

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 30 1984
date entered JUN 28 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic North Patterson Street Historic District

and or common Same

2. Location

~~One mile north of downtown Valdosta, including~~
street & number ~~numbers 1003-1111 North Patterson Street~~ N/A not for publication

city, town Valdosta N/A vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Lowndes code 185

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Lowndes County Courthouse

city, town Valdosta state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:
title Lowndes County, Georgia has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The North Patterson Street Historic District is composed of fourteen large one- and two-story houses. Most houses have high hipped roofs with many gables; some have gabled dormers. Two of these houses had a second story added within a decade of their construction. Several prominent families built in this area when the city was expanding rapidly to the north. Perhaps all these houses except 1100 North Patterson were built between 1899 and 1909. A 1902 house at 1106 (now 1100) North Patterson was moved and turned to face Mary Street; Lloyd Greer designed a two-story house with smooth plastered walls in 1919 which was erected to take its place. This district is especially significant as it is an excellent example of the many grand homes that were erected along North Patterson Street between 1890 and 1910. The majority of homes south of this area on Patterson Street have been destroyed by the expansion of the downtown commercial district and other commercial buildings.

The district is located near the summit of Force Hill, a gently sloping hill. A drainage canal is located about one-half mile to the south of the summit. One Mile Branch Creek is located about one-half mile north of the summit. The top of the hill is rounded, sloping in all directions and contains approximately nine to twelve blocks.

All the houses in the district face North Patterson Street with the exception of the J.C. Fender house, which was moved to face West Mary Street. As such, the district developed rather uniformly along this section of North Patterson Street.

In general, the building lots are uniform in size. Most lots are approximately twice as long as their Patterson Street frontage. Lot lines are laid at right angles to Patterson Street. North Patterson Street is the major north-south road and is centered in a street grid that is four by six blocks. In turn, this grid is centered over Force Hill between the two drainage areas. This grid is also aligned with the street layout in downtown Valdosta.

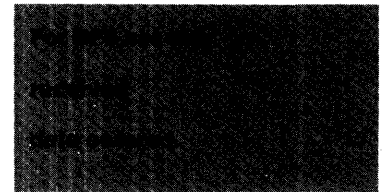
Houses in the district are located almost uniformly in the front half of their lots and are of similar distance to Patterson Street. The houses form similar rows in relation to the street on both sides. Spacing between houses is fairly consistent and is about the width of the average house. Outbuildings such as garages tend to be located behind the houses at the rear of the lot.

The North Patterson Street Historic District covers nearly two blocks of residences facing North Patterson Street, with one house facing south on West Mary Street. Of the fourteen structures, ten are two-story. Sizes range from fairly medium-sized one-story frame houses to very large "mansions." Most are wood-framed with the exception of two brick-veneered and one smooth-plastered exterior. Dates of construction extend from approximately 1899 to 1909, with one exception, the house at 1100 North Patterson Street, which was constructed in 1919. Styles include turn-of-the-century Neoclassical, Victorian Eclectic, and

[continued]

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Continuation sheet

Description

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Eastlake. These styles are interspersed throughout the district rather than concentrated in groups.

The good craftsmanship in most of these houses is evident in the ornamentation and detailing, especially in the Victorian houses. The one-story house at 1008 North Patterson contains an Italian-influenced Palladian window in a gabled dormer covered with diamond scales. At 1009 North Patterson Street, the gables contain sunburst designs, and turned spindle posts support the porch. Some of these houses lack any ornamentation at all, such as the one located at 1101 North Patterson Street.

The Neoclassical house at 1007 North Patterson Street contains many of those elements characteristic of this style--a monumental portico supported by Corinthian columns, a dentil range, and formal balance. The house at 1008 North Patterson has Greek Revival characteristics, but these were added after its construction. Originally a one-story home, the second floor was added and so too were the central portico with columns, bracketed pediment and dentil range.

The house at 1100 North Patterson has more unusual origins. Built later than the others in the district, in 1919, this is the only house not constructed of wood. Rather, it is covered with smooth stucco, which became very popular at this time in the construction of Bungalow-style houses.

There are sidewalks on both sides of Patterson Street set back a few feet from the street. There is no uniform planting in the strip of grass between the street and sidewalk, but the street is lined periodically with pines, crepe myrtle, dogwood, and azaleas. Front yards range from small- to medium-sized. About two-thirds of these front yards are raised and are supported by low retaining walls. Pines, camellias, azaleas, and an occasional magnolia or pecan trees are scattered in the front yards. Hedges surround most houses and are planted along most property lines.

Pecan trees are found throughout the neighborhood as are pines and some oaks and palms. Backyards are large and are put to various uses. Many houses have garages located near the rear of the property with driveways running the length of one sideyard. There are a few garage apartments, and several houses have the backyard paved for a parking lot.

There are no non-historic properties within the district. The only intrusion is a large, cinder-block warehouse behind Number 1108. It was built in the 1970s. It is the only building within the district that lacks architectural compatibility.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		Local History

Specific dates 1899-1919 **Builder/Architect** Various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Valdosta was founded in 1860 and the period of 1888-1918 was its boom era. Grand residences began to be erected in the 1880s, and by the 1890s, the town outgrew its original boundaries. Elegant residences began to be built along Patterson Street and others at this time. A street railway came this way in 1898. The district is significant in architecture for its concentration of fine, large homes, constructed for Valdosta's more affluent citizens, that reflect various styles prevalent in the period 1890s-1919. These include the Victorian Eclectic, Neoclassical, Colonial Revival and Bungalow. It is also significant for containing work by noted architects, including Valdosta's Stephen Fulghum and Lloyd Greer, as well as others from as far away as Atlanta. In local history, it is significant for containing the residences of citizens who were the key local people involved in commerce, with the important lumber and naval-stores industries, and as merchants, wholesalers and bankers; in politics and government for their roles as city school-board members, city councilmen, postmaster, state representative, sheriffs, county clerks, judges, attorneys, and mayor; in education; and in health services. These areas of significance support property eligibility under the National Register criteria A, B and C.

Historical Narrative

Valdosta was founded beside the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad in 1860. Forest and agricultural products were the chief economic resources of this town. The period 1888 to 1918 was a boom time for Valdosta. It was the largest inland market for sea-island cotton during this period. Grand residences were erected in Valdosta beginning in the 1880s.

In the 1890s, the town began to outgrow its original boundaries as Valdosta expanded rapidly. Perhaps due to swampy land south of the downtown, expansion was pushed primarily to the north. Elegant residences were built on Ashley, Hill, and Patterson streets. Among the most impressive were the Stephen F. Fulghum designed Victorian-style houses in the 400 block of North Patterson Street. Mr. Allen Strickland's residence was the last one of three adjacent houses with foundations laid on a line when it was started in 1898.

Patterson Street had been extended and graded from Duke's Bay to Mile Branch through the Force property by late 1894. Residences were built at various spots on Patterson and by the turn of the century it began to fill up.

[continued]

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 8.3 acres

Quadrangle name Valdosta, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	7	2	8	1	5	0	0	3	4	1	4	1	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property includes a concentration of historic houses remaining along North Patterson Street. They are marked on the enclosed tax map. On the south side, the district is bounded by three intrusive properties including a gas station and stamp store; on the north, by another gas station and insurance building; on the west is an alley, and on the east are the property lines.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

date May 7, 1984

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 30334

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 5/22/84

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Melrose Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 6/28/84

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Significance

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Prominent Valdostans decided to build on Force Hill. Included in the proposed district were homes of three lumbermen, one or two doctors, and a county sheriff. Fully four-fifths of this neighborhood's homes are known to have been erected between 1899 and 1909. Changes continued beyond this period as evidenced by the addition of second stories to 1007 and 1108 Patterson Street in 1910 and 1913 respectively.

In 1896, Patterson Street was extended a mile beyond the Force property after the swamp at One Mile Branch was cleared and bridged. Pine Park, the site of the Valdosta fairgrounds, was located on this extension. The Valdosta Street Railway Company secured the right to operate street cars on Toombs, Patterson, Ashley, Lee, Troup, Hill, Central, Crane, and Gordon streets in 1898. This railway was expanded to Pine Park in 1898 to transport citizens to and from the many carnivals, expositions, and fairs that were held there. In 1899, the Georgia State Fair was held on the fairgrounds and Valdosta was the host to numerous out-of-town visitors.

By the time of construction of the earliest houses in the neighborhood, Valdosta had a sewer system, waterworks, and a system of electric street lights. With the addition of a 1919 Lloyd Greer designed house, development of the neighborhood was completed. The erection of commercial structures at either end of the district occurred possibly as early as the 1950s and was completed during the 1970s. The district includes the homes of persons associated with various ways of life in Valdosta. Dr. E.P. Rose and Judge J.G. Cranford were both involved in education at the city and county levels. Cranford served on both the city and county school boards and was president of the latter for six years. Drs. E.P. Rose and Archibald Griffin both served on the city Board of Health. Dr. Griffin was chairman of the board from 1919 until his death in 1935 and was a staunch supporter of public health work. In 1915, he opened a private hospital with Dr. Little on North Patterson Street, two blocks north of his residence. The Little-Griffin Hospital was the principal hospital in Lowndes County until the South Georgia Medical Center was built in the 1950s. Those residents involved in commerce included T.H. McKey, B.G. Lastinger, Dr. E.P. Rose, J.F. and W.L. Fender, and Tom Converse. They were associated with lumber and naval stores, or were merchants or wholesalers. One was a banker. No fewer than seven of the district's residents were in politics and government. E.P. Rose was a member of the city school board, city council, and Board of Health. Willis Lange was county treasurer and postmaster. J.F. Fender served in 1910 in the Georgia House of Representatives. J.F. Passmore served for twelve years as county sheriff. Dr. Archibald Griffin served a term as county physician and on the aforementioned Board of Health. B.F. Lastinger was clerk of the Superior Court for eleven years. J.G. Cranford was a city and county judge, county attorney, president of the county school board, on the city school board, city council and was twice elected mayor.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Daughters of the American Revolution. History of Lowndes County, Georgia, 1825-1941. Valdosta: The author, 1942.

Files of the Valdosta Historical Society, Valdosta, Georgia.

Lowndes County, Georgia, Superior Court. Deeds, plats, tax maps.

Newspaper references from the Valdosta Daily Times, 1892-1901.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1922.

Shelton, Jane T. Pines and Pioneers: A History of Lowndes County, Georgia, 1825-1900. Atlanta: Cherokee Publishing Company, 1976.

Thomas, Susan McKey, Valdosta, Georgia. Interview by John P. Whitehurst and Haley Blanchard, 1982.

Valdosta City Directory, 1904.

Whitehurst, John P. "North Patterson Street Historic District," Historic District Information Form, 1982. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

NORTH PATTERSON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT
Valdosta, Lowndes County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP/TAX MAP

Scale: 1" = 100'

Source: Lowndes County, Georgia, Tax Assessor's Office

Date: ca. 1982

Key: The nominated district is outlined by a heavy black line.

- H = Historic, contributing property
- I = Property not included within district but which is considered "intrusive"
- X = Intrusive building within the district

