

1154  
JUL 25 1989

**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 Brannen, James Alonzo, House  
other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number 112 South Main Street (U.S. 301)  
city, town Statesboro (n/a) vicinity of  
county Bulloch code GA 031  
state Georgia code GA zip code 30458

(n/a) not for publication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:**

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	1	1
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	1

**Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0**

**Name of related multiple property listing:** Historic Resources of  
Downtown Statesboro, Bulloch County, Georgia

**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.

Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Signature of certifying official

7/19/89  
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Deputy 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
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain:
- see continuation sheet

Shelores Byrum 9/6/89

Shelores Byrum Signature, Keeper of the National Register 9/6/89 Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling  
DOMESTIC/secondary structure

### Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne (elements)  
OTHER: L-shaped (type)

### Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	weatherboard
roof	asphalt shingles
other	wood porch

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The James Alonzo Brannen House is located on the east side of South Main Street, between Grady and Cherry Streets, in downtown Statesboro. Statesboro is the small-town county seat of Bulloch County, in eastern Georgia. The Brannen House is immediately south of the William G. Raines House, now known as the Statesboro Inn (listed individually on the National Register.)

J. A. Brannen (1858-1923) constructed the single story frame house in 1881. The late Victorian residence utilizes an L-shaped plan that was popular during the late 19th century. Exterior materials include an asphalt shingle roof, fish-scale shingles on the end and front gables, weatherboard siding, and a brick foundation. The partially screened porch, featuring four tapered wood columns on brick piers, was added to the front facade circa 1917. The house still retains its original two-over-two sash windows. A small, nonhistoric storage shed stands behind the northeast corner of the house.

Interior room arrangement includes a living room, central hallway, four bedrooms, and kitchen. Two bathrooms are in the house; one occupies part of the hall and the other was added to the south facade in the 1950s. Wood floors, tongue-and-groove ceilings, and some of the original vertical tongue-and-groove walls remain inside the house. Some of the walls were covered with or replaced by sheetrock during the 1950s. Many of the historic decorative details remain, including crown molding and wide baseboards in each room, panel doors with original locks, and three mantels. Two of the mantels feature decorative carving, there is a beveled mirror above the third, and all three fireplaces have the original coal grates.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
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**Section 7**

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Landscaping on the property includes a concrete walkway to the front entrance, a grass-covered lawn, and a variety of shrubs. Several mature oak trees, crepe myrtle, and a magnolia grandiflora are also on the grounds around the house. Some of the landscape materials are historically significant, both magnolia and crepe myrtle having been very popular landscape plants in Georgia during the early 20th century. The rear yard is enclosed with a wooden fence.

Alterations to the property include the porch (1917), the addition of a second bathroom (1950s), and the use of sheetrock to replace some interior walls (1950s). The house has retained its integrity with the exception of the storage shed which has been neglected and allowed to deteriorate.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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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):**

social history  
architecture

**Period of Significance:**

1881-1938

**Significant Dates:**

1881  
1917

**Significant Person(s):**

Brannen, James Alonzo

**Cultural Affiliation:**

n/a

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

not known

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section 8**

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

**Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)**

The James Alonzo Brannen House is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under National Register criteria B and C, as a part of the Historic Resources of Downtown Statesboro multiple property Listing. Eligibility is supported by significance in the areas of social history and architecture.

The house is significant in the area of social history because of its association with J. A. Brannen (1858-1923), an important figure in the development of the city of Statesboro and Bulloch County. Brannen moved to Statesboro and began practicing law there in 1879. Two years later he built this house, which he was to live in throughout his productive life in Statesboro. He served as the town's first mayor in 1889, represented Bulloch County in the state legislature, organized both the Statesboro Eagle and Statesboro News newspapers, and owned and developed property in the West Main Street Commercial Historic District. Brannen also helped organize both the Statesboro Telephone Company and the Sea Island Bank. All of these activities contributed directly to the development of downtown Statesboro during the city's first period of sustained growth.

In the area of architecture, the Brannen house is significant for being a relatively intact example of a small-town, late-Victorian residence. The L-shaped house is similar to other modest, late 19th-century homes constructed in Statesboro, and other small towns in Georgia, in that it was "designed" by a builder rather than an architect. Significant features include the L-shaped plan, weatherboard facade, fish scale shingles, and two-over-two windows. The frame outbuilding associated with the house features a weatherboard facade and a metal roof on a brick foundation. However, it has been allowed to decay and has lost its integrity. The residence is relatively intact with few modern alterations. Its architectural integrity has been maintained through maintenance of the building and retention of historic materials, workmanship, scale, and feeling. Constructed in 1881, the house is the oldest extant residential structure in the city and is the only representative of the homes that Statesboro residents lived in prior to the development that accompanied the arrival of the railroad and cotton industries in the late 1880s.

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Section 8

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**National Register Criteria**

Because of its association with James Alonzo Brannen, a significant figure in the early development of downtown Statesboro, the property meets National Register criteria B. Because the James Alonzo Brannen House represents the residential architecture of late 19th-century Statesboro, and because it is the oldest house in Statesboro, the property meets National Register criteria C.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

n/a

**Period of significance (justification, if applicable)**

1881-1938 (50-year rule)

**Classification/Contributing and Noncontributing Resources**

This nomination is classified as an individual building even though the nominated property contains two buildings, one which contributes and one which does not contribute to the significance of the property. The noncontributing storage building is small in scale and ancillary to the character of the property.

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**9. Major Bibliographic References**

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Hanson, Sue P. and Robin Brown. "J. A. Brannen House." Historic Property Information Form, May 1986. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

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



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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property** less than one acre

**UTM References**

A) Zone 17 Easting 426400 Northing 3589970

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The James Alonzo Brannen House is bounded by South Main Street on the west and lies between Cherry and Grady Streets. Boundaries of the nominated property coincide with the current legal description of the property and are described by a heavy black line on the attached tax maps.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundaries established for the James Alonzo Brannen House include all of the property which is historically associated with the house and within the current legal boundaries.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**name/title** Janice E. Adams, National Register Researcher, and Richard Cloues, National Register Coordinator  
**organization** Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**street & number** 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334  
**telephone** 404-656-2840 **date** July 12, 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Photographs**

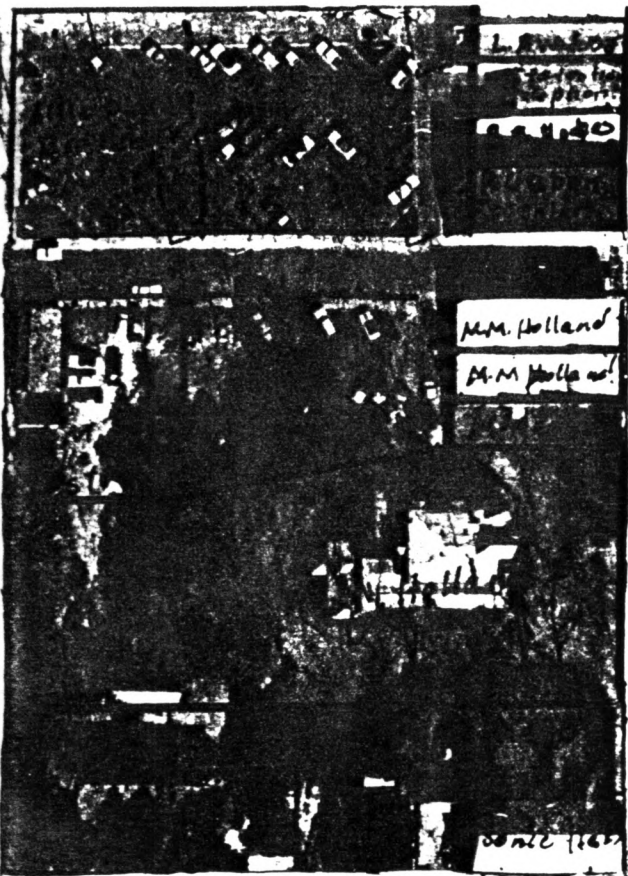
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**Name of Property:** James Alonzo Brannen House  
**City or Vicinity:** Statesboro  
**County:** Bulloch  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** August 1987

NOTE: Photographs taken in August 1987 were field-checked during the spring of 1989. These photographs convey an accurate impression of the photographed buildings and structures in downtown Statesboro.

**Description of Photograph(s):**

1 of 1. House and setting; photographer facing east.



CHERRY ST.



BULLOCH ST.



James Alonzo Brannen House  
 Statesboro, Bulloch County, Georgia

North: ↑

Scale: 0' ----- 100'

Boundary of nominated property: —————

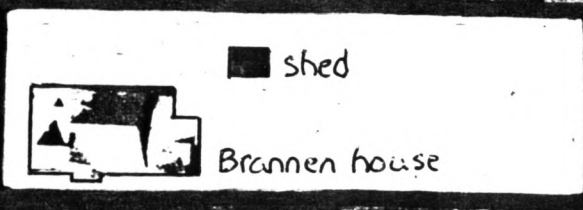
Photograph and direction of view: ○

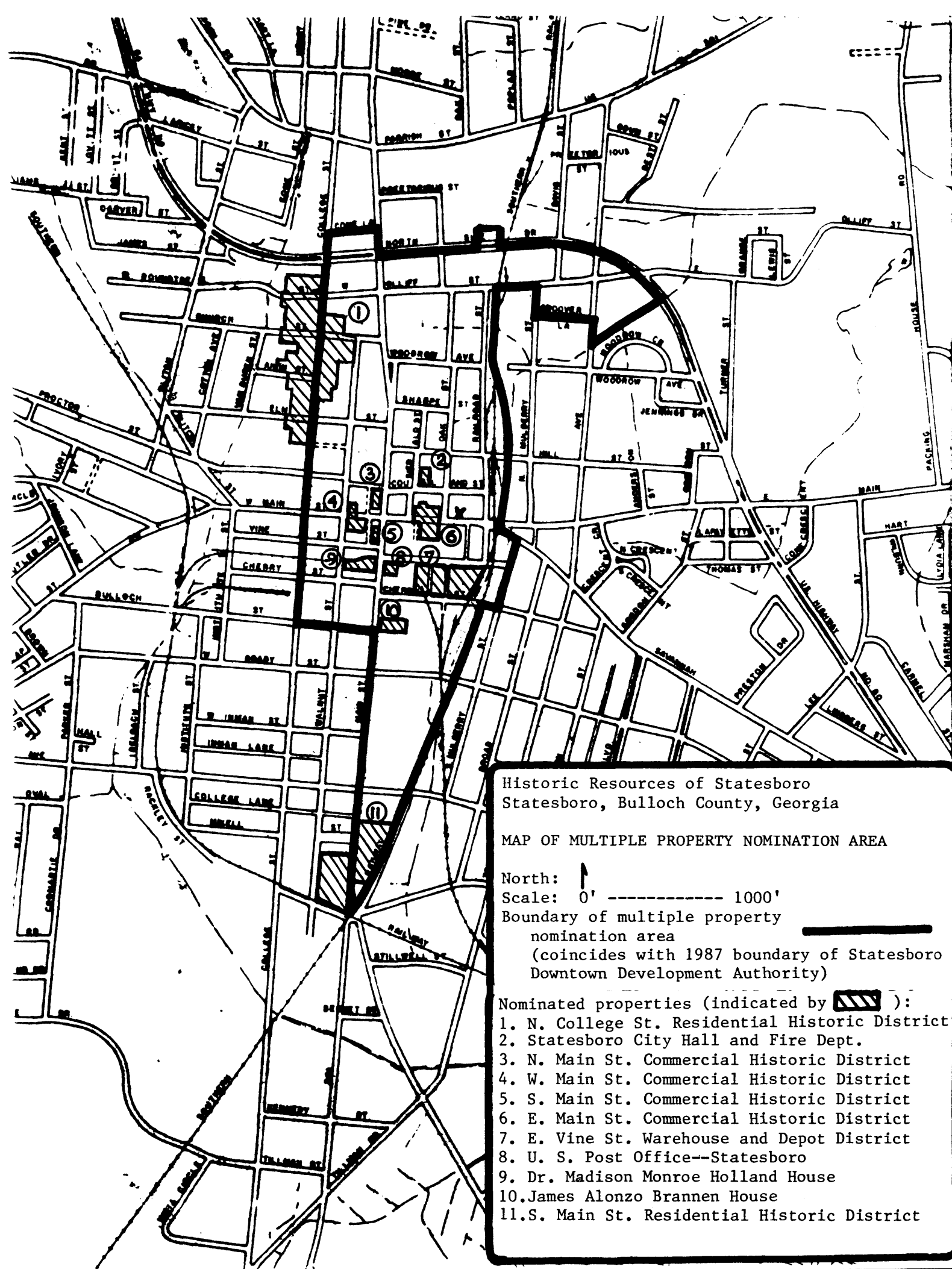


CHERRY ST.



S. MAIN ST. #112






Historic Resources of Statesboro  
 Statesboro, Bulloch County, Georgia

MAP OF MULTIPLE PROPERTY NOMINATION AREA

North: ↑  
 Scale: 0' ----- 1000'  
 Boundary of multiple property nomination area  
 (coincides with 1987 boundary of Statesboro Downtown Development Authority)

Nominated properties (indicated by ):

1. N. College St. Residential Historic District
2. Statesboro City Hall and Fire Dept.
3. N. Main St. Commercial Historic District
4. W. Main St. Commercial Historic District
5. S. Main St. Commercial Historic District
6. E. Main St. Commercial Historic District
7. E. Vine St. Warehouse and Depot District
8. U. S. Post Office--Statesboro
9. Dr. Madison Monroe Holland House
10. James Alonzo Brannen House
11. S. Main St. Residential Historic District

