

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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PIGTAIL ALLEY HISTORIC
DISTRICT

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1

Name: Pigtail Alley Historic District.

Location:

In Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia; both sides of Old Chestnut Road beginning at the first house after the right angle curve west of U.S. Route 27 and going to the last house within the city limits.

Acreage: 22 acres (approximate)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

The boundary of the Pigtail Alley Historic District is identified by the black line on the accompanying map of the Lumpkin Multiple Resource Area. The boundary encompasses an intact historic residential neighborhood in Lumpkin. To the east, south and west of this district is open agricultural land, to the north is a non-historic residential area.

UTM References:

A	16	E707810	N3547870
B	16	E707810	N3547310
C	16	E707520	N3547310
D	16	E707600	N3547870

Description:

The Pigtail Alley Historic District encompasses two sides of one street. The houses are a variety of styles, general wood-frame, one-story, ranging in size from small cottages to relatively large plantation houses. In date, the houses range from the early-nineteenth century to the early twentieth century; they are not clustered together in regards to styles, but are interspersed. Styles include Plantation Plain, Greek Revival, Victorian, and Classical Revival. The Plantation Plain houses are simple yet well constructed, with double entryways, tongue and groove paneling on the front facades, and gabled roofs. These houses are one room deep and have ell wing additions. The Greek Revival houses have highly detailed trabeated central entrances with engaged columns or fluted pilasters dividing the segments. One house has a fanlight, while the others have rectangular transoms. All of the Greek Revival homes have tongue and groove sheathing under porches which run the length of the front facade. Porches are supported by a variety of columns, including lattice, Doric, and composite ones. Victorian homes represent the majority of houses in the neighborhood, and also the widest variety of types, from a two story house with an Eastlake porch and fishscale shingle gables to several middle-income type cottages with ell floor plans and chamfered porch supports. One Classical Revival House in the neighborhood has a gable roof with an intersecting gable over the front door, and a porch supported by square columns.

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Page 2

Houses along Pigtail Alley generally sit on large rectangular or square lots, with agricultural land to the rear. Houses sit toward the center fronts of the lots with wide lawns separating the houses. The roadbed cuts slightly into the hill, causing some of the houses to sit higher than the road. The direction the houses face follows the curve of the road. Lots are landscaped with shrubbery around the foundations of the houses, and large trees are scattered around the lawns. The yards blend together and the setback of the houses gives this neighborhood a rural appearance. Intrusions are limited to a cinder block house and a mobile home.

Significance:






Architecture. Pigtail Alley Residential Historic District is significant in terms of architecture because it has a fine collection of the varying periods and styles of architecture found in Lumpkin. Plantation Plain, Greek Revival, Victorian, and Classical Revival styles are all represented here. The craftsmanship represented in these houses shows a high level of skill, in tongue and groove flush panelling, in highly detailed entrances, in turned posts and scroll work. The houses in this area, while not necessarily being ornate, are well made. The houses show that their builders were not only skilled craftsman, but aware of reigning styles in the architectural world.

Community Planning and Development. The Pigtail Alley Residential Historic District is significant to community planning and development because it shows the development of housing along a main artery. Pigtail Alley, so called for the way its curves out of town, not following the grid plan, was the road to Cuthbert and Eufaula. Cuthbert was the nearest point where merchandise could be shipped to and from Atlanta until the arrival of the railroad in 1886. Farms developed along this Alley in the early days of Lumpkin, and were later subdivided to accommodate growth. While this one street developed with styles of architecture like those in town, it had a more rural appearance in that the houses were set farther back from the street, and the houses were far apart.

Local History. The Pigtail Alley Residential Historic District is significant to local history in that it shows an evolutionary process which took place along the major road that provided Lumpkin with outside contact prior to the coming of the railroad in 1886. With the homes of some of the larger land holders, and the earliest citizens, this district provides historical insights into the lives of community members who developed Lumpkin. It also shows, perhaps more vividly than any other local district, the agricultural orientation of this town.

Photographs. Numbers 1-4 of 40.

Historic Resources of Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia

-  Lumpkin Commercial Historic District
-  Uptown Residential Historic District
-  East Main Street Historic District
-  Pigtail Alley Historic District
-  Individually Numbered Properties

