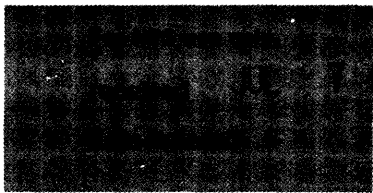


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Elberton Residential Historic District

and/or common same

2. Location *Roughly bounded by Elbert, Oliver, Adams, Thomas, Edward*

Located generally south and southeast of the *and heard of*
street & number central business district, including all (CONTD) *N/A not for publication*

city, town Elberton vicinity of *N/A* congressional district

state Georgia code 013 county Elbert code 105

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners - more than 50

street & number

city, town vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Elbert County Courthouse

city, town Elbert state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1975 federal state county local

Historic Preservation Section
depository for survey records Georgia Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

DESCRIPTION

The Elberton Residential Historic District is an intact, in-town neighborhood of nineteenth and early twentieth century houses. The district lies on gently sloping ground that rises toward the central business district to the northwest. Land in the district is subdivided by an irregular grid of streets. The wider, principal streets in the district, such as South McIntosh, Heard, or East Church Street, extend from the gridiron street pattern of the central business district; narrower secondary streets, such as Edwards or Myrtle Street, further subdivide the larger blocks created by the major streets. Lots are generally rectangular in shape, relatively long and narrow, and vary from a fraction to nearly three acres in size. The larger lots are arranged along the principal streets; smaller lots line the secondary streets. The houses in the district are situated relatively close together near the front-centers of these lots and generally share common setback lines along each street. These houses are almost exclusively detached single-family dwelling types. They vary in size from one-story cottages to two-story mansions, with a preponderance of substantial middle-class dwellings, and they range in date from the early nineteenth century to the 1930's. A wide variety of styles are represented in the district, including Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Victorian Eclectic, Eastlake, Queen Anne, Neoclassical, Colonial Revival, and Bungalow/Craftsman. Most of these houses are woodframed, weatherboarded, and detailed with appropriate period wood trim, some lavishly, others simply. A few of the early twentieth century houses are brick veneered. Granite, a locally prevalent building material, is widely used for foundations, and at least one house—the R.L. Cauthen House, c. 1915, at 356 Heard Street — is built entirely of granite blocks. Antebellum houses are constructed with heavy timber framing; postbellum houses generally feature balloon frames. The houses stand on brick or stone piers or foundations. The largest houses, and most of the oldest houses, are located along the principal streets in the district; the smaller and newer houses are located along the district's secondary streets. The front yards of these houses are informally landscaped with trees, shrubbery, and lawn, and they blend together to create continuously landscaped borders along the streets. Rear yards, more private, are even more informally landscaped and may include agricultural or utility outbuildings. A few stone retaining walls are present in the district. Street trees, planted in rows, edge most of the streets in the district. Few intrusions mar the cohesive historic residential character of the district.

NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

Most of the non-contributing structures in the district are mid twentieth century ranch houses, either woodframed or brick. Other intrusions are limited to a modern library, a mobile home, and several commercial buildings along Heard Street, and a few drastically altered historic houses. A few vacant lots are scattered throughout the district. Intrusions are identified on the attached district map.

(CONTINUED)

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Continuation sheet Location Item number 2 Page 2

or parts of Heard, East Church, South Oliver, South McIntosh, South Thomas, Edwards, Tusten, and Myrtle Streets.

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Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

BOUNDARIES

The district boundaries circumscribe an irregularly shaped area in the city of Elberton that manifests a cohesive historic residential character and appearance, namely that of an in-town residential neighborhood that developed over a period of one hundred years, from the early nineteenth century through the Great Depression. To the north is Elbert Street (State Highways 72 and 17), a five-lane urban highway lined with modern commercial development, and to the northwest is the central business district (part of which is already listed in the National Register). To the west and east are non-historic, mid twentieth century residential developments. To the south are some historic developments of a distinctly different character and appearance, some modern developments, and some undeveloped land.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in March of 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the district.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates Early 19th-early 20th **Builder/Architect** Multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Elberton Residential Historic District is historically significant in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, community planning and development, and local history. In terms of architecture, the district is significant for its many good examples of nineteenth and early twentieth century houses. These houses are characteristic local interpretations of prevailing national architectural trends. In terms of landscape architecture, the district is significant for its tree-shaded streets and informally landscaped front yards, both characteristic of late nineteenth and early twentieth century landscaping in America. In terms of community planning and development, the district has significance as a cohesive historic middle-class residential neighborhood that originated with the founding of Elberton in the late eighteenth century and then developed incrementally through the nineteenth century and on into the early part of the twentieth century. This pattern of development is characteristic of many residential areas in Georgia's cities and towns. In terms of local history, the district is significant as the home of many of Elberton's leading business, professional, social, and political figures. These areas of significance support eligibility under National Register criteria A, B, and C.

In terms of architecture, the Elberton Residential Historic District is significant for its broad range of domestic architecture dating from the early nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. These houses are representative of the type of historic residential architecture found in many of Georgia's smaller cities and towns, especially in the piedmont area of the state, and they reflect prevailing national principles and practices of architecture as they were locally interpreted. Included in the district are good examples of the antebellum Greek Revival, the mid nineteenth century Gothic Revival, the late nineteenth century Victorian Eclectic, Eastlake, and Queen Anne, the turn of the century Neoclassical, and the early twentieth century Colonial Revival and Bungalow/Craftsman styles. These styles are manifested in a wide variety of house sizes. Most reflect their carpenter-builder origins, as is typical in communities like Elberton; large scale developers and architects played little role in shaping Elberton's historic residential district. Most of the houses also feature typical building materials and construction techniques. Almost all the houses are woodframed and weatherboarded, with the antebellum houses having heavy braced frames of hand hewn timbers and the postbellum houses having balloon frames of milled lumber. This otherwise representative architecture is highlighted by the widespread use of granite in foundations and by a single granite house. Granite, a locally quarried building material, is found primarily in the architecture of the northeastern part of the state, which gives it a distinct regional quality.

(CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Attached Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 110 acres (approximately)

Quadrangle name Elberton East, GA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	3	2	7	7	0	0	3	7	7	5	9	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

1	7	3	2	9	0	2	0	3	7	7	5	2	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification The district boundary is described by a heavy black line on the attached Property/Sketch map and is justified in Section 7.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, architectural historian
Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources date June 25, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, SW telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/28/82

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	date <u>8/11/82</u>
<u>Melvin Byers</u> Keeper of the National Register	<u>8/11/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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In terms of landscape architecture, the Elberton Residential Historic District is significant for its late nineteenth and early twentieth century public and private landscaping. This landscaping has two major components: tree-shaded streets, the result of conscientious tree planting efforts, and informally landscaped front yards, with their lawns, trees, and shrubbery, which blend together to create a public park-like environment. Both aspects of the district's landscaping are characteristic of small-town landscaping throughout the country during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and both are found in many Georgia cities and towns. They reflect an almost unique conjunction of public and private interest, a conjunction that resulted in a distinctive neighborhood environment that is characteristic of the period.

In terms of community planning and development, the Elberton Residential Historic District is significant because it constitutes a cohesive residential area that originated with the founding of Elberton in the late eighteenth century and then developed incrementally through the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century, with development effectively concluding with the Great Depression. This pattern of development is characteristic of many residential areas in Georgia's cities and towns, especially in the piedmont, and contrasts sharply with more deliberately planned and developed areas. In Elberton this developmental pattern is marked by two distinct growth spurts, the first coming in the early nineteenth century after Elberton was incorporated as the county seat in 1803, and the second coming in the late nineteenth century with the arrival of the railroad and the subsequent development of Elberton's world-famous granite industry. These periods of development can be seen most obviously in the architecture of the town, but they can also be detected in the very street layout of the city, with the principal streets being the oldest, and being lined with the oldest and grandest houses, and the secondary or infill streets being the latest, and being lined with the newer and generally smaller houses. The final result of this developmental process is a representative historic middle-class residential neighborhood with a characteristic combination of street and lot layout, architecture, and landscaping.

In terms of local history, the Elberton Residential Historic District is significant for containing the homes of many of Elberton's historic businessmen, merchants, politicians, lawyers, doctors, industrialists, and other middle-class citizens. Many of the district's residents were involved in enterprises on the nearby downtown square. Some owned and operated local businesses; others provided managerial and clerical services. Some ran the city's major commercial enterprises, including its banks, manufacturing plants, and granite companies. Still others provided the community with necessary professional services. Many of these same people were active in Elberton's politics, and they shaped the social life of the city.

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Continuation sheet Bibliography Item number 9 Page 2

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Elberton Residential Historic District
 Elberton, Elbert County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

- North:
- Scale: 0' 200'
- Boundary of historic district:
- Intrusion:
- Photograph and direction of view:
- Source: Elbert County Tax Maps

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