United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

DEC 1 6 1983 date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

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ategory	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
L district L building(s)	public _X private	_X_ occupied unoccupied	agriculture commercial	museum park
_ building(s) _ structure	both	work in progress	educational	park x private residence
_ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	X_religious
_ object	N/Ain process	_X_ yes: restricted	government	scientific
	being considered	yes: unrestricted no	industrial military	transportation other:
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	rvey records Historic	Preservation Section	n, Georgia Dept. of	Natural Resources
	lanta			Georgia
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Condition — excellent — deteriorated — unaltered — x original site — ruins — x altered — moved date — unexposed

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Description

The Broad Street Historic District represents the intact portion of a historic in-town neighborhood made up of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century houses. The district is irregular in form and lies on gently sloping ground between a low rise of land occupied by the central business district to the east and a steep hill occupied by LaGrange College to the west. Broad Street, the principal street in the district, runs in an east-west direction through the middle of the district; and skirts the north side of LaGrange College at the west end of the district; Ben Hill Street extends two blocks to the north near the middle of the district; and Vernon Road parallels Broad Street to the south. Lots in the district are generally rectangular in shape and vary in size from a fraction of an acre to more than an acre; a majority of the lots in the district front on Broad Street. Buildings in the district are almost exclusively single-family residences. These houses are situated relatively close together near the front-centers of their lots and generally share common setbacks from the street. They range in period from the early-nineteenth century through the early-twentieth century, in style from Greek Revival through Victorian Eclectic, Queen Anne, and Neoclassical to Craftsman/Bungalow, and in size from one-story cottages to two-story dwellings. Most of these houses are wood framed, weatherboarded, and detailed with appropriate wood trim; most also feature front porches. A few are constructed of brick. The front yards of these houses are informally landscaped with trees, shrubbery, lawn, and a few stone, brick, or concrete retaining walls. The streets in the district are bordered by curbs, street trees, and sidewalks, some of which are laid with hexagonal concrete paving blocks. Few non-contributing structures mar the cohesive historic residential character of the district.

Boundary

The district boundary circumscribes a residential area in the city of LaGrange that developed along either side of Broad Street between the central business district and LaGrange College. This area represents the intact portion of a once-larger historic residential neighborhood. To the east is the central business district; to the north and south is non-historic residential development or historic residential development with a distinctly different character and appearance; and to the west is LaGrange College and non-historic residential development.

Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in March, 1981, still provide an accurate view of the district. No significant changes have been made since this date.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	agriculture	_X_ community planning conservation economics	_X landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation _X_ other (specify) Local History
Specific dates	early 19th Century-	Builder/Architect Mult:	iple	,

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Broad Street Historic District is historically significant in terms of community planning and development, architecture, landscape architecture, and local history. In terms of community planning and development, the district is a good example of a residential neighborhood that developed incrementally along a principal historic city street during the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Architecturally, the district is significant for its excellent examples of domestic architecture from the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. In terms of landscape architecture, the Broad Street Historic District is significant for its latenineteenth-century naturalistic landscaping, typical of American landscaping practices nationwide during this period. In terms of local history, the district is significant as the home of some of LaGrange's historically prominent citizens and middle-class residents. These areas of significance support district eligibility under National Register criteria A, B and C.

Community Planning and Development

In 1828, three years after Troup County was established, LaGrange was laid out on Land Lot 109 as the county seat. It experienced slow but steady growth throughout most of the nineteenth century as it developed into a cotton and commercial center for the surrounding area. From 1880 to 1910, a period of rapid growth and industrialization was triggered by the establishment in the town of four major textile mills. The prosperity of these mills contributed to continued growth throughout the early-twentieth century and up through today.

The Broad Street Historic District is the intact portion of the in-town residential area that originated with the founding of LaGrange and then developed incrementally throughout the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. It is centered along Broad Street, one of LaGrange's principal historic city streets which was laid out in 1828 as part of the original gridiron town plan. Large houses on very large lots were built along the street in the ante-bellum years by some of the town's most prominent citizens. These large landholdings were gradually subdivided in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries in response to the need for new upper-middle-class housing generated by the extensive turn-of-the-century mill development. This pattern of incremental development is characteristic of many residential areas in Georgia's cities and towns and contrasts sharply with more deliberately planned and developed areas.

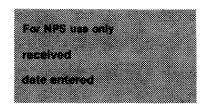
[continued]

9. Major Bibliogra	aphical Refere	ences
District," September, 198	80. On file at Histor urces, Atlanta. (This	er Nomination: Broad Street Historic ic Preservation Section, Georgia De- National Register nomination is based ocument.)
10. Geographical	Data	
Acreage of nominated property approx Quadrangle name LaGrange, Georg		Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
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Verbal boundary description and ju The boundary, outlined with justified in Section 7.		n the attached map, is explained and
List all states and counties for prop	perties overlapping state o	r county boundaries
state N/A	code county	code
state	code county	code
11. Form Prepare	ed By	
name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Historic Preservation organization Georgia Dept. of National Street & number 270 Washington	tural Resources	er date December 5, 1983 telephone (404) 656-2840
city or town Atlanta		state Georgia 30334
	: Preservation	Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this proper	rty within the state is:	
	vation Officer for the National H inclusion in the National Regis set forth by the National Park	Service.
title State Historic Preservat	Elizabeth A. Lyon,	Ph/D. date 12/9/83
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this property is \tilde{\mathred{Illours} \mathred{\mathred{Fyerr}}}	s included in the National Regis	/ /
Keeper of the National Register		建建工作 工程
Attest:		date
Chief of Registration		

CDO 894-785

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

Architecture

The Broad Street Historic District provides good examples of houses designed in a wide range of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century residential architectural styles, including the antebellum Greek Revival style, postbellum eclectic Victorian styles, turn-of-the-century Neoclassical and Georgian Revival styles, and early-twentieth-century Tudor Revival and Craftsman/Bungalow styles. Included in the district is ca. 1855 Bellevue, an outstanding example of a high-style Greek Revival mansion which is individually listed in the National Register and a National Historic Landmark. Also of particular note in the district are some of LaGrange's best examples of late-nineteenth-century Victorian Electric houses with elaborate wood trim. Together the houses in the district illustrate how nationally prominent styles were locally interpreted in a Georgia town.

Landscape Architecture

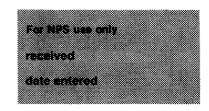
Broad Street Historic District provides an excellent example of the type of informal, naturalistic landscaping typical of landscaping practices nationwide during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The streets in the district are lined with large shade trees and sidewalks, which in some areas still retain their early-twentieth-century hexagonal concrete paving tiles. Front yards are grassed and informally landscaped with shade trees, hedges, shrubs and low retaining walls.

Local History

Many of LaGrange's most prominent leaders and middle-class citizens lived, historically, in the Broad Street Historic District and contributed both individually and collectively to the town. Politicians, doctors, judges, merchants and mill owners were among the people who occupied the houses in the district.

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Continuation sheet Location, Representation

Item number 2, 6

Page 2

Location

The Broad Street Historic District is located in LaGrange, Troup County, Georgia. It is a residential area west of the central business district, including Broad Street (400-618 on the north side, 409-511 on the south side), Ben Hill Street, 101 Park Avenue, and Vernon Road (601-609 on the south side, 502-610 on the north side).

Representation in Existing Surveys

Bellevue, a Greek Revival house located in the district, was individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 7, 1972, and is a National Historic Landmark.

