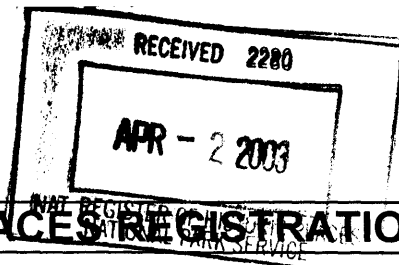


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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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** North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District  
**other names/site number** N/A

## 2. Location

**street & number** Roughly centered on the intersection of Bowden Street (Georgia Highway 100) and Manning Street  
**city, town** Tallapoosa ( ) vicinity of  
**county** Haralson **code** GA 143  
**state** Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30176

( ) not for publication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	157	71
sites	1	1
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
<b>total</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>72</b>

**Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:** N/A

**Name of previous listing:** N/A

**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.

*Richard Luce*

*3-27-03*

Signature of certifying official

Date

*for* W. Ray Luce  
Historic Preservation 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

**Entered in the  
National Register**

*5-17-03*

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Keeper of the National Register

Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING  
DOMESTIC/MULTIPLE DWELLING/APARTMENT BUILDING  
DOMESTIC/HOTEL  
COMMERCE/TRADE/DEPARTMENT STORE/GENERAL STORE  
EDUCATION/SCHOOL  
RELIGION/RELIGIOUS FACILITY/CHURCH

### Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING  
EDUCATION/SCHOOL  
RELIGION/RELIGIOUS FACILITY/CHURCH

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

COLONIAL/DUTCH COLONIAL REVIVAL  
MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY/GOTHIC REVIVAL  
LATE VICTORIAN/ITALIANATE  
LATE VICTORIAN/QUEEN ANNE  
LATE VICTORIAN/STICK  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/COLONIAL REVIVAL  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/CLASSICAL REVIVAL/NEOCLASSICAL REVIVAL  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/BUNGALOW/CRAFTSMAN  
OTHER/FOLK VICTORIAN  
OTHER/ENGLISH VERNACULAR REVIVAL  
OTHER/HALL-PARLOR  
OTHER/SADDLEBAG  
OTHER/CENTRAL HALLWAY  
OTHER/GEORGIAN COTTAGE  
OTHER/GABLED ELL COTTAGE  
OTHER/QUEEN ANNE COTTAGE  
OTHER/NEW SOUTH COTTAGE  
OTHER/PYRAMID COTTAGE  
OTHER/BUNGALOW  
OTHER/ENGLISH COTTAGE  
OTHER/GEORGIAN HOUSE  
OTHER/GABLED ELL HOUSE  
OTHER/QUEEN ANNE HOUSE  
OTHER/AMERICAN FOURSQUARE  
OTHER/NEW SOUTH HOUSE

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

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**Materials:**

**foundation** Brick; Stone; Concrete  
**walls** Wood/Weatherboard/Shingle; Brick; Stone/Granite/Sandstone; Synthetics/Vinyl  
**roof** Metal/Tin; Asphalt  
**other** N/A

**Description of present and historic physical appearance:**

The North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District is located in Haralson County, eight miles west of Buchanan, the county seat, near the Alabama state line. The district encompasses the intact and contiguous historic residences, community landmark buildings, and a store constructed between c.1888 and 1956. A portion of the district began to develop in 1882 along the Georgia Pacific Railway Company's tracks. The remainder of the district was laid out in 1887 when the town plan was expanded by the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company. The neighborhood features a gridded street pattern, with the exception of Bowden Street, large, varying-sized lots, large mature trees, grass lawns, foundation plantings, and sidewalks. The historic residences share uniform setbacks. Development between 1882 and 1892 tended to be clustered with houses located close together with much land remaining undeveloped. Later development is generally less dense.

Major streets within the district, except Bowden Street, form a north-south, east-west grid pattern. State Route 100 runs north along Robertson Street to Taliaferro Street and then veers to the northwest along Bowden Street. State Route 120 follows Broad Street, skirting the northern boundary of the district. Most original lots in the district faced the north-south streets and were narrow and rectilinear (approximately 50 feet wide by 150 feet deep). Some exceptions to lot orientation occurred, such as along Taliaferro and Mill Streets, east of Manning Street, where some lots faced east-west streets. Today, this same general orientation exists.

Houses in the district feature one- to two-story height with wood, brick, or stone exterior wall surfaces. The district contains an excellent collection of houses constructed from the 1880s to the early 1950s, representing a variety of architectural styles and house types. Architectural styles represented in the district include Dutch Colonial Revival, Queen Anne (photographs 1, 2, 8, 10, 17, 33, 34, and 47), Stick (photographs 33 and 34), Folk Victorian (photographs 1, 2, 8, 10, 14, foreground, 15, background, 16, 17, 19, foreground, 33, and 37), English Vernacular Revival (photograph 11), and Craftsman (photographs 7, background and 30). House types represented in the district include hall-parlor, saddlebag (photograph 28, foreground), central hallway (photographs 5, 6, 15, 18, and 31), Georgian cottage, gabled ell cottage (photographs 4, 5, 26, background, 36, and 37), Queen Anne cottage (photograph 30, left), New South cottage, pyramid cottage (photograph 19 background), bungalow (photographs 7, background and 30), English cottage (photograph 11), Georgian house (photographs 3, 4, 21, and 28, background), side hallway (photographs 30, right and 40), gabled ell house (photographs 14, 19, foreground, and 35), Queen Anne house (photographs 1, 2, 8, 10, 14, foreground, 16, 17, 20, 33, 34, and 47), American foursquare (photograph 9, and New

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

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South house (photograph 3). The types and styles represented in the district have been identified as important in Georgia during the historic period in Georgia's Living Places: Historical Houses in Their Landscaped Settings, a statewide context.

The district's major stylistic influences before 1910 were predominantly Queen Anne and Folk Victorian. This characteristic can be attributed to the strong northern cultural influence in the area during the development of Tallapoosa. More than 20 percent of the Queen Anne examples, however, exhibit some Stick style characteristics and can be considered to be transitional examples. Five house types account for 82 percent of the district's contributing, single-family houses built before 1910. These house types are the Queen Anne house (24%), gabled ell cottage (21%), gable front bungalow (19%), gabled ell house (10%), and Queen Anne cottage (8%).

Approximately 63 percent of the district's contributing, single-family houses were constructed before 1910, many of those before 1892. About 12 percent of the district's contributing, single-family houses were constructed during the decades of the 1910s and 1920s. The bungalow was the most common house type built in the district during this period. Both hipped and front gable examples are found. According to Sanborn maps, no new residential construction occurred in the district between 1923 and 1930.

Ornamental concrete block, locally made, is a prominent decorative feature in several buildings constructed in the district during the 1910s. Three houses (photographs 9 and 27) are constructed entirely of this material—a foursquare example, a New South cottage, and a pyramid cottage. Ornamental concrete block was also used in the district for porches and foundations.

During the decades of the 1930s and 1940s, about 25 percent of the district's contributing, single-family houses were constructed. It was during the 1930s that brick-veneered wall cladding was first used in the construction of single-family houses in the district. The English Cottage house type, generally with some English Vernacular Revival stylistic characteristics, was the most common house type built. More building occurred in the district during the 1940s than any single decade since the 1900s. Also in the 1940s, a two-story, front-gabled, brick-veneered apartment building was constructed on Head Avenue.

With a few exceptions, historic buildings in the district share uniform setbacks. Boom-period historic development (1887-92) was often clustered and generally dispersed throughout the district (and beyond), with considerable land left undeveloped. This pattern of development was partially the result of land company policy based on the belief that scattered development would increase the value of the remaining undeveloped land. Several such clusters of historic houses remain in the district, where the buildings sit close together on original, fifty-foot-wide lots. Examples can be observed along Monroe Street, Kiker Street, and Robertson Avenue. Later historic and non-historic development has generally been less dense and has consumed much of the vacant land within the district.

The only commercial building in the district is the c.1888 Chambers & Fountain Store (photograph

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

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40). It is a two-story, rectangular-shaped, wood-framed building with Italianate features such as wide overhanging eaves and decorative brackets. The building has been converted into four apartments.

The district also contains several community landmark buildings. Tallapoosa Presbyterian Church (photograph 42), constructed c.1891 just north of its present location, is a Gothic Revival-style, wood-framed building with a corner entrance tower. It was moved to its present location in December 1905. The Gothic Revival style wood-framed building, with a corner entrance tower and secondary tower at the opposite corner, features a large pointed-arched window with intersecting tracery and a trefoil-decorated gable truss on the front façade. The Methodist Episcopal Church (photograph 44) (now Pentecostal Holiness Church) was constructed on Spring Street, just south of its present location c.1895-1903 as a wood-framed, corner tower church with Gothic Revival influence. It was moved, a side wing added, and brick veneered in 1915. The Methodist Episcopal Church South (photograph 43) (now United Methodist Church) was constructed on the site of an earlier church c.1918-19. This Neoclassical Revival-style building of buff-colored brick veneer features a symmetrical façade with a full-height portico supported by Corinthian columns. The First Baptist Church, constructed in 1952, is a brick Colonial Revival-style building. The 1936 Tallapoosa High School (photograph 45, foreground) (now Tallapoosa Elementary School) is a brick, T-shaped, Colonial Revival-style building featuring a gabled entrance on a cross-axis with the main corridor. A cross-gabled element on the south end faces Taliaferro Street and an auditorium wing extends to the rear. It was partially destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1941. A 1955-56 International-style gymnasium (photograph 45, background) is also on the school property.

A non-historic park (photograph 41), Veterans' Memorial Park, is located in the angle formed by the intersection of Bowden Street and Robertson Avenue. It is located on land that was formerly two historic building sites.

Streets within the district are paved and have concrete sidewalks on one or both sides. Only Head Avenue, between Lyon and Taliaferro Streets, is curbed. There are many oaks and magnolias in the district. Some streets are tree lined or partially tree lined. Residential lots are generally characterized by a spatial arrangement consisting of a front and back yard, and are informally landscaped. Front yards generally feature open lawns with trees and a variety of foundation plantings. Flowers are used in borders or as integral parts of the overall design. Fences are uncommon in the district. Historic photographs, however, suggest that the district's residential lots in the early twentieth century were invariably enclosed with fences, most commonly white picket fences or cast iron fences. Today, a few remnants of historic cast iron fences exist in the district.

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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):**

Architecture  
Community Planning and Development

**Period of Significance:**

1882-1956

**Significant Dates:**

1882-Georgia Pacific Railway completes track into Tallapoosa  
1882-Beginning of development of Tallapoosa  
1887-Expansion of the town plan by Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company  
1890-Reorganization of Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company into the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company  
1892-Offices of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company moved from Boston and New York to Tallapoosa  
1893-Dissolution of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company  
1893-Purchase and transfer of property of Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company to North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company  
1894-Vanderbilt, Timber, Mining, and Southwestern Railroad Company begins line from Tallapoosa to Montgomery, Alabama (never completed)  
1897-Dissolution of North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company  
1908-Establishment of Tallapoosa Mills  
1939-Dissolution of Tallapoosa Mills

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

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

Charles D. Camp, civil engineer (1882 town plan)  
Frank Rieman, landscape and mining engineer (1887 town plan expansion)  
R. M. Williams and L. F. Bellinger (1890 town plan modifications)  
DeLoss Churchill, architect (1888)  
G. E. Strout, architect (1888)  
Glass & Company, builders (1886)  
Gilnack & Fox, carpenters and builders (1888)  
Francis J. Meyer, builder and contractor (1888)  
Peeples & Company, builders and contractors (1888)  
R. S. Smith, builder and contractor (1896)  
Globe Construction Company, builder (1890s)



National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Statement of significance (areas of significance)**

North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District is a large residential district with an accompanying commercial building, churches, and a school, located in the north of the central business district of Tallapoosa. This area developed along the railroad tracks of the Georgia Pacific Railway and as a business venture beginning with the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company in the 1880s and through several later development companies.

The North Tallapoosa Historic District is significant in the area of architecture for its excellent collection of late 19<sup>th</sup>- to mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century residential styles, including Stick, Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Colonial Revival, and English Vernacular Revival and for its good examples of a variety of house types, including hall-parlor, saddlebag, central hallway, gabled-ell, gable-front, Queen Anne, pyramid, Georgian, New South, bungalow, foursquare, English cottage, and extended hall-parlor. All the above have been identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings, a statewide context study, except the gable-front type, which is unusual in most small Georgia cities. The district is also distinctive in Georgia for its several examples with Stick style elements and for its high percentage of Queen Anne style and Queen Anne type cottages and two-story houses. These distinctive aspects of the district's architectural characteristics can be attributed to Tallapoosa's strong northern cultural influence from 1887 through the 1900s. The district is also significant in architecture for its good examples of community landmark (religious and educational) and commercial buildings. These buildings (four churches, one school, and one store) generally reflect architectural styles, such as Gothic Revival, Italianate, and Neoclassical Revival, not well represented by the district's residential buildings. Of special note is the Tallapoosa High School (now elementary school) gymnasium. The gym was constructed in 1956 to serve the school and the community in a recreational capacity. It is a good local example of the use of the International style and an integral part of the district. This building is the largest example of the International style in the district and was the last community landmark building constructed during the historic period marking the end of major construction within the district. The Chambers and Fountain store building is the last remaining boom-period, wood-frame commercial building in the city.

The district is significant in community planning and development as a large middle- to upper-class, white neighborhood in the city of Tallapoosa that developed immediately north of the central business district. Part of the district began to develop in 1882 when a "new" town of Tallapoosa was laid out along the Georgia Pacific Railroad. The remainder of the district was laid out in 1887 when the town plan was greatly expanded by the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company, a development company whose aim to create a boom city. Tallapoosa's boom period (1887-92) was its most prolific historic building period, as seen in the district's development. Much of the district's street plan and lot layout as well as the pattern of dispersed, clustered development reflects the origins and early development of the neighborhood as part of a planned community. Many of the city's political and business leaders made their homes in this section of town.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**National Register Criteria**

The North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of community planning and development for its development as a railroad and company town that developed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The district is also eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its good and intact collection of historic residential, commercial, and community landmark resources constructed from the 1880s to the early 1950s.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

N/A

**Period of significance (justification)**

The period of significance for the Tallapoosa North Residential Historic District begins in 1882 with the beginning of development of the town, the laying out of the earliest streets in the district, and the construction of the oldest houses in the district, and ends in 1956, the construction date of the school gymnasium, the last community landmark building constructed during the historic period.

**Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

Contributing resources within the North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District include those constructed during the historic period that are significant in the areas of architecture and community planning and development. These resources include residential, commercial, and community landmark buildings such as Tallapoosa Presbyterian Church, Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Episcopal Church South, First Baptist Church, and Tallapoosa High School. A contributing site within the district is a lot in the northwestern section of the district that contains a nonhistoric house, but retains its original landscaping.

Noncontributing resources in the district are those constructed after 1956 (photographs 12, left background, 13, center background, 16, background, 18, background, 21, 26, and 36, background) and those that have lost their historic integrity due to significant alterations, primarily front-façade alterations (photographs 6, background, 25, and 39, center). A noncontributing site within the district is a memorial park (photograph 41) across from Tallapoosa High School (now Tallapoosa Elementary School). The monuments, gazebo, and landscaping are recent additions to the park.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)**

**\*\*NOTE: The following history was compiled by Dan Latham, Historic Preservation Planner, Coosa Valley Regional Development Center, February, 2001. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.**

Throughout Tallapoosa's history since 1882, the area encompassed by the North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District has been the community's principal and largest residential neighborhood, containing the greatest number and variety of historic houses and community landmark buildings, dating from every period of Tallapoosa's post-1882 history. Commercial and industrial development was located just to the south in a corridor along the east-west railroad tracks. A smaller residential neighborhood developed to the south of the commercial and industrial corridor.

**Pre-1882: Old Tallapoosa**

Tallapoosa, named for the river one and one-half miles to the north, was a small crossroads settlement in Carroll County before Haralson County was created and appears on William Bonner's 1847 map of Georgia. George White, in *Statistics of the State of Georgia* (1849) listed Tallapoosa and Burret [Burnt] Stand as two of Carroll County's post offices. One of the earliest and most important roads in the southeast ran through these settlements, east to west across the area. This was the Middle Alabama Road via Villa Rica, sometimes also known as the "Tallapoosa Road" or the "Sandtown Road." It was paralleled by the Coosa River routes to the north and by the McIntosh and Oakfuskee traces to the south. Passing just north of present-day Temple, the Middle Alabama Road passed through Burnt Stand and continued westward, eventually passing through Tallapoosa. After leaving Tallapoosa, the Alabama Road was known as the "Jacksonville Road," as it was used to reach the area in and around Jacksonville, Alabama.

Haralson County was created by an act of the Georgia General Assembly on January 26, 1856, taking land from both Carroll and Polk Counties. The area that became Tallapoosa, south of the Cherokee line, was Creek Indian territory until 1825, at which time it became part of Carroll County. Land in that area was surveyed into 202.5-acre lots and was distributed for settlement by the state in the land lottery of 1827. In the act creating Haralson County, the General Assembly specified that the county elections and public business would be held and transacted at Tallapoosa until the county site was located by the Inferior Court and until the organization of the militia districts (as voting precincts). The site for the county seat was selected in May 1857 in a central location, eight miles northeast of Tallapoosa. Buchanan, the new county seat, was incorporated on December 22, 1857. On December 20, 1860, Tallapoosa became the second town in Haralson County to be incorporated. Its corporate limits were a circle of one-half-mile radius, with the center being "where the roads cross each other."

Haralson County remained sparsely populated through 1880. The new county's population in 1860 was only 3,039. Population increased to 4,004 in 1870 and to 5,974 in 1880. According to the 1880 census, Buchanan had a population of 158 and Tallapoosa had a population of only 52. In 1880

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Tallapoosa received a new charter. The corporate limits remained the same but were described being "1/2 mile in every direction from the crossing of the Cedartown and Arbacoochee and Buchanan and Jacksonville roads." This crossing of roads was at the present intersection of Broad Street and Arbacoochee Road, just west of the northern extremity of the proposed historic district. At the beginning of the 1880s, the nearest railroads were at Cedartown and Carrollton, some 20 miles distant. In 1881 Tallapoosa had missionary Baptist and Methodist churches and a common school (academy). The Tallapoosa River furnished power to operate a wool carder, grist and flourmills, saw mills, and a machine shop. There was a cotton gin and planing mill operated by steam. Cotton, corn, and wheat were the chief exports, and the town received daily mail. According to the *Georgia State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1881-82*, saw mills were operated by M. Aderhold and A. J. Head & Company. Gristmills and gins were operated by Cadle & Watson and D. F. Mann, and a grist and flourmill and gin was operated by J. M. Hooper. General stores were operated by M. Wilson & Company and J. T. Barnwell, who was also postmaster; and C. Taliaferro operated a grocery. Other businesses included Killgore & Company, saloon, and E. M. Little & Company, distillery. Physicians were F. A. Kiker and W. J. Taylor, and A. A. Pittman was listed as "teacher."

The old academy grounds were located on the east side of Bowden Street, opposite the intersection of Windom Street, at the approximate location of 409 Bowden Street. Also, in the "old town," on the east side of Bowden Street, opposite the intersection of Chestnut Street, bounded on the north by Mann Street, on the east by Robertson Avenue, and on the south by Church Street (now closed), were located seven chestnut trees where, according to legend, the Creeks met in council. The trees were cut in the late 1870s, but the stumps were described as remaining in "a fair state of preservation" a decade later.

The 1860 and 1880 corporate limits of Old Tallapoosa included the area of the proposed historic district generally north of Taliaferro Street and west of Robertson Avenue. There are no known pre-1882 buildings remaining in the proposed district.

### **1882-87: New Tallapoosa**

The decade of the 1870s had been a period of national depression, regional instability, and limited outside investment. The booming 1880s, however, brought increased outside investment, renewed railroad construction, and dramatic growth and development. During the 1880s, two railroads were constructed through Haralson County. The first and most important for Tallapoosa was the Georgia Pacific, which was built east to west from Atlanta toward Birmingham in 1882.

In the fall of 1882, the Georgia Pacific Railway Company laid its tracks three-fourths of a mile south of the center of "old" Tallapoosa. A "new" Tallapoosa was surveyed and laid-off by Charles D. Camp, civil engineer, in a thirty-eight-block grid of business and residential lots bisected by the railroad. The new Tallapoosa, part of land lots 129, 130, 151, and 152, Eighth District and Fifth Section, lay just outside the corporate limits of 1880, the extreme northwest corner of the new plan touching the then circular town limits. Streets named in the 1882 plan were, to the north of the railroad: Alewine, Ann,

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Atlanta, Freeman, Head, Lyon, Mill, Pine, Spring, Stokes, Stone, Taliaferro, and Vine. To the south of the railroad were the following streets: Alabama, Alewine, Frierson, Hill, James, Lipham, Long, Meadow, Odessa, and Stewart. About 30 percent of the 1882 plan lies within the proposed historic district. The areas of the proposed district between Robertson Avenue and Alewine Street, south of a line about 300 feet north of Taliaferro Street, and between Alewine and Freeman Streets, south of Mill Street, are part of the 1882 town plan.

On November 1, 1882, the Georgia Pacific Railway Company's schedule took effect between Atlanta and Tallapoosa. Sales of town lots began the same month by real estate agents George W. Adair and Thomas A. Frierson of Atlanta. Colonel Adair conducted what was advertised as "the first Grand Excursion to Tallapoosa" on November 22, 1882, when he offered for sale at auction 128 business and residence lots. Six days later, on November 28, T. A. Frierson conducted a grand sale at the Tallapoosa depot, complete with music and a free barbecue.

The new Tallapoosa remained unincorporated during this period. Bowden Street connected the old town and the new town. With no stimulus except the railroad, a healthy location, and its agricultural and timber products, Tallapoosa's population increased eightfold or more within four to five years. One source gives the population as about 400 in July 1887. The *Georgia State Gazetteer, Business and Planters Directory, 1886-87*, states that Tallapoosa had a "tributary" population of 500, Baptist and Methodist churches, public schools, steam-operated saw and planing mill, and offices of Southern Express and Western Union Telegraph. Cotton (1,000 bales), lumber, and grain were the exports. The directory listed two saw mills, one grist mill, one saw and grist mill, one saw and planing mill, one cotton gin and grist mill, and one shingle manufacturer. Also listed were fifteen general stores, four hotels, two saloons, one livery stable, one millinery, five lawyers, three teachers, one photographer, and one druggist. Glass & Company was the only builder listed. A. I. Head was mayor, R. G. Bentley was marshal, S. L. Hilton was justice, and J. H. Davis was postmaster. During the period from 1882 to 1887, there was some mixture of residential, commercial, and institutional uses in the "new town" area north of Lyon Street. In 1886 the Methodist Episcopal Church South, founded in 1882 by Reverend A. G. Dempsey, erected a church building on the southeast corner of Alewine Avenue and Mill Street. It was the first church to build in the "new town" area of Tallapoosa. A very few houses in the proposed district along Spring Street and Head Avenue may date from this period, but no commercial or institutional buildings are known to survive.

### **1887-93: Boom and Bust**

Beginning in July 1887, Tallapoosa's development was stimulated by the investment and promotion activities of the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company, incorporated under the laws of Maine with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. A syndicate of northern capitalists, which had acquired control of about 4,000 acres of city lands and adjacent mineral lands, organized this company on June 27, 1887. The real purpose of the promoters was to create a boom city. R. L. Spencer was the prime mover in the enterprise, and "he was the controlling spirit in conducting the affairs of the corporation." The company's officers and directors included both northern and Georgia capitalists. The previously mentioned George W. Adair of Atlanta was the company's president, and John B.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Gordon, Governor of Georgia, was one of its directors.

The Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company began an extensive system of improvements and developments aimed at building a great residential and manufacturing city and fashionable resort, based on the surrounding mineral wealth and the area's numerous mineral springs. The company proposed to build, within three years, improvements consisting of woolen, cotton, and carpet mills, a blast furnace, a furniture factory, a public school building, and the Lithia Springs Hotel, as well as waterworks, an electric light plant, streetcar lines, parks, and various other public enterprises and improvements. To any person desiring to establish manufacturing facilities on their own, the company offered land free of cost.

By September 1887, the company had issued an elaborate prospectus; and the company's landscape and mining engineer, Frank Rieman, had designed a new plan of the city, greatly expanding the 1882 plan. From September 1 to December 1, 1887, the company claimed to have spent \$73,300 on surveys, grading and clearing streets, construction of an office building, a hotel, houses, advertising, development of mines, and other expenses and improvements. The company had acquired the Tallapoosa Hotel at a cost of nearly \$15,000 and was building many houses that it planned to sell with the lots.

By early 1888, the Georgia Pacific, part of the Piedmont Air Line system, had been completed to Columbus, Mississippi, where it formed a connection with the Texas Pacific. It was rumored that a second railroad, the Chattanooga, Rome & Columbus, completed between Rome and Cedartown and under construction between Chattanooga and Rome, would probably be extended southward from Cedartown via Tallapoosa to Columbus.

At this time, Tallapoosa had about fifty business houses, express, telegraph, post office, a large newspaper (*The Tallapoosa Journal*), three churches (Methodist, Baptist, and African), three hotels (Tallapoosa Hotel, Powell House, and Barnwell House), one school (Tallapoosa Male and Female Seminary), several planing mills and wood working establishments, saw mills, cotton gins, two brick manufactories, and other minor industries peculiar to the area. Charters were secured for an electric light company, a waterworks, a streetcar company, the Tallapoosa Furnace Company, the Tallapoosa Malleable Iron Company, the Poosa Manufacturing Company (sash, door, and blind manufacturers), and the Tallapoosa Glass Works. By June 1888, however, only the Poosa Manufacturing Company and the Tallapoosa Glass Works were under construction.

On December 26, 1888, the town was reincorporated under the name of the "City of Tallapoosa." The corporate limits were expanded on a grand scale to include seventeen land lots (land lot numbers 102, 103, 104, 105, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 176, 177, and 178, Eighth District and Fifth Section) or more than 3,440 acres. On the same date, the General Assembly passed an act allowing the city to collect a tax of 0.5 percent of the assessed value of property for "establishing and maintaining a system of free public schools."

The physical growth of the new city was also dramatic. From a tiny crossroads settlement with a

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population of 52 in 1880, Tallapoosa became a booming railroad town with an official population of 1,699 by 1890. By comparison, Haralson County's other incorporated towns had 1890 populations as follows: Bremen, 312; Buchanan, 324; and Waco, 357.

Despite Tallapoosa's remarkable growth from 1887 to 1890, the Chattanooga, Rome & Columbus Railroad built through Bremen, ten miles to the east and many of the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company's three-year goals for public improvements and industrial development were behind schedule. By March 1890, Tallapoosa was still without an operating electric light plant, a waterworks, or a street railroad. The Lithia Springs Hotel was not constructed; and in the way of new industries, only the Poosa Manufacturing Company and Hutchison & Sons Wagon Works were in operation. The Mountain City Glass Works (formerly Tallapoosa Glass Works) was not completed, and the iron furnace of the Tallapoosa Furnace Company was not yet in working order. Four other new industries, however, had begun construction of manufacturing facilities along Atlanta Street, east of Williams Street: Tallapoosa Knitting and Manufacturing Company, Tallapoosa Cabinet Company, Tallapoosa Foundry and Machine Works, and Tallapoosa Reclining Chair Company.

Between 1888 and 1890, Tallapoosa's first three brick commercial buildings were constructed on Alabama Street and Head Avenue. Most new commercial buildings, however, continued to be of wood frame construction. Several, including the c. 1888 Chambers & Fountain store building (extant), were erected within the proposed historic district, especially along Head Avenue as far north as Taliaferro Street.

The business of the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company continued until September 1890. Through alleged mismanagement and fraud, Spencer had managed to absorb most of the company's assets. Consequently, the company was largely in debt and liable, and little remained to be gained by continuing to operate under its name. So, under Spencer's guidance a new scheme was devised to keep the boom alive. Through various manipulations of property and stock, the old land company was reorganized. On September 9, 1890, a petition for the organization of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company was made under the laws of Alabama, and on September 19, the petition was approved. Corporators were R. L. Spencer, J. A. Burns, J. H. Allen, C. A. Norton, J. C. Kibby, T. Henry Pearse, T. E. Major, J. H. Plummer, and D. R. Keith. Spencer and his confederates used Pearse and Major to pass title from the old companies—Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company, Mountain City Glass Works, and Tallapoosa Furnace Company—to the new one. At the first meeting of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company on October 1, 1890, Keith, Plummer, and Kibby were replaced by Benjamin F. Butler, C. W. Perkins, and James W. Hyatt. Spencer resigned as a director and was made general manager with large power that he exercised virtually unchecked.

The new corporation elected officers and created an advisory board. No favorable section of the country was neglected in making distributions of stock and posts of honor. Included were present and former members of Congress, former governors, former United States Treasurers, a former United States Public Printer, a Cashier of the United States Treasury, bank officials, corporate executives, and a member of the New York Stock Exchange. The distinguished slate of officers

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included Benjamin F. Butler, ex-Governor of Massachusetts, as president, and a board of directors composed of some of the wealthiest men in New England. The company published widely that the men of national reputation as financiers in charge of its affairs were a sufficient guarantee that it would be successful as a corporation. *Financial Times* (New York, March 1891) agreed that the new company's "affairs are not in the hands of boomers who have done so much to injure the South, but in the hands of some of the foremost financiers and business men of the country."

To promote the sale of its stock to the public, the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company issued a voluminous prospectus and a new plat of the city. It used large sums in printing and widely distributing its promotional literature. All of it was full of exaggerations and falsehoods regarding the condition of the corporation and the value of its property and stock.

The Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company acquired the city lots and mineral lands of the original land company, all issued stock of the Georgia, Tennessee, and Illinois Railroad (with a contract for building the road), and two manufacturing plants—the Piedmont Glass Works (formerly Tallapoosa and Mountain City Glass Works) and the Tallapoosa Furnace. The stated policy of the new company was to aid in the development of the city "by securing the location there of diversified manufacturing industries, and building a model residence and manufacturing city that shall, from its many advantages as a health resort . . . , become a favorite rendezvous for invalids and people of wealth both North and South"; to devote a reasonable amount of its receipts from the sale of lots to the improvement of the streets, parks, and its city lands, in conjunction with the city council; to develop its mineral properties; and "by judicious advertising to call the attention of the public to Tallapoosa as a desirable place for residence, for the establishment of profitable manufacturing industries, and to its city property as a desirable investment for capital." It was also the stated policy of the company to operate its present manufacturing plants for the best interest of its stockholders and to secure the construction of the Georgia, Tennessee, and Illinois Railroad and to operate it for the profit of the company.

The proposed Georgia, Tennessee, and Illinois Railroad is a prominent feature on the new plat of the city. This road was considered to have an important bearing on the future of Tallapoosa as a manufacturing city. To run north from Tallapoosa to Stevenson, Alabama, it was to bring timber, coal, and iron to Tallapoosa and give the manufacturers of the city the benefit of low freight on incoming and outgoing shipments by connecting with eleven different railroads and the Tennessee River. The railroad and the contract to build it were a fabrication intended to deceive.

Tallapoosa was promoted as the first and only strictly "Yankee city under Southern sun," having a larger number of northern people in proportion to its population than any other city in the south. The company boasted that two-thirds of the city's population were northern and that northerners moving to Tallapoosa "will find a community necessarily northern in its customs, and will see all of the thrift and enterprise that is proverbial of New England manufacturing cities."

People flooded in to inspect the "new" city. The company's most active financiers were R. L. Spencer, general manager, and James W. Hyatt of Norwalk, Connecticut, company treasurer (and



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ex-Treasurer of the United States under Grover Cleveland). The company organized special inspection parties of potential investors. One such party of 100 New England excursionists, hosted by R.L. Spencer, visited Anniston, Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, Tallapoosa, and Atlanta in February 1891. Traveling on an elegant vestibule train consisting of four vestibule Pullman sleepers, a parlor car, a dining car, and a composite car (smoking-car, bathroom, and barbershop), it was described by the *Boston Daily Globe* as "the finest train and most representative party that ever went South." The company entertained the excursionists with a reception and banquet at the Tallapoosa Hotel, sold 20,000 shares of stock, and made progress toward establishing new industries. In early May 1891, James W. Hyatt, on a single trip to western New York looking for manufacturing industries to locate at Tallapoosa, secured the Hayes Chair Company and the Howe Ventilating Stove Company of Cortland, New York, and also the C. D. Hitchcock Manufacturing Company. An excursion of stockholders of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company visited Tallapoosa on August 19-20, 1891, and declared, "We saw all that was promised we should see, and more too, and we believe the future of Tallapoosa will be a great one."

The first year of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company's operations, from October 1890 to October 1891, was an exciting period for Tallapoosa in which there were many "red letter" days. President Benjamin Harrison and party visited Tallapoosa on April 16, 1891. The Vernon Light and Power Company began operation with 36 streetlights and over 200 incandescent burners in private homes. Woltmann, Keith & Company of New York City constructed a waterworks system costing \$45,000. It consisted of a pump station and reservoir (extant ruins), a 100-foot-high standpipe (extant), and 30 fire hydrants throughout the city. M. A. Greene was the waterworks superintendent. A street railway, with two miles of road, was chartered and constructed. Work on the great Lithia Springs Hotel was resumed by parties from New York State and pushed toward completion. Five or six new brick commercial blocks were constructed along Head Avenue and Atlanta Street, including the T. S. Montgomery and W. W. Summerlin Building (possibly extant/more research needed), the Merchants' & Miners' Bank (extant), the C. S. Littlefield Block (extant), and the George M. Williams Block (extant/partially destroyed). The city voted \$10,000 for new school buildings, and construction was begun on a new two-story, brick public school building on Robertson Avenue.

Also by this time, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, on the southeast corner of Alewine Avenue and East Mill Street, had been joined by a Baptist Church erected in c. 1887-88 on the southwest corner of West Mill and Manning Streets and an Episcopal Church on the south side of East Mill Street at Cleveland Street. The Presbyterians began the erection of a church on Head Avenue in April 1891 and completed it in January 1892. These four church buildings were located in the proposed historic district. The black community, meanwhile, owned two church buildings on the south side of the city.

An 1891 *Prospectus of the City of Tallapoosa* published by the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company claimed that Tallapoosa had "nearly 700 houses, two-thirds of them being built in the last two years." While this claim may be an exaggeration and while many of the boom period houses were built in other sections of the city, a substantial number of the finer houses were

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built in the proposed district.

The iron furnace and glass works, owned by the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company, began operations in 1891; and a dozen or more manufacturing facilities were in operation or under construction within a three-fourths-mile-long corridor along the Georgia Pacific Railroad, east of the city's center. In addition to the Tallapoosa Furnace Company and the Piedmont Glass Works (formerly Mountain City Glass Works), some of the more significant of these manufacturers were as follows: Hayes Chair Company, Hitchcock Manufacturing Company (carriages and wagons), Howe Ventilating Stove Company, Petry & Richardson (school and church furniture), Poosa Manufacturing Company, Southern Emery Wheel Company, Tallapoosa Cabinet Company, Tallapoosa Foundry and Machine Works, and Tallapoosa Reclining Chair Company.

On October 16, 1891, the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company entered into an agreement with E. D. Swift of New York, for the construction of a powder and cartridge factory at Tallapoosa to produce 35,000 pounds of rifle powder and 100,000 to 200,000 cartridges per day. The operation was to employ up to 800 hands and be in production by February 1, 1892.

Incorporated under the laws of Kentucky, the Swift Powder and Cartridge Company commenced the erection of buildings and the construction of other work about the proposed powder factory in the fall of 1891 on 40 acres adjacent to the Tallapoosa city limits on the north.

Meanwhile, a stock dividend, payable on October 15, 1891, had been announced to the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company's 15,000 stockholders on September 11. (At the time the dividend was declared, the company was unable to pay its debts without borrowing money.) At a directors' meeting in Boston on October 8, 1891, Benjamin F. Butler, for health reasons, resigned as president of the company. Because the company's capital stock was then virtually disposed of, it was decided that the stockholders' interests required the company's business to be conducted at Tallapoosa and that local residents should be elected officers and directors. As additional resignations occurred, vacancies were filled accordingly. One week later, the company's advisory board was abolished, and on November 23, 1891, the company's offices in Massachusetts and New York were closed. R. L. Spencer remained as general manager until February 1892. The stock dividend was never paid.

On February 7, 1892, *The Atlanta Constitution* reported that "the charge has been made through several reputable journals . . . , that Tallapoosa is simply a pictorial town engraved by designing minds to catch unwary capitalists. . . . The Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company, . . . , may have been open to the charge of holding out delusive inducements to float its stock. The company may have been extravagant in the management of its stockholders' interests, and insecure in its methods to secure population. . . . But, admitting that such charges are true, the parties most directly interested have adjusted this matter . . . by completely reorganizing the company and placing the management of its affairs in the hands of new men. This action seems to satisfy them that their interests will be protected and perfect harmony now prevails." The new officers of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company were as follows: George S. Bowen, president;

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David Quackinbush, first vice-president; E. S. Matthews, second vice-president; C. W. Fox, treasurer; E. C. Bean, secretary; C. A. Norton, general manager; and C. B. Hitchcock, J. W. Caseldine, and N. C. Matthews, executive committee.

A bird's-eye-view map of Tallapoosa, drawn and published by George E. Norris of Brookton, Massachusetts, and dated February 18, 1892, is remarkable for its depiction of Tallapoosa at this high point of its boom period development. The Tallapoosa Furnace Company, Piedmont Glass Works, Howe Ventilating Stove Company, Petry & Richardson, Poosa Manufacturing Company, Tallapoosa Cabinet Company, Tallapoosa Foundry and Machine Works, and Tallapoosa Reclining Chair Company had begun at least "start-up" production. Several other manufacturers, including Hayes Chair Company, Hitchcock Manufacturing Company, Southern Emory Wheel Company, and Swift Powder and Cartridge Company were building or equipping their plants but had not yet begun manufacturing operations. Also nearing completion was the great Lithia Springs Hotel. Some reports of Tallapoosa's progress claim that the city's population reached 3,500 inhabitants by February 1892. Yet, based on the number of factories running, built, and contracted for, exuberant projections were made and widely circulated that Tallapoosa would have a population of 10,000 by January 1, 1893.

The exuberance and "perfect harmony" did not last much longer, however. On May 24, 1892, news of the suspension of the Merchants' & Miners' Bank of Tallapoosa caused a big sensation in business circles, and "Tallapoosa was wild with excitement over the affair." (The organization of the Merchants' & Miners' Bank in July 1890 and its incorporation under a charter granted by the State of Georgia on December 4, 1890, had been closely associated with the organization of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company.) A routine audit of the bank by the state bank examiner in mid-May revealed that the bank had conducted business in violation of the banking laws of Georgia and that it had inadequate funds on hand with which to do business. By order of the bank's directors, R. L. Spencer, a director and vice-president, and J. W. Caseldine, cashier, were arrested on a charge of alleged violation of state banking laws. Regarding the arrest of Spencer, *The Atlanta Constitution* stated that "he has been the most prominent factor in the booming and building-up of Tallapoosa and everyone knows will not be shown up in a bad light." Two days later, on the same day *The Atlanta Constitution* was reporting that "the Georgia-Alabama company will not suffer any serious loss" due to the temporary shutting down and reorganization of the bank and "the cause of the bank trouble is not properly an evidence of collapse of the town," a petition on behalf of J. A. Uber, Logan H. Roots, and James W. Hyatt was filed against the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company in the Superior Court of Haralson County. The bill alleged that the company was indebted to the petitioners, that it was hopelessly insolvent, and that it had not done any business for sometime except at a great loss. The petitioners asked for the appointment of a receiver of and for all the property and assets of the company.

On June 6, 1892, the Haralson County Superior Court appointed C. A. Norton as permanent receiver of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company. As the news quickly spread, a multitude of creditors descended upon the company. For the remainder of 1892, the creditors, stockholders, and the court attempted to "unravel the tangled financial affairs of the company." The

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old officers and administrators of the company each claimed to be victims of a giant swindle perpetrated by someone else in the company. Further complications involved the failure of the Suffolk Trust Company of Boston, transfer agents for the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company, and the problems discovered at the Merchants' & Miners' Bank of Tallapoosa.

Finally, on February 23, 1893, all interested parties agreed to the appointment of a board of auditors and arbitrators and to the sale of the company's assets. On April 20, 1893, all the lands, manufacturing facilities, buildings, equipment, and supplies of the company were sold at public auction.

**1893-1908: The Winegrowing Era**

The dream of Tallapoosa becoming a great manufacturing center effectively ended with the collapse of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company. The confusion from lengthy litigation was followed by a major financial panic that swept the country in 1893 and an ensuing national depression that lingered until about 1898.

When the property of the Georgia-Alabama Investment and Development Company was sold at public auction, the highest bidders were O. F. Sampson and W. H. Kimball, trustees, who, in turn, transferred the property to the North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company on May 8, 1893. This new corporation, organized under the laws of Alabama, had its principal office at Edwardsville, Cleburne County, Alabama, fourteen miles west of Tallapoosa. The company's president was O. F. Sampson, who was also president of the Merchants' & Miners' Bank of Tallapoosa.

On May 15, 1893, the North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company issued \$80,000 in bonds to raise money for its operations. The bonds were secured by a deed of trust to the Merchants' & Miners' Bank, conveying all realties. Included in the extensive list of properties acquired from the Georgia-Alabama Company were four manufacturing properties: the Tallapoosa furnace plant; the glass works; a two-story, brick mill on the south side of the railroad, just northwest of the glass works (sometimes referred to as the Anchor Woolen Mill); and an interest in the knitting mill on the east side of Williams Street at Atlanta Street (Block 220).

It is not clear if or to what extent the North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company operated its manufacturing plants from 1893 to 1897. By May 1895, two years after the sale of the Georgia-Alabama Company's property, most of Tallapoosa's manufacturing facilities were idle. The Sanborn maps of that date indicate that at least ten major manufacturing plants were "not running," "not in operation," or "vacant." Another boom-period manufacturing facility, the Poosa Manufacturing Company, disappeared altogether from the maps, possibly destroyed. This almost total collapse of manufacturing is further evidenced by the conspicuous absence of manufacturers listed for Tallapoosa in *The Georgia State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1896*. The only manufacturers listed were W. J. Dunlap, foundry; E. P. C. Fowler, ice manufacturer; the Pioneer Box and Basket Factory; and the Tallapoosa Powder Company.

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By 1897 the North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company, like its predecessor, had become involved in litigation. The Merchants' & Miners' Bank brought suit for the foreclosure of the previously mentioned mortgage bonds. A receiver was appointed, and on July 31, 1897, the Haralson County Superior Court ordered the receiver to sell the company's property.

Meanwhile, the schemers and promoters were not yet through with Tallapoosa and the surrounding area, despite the destructive collapse of the Georgia-Alabama Company and the stringent years that followed. A new scheme of land speculation and colonization based on the industry of grape culture had begun to develop before the end of 1893. Observations in early promotional materials of the Tallapoosa Land, Mining, and Manufacturing Company proved prophetic—that "grapes grow in luxuriance and abundance, and the planting of vineyards should be a profitable industry."

First, the Georgia Fruit Growing and Winery Association was chartered in October 1893. Then, from April 1894 to May 1895, the Steadman Colony of Fruit Growers, the Highland Colony of Fruit Growers, the South-Land Colony of Fruit Growers, and the Southern Homestead and Fruit Growing Company were organized, all with principal offices in Tallapoosa. In addition to these several fruit growing companies, any of the city's reputable real estate dealers or merchants could furnish information and maps relative to land. Fruit lands and vineyards could be purchased on an "easy installment plan."

Groups of Hungarian and Slavonian immigrants and farmers from other parts of the country were lured to Haralson County to develop vineyards, grow grapes, and make wine. In addition, many absentee owners bought farms or vineyards as investments. Within a few years, vineyards were a common sight on the Haralson County landscape. Most of the county's vineyards were located east of Tallapoosa, in and around the communities of Budapest and Nitra, which developed during the period, and in the vicinity of Steadman. (This venture also spread into Cleburne County, Alabama, in c. 1896-98, including activities in and around Fruithurst.)

The Piedmont Wine Company and the Georgia Vineyard Company were chartered in November 1897. Trustees for the subscribers to stock of the Georgia Vineyard Company, N. C. Matthews, W. H. Kimball, and Emmett Coon, were the highest bidders for the property of the North Georgia Land and Manufacturing Company when it was sold at public auction on August 28, 1897. Later, on December 1, 1897, the trustees transferred these interests to the Georgia Vineyard Company, whose first president was N. C. Matthews. A new issue of bonds for \$75,000 was made, secured by a deed of trust conveying all realties except the manufacturing plants. Two of these manufacturing facilities, the knitting mill and the woolen mill buildings, were soon utilized for the company's winemaking operations.

According to the 1900 U. S. Census on Agriculture, Haralson County had 665,885 grapevines and produced 1,593,536 pounds of grapes. No other county in Georgia even came close to these figures. Second-ranking Coweta County had less than one-fourth the production. Haralson County had 500 vineyards covering 5,000 acres, according to *Georgia: Historical and Industrial* (1901). Only about 25 percent of the grape production was marketed, with the great majority used in winemaking.

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Two wineries were located at Tallapoosa, and according to the 1900 census, 64,115 gallons of wine were produced in Haralson County—more than fifteen times the production of second-ranking Houston County.

The Lithia Springs Hotel began operations in 1892, and it flourished throughout the remainder of the 1890s. Both the Lithia Springs Hotel and the Tallapoosa Hotel were favorite resorts for northerners during all seasons of the year. The Lithia Springs Hotel was a magnificent tourist hotel containing 175 richly furnished rooms, a banquet hall, billiard parlor, card room, and ballroom. It was connected with a large park containing a summerhouse and four mineral springs. In addition, tennis courts, bowling alleys, and riding trails were available to guests. Excursion trains often brought parties of sixty or more to Tallapoosa. Many came to vacation. Others came to investigate business opportunities or to inspect farm property or vineyards in the area. Locals often hosted groups of excursionists at gala dinner parties or banquets. The hotel also was a favorite spot for business luncheons and for all types of local entertaining.

Despite reports claiming that Tallapoosa's population reached 3,000 to 3,500 by early 1892, at the height of its boom-period development, the city's official population in 1900 was only 2,128. This figure, nevertheless, indicated a net population gain of 25 percent over the decade of the 1890s, giving Tallapoosa almost six times the population of Buchanan (359), the county's second largest town.

The Georgia Pacific became part of the Southern Railway System in 1894, and by c. 1900, Tallapoosa became the starting point for a new railroad. The Vanderbilt Timber, Mining, and Southwestern Railway Company began building in a southwesterly direction toward Montgomery, Alabama. This new road was expected to make Tallapoosa "the shipping point for vast quantities of lumber, ores, etc." The railway company also operated saw and planing mills and a commissary at Tallapoosa.

By the early 1900s, manufacturing had recovered somewhat from the slump that followed the boom. On April 2, 1900, the Georgia Vineyard Company sold the glass works plant and grounds to the Dixie Glass Works and on May 5, 1902, sold the Tallapoosa furnace plant and grounds to Stephen N. Noble, trustee, who, in turn, transferred title to the Southern Car Wheel Iron Company. Thus, the two manufacturing industries most synonymous with Tallapoosa's boom period once again began regular production.

In addition to the Georgia Vineyard Company's winemaking operations, the M. A. Greene Foundry and Machine Works also began operations in the former Tallapoosa Foundry and Machine Works, plant and the H. A. Hitchcock Planing Mill occupied a portion of the former Hitchcock Manufacturing Company plant. The E. P. C. Fowler Ice Factory continued to operate on Rose Street. According to the 1903 Sanborn maps, however, at least another six boom-period manufacturing facilities disappeared altogether. These included the Hayes Chair Company plant, the Howe Ventilating Stove Company plant, the Petry and Richardson plant, the Southern Emery Wheel Company plant, the Tallapoosa Cabinet Company plant, and the Tallapoosa Reclining Chair Company plant.

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By the mid-1900s, the vineyards had not proved profitable to the many nonresident owners, and the passage of a state prohibition act in 1907 effectively put the wineries out of business on January 1, 1908. Consequently, the vineyards disappeared as rapidly as they appeared a decade earlier, bringing "the winegrowing era" to a swift end.

The end of the winegrowing era also marked the demise of at least two Tallapoosa institutions—the Lithia Springs Hotel and the Tallapoosa furnace. The Lithia Springs Hotel appears to have operated only intermittently or seasonally during the latter part of the winegrowing era and not at all shortly thereafter. The Tallapoosa furnace produced 10,000 tons of charcoal pig iron in 1907, but it was shut down in July 1908.

The Vanderbilt Timber, Mining, and Southwestern Railway Company was also in decline. Its line had been built only fourteen miles to Hopewell, Alabama, and it had handled only 27,000 tons of freight in 1907.

The Dixie Glass Works were purchased in 1907 by the Tallapoosa Glass Manufacturing Company, and the plant was remodeled and enlarged. The new company produced about 60,000 bottles monthly and made its own boxes and crates. Justin C. Jackson was president and J. F. Hinkley was superintendent. Other manufacturing establishments operating at the beginning of 1908 included the M. A. Greene Foundry and Machine Works (including a planing mill and lumber yard) and the E. P. C. Fowler Ice Factory. A ginnery was owned and operated by the Tallapoosa Mercantile and Manufacturing Company. Tallapoosa remained a minor cotton market during this period, handling about 2,000 bales annually, according to *Georgia: Historical and Industrial* (1901).

By 1904 the Gainesboro Telephone Company had installed an up-to-date telephone system; and by the end of the winegrowing era, a majority of the city's business houses and residences had telephones. In c. 1905-06 a city owned electric light plant (extant remains) was built, replacing the Vernon Light and Power Company that had supplied the city's illumination and electric power since 1891.

Two new church buildings were constructed c. 1895-1903 on the north side of the city. The Methodist Episcopal Church (Northern), organized in 1890, built a church on the west side of Spring Street, south of West Mill Street; and a Christian Church was erected on the northeast corner of Lyon and Spring Streets. The Methodist Episcopal Church South expanded its building twice from 1895 to 1908; and the c. 1891 Presbyterian Church building (extant) was moved a short distance to the northwest corner of Taliaferro Street and Head Avenue in December 1905. The city's five principal churches for its white population in 1908 were Baptist, Christian, Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal (South), and Presbyterian. The Episcopal Church on East Mill Street did not have a permanent rector.

In 1908 the Tallapoosa public school for whites consisted of the c. 1891 brick school building and a two-story frame annex built to the rear shortly thereafter. These buildings housed approximately 400 students enrolled in 10 grades. A graded school for blacks on the south side of the city had an

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enrollment of 125 pupils.

As the demise of the winegrowing venture and the failure of the Lithia Springs Hotel and the Tallapoosa furnace defined the end of one era in Tallapoosa's history, a new development at about the same time promised to have a major influence on Tallapoosa's development over the next two decades.

**1908-30: Influence of the Cotton Textile Industry**

In early 1908, the publisher of *The Tallapoosa Journal*, in describing his city, stated that "the Tallapoosa of today has arisen from the Tallapoosa of the past, but is an entirely different creation. Though possessed of some of the old landmarks and a few scars still are observant, it has arisen in a more glorious form." The main reason for this optimistic outlook was the completion of a new cotton mill costing over \$200,000 by Tallapoosa Mills, a corporation with mostly local stockholders. Even before production had begun, the cotton mill was said to have had a "very salutary effect" upon the city. The mill was to employ 300 to 400 hands and would directly and indirectly bring many people to Tallapoosa. Already, a greater demand for houses and real estate in general had been observed. Also, the mill would use locally grown cotton purchased from warehouses in Carrollton, Cedartown, and Tallapoosa.

Unlike most of the boom-period manufacturing facilities, the new cotton mill was located in the western portion of the city, near the Southern Railroad. The mill's brick and concrete buildings consisted of the mill proper, two warehouses, engine house, electric and water plant, and a 250,000-gallon reservoir. Tallapoosa Mills also built thirty double houses for its operatives. The firm of A. H. Washburn, Charlotte, North Carolina, furnished the machinery being installed in early 1908. C. E. Pearce of Wilson, North Carolina, was brought to Tallapoosa to engineer the construction of the mill and to serve as superintendent. The company's president and treasurer was A. L. Jackson and its secretary was A. V. Howe. The new cotton mill was expected to begin the manufacture of yarn about May 1908.

In the short term, the establishment of the cotton mill did little more than balance the effects of the several negative developments of the late 1900s. Tallapoosa's population actually declined slightly to 2,117 in 1910. Nevertheless, it remained easily the largest city in Haralson County despite Bremen's more than 200 percent increase over the decade to 890 in 1910.

The Tallapoosa Glass Manufacturing Company operated into the 1910s, but the plant was "not in operation" in September 1914 according to the Sanborn maps of that date. The Dixie Glass Bottle Manufacturing Company (Rossville, Walker County) acquired an interest in the property in c. 1913 and title to the property in May 1916. The latter company apparently operated the plant briefly before it was shut down for the final time in September 1917. The Foundry and Machine Works plant, last operated by M. A. Greene, also was abandoned by 1914. The Tallapoosa furnace plant, not operating since July 1908, was acquired by the Blue Ridge Iron Company and was "being put in working order" in September 1914. The Tallapoosa furnace, however, never resumed operations.



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Thus, the last of the boom-period manufacturing industries ended operations in the 1910s. Tallapoosa Mills remained the city's largest employer and most important manufacturing facility. Other manufacturers in 1914 included the Jackson Brothers Lumber Company, A. B. Giles Saw and Planing Mill, J. W. Hart Grist Mill, Mandeville Mills Cotton Gin, and E. P. C. Fowler Ice Factory and Bottling Works. Another unnamed facility, shown on the Sanborn maps only as "Cement Block Mfg." was located in a portion of the former Foundry and Machine Works plant on Atlanta Street, just east of Franklin Street. This manufacturing facility is believed to have been operated by A. Colvin, who had a jewelry business in downtown Tallapoosa, and to have made the decorative cement blocks used in the construction of numerous residential and commercial buildings in Tallapoosa in the 1910s.

Also by 1914, Tallapoosa had a new city hall and fire department. In May 1916, the city sold \$65,000 in public improvement bonds, with a new school building being the most important of the proposed improvements. Construction began almost immediately on the northeast corner of Robertson Avenue and Taliaferro Street, and by late 1916 or early 1917, Tallapoosa had a new two-story, brick high school building. The c. 1891 brick school continued to serve as the elementary school.

In 1915 the Methodist Episcopal Church building (extant) was moved slightly north to the southwest corner of Spring and Mill Streets, enlarged, remodeled, and brick veneered. Three years later, the Methodist Episcopal Church South demolished their old church building and built a new brick church (extant) at the same location.

The establishment of Tallapoosa Mills spurred renewed modest growth for Tallapoosa during the 1910s. The city's population increased 28.4 percent during the decade to 2,719 in 1920. Bremen remained the second largest city in Haralson County with a 1920 population of 917.

In June 1923, Tallapoosa's manufacturing facilities consisted of Tallapoosa Mills; Jackson Brothers Lumber Company; A. B. Giles Planing Mill; Mandeville Mills Cotton Gin; Greene Ginnery; Bates Brothers Grist Mill; Vance Grist Mill; and Heaton and Senft Manufacturing Company, harness manufacturers, located in the old woolen mill building. The cement block manufacturing operation was gone by this time.

In c. 1924 the Tallapoosa post office changed from third class to second class, and city mail delivery was initiated. This advancement involved marking streets, numbering houses, and repairing sidewalks and constructing new ones.

On May 2, 1927, the Georgia Power Company purchased the city-owned electric plant and distribution system; and on October 21, 1927, it began supplying power to Tallapoosa from its statewide network of transmission lines. Further, the Georgia Power Company reconstructed the city's local distribution system in March and April 1928. In late 1926 or early 1927, it was determined that the city should build a modern water plant. The sale of the light plant to the Georgia Power Company made it possible for the city to begin construction of a new \$40,000 water plant north of the city on the Tallapoosa River.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

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In March 1928, the c. 1916 high school building, on the northeast corner of Robertson Avenue and Taliaferro Street, was destroyed by fire. As its replacement, a new two-story, brick high school building was constructed to the rear of the c. 1891 school building on Robertson Avenue.

The Baptist, Christian, Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal (South), and Presbyterian remained the five principal churches for whites on the north side of the city. In 1921 the Pentecostal Holiness Church acquired the building on East Mill Street formerly occupied by the Episcopal Church. The Bethel M. E. Church and White's Chapel A. M. E. Church (extant) served the black community on the south side of the city.

Tallapoosa Mills remained a successful enterprise until the Great Depression began in 1929. During its first two decades of operations, additions to the plant and equipment increased the floor space and the number of spindles utilized from 10,000 to 17,000. Many houses were added to the mill village, then comprised of more than 100 dwellings. The Jackson brothers sold their majority stock holdings after World War I to the William Whitman Company, but the management of the company remained largely unchanged. At the beginning of the depression, C. E. Pearce continued to serve as manager of the cotton mill and A. V. Howe, one of the original organizers and officers, served as president.

Tallapoosa Mills saved Tallapoosa from economic decline after the winegrowing era ended, and it provided a degree of economic stability to the community over two decades. Its establishment and operation, however, did little to stimulate manufacturing growth or expansion. In January 1930, Jackson Brothers Lumber Company, J. T. Smith Grist Mill, Mandeville Mills Cotton Gin, John Hart Gin, Tallapoosa Ice and Coal Company, and Georgia United Ice Company were the only other manufacturers. Once again, most of Tallapoosa's manufacturing operations were related closely to local timber, grain, and cotton, as they had been prior to the city's boom period.

During the 1920s, Tallapoosa, like the county as a whole, experienced a decline in population. In Haralson County, only Bremen, where a clothing manufacturing industry began to develop in the late 1920s, experienced a gain in population. Bremen's population increased to 1,030 in 1930, while Tallapoosa's population declined to 2,417.

### **1931-50: Depression, WWII, and a New Era for Tallapoosa**

In July 1931, the streets of Tallapoosa were reported to be in the best condition in twenty years, and the mayor and council planned the laying of pavement in the downtown residential districts as soon as the depression was alleviated somewhat. The completion of the Bankhead Highway, State Route 8, through Haralson County via Bremen and Tallapoosa, as well as the final links completing this national highway across the country, with an up-to-date paved road was finally close to becoming a reality. The city administration had decided to connect its part of the Bankhead Highway with hard surface when the state paved the road through the county. When paved, it was estimated that 3,000 to 5,000 vehicles would pass over it daily, bringing an "opportunity to secure new industry, new capital and new blood." In an attempt to attract new industry to Tallapoosa, *The Tallapoosa Journal*

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printed a special edition on July 30, 1931, copies of which were mailed to northern and eastern industrial heads who might be interested in locating branch manufacturing plants in the South. The city offered a five-year local tax exemption to new industries as an incentive.

*The Tallapoosa Journal* reported on August 27, 1931 that work had started on the Bankhead Highway. All kinds of road grading machines and large amounts of cement pipe for culverts were being unloaded along the route, and several supply houses were being erected at points where camps were to be maintained. In September, three steam shovel outfits and several crews of men were at work west of Tallapoosa—one just below the cotton mill. Surveyors, engineers, and others made Tallapoosa their headquarters, and many of the grading crews were being quartered in the “old harness factory building.” Teams of mules and drivers were hired locally to help with the grading, and in 1932 the paving was well underway.

On December 5, 1932, the Tallapoosa Cooperage Company was chartered. This new company took over the property of the former Jackson Brothers Lumber Company, manufacturing keg and barrel headings. At its peak, the heading mill employed over 100 hands and was one of Tallapoosa’s primary sources of manufacturing employment in the 1930s. Another new manufacturing concern, Quality Furniture, Incorporated, set up shop in a former potato curing building on East Alabama Street (between Stokes and Stewart). R. C. Greene, M. A. Greene, Jr., and C. H. Johnson applied for a charter in December 1936. Tallapoosa Mills operated mostly part-time during the depression years. Periodically, as business warranted, the mill would add additional people to the payroll, and the positive effect would be immediately felt by the city.

Early in the depression years, Tallapoosa’s merchants organized a “Buy It In Tallapoosa” promotion, and in the mid-1930s, the Tallapoosa Booster Club organized and held big Fourth of July celebrations. These events were aimed at promoting the city, increasing sales for the local merchants, and providing entertainment for area residents. The big Fourth of July celebration in 1935 attracted the largest crowd in the city’s history—estimated at 8,000 to 10,000 people. The event included a free barbecue, public speeches by noted orators, baseball games, a big parade, and live music and dancing. A big street dance was held on Head Avenue, and a more formal dance, complete with an orchestra and floorshow, was held at the Lithia Hotel (then used as a private residence).

By the mid-1930s, the 1891 school building had been condemned. Since the school building constructed in 1928 did not have an auditorium, the city applied for funds through the new Public Works Program for the erection of a new school and auditorium. The application was approved in September 1935. The WPA was to pay 45 percent of the total cost of the building and equipment. A \$20,000 bond election passed on October 15, and in November, Bonner Construction Company was awarded the contract to demolish the 1891 school building and to construct a new school with eight classrooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 800. The new building, on the northeast corner of Robertson Avenue and Taliaferro Street, was completed in 1936. It served as the high school building, while the 1928 school building became the grammar school.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Another major "event" during the 1930s was the grand opening of the new Grand Theatre (extant) on February 15, 1937. The promoters spent \$30,000 enlarging and remodeling the old Amuzu Theatre on Head Avenue, complete with new projection equipment and a modern cooling plant. Managed by Ted H. Harris, the theater was an instant success, providing both the latest motion pictures and live vaudeville acts and minstrel shows.

In June 1939, work on paving an unpaved portion of Head Avenue got underway. On July 20, *The Tallapoosa Journal* commented that "when this avenue is completed, it is expected that other streets will ask for similar improvements." The Bankhead Highway now entered and exited the city in new locations. From the east, the highway entered the city in a westerly direction, passing just north of the standpipe and through the iron furnace site, before intersecting East Atlanta Street at Crest Avenue. The highway then followed Atlanta Street until it split off in a westerly direction at Robertson Avenue, just past the ballpark, passing between West Lyon and West Lipham Streets.

In the late 1930s, C. E. Pearce remained general manager of Tallapoosa Mills and Hendricks H. Whitman was president. The textile business again began to pick up in October 1938, and in late November, the mill was running two shifts full time. This upturn did not prove sufficient, however, to keep the mill solvent. On August 24, 1939, *The Tallapoosa Journal* reported that E. G. Andrews of Southeastern Machine Company had been appointed to liquidate the affairs of Tallapoosa Mills. Later that year, on December 20, the Mandeville Mills cotton gin was destroyed by fire.

Tallapoosa's attempts to attract new industry in the 1930s failed to produce the desired results. In December 1939, the city's only manufacturers were the Tallapoosa Cooperage Company, Quality Furniture, Inc., Citizens Milling Company (formerly the John Hart Gin on West Lipham), and Tallapoosa Ice and Coal Company. (Sanborn maps for December 1939 also show an unnamed gristmill on East Lipham Street, just east of the former J. T. Smith Grist Mill.) The old Anchor Woolen Mill building (the "old harness factory" which housed construction crews working on the Bankhead Highway in the early 1930s) and the dilapidated remains of the glass works had been the last two remaining manufacturing buildings from Tallapoosa's boom period. Neither survived the decade.

In 1939 the Methodist Church was formed from the merger of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the Methodist Protestant Church. In Tallapoosa, the Methodist Episcopal and the Methodist Episcopal (South) churches merged; and the former Methodist Episcopal Church South building, on the southeast corner of Alewine Avenue and East Mill Street, became the Tallapoosa Methodist Church.

Tallapoosa's population declined another 3.3 percent during the 1930s. The city's 1940 population was 2,338. Meanwhile, Haralson County's other three incorporated cities all gained population. Most of the county's population growth in the 1930s, however, occurred at Bremen, which experienced a 65.8 percent increase to 1,708.

The new high school building was gutted by fire on February 17, 1941. Only the walls were left standing. It was the second school on the same lot to be destroyed by fire. Architect Richard T.

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Morenus inspected the burned building and made recommendations about its rebuilding. The city council and board of education decided not to contract the new school but to assume responsibility for rebuilding it themselves. I. N. Thompson was made superintendent of construction. The new building (extant) was ready for the 1941-42 school year on September 1, 1941.

As did other Americans and Georgians, Tallapoosans responded enthusiastically to the war effort in December, 1941. World War II achieved what the New Deal failed to do. It generated the production and payrolls that ended the Great Depression and ushered in an era of prosperity.

After the Methodist merger, the Pentecostal Holiness Church acquired the former Methodist Episcopal Church building, on the southwest corner of Spring and West Mill Streets, and sold the small church on East Mill Street. The Pentecostal Holiness Church held its first services in the former Methodist Episcopal Church in January 1942.

In April 1942, the Tallapoosa Mills property was sold to Otto F. Feil of Atlanta, who took possession on May 15. Also in 1942, the War Plants Corporation awarded a contract to B. F. Mitnick, W. H. Wright, and M. A. Greene to produce camouflage nets and to R. C. Greene to produce shell crates for the war effort. The camouflage plant began operations in November 1942. It eventually employed as many as 400 people and utilized many of the city's vacant buildings in its operations, which continued until the war ended.

In June 1943, the American Thread Company (ATCO) bought the cotton mill and, one month later, began repairing and remodeling the buildings. The same year the thread mill was being put back into working order, another community fixture and landmark, the fifty-year-old Lithia Springs Hotel, was being dismantled. Lumber from the old hotel was reputedly used in the construction of several new houses in the city.

The American Thread Company began operations of its combed yarn textile mill on January 24, 1944, with 16,000 yarn spindles and 7,500 thread spindles. The mill would run three shifts and employ more than 300 persons. Plans called for the mill to be expanded after the war. The official opening was held on May 28, 1944. Ceremonies included a big barbecue and flag raising for employees and city and county officials. The event was attended by 3,000 to 4,000 people, including out-of-town visitors and dignitaries. *The Tallapoosa Journal* declared that the opening meant "a new era for Tallapoosa."

Initially, the superintendent of the cotton mill was J. F. Plexico, followed shortly by J. Rollins Jolly. For the remainder of the war, ATCO was on "very essential war production." The cotton mill, along with the camouflage plant, the furniture factory, and the heading mill, provided many jobs to area residents for the remainder of the war.

World War II ended in 1945, and in that year, additional city streets, including portions of Spring, Taliaferro, Mill, Manning, Lipham, and Odessa, were paved. ATCO announced its post-World War II expansion plans for the Tallapoosa mill in February 1947. A new three-story mill building, containing

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110,000 square feet and 25,000 additional spindles, would be constructed next to the original building. Production capacity would increase 140 percent and employees, from 315 to 680. The enlarged mill (extant) would produce combed yarns and threads for industrial and domestic purposes.

On July 26, 1947, a large auction was held for the remainder of the Otto F. Feil property. Eight mill houses, sixty-three residence lots, and twenty-three business lots on the Bankhead Highway were offered for sale.

The Quality Furniture Company plant was destroyed by fire on December 30, 1947. The facility was owned by R. C. Greene and employed 30 men. A new plant was constructed the following year, and the company began to manufacture chifferobes, chests, and bedroom suites. In January 1948, work began on the expansion of the cotton mill. A new 10,000 square foot warehouse was begun first, with the large addition to the mill scheduled to begin in mid-February. In 1949-50, employment at the expanded mill varied from 625 to 675; and after an 8 percent pay increase in 1950, the mill provided a weekly payroll of approximately \$31,000.

The reopening and expansion of the cotton mill was largely responsible for Tallapoosa's 20.9 percent increase in population during the 1940s. Tallapoosa remained Haralson County's largest incorporated place in 1950, with a population of 2,826. Bremen had a 1950 population of 2,299.

### **The North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District Since 1950**

By 1960 Bremen, with a population of 3,132, surpassed Tallapoosa, with a population of 2,744, as Haralson County's largest incorporated place. Tallapoosa's population has remained remarkably stable from 1950 to the present, ranging from a high of 2,896 in 1970 to a low of 2,647 in 1980. The 2000 population of 2,789 is virtually unchanged from 50 years earlier. The historic residential area north of Tallapoosa's central business district, meanwhile, has undergone modest to considerable change since the mid-twentieth century.

Excessive change has occurred in a central portion of the area in the vicinity of the intersection/junction of Robertson Avenue, Taliaferro Street, and Bowden Street. In this area alone, as many as ten historic houses have been lost, a historic school (1928) and gymnasium demolished, and a new gymnasium (1956) and school (1962) constructed. Six nonhistoric houses and a Veterans' Memorial Park (1990s) have been constructed in the area.

There also has been considerable change immediately north of Lyon Street, where the residential and commercial areas merge. As many as a dozen historic residential and commercial buildings have been demolished along this transitional zone since the mid-twentieth century. The historic Christian Church (c. 1898) was demolished in 1996 after lengthy preservation efforts failed, and more recently, one of the earlier houses in the "new town" area of Tallapoosa was demolished. Development pressures in this area continue to threaten the southern edge of the proposed district.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

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The remainder of the historic residential area north of Tallapoosa's commercial center has undergone less extreme change. Within the proposed district, approximately 16 historic buildings have been lost since the mid-twentieth century. One of these was the historic Baptist Church (c. 1887-88), lost sometime after a new church was built on Lyon Street in 1952. Another church building, the old Episcopal Church on East Mill Street, also was lost sometime after 1941. Two former historic house sites are parking lots today.

Meanwhile, approximately 25 nonhistoric houses have been constructed in the proposed district. Nineteen were built on historically vacant land, and six were built on historically built land. Until recently, the ranch house was almost invariably the house type built. Recent residential construction in the district, or on its fringe, however, reflects more contemporary house styles/types, including Neo-Victorian examples. All nonhistoric construction within the proposed district boundaries has been residential. On the proposed district's fringe, however, a small bank and public library (1990) were constructed on the west side of Bowden Street where there had been a mobile home park in the 1980s.

The district remains overwhelmingly residential today. Only a few historic residential buildings have been converted to commercial use; and the district's only historic commercial building, the Chambers & Fountain Store (c. 1888) at 202 Head Avenue, was recently rehabilitated for residential use (four apartments).

In recent decades, aluminum and vinyl siding have been used extensively in upgrading and rehabilitating the wood frame houses in the proposed district, and a moderate number of inappropriate alterations and additions to historic buildings have occurred. Many of the historic buildings, however, have been preserved by their owners with considerable respect for their architectural character, and overall, the proposed district retains a high degree of historic integrity.

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National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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**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

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreege of Property**      126 acres

### **UTM References**

A)	Zone 16	Easting 658949	Northing 3736142
B)	Zone 16	Easting 658960	Northing 3735015
C)	Zone 16	Easting 657829	Northing 3735012
D)	Zone 16	Easting 657807	Northing 3736137

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District is indicated on the attached maps by a heavy black line.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary of the nominated historic district includes the historic, intact, and contiguous resources associated with the historic development of the residential area north of the central business district in Tallapoosa.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Holly L. Anderson, National Register Historian  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**mailing address** 156 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 101  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** March 18, 2003  
**e-mail** holly\_anderson@dnr.state.ga.us

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)** ( ) not applicable

**name/title** Dan Latham, Historic Preservation Planner  
**organization** Coosa Valley Regional Development Center  
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**city or town** Rome **state** Georgia **zip code** 30163  
**telephone** (706)295-6665  
**e-mail**

- ( ) **property owner**  
( ) **consultant**  
(X) **regional development center preservation planner**  
( ) **other:**

**Property Owner or Contact Information**

**name (property owner or contact person)** Ken Mugg, President  
**organization (if applicable)** Tallapoosa Historical Society  
**mailing address** 323 Thurman Road  
**city or town** Tallapoosa **state** Georgia **zip code** 30176  
**e-mail (optional)**

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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16. Intersection of Robertson Avenue and Pine Street; photographer facing northwest.
17. Robertson Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
18. Robertson Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
19. Kiker Street; photographer facing north.
20. Intersection of Manning Street and Pine Street; photographer facing northwest.
21. Head Avenue; photographer facing south.
22. Alewine Street; photographer facing west.
23. Alewine Street (outside district boundaries); photographer facing south.
24. Mill Street; photographer facing southwest.
25. Freeman Street; photographer facing northeast.
26. Freeman Street; photographer facing southeast.
27. Mill Street; photographer facing northwest.
28. Head Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
29. Head Avenue; photographer facing south.
30. Robertson Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
31. Robertson Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
32. Robertson Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
33. Bowden Street; photographer facing southeast.
34. Bowden Street; photographer facing south.
35. Bowden Street; photographer facing northwest.
36. Chestnut Street; photographer facing northwest.
37. Broad Street; photographer facing northwest.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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**Name of Property:** North Tallapoosa Residential Historic District  
**City or Vicinity:** Tallapoosa  
**County:** Haralson  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** July, 2002

**Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 47

1. Bowden Street (Georgia Highway 100); photographer facing southwest.
2. Monroe Street; photographer facing northwest.
3. Manning Street; photographer facing northwest.
4. Kiker Street; photographer facing northwest.
5. Monroe Street; photographer facing north.
6. White Street; photographer facing northwest.
7. White Street; photographer facing southwest.
8. Manning Street; photographer facing north.
9. Bowden Street; photographer facing north.
10. Manning Street; photographer facing west.
11. Bowden Street; photographer facing west.
12. Kiker Street; photographer facing southwest.
13. Kiker Street; photographer facing northwest.
14. Mill Street; photographer facing southwest.
15. Spring Street; photographer facing south.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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38. Arbacoochee Road (outside district boundaries); photographer facing south.
39. Walton Street; photographer facing southwest.
40. Intersection of Head Avenue and Mill Street; photographer facing west.
41. Intersection of Robertson Avenue and Bowden Street; photographer facing north.
42. Tallapoosa Presbyterian Church, intersection of Taliaferro Street and Head Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
43. Methodist Episcopal Church (now United Methodist Church), intersection of Alewine Street and Mill Street; photographer facing southeast.
44. Methodist Episcopal Church (now Pentecostal Holiness Church), intersection of Spring Street and Mill Street; photographer facing northwest.
45. Tallapoosa High School (now Tallapoosa Elementary School and gymnasium, Robertson Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
46. Tallapoosa Natural Gas System building, Pine Street; photographer facing southwest.
47. Mill Street; photographer facing southwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)