brown General Store is located in east Lake Park, a small town, in Lowndes County near the Georgia-Florida state line. The Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad passes through the southern edge of the town, and the area surrounding Lake Park consists of marshes and several large ponds. The Ewell Brown General Store is a one-story, brick, commercial building constructed c.1890. The store was part of a grouping of four buildings on the block; the adjacent building is just a shell, however, and another has been remodeled. The building is typical of the type of store built in small Georgia towns during the late 19th century. On the front facade, the central front doorway is flanked by single segmental-arched windows and a brick parapet is located along the top of the facade. Three dog-tooth string courses are located along the parapet, a single dog-tooth string course is located near the top of the windows and door, and the front facade is bricked in a stretcher bond. Along the rest of the building, the facade changes to a common bond and decorative arched crowns are located over the doors and windows. The faded painted advertising sign for the store is located along the east wall. The interior is one large room with a fireplace, raised office space, and a bathroom. Some of the remaining interior features include: the original store shelving, beaded-board ceiling, and wood floors. The original sidewalk was constructed of wood but a brick sidewalk in a herringbone pattern was built in the early 1900s and is still present today. The building is across from the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance:

c.1890-1946

Significant Dates:

c.1890 - Construction date of the commercial building.
c.1899 - Year Ewell Brown bought the commercial building.

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Unknown
Financed by the Lake Park Improvement Company.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 8

Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Ewell Brown General Store is located in east Lake Park in Lowndes County in south Georgia. The building is in a grouping of four abandoned or deteriorated commercial buildings located on a block in downtown Lake Park. The Ewell Brown General Store is determined to be significant in the areas of architecture and commerce.

The Ewell Brown General Store is determined to be significant in architecture since it is a good and intact example of a Folk Victorian commercial building constructed c.1890 in a small Georgia town. Most of these types of commercial buildings in Georgia's small towns are brick one-story buildings with decorative brickwork located along the cornices, windows, and doors. Also, many of these stores are located near railroad tracks. The Ewell Brown General Store building retains its decorative brick front facade, remnants of the advertising on the east wall, and much of the interior features including ceilings, floors, and office platform.

The store is determined to be significant in commerce since it served as a local general store and convenience store for those living in the area. The store was originally owned by Dr. E. Taylor and operated as a drug store and general merchandise store. In 1892, Ewell Brown was employed at the store as a pill roller and assistant operator. Brown bought the store in 1899 and operated the store with his bother, Bob Brown. The Ewell Brown, Lender in Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries and General Merchandise store provided a variety of goods for those living in the Lake Park area. The store was a major factor in the community's daily life since it was a major communication spot where information was shared and much of the town's activities planned. It was one of the principal commercial enterprises in Lake Park's small downtown and the most intact of the few commercial buildings that have survived. When Brown bought controlling interest in the Lake Park Bank and became the bank president in 1948, Bob Brown became the store operator until it closed in 1954.

National Register Criteria

The Ewell Brown General Store is determined eligible under Criterion A for the commercial services it provided to those living in the Lake Park area. The store is determined eligible under Criterion C as a good and intact example of a brick, Folk Victorian, commercial building located in a small Georgia town.

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Section 8

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

n/a

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Ewell Brown General Store begins c.1890 with the construction of the store and ends in 1946, the end of the historic period during which the store was active and owned by the Brown family.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

n/a

Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

The Ewell Brown General Store was built c.1890 by the Lake Park Improvement Company, a Lake Park investment company. The building initially served as a drug store and general merchandise store operated by Dr. E. Taylor in 1892. Ewell Brown was employed at the store as a pill roller and assistant operator. Brown purchased the store in 1899 and changed the name of the store to Ewell Brown, Lender in Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries and General Merchandise. The store offered most every item necessary for the common household including, buggy and horse supplies, shoes and hats for women, thread, cloth, and hats for men. Along with the household goods sold at the store, a catalog ordering service was available. The store's advertisement with Brown's name is still visible on the east side of the building. When Brown bought controlling interest in the Lake Park Bank and became its president, his brother, Bob Brown, became the store operator. The store was closed in 1953 due to the realignment of US Highway 41, which caused a decline in trade. The building was used for storage until an antique store rented space in 1974. The antique store closed two year later and the building returned to storage space. In April 1994, Mrs. Leslie Brown Taylor, daughter of Bob Brown, donated the building to the Lake Park Historical Society for the purpose of becoming a museum.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Slocumb, Barbara. "Ewell Brown General Store," Historic Property Information Form, May 20, 1995. On file at the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with supplemental information.

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

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () 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:

- (x) 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

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 291020 Northing 3396349

Verbal Boundary Description

The Ewell Brown General Store is drawn to scale on the attached tax maps with a heavy black line.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Ewell Brown General Store includes the store and remaining less than one acre associated with the store.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Slocumb/Museum Chairperson
organization Lake Park Historical Society
street & number 6678 Bellville Road
city or town Lake Park **state** Georgia **zip code** 31636
telephone (912) 559-5771 **date** May 5, 1995

name/title Amy Pallante/National Register Specialist
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forysth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 651-6033 **date** January 15, 1997

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property: Ewell Brown General Store
City or Vicinity: Lake Park
County: Lowndes
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: December, 1995

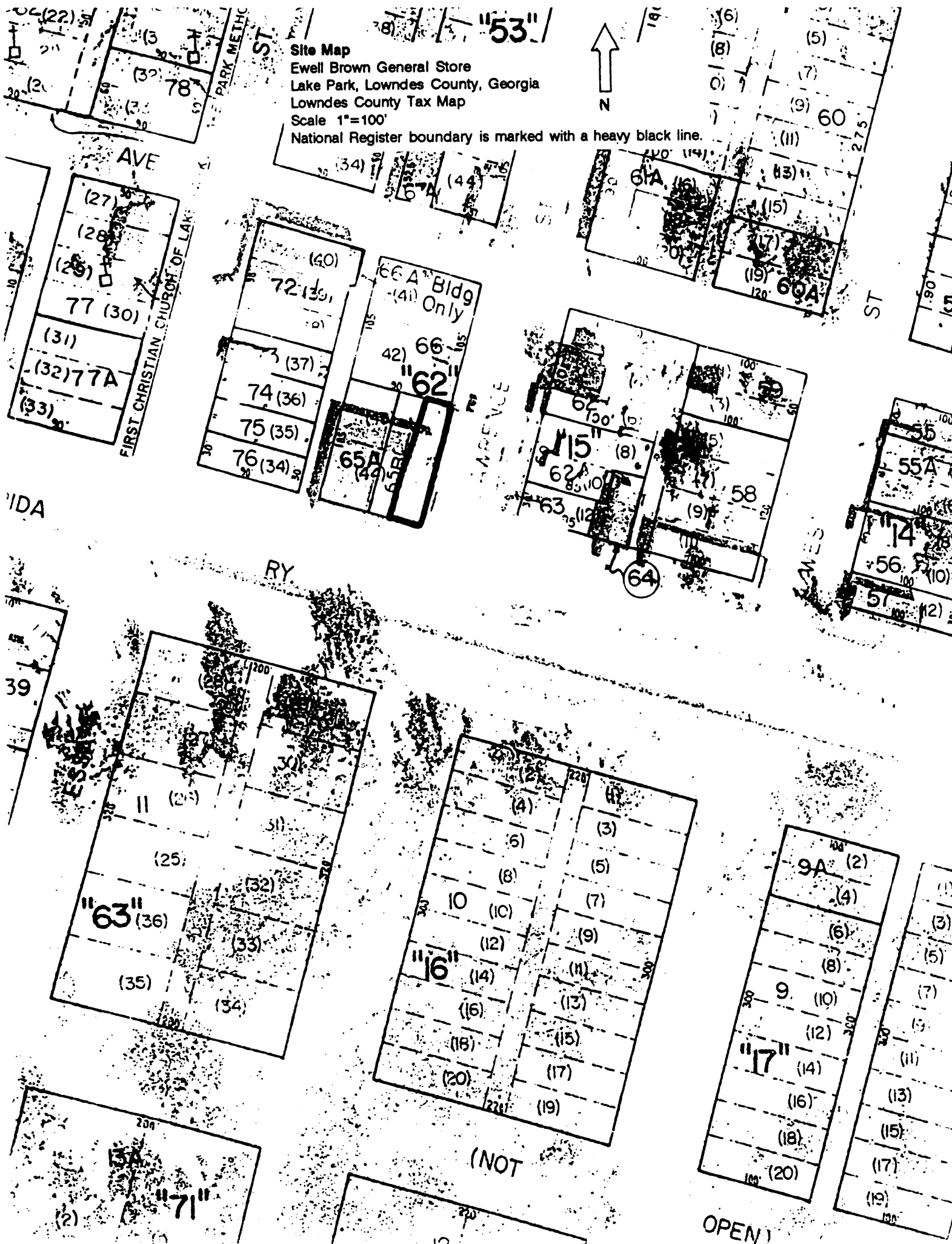
Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 8 View of the Ewell Brown General Store and Railroad Avenue streetscape; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 8 View of the Ewell Brown General Store; photographer facing northeast.
- 3 of 8 View of the front facade; photographer facing north.
- 4 of 8 View of south wall; photographer facing west.
- 5 of 8 View of south wall and rear; photographer facing southwest.
- 6 of 8 View of the faded advertising sign painted on the east wall; photographer facing west.
- 7 of 8 View of interior space; photographer facing north.
- 8 of 8 View of interior space; photographer facing south.

Site Map

Ewell Brown General Store
Lake Park, Lowndes County, Georgia
Lowndes County Tax Map
Scale 1"=100'

National Register boundary is marked with a heavy black line.



(NOT

OPEN)

Site Map and Photo Key

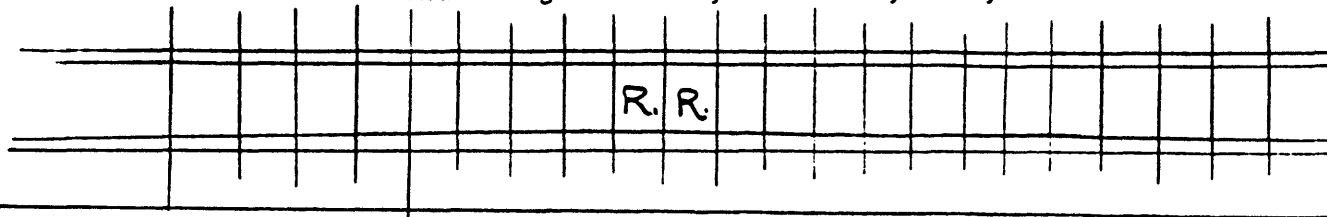
Ewell Brown General Store

Lake Park, Lowndes County, Georgia

Not to Scale

○ = Photo Number and Direction

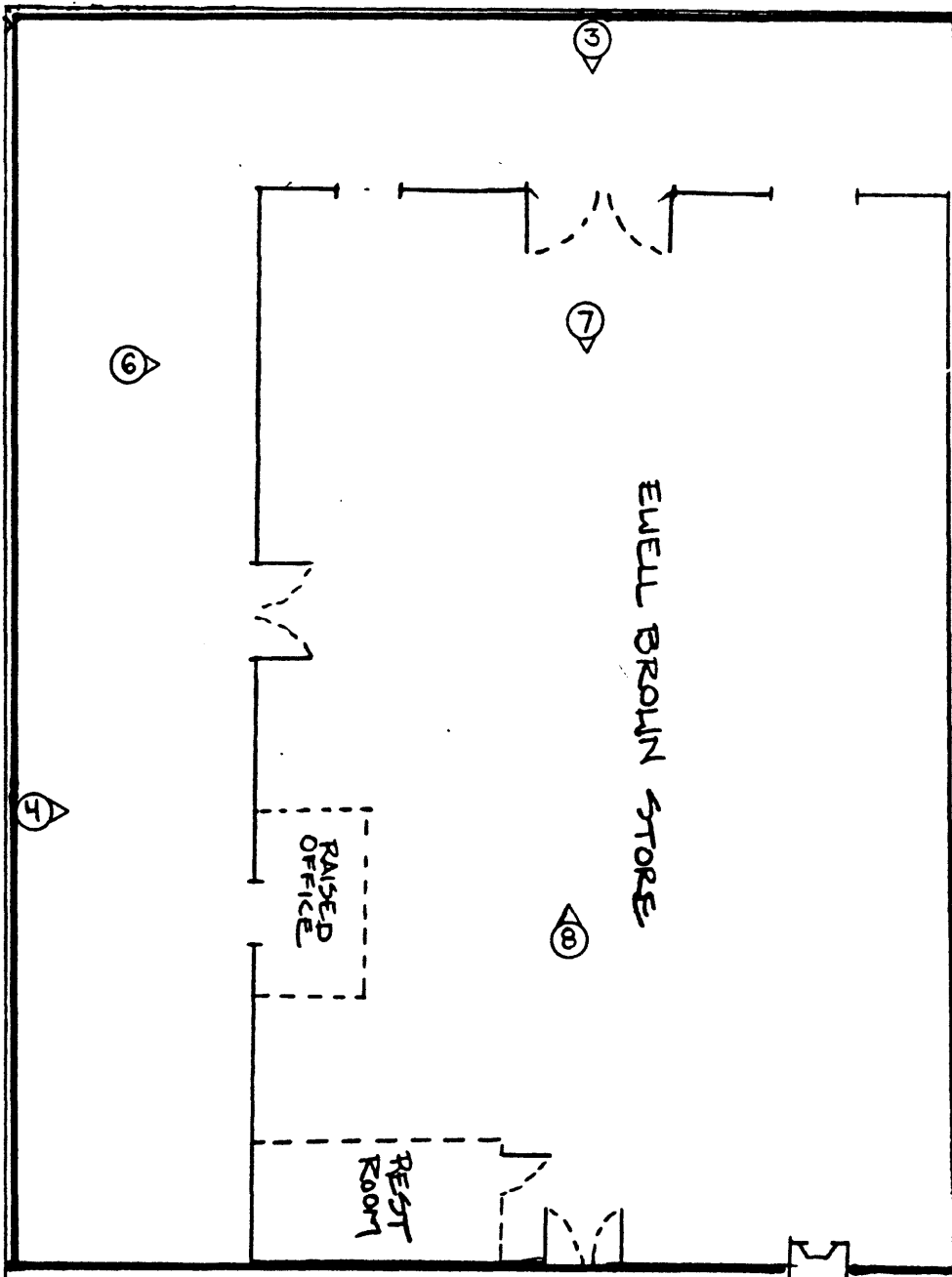
National Register boundary is indicated by a heavy black line.



①

RAILROAD AVE.

②



LAWRENCE STREET

EWELL BROWN STORE



⑤