

1164

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

OCT 01 1993

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name N/A

other names/site number Pontotoc Historic District

2. Location

street & number Largely along Main and Liberty Streets between Reynolds and 8th Streets N/A not for publication

city or town Pontotoc N/A vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Pontotoc code 115 zip code 38863

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility 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  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul SEPT. 23, 1993  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Deborah Byers 10/29/93  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
52	28	buildings
1	4	sites
		structures
1	1	objects
54	33	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: department store

RELIGION: religious facility

GOVERNMENT: post office

GOVERNMENT: courthouse

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: department store

COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution

RELIGION: religious facility

GOVERNMENT: post office

GOVERNMENT: courthouse

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Queen Anne

Bungalow/Craftsman

Classical Revival

Romanesque

Tudor Revival

Other: Commercial Minimalist

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick; concrete

walls weatherboard; brick; stucco; vinyl

roof asphalt; terra cotta

other terra cotta

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.  
(Inventory Nos. 45, 62, 80)
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1836-1943

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Overstreet, N. W. (Inventory #30)

Greene, J. E. (Inventory #80)

Others not known

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Pontotoc County Library

Pontotoc Historic District  
Name of Property

Pontotoc County, Mississippi  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 47.5 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6
---	---

3	1	5	8	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	9	1	3	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

3 

1	6
---	---

3	1	6	1	5	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	9	0	5	5	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

  
Zone Easting Northing

2 

1	6
---	---

3	1	6	1	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	9	1	3	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4 

1	6
---	---

3	1	5	8	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	9	0	5	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Todd Sanders, Architectural Historian and Richard Cawthon, Chief Architectural Historian  
organization Mississippi Department of Archives and History date July 20, 1993  
street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (601) 359-6940  
city or town Jackson state Mississippi zip code 39205-0571

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 1

The Pontotoc Historic District is a concentration of 52 historic buildings located in the historic center of the town of Pontotoc, the seat of Pontotoc County, Mississippi. Pontotoc, a town of approximately 5,300 citizens, is located in the Northeast part of the state.

The physical arrangement of Pontotoc is that of a grid superimposed on a ridge road that runs approximately ten degrees west of north. This ridge road, known as Main Street inside the city limits, is the major thoroughfare for the downtown area. The grid of the town is laid out with streets running parallel to Main Street (Liberty and Lafayette) and perpendicular to Main Street (Jefferson, Marion, Washington, Green, Morgan, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Seventh). The historic district encompasses eleven blocks along Main Street between Reynolds to the north and Seventh to the south and roughly one block east and west of Main. In the center of downtown is an open green space known as Confederate Park or Town Square. This square was, from 1840 to 1916, the site of the county courthouse. In 1916 this building was demolished when the present courthouse, which was built on the block to the south, was completed. This new building faces northward onto the Square. This Square is the visual, geographical, and historical center of Pontotoc. The Square is casually landscaped with mature trees. Mature trees line the streets in the residential areas. Small street trees have been planted along the sidewalks fronting some of the commercial buildings.

The majority of Pontotoc's historic commercial buildings are centered around and north of the square on Main Street. Most of the commercial buildings in Pontotoc are set next to the sidewalk. These buildings, dating from the 1890's to the 1930's, are built of brick with very simple detailing. Most of these buildings are one story although a few, mostly around the square, are two or three stories. The three-story courthouse very clearly dominates the downtown area.

West of the courthouse, just across and facing Main Street, is the 1930's post office. South and west of the courthouse are Pontotoc's most significant historic houses and religious buildings dating from the oldest building in town, a one-and-one-half-story brick cottage facing Green Street built in the mid 1830's, to houses built as recently as the 1970's. These moderately sized, one- to two-story houses are set back and separated from the sidewalks by about fifteen to twenty-five feet of green space. The majority of the houses in the district, including two of the three antebellum houses, face Main Street. Three church buildings, the Methodist, Baptist, and Presbyterian, are located in the district. Two, the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 2

---

Methodist and Presbyterian, face Main Street. The Baptist church faces Washington Street.

The group of non-contributing buildings on Main Street between Green and First fit rather well into the overall character of the community in that they follow the same basic design standards as the historic contributing buildings in regard to materials, size, and placement.

The houses in the district represent a variety of styles and periods from the 1830's through the 1930's and later, including the Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Craftsman, and Colonial Revival. One particular house type that appears frequently in the district is a variation of the typical Queen Anne, gable-front-and-wing, or L-front cottage. This variant form follows the common type in the use of a front facing projecting gable and a lateral wing with a porch across its facade. The distinctive characteristic of this house form commonly found in Pontotoc is a secondary front facing gable located on the roof of the lateral wing.

There are 87 resources in the Pontotoc Historic District. Of this number 52 are contributing buildings, 1 is a contributing site, 1 is a contributing object, 28 are non-contributing buildings, 4 are non-contributing sites, and 1 is a non-contributing object.

The boundaries for the district have been drawn to include as many of the oldest and most significant properties in the community as possible. To the north of the district is a group of houses and public buildings dating mostly to the 1930's. This area is separated from the district by several large non-contributing buildings that break the continuity. South of the district is mostly new construction. The hospital, located just southeast of the boundary, was built on the site of Chickasaw College. Chickasaw College was established as a female academy in 1837. It continued to operate until 1936. The old College building, constructed in 1853, was torn down in 1938. The boundaries of the district to the east and west simply mark the end of the concentration of contributing buildings as most buildings past the boundary in either direction are not historic.

An architectural survey of the area covered by this nomination was conducted in May and July 1993 by Todd Sanders, architectural historian, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Research was done in the Department of Archives and History Library, the Pontotoc County Public Library, and the Pontotoc County Tax Assessor's office to determine the boundaries and significance of the district.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 3First Street

1. NC Southeast corner of South Main Street and First Street  
Vacant Lot
2. C Southeast corner First and Liberty  
One-story, complex gable and hip roof, frame, L-front Queen Anne cottage of the typical Pontotoc form. The porch across the front originally wrapped around the west side of the house, but this side porch has been enclosed. The porch is supported by square, tapered wooden columns on low brick pedestals. Apparently this porch was altered to this appearance around 1930. The house is covered by vinyl siding. The house dates to circa 1900.
3. C 31  
One-story, frame, complex gable and hip roof, L-front Queen Anne cottage of the typical Pontotoc form. This house has a standing seam metal roof with its original cast iron cresting while the porch roof is composition shingles. The porch wraps around the front and west side of the lateral wing and is supported by large square brick piers obviously added about 1930. The house is covered with vinyl siding. The house was built around 1900.
- 3A. NC  
Two-car masonry garage in front of and to the left of the house on the northeast corner of the lot.
4. C First house east of Liberty on north side of First Street  
Two-story, hipped-roof, frame Colonial Revival house on high brick basement. One-story porch supported by Tuscan columns wraps across the front (southern) elevation, and down the west side. Three-bay facade. On the second floor are three 1/1 DHW and on the first floor there are two 1/1 DHW's which flank the central, single leaf door with a large oval frosted glass light. There is an interesting paneled treatment over the door. Built circa 1915.

Green Street

5. C Southeast corner of Green and Liberty Streets  
"Oldest House"  
This one-and-one-half story, side-gabled, brick house is said to be the oldest house in Pontotoc and was most likely built between 1836 and 1840. The house consists of five bays across

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 4

the front with the center bay being a replacement single-leaf french door with a three-light transom. To the left of the door are two 9/6 DHW and to the right of the door are two 6/6 DHW. A porch, with a denticulated cornice, extends across the center three bays of the house. This porch is supported by four square, paneled, tapered, wooden columns. There is a balustrade around the porch roof. The porch floor is poured concrete. There is a chimney in each gable end. The western gable has no windows while the eastern gable has a single 9/6 DHW to the left of the chimney.

6. NC 11 House Trailer

Liberty Street

7. NC 24 Pontotoc County E-911 Office  
Two-story, half-gable fronted, brick building. This building and the one next door appear to have been built as a single building around the turn of the century, but this half was extensively remodeled around 1945. Across second floor facade are four fifteen light metal casement windows. The first floor has three plate glass windows and a replacement half-glass door. The doorway has been infilled with plywood to accommodate this smaller door.
8. NC 25 Joy Office Building  
Two-story, brick, flat roof building. This building sits on a corner and has two distinct facades. The south facade faces the Town Square and Marion Street. The east facade faces Liberty Street. The south facade has four single leaf french doors fronted by four small cast iron balconies. Each door is topped by a three-light transom and sheltered by a half-dome canvas awning. On the first floor is a recessed entrance with two single-leaf french doors; one opens into the stairway to the second floor, and the other opens into an office. The remainder of the facade has three 9/9 DHW. Three decorative brick antefix give Art Deco interest to the parapet which is also accented with decorative brick banding. The east facade, now the main entry facade, consists of seven bays on both floors. The center bay of the first floor contains a double-leaf french door while the center bay of the second floor has a 9/9 DH double window. The other bays of each floor contain a 9/9 DHW. This building was built in 1944 to house the Joy Theatre. The movie theatre closed in 1988 and the building was remodeled as office space.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 5

---

9. C 26, 28  
This two-story, half-gable front, brick building is the other half of the building at 24 Liberty Street (sequence number 7). The second floor is divided into three bays by pilasters. These pilasters support a brick denticulated cornice. Set into the reveals formed by the pilasters are three ten-light, metal frame, casement windows. The first floor storefront was extensively reworked about 1960. The storefront slants back from the sidewalk. The storefront is composed of a yellow brick bulkhead with plate glass windows and a single-leaf glazed aluminum door (26 Liberty Street). To the right of the storefront and parallel to the sidewalk is a six-panel metal door (28 Liberty Street) that opens into the stairway leading to the second floor. A brick column at the corner of the building supports the second floor. The entire first floor is sheltered by an aluminum awning.
10. C Southeast corner Liberty and Marion Streets  
The Mason Jar Antique Mall  
One-story, flat-roofed brick commercial building. Across the top of the building is a parapet divided into three sections by decorative vertical projections. The projections on the ends of the parapet are larger and more detailed. The divisions of the parapet reflect the division of the facade into three bays. The centrally located entrance is a recessed, double-leaf, wood-frame door. Large plate glass display windows to each side of the entrance. Located above the windows and doors are the original transoms. Between the transoms and the doors and windows is a flat awning suspended from the wall of the building by steel cables. The building was built by 1898.
11. C Second building south of Marion on east side of Liberty  
Cinema One Theatre  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with a simple brick parapet. Above the flat awning, suspended from the wall of the building by steel cables, is a six-light transom. Two new cast iron columns help visually support the awning from the sidewalk. This building was built between 1916 and 1925. In 1988 this building was remodeled for use as a movie theatre. At that time the tinted glass doors and windows as well as the marquee were added.
12. C Third building south of Marion on east side of Liberty  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with corbelled brick cornice. Facade is composed symmetrically around a large

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 6

triple-window where each unit contains a large plate glass pane topped by a three-light transom. To the left of this is located a double-leaf glass, wood-frame door with a three-light transom. To the left of this is another window, slightly narrower than the others in the triple window, but also with a three-light transom. To the right of the triple window is an overhead garage door to the right of which is an opening, now closed in with wood, with a two-light transom. This building was built between 1916 and 1925 for use as a garage.

13. NC Northeast corner Liberty and Washington Streets  
W. A. Grist, Attorney at Law  
One-story, flat-roofed commercial building. Facade has been completely covered with board-and-batten siding. Suspended above the entire storefront is a corrugated iron awning. On the left of the facade is a single-leaf aluminum and glass door. To the right of this is a large plate glass window. Although there is no evidence on the facade to prove it, according to Sanborn maps this building may pre-date 1898. The present appearance of the building apparently dates to the 1980's.
14. NC Southeast corner Liberty and Washington Streets  
One-story, brick, gable-fronted house built between 1920 and 1925. Extensively remodeled in the 1970's for use as offices.
15. NC Lot north of 76 Liberty  
Vacant Lot
16. C 76  
One-story, multi-gabled, brick Tudor bungalow. There is a small entry porch to the left of a projecting gabled wing. This porch shelters a single-leaf door with a leaded glass transom. In the gabled end are replacement 9/6 DH double windows made to fit in the larger openings by inserting fixed plexiglass transoms. To the left of the entrance is an original 4/1 DH triple-window. Extending from the north (left) side of the entry porch to a porch located at the northern end of the house is a brick terrace. The windows on the north side of the house are 4/1 DH with decorative diamond shaped panes in the upper sash. Louvered oval vents are located in the gable ends. This house suffered damage by fire a few years ago. The Methodist Church now owns this property and has plans to demolish it and use the site for a New Life Center. The house was built between 1925 and 1929.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 7

---

16A. NC

Small frame shed roof garage to the northeast of the house.

17. C 83

One-and-one-half story, brick, gable-roofed bungalow. There is a single gable-roofed dormer with an overhang supported by triangular knee braces. In the dormer is a 1/1 DH triple window. Full width porch across the front of the house is supported by massive, tapered, brick columns. The porch has been screened-in. The center bay of the porch has been infilled with plywood and a storm door inserted. The single-leaf door is flanked by 1/1 DH double windows. The house was built in 1923.

18. C 84

One-and-one-half story, frame, complex gable and hip roof, L-front Queen Anne cottage of the typical Pontotoc form. In each gable is a 2/2 DHW added in a mid-1980's renovation. The gable fronts are sided with vertical boards cut into points at the lower end giving a saw-tooth effect. Porch across the front supported by turned porch posts installed in the mid 1980's renovation which replaced a 1920-30's bungaloid porch with tapered paired wooden columns atop brick piers. This porch had replaced an earlier porch of turned posts. The porch originally wrapped around the northern end which has since been enclosed. There are two 2/2 DHW in the first floor of the projecting gable and two 2/2 DHW to the left of the entrance which is a single-leaf french door. There is a single-leaf french door opening into the enclosed porch room. The two chimneys have been covered with stucco. The house was built in 1905.

19. C 92

One-story, frame, complex gable and hip roof, L-front Queen Anne cottage of the typical Pontotoc form. In the two gable ends are decorative, diamond-shaped vents with star shaped cutouts. Below each gable is a 2/2 DHW flanked by louvered blinds. The entrance is a single-leaf, half-glass door with applied decorative carvings. Above the door is a two-light transom. The door and window openings are elaborately trimmed and accented with corner blocks. The porch was remodeled in the 1920's or 1930's and has a wide overhang and exposed rafter tails. The porch is supported by paired tapered, square wooden columns resting on low brick piers. This house achieved its present form between 1898, when purchased by the Boyd family, and 1905, with the exception of the porch. The southernmost part of the house with the projecting gable is believed to have

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 8

been built in the 1840's. The present owners, while doing work in this part of the house, uncovered part of the original log walls.

20. C 100  
Two-story, complex gable and hip roof, frame, Queen Anne L-front cottage of the typical Pontotoc form. The roof is a standing seam metal roof. The porch has exposed rafter tails and is supported by Tuscan columns on low brick piers. The porch has a concrete floor. Windows are 1/1 DH. The entrance is a single-leaf, half-glass door with applied carved ornament, and is surmounted by a simple, single-light transom. The windows are all flanked by decorative plywood shutters. The house appears to date to circa 1890. According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Pontotoc for the years 1898-1910 this house was one-and-one-half stories in height. The 1916 map shows it as a two-story house. This house also had a porch that wrapped around its north end. This porch still shows up on the last map for Pontotoc, 1943. This house is currently used as an apartment house.

Main Street, South

21. C 1 Pontotoc Loans Inc.  
One-story, brick, flat-roofed commercial building. Single-leaf glass and aluminum entrance located in chamfered corner. Large plate glass windows on each street front. Brick parapet and facade divided into three bays by pilasters. Aluminum awning across front. Built between 1916 and 1925.
22. NC 2 Security Savings  
Two-story, brick commercial building of mismatched brick. The main facade is dominated by a two-tiered wooden gallery. The roof is a single pitch (shed) roof with a raked parapet. The building is located on a corner lot with the main facade perpendicular to Main Street. The building is intended to emulate antebellum architecture, and was built circa 1980.
23. C 3 North Mississippi Awards and Trophies  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building built between 1925 and 1929. Parapet has large recessed rectangular panel. Storefront has single-leaf, glass and aluminum center door with sidelights and large plate glass windows. Aluminum awning shelters storefront.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 9

- 
24. C 4, 6 Pontotoc Disco  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick building with paneled parapet with decorative brick corbelling. In the center of each panel is an open brickwork vent. This building contains four (4, 6, 8, and 10) storefronts with a single aluminum awning over all four. All four storefronts date from the 1950's and 60's with brick bulkheads, plate glass windows and aluminum and glass single-leaf doors. This building apparently dates to the 1920's, but the Sanborn Maps for this period do not correspond with the physical evidence.
25. C 5 Pizza Doctor  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with parapet with recessed rectangular panel over each storefront at 5,7, and 9 North Main Street. 5 and 9 have new storefronts with brick bulkheads, plate glass display windows and single-leaf aluminum and glass doors. 7 has what appears to be an original storefront with recessed wood frame, single-leaf door with transom and canted plate glass display windows. All three storefronts are sheltered by a flat awning. This building was built between 1925-1929.
26. C 7 McDonald's (vacant)  
See description at sequence number 25.
27. C 8 Duff Dentist Office  
See description at sequence number 24.
28. C 9 Wood Optometry Office  
See description at sequence number 25.
29. C 10 The Gift Shop  
See description at sequence number 24.
30. NC 11 Merle Norman Cosmetics and Boutique  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building. New plate glass storefront and single-leaf aluminum and plate glass door. Parapet altered. Large canvas awning. This building presumably dates to 1925-29, but there is no exterior visual evidence of this date.
31. NC 12 Pontotoc Electric Power Association  
One-story, flat-roofed building covered with stucco. Stationary tinted plate glass windows. Huge standing seam mansard awning on front. The walls of the building may date to a building that

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 10

shows on the Sanborn maps as having been built between 1916 and 1925, but there is no visual evidence of this date on the exterior.

32. NC 13 Classy Baskets  
One-story, flat-roofed commercial building. May have been built as a unit with the two storefronts immediately to the south, but this building was extensively remodeled about 1960 when aluminum panels were placed on top of the parapet and a new plate glass storefront with a single-leaf glass and aluminum door was added. This storefront shares a flat awning with the storefronts to the south. This building was built between 1916 and 1925.
33. C 15 W & A Drug Company (vacant)  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with two storefronts. High brick parapet has large recessed panels, one over each storefront. Top of panels display decorative brick corbelling. New plate glass storefronts with plate glass and aluminum single-leaf doors sheltered by flat awning. Transoms above awning have been covered up. The Sanborn map for 1916 shows two story with basement brick commercial buildings on this site. The 1925 Sanborn map shows one story with basement brick commercial buildings.
34. NC 19 First National Bank  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick bank building constructed circa 1970.
35. C 20, 22 Davis Photography and Formal Wear  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building. Recessed stuccoed rectangular panel between the tops of the four bricked-in second floor windows and the parapet. Bands of red brick in the top of the parapet and in the window lintels contrast with the yellow brick of the building. The two original storefronts have plate glass windows and recessed single-leaf wood frame doors. A flat awning spans the building. Sheet metal covers up the transom above the awning. According to the Sanborn Maps this building was built between 1910 and 1916, but was either remodeled or rebuilt in the early 1920's.
36. C 21  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building built between 1910 and 1916.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 11

- 
37. C 24, 26 H & R Block/Emi's  
Two-story, brick, flat-roofed commercial building with a curved parapet with Mission style detailing. Green ceramic tile set in diamond shapes decorate the facade just above and below the second floor windows. A slightly larger diamond shape decorates the center of the raised curved section of the parapet. The storefront at No. 24 is original with part of original green and white glass transom still visible below new striped canvas awning. No. 26 has a new storefront that is sympathetic to the building. This building was built between 1925 and 1929.
38. NC 27 Michael's Department Store  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building built circa 1960.
39. NC 37 The People's Bank and Trust Company  
Two-story, stucco covered modern bank building with large tinted plate glass windows and doors. Wide standing seam metal overhanging roof. Built circa 1980.
40. NC Lot south of 37 South Main Street  
Vacant Lot
41. C 47, 49 (Upstairs), 51 Furr Drug Company  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with parapet divided into two sections by piers in the middle and on each end. Above the second floor windows and below the parapet are two rectangular stuccoed panels, each over three 1/1 DH double windows. The first floor has two storefronts separated by an arched opening leading to the stairway to the second floor. There is an aluminum awning across the entire first floor. The building dates to between 1925 and 1929 although the end walls could be earlier.
42. C 53, 55 (Upstairs)  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with a stepped parapet. Below the raised section of the parapet and above the second-story windows is a stuccoed rectangular panel. Two replacement 6/6 DH double windows made to fit larger window openings by filling in gaps with plywood. New storefront. Flat awning. Transom above awning covered up.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 12

---

43. C Town Square (Confederate Park)  
Block bounded by South Main, Liberty, Marion, and Washington Streets  
From 1837 to 1916 this block was the site of the Pontotoc County Courthouse. In 1916 the present courthouse was constructed on the block to the south and this block was cleared to become a public park. In the 1930's a Confederate monument was placed in the center of the block. The landscaping and seating date from the 1970's. A World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam monument was erected on the southwest corner in 1979.
- 43A. C Confederate Monument  
1930's Confederate Monument located in the center of the park. Monument consists of a stone statue of a Confederate soldier resting on a high stone pedestal. The soldier faces south, towards the courthouse.
- 43B. NC War Memorial  
War Memorial, made of granite, erected on the southwest corner in 1979 to honor those from Pontotoc and Pontotoc County who served in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.
44. C 59 South Main Street  
U. S. Post Office  
One-story, hipped-roof, brick, Colonial Revival post office building constructed in 1936. Central double-leaf aluminum and glass doors surrounded by a stone architrave with dentil molding in the cornice. Two 12/12 DH windows with flat arches flank each side of the entrance. There is a stone water table and cornice with dentil molding. Brick quoins at corners. Granite steps lead up to entrance. Inside is a mural depicting a Christmas Feast given in 1540 by Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto to honor the first recorded Christian marriage in North America which took place near Pontotoc. The mural was painted for the post office by Joseph Pallet.
45. C Northeast corner South Main and Green Streets  
First United Methodist Church  
One-story, brick, gable front Romanesque Revival church building built between 1905 and 1910. Paneled, double-leaf, fanlit doorways are located in the sixty foot tall tower at the southwest corner and in the projecting gable-front bay at the northwest corner. Between these two projecting elements are paired round arched windows within a larger arch, flanked by single rectangular windows. Label moldings above doors and



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 13

windows. All of the windows are stained glass; the fanlight above the tower entrance includes the words "First M.E. Church South." Above tower entrance are tall, thin, round-arched windows; and there is a lucarne window on each slope of the pyramidal hipped roof of the tower. Two-story, flat-roofed, brick educational wing added to east end of building in 1972.

46. NC Northwest corner South Main and Green Streets  
One-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building built as a filling station about 1940. Converted to commercial or office use in the 1970's by the addition of plate glass windows and a shed roof porch.
47. NC Southeast corner of South Main and Green Streets  
Vacant lot used as a playground for First United Methodist Church.
- 47A. NC  
One car carport located on the eastern edge of the property.
- 47B. NC  
One-story, brick storage building located on the eastern edge of the property.
48. NC 75 Three Rivers Planning and Development District  
One-story, brick, overlapping gable fronted office building. Porch under projecting gable. Built circa 1950.
49. NC 81 Pontotoc County Chamber of Commerce  
One-story, brick, hipped-roof office building. Detailed to look like a house with 9/6 DHW with stationary vinyl shutters and six-panel metal door. Built circa 1985.
50. NC 85  
One-and-one-half story, brick, cross-gable roofed house. Built circa 1950.
51. C 92 Morris's Service Center  
One-story, flat-roofed, masonry filling station built circa 1940. Two service bays on north end. Slightly projecting office on south end. Facade divided by Art Deco pilasters.
52. NC 93 William L. Sneed, Attorney, and Commonwealth Realty  
One-story, brick, gable end house with two bay shed roof porch on front supported by square wooden columns. Built circa 1950.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 14

53. NC 96 Baldwin Funeral Home  
Originally a two-story, center gabled, frame house built about 1900. The second floor of this house with variant 4/1 DHW and decorative vergeboard can still be seen above the new construction of the first floor. The entire first floor, which is brick with plate glass doors and windows, was built 1970-1980 and totally obscures the original.
54. C 99  
Two-story, brick, hipped-roof, Colonial Revival house. Hipped-roof porch across front supported by large, square brick columns. Two large hipped-roof dormers with louvered vents on roof. Three 1/1 DHW on second floor; first floor has two 1/1 DHW on each side of single-leaf glass door surrounded by beveled glass sidelights and transom.
55. NC 100 Tutor Building  
One-story, gable ended, brick office building built about 1960 as a church building to replace an earlier (circa 1940) building. This older building remains as a wing of the newer building. This building was extensively altered, circa 1980, when it became an office building.
56. NC 101 Yeoman and Johnstone, Attorneys at Law  
One-story, brick, gable-ended house with a central recessed three-bay porch supported by square wooden columns. Under porch is single-leaf entrance flanked by 6/6 DHW. One 6/6 DHW each side of porch.
57. C 107 Thomason House  
Gable-roofed, frame, tripartite Greek Revival house with a two-story pedimented, center section with four fluted Ionic columns, flanked by one-story wings. Entablature and pediment of center section trimmed with dentil molding as is the entablature on the wings. Pilasters flank the center section and also appear on the corners of the wings. Single-leaf, three-panel entrance door surrounded by three-light sidelights and eight-light transoms. Cantilevered balcony supported by decorative brackets. Balcony door is framed by eight-light sidelights and transoms framed by a Greek eared architrave. Balcony railing consists of single square balusters with a round handrail. 2/2 DHW in wings flanked by louvered blinds. The house was built circa 1850.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 15

- 
58. C 110  
One-story, frame, twin gable-fronted roof house. Porch across front supported by tapered square wooden columns atop low brick pedestals with two brick pedestals without columns flanking the steps. Porch configuration dates to circa 1920, while the house itself was built about 1900.
59. C 113  
Two-story, frame, gable-fronted, Craftsman style house built between 1916 and 1925. Wide roof overhang with exposed rafter tails in the eaves and triangular knee braces at the gable end. Porch across front, supported by square tapered columns on low brick pedestals, has wide overhang and exposed rafter tails. Second floor has two 1/1 DH triple windows separated by a small square stained glass window. Center of first floor has a single-leaf leaded glass door flanked by two 1/1 DH triple windows.
60. C 116  
Two-story, brick, gable-roofed, L-front house. Wraparound porch across facade and end of lateral wing. Porch supported by square tapered columns on low brick pedestals. Roof has wide overhang. House was built between 1925 and 1929.
61. NC 123  
One-story, brick, gable-end roof, slab-on-grade foundation ranch house. Built circa 1960.
62. C 124 First Presbyterian Church  
Two-story, gable-roofed, brick, Neoclassical Revival building. The plan has the form of an asymmetrical Greek cross superimposed over an octagon. Projecting end walls have parapeted gables. 1/1 DHW are stained glass throughout. Detailing of the brickwork is suggestive of the Prairie style. Built in 1915.
63. C 131  
One-story, stuccoed, side gable-roofed, Tudor Revival house with a projecting gable-roofed, arcaded porch. This house was built between 1929 and 1943.
64. C Northeast corner South Main and Third Streets  
Presbyterian Manse  
One-and one-half story, brick, gable-front bungalow. Gable of main roof clipped and trimmed by four triangular knee braces.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 16

Projecting gable-front wing supported by two triangular knee braces. Porch across front of main body of house supported by three pairs of Tuscan columns resting on low brick pedestals. Gable ends covered in vinyl siding. According to a church history, this house was built in 1928.

65. C 140  
One-story, frame, gable-roofed, L-front house of the typical Pontotoc form. Wraparound porch across facade and end of lateral wing supported by square, tapered wooden columns atop low brick pedestals. Unusual brackets decorate top of columns. Pedestals linked by a balustrade of simple square balusters. Gable ornament in each gable. This house was built between 1905 and 1910. This porch received its present appearance in the 1920's or 30's.
66. C 143  
One-story, gable-front, frame bungalow. Screened-in porch located across front of house under main roof is supported by three square wooden tapered columns resting on brick pedestals. Roof has wide overhang and exposed rafter tails. Gable is supported by three triangular knee braces. House was built between 1925 and 1929.
67. C 149  
One-story, frame, overlapping front gable roof bungalow. Porch under projecting gable supported by two square tapered wooden columns resting on low stuccoed pedestals. A third pedestal is located between these two. Triangular knee braces support the gables of the main roof and the porch. This house was built between 1925 and 1929. In the 1980's a carport was attached to the front of the house adjacent to the porch.
68. C 150  
One-story, frame, gable-front-and-wing house built about 1896. In the projecting gable are two 2/2 DHW with louvered blinds. Across about 2/3 of the transverse wing is a shed roof porch supported by large square brick columns. In the angle is the single-leaf french entrance door with transom. Across the remainder of the porch wall are two 2/2 DHW. Two more 2/2 DH windows are located on the remaining 1/3 of the transverse wing.
- 68A. NC  
One-car, frame, gable roof garage behind the house.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 17

- 
69. C 159  
One-story, gable-roofed, frame bungalow. The projecting gable is supported by triangular knee braces and covers approximately half of the recessed porch. At attic level there is a small window composed of three horizontally arranged lights. Half of the gable at first-floor level is occupied by four six-light casement windows arranged side by side. The other half opens onto the porch. The single-leaf paneled entrance door with sidelights and transom is located under the gable but on the rear wall of the porch. To the right of the door is a 6/1 DH triple window. The porch is supported by paired, tapered, square wooden columns resting on low brick pedestals. This house was built circa 1920.
70. C 167  
Two-story, frame, hipped-roof house with wide roof overhang supported by simple brackets. The house displays Mediterranean and Prairie influences. The house is three bays wide with the center first floor bay being a double-leaf entrance, each door of which has six panels. The door surround is composed of two fluted pilasters on each side supporting a simple cornice. The entrance is sheltered by a one-story, hipped-roof porch supported by Tuscan columns, one at each corner. The center bay is flanked by one triple window on each side. The second floor is arranged as three bays of triple windows. The center units of the windows are 9/9 DHW while the side units are 6/6 DH. To the north of the house is a one-story hipped roof with wide overhang wing with double-leaf french doors with surround detailed like the front door. Attached to the southwest corner of the house is a new one-story wing. This house was built around 1920.
71. NC Southwest corner South Main and Fifth Street  
Rayburn Medical Arts and Center  
One-story, slab-on-grade foundation, flat-roofed, brick building with a standing seam metal parapet. Windows are all fixed sash tinted windows. This building was constructed around 1985.
72. C 195  
One-story, deck-on-hip roof, brick, free classical house built between 1925 and 1929. Center portico is supported by paired Tuscan columns on low brick pedestals. Center single-leaf french door. A concrete terrace extends across the front from each side of the portico. There are low brick pedestals on each outside corner like those supporting the portico columns. There

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 7 Page 18

is a semi-circular vent in the portico gable. The roof has a wide overhang.

73. C 197 Fontaine-Winston House  
Two-story, frame, hipped-roof, Greek Revival house built in 1851. The center two-story portico is supported by four two-story square, paneled wooden columns. There is a cantilevered balcony on the second floor enclosed by a railing with a cross diamond pattern. Double-leaf paneled doors with sidelights and transoms open off the center hall at both levels. Both entrances are surrounded by Greek eared architraves. The walls under the portico are covered with flushboard siding while the rest of the house is covered with clapboards. There are two 9/9 DHW on each side of the portico on both floors. These windows are flanked with louvered blinds. Pilasters on the front corners match the portico columns. There is a decorative wooden scallop vergeboard around the eaves of the house and portico.

Marion Street

74. C 6, 8, 10  
Three-story, brick, flat-roofed commercial building, located on the northeast corner of Marion and Main streets. The Marion Street side of the building has six bays on the second and third floors each containing a 1/1 DH double window. The second-story windows have flat brick arches and stone keystones. The third story windows have a continuous row of soldier bricks above them. There is a stone belt course running under the windows on both floors and serving as window sills for these windows. There are three storefronts along the ground floor, all sheltered by a continuous flat awning supported by steel cables across the front. The storefront on the west corner is a new tinted glass storefront while the two remaining storefronts appear to be original with wood frame glass doors and plate glass windows with brick bulkheads. All of the storefronts originally had transoms above the awning, but these have been covered over. The Main Street side has the same treatments on the second and third floor windows but with nine bays consisting of paired 1/1 DH windows in the center bay, flanked by eight 1/1 DHW. A new tinted glass storefront is on the far left hand side of the first floor. To the right of this is a single 1/1 DHW. The remainder of the first floor is a blank wall with a large sign that reads "Montgomery Drugs."

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 19

75. C 12 Wilson TV and Appliance  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building. Parapet with decorative brickwork across top. Facade is divided into three bays by brick pilasters. The central bay of the parapet projects slightly above the two outer bays. A brick dentil course accents the facade at the point where the roof meets the parapet. Just below this there is a small vent in each bay. Each bay of the second story contains a window opening covered with louvered panels. There are two belt courses which break up the facade into three sections--one above the second story windows and the other forming sills for these windows. The first floor is arcaded with one arch in each bay. The storefront is composed of large plate glass windows in the outer bays with a double-leaf glass and aluminum door occupying the central bay. Above the storefront is a flat awning with pickets across the front which serves as a signboard.
76. C 14 Shannon and Graham Eye Clinic  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building with parapet across the top. The parapet has recessed panels with vents. A belt course of soldier bricks separates the parapet from the three window openings on the second floor. These openings have been filled in with louvered panels. A new canvas awning covers the storefront composed of a brick bulkhead with a recessed entry which dates from the 1960's. The tinted glass and bronze-metal, single-leaf door were installed in the 1980's. To the right of the storefront is a metal six-panel door which opens to the stairway which leads to the second floor.
77. NC 16 Jewelry Store  
Two-story, flat-roofed, brick commercial building. The entire second floor is covered with stucco. The storefront appears to date from the 1950's. There is an old neon sign suspended from the second story. Above the storefront is an aluminum awning. According to Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, the building predates 1898, but retains very little architectural character from that period.

Washington Street

78. C 12 Washington Street  
Pontotoc County Courthouse  
Brick, tripartite building. Center section is three stories over basement with red tile deck-on-hip roof fronted by a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 7 Page 20

colonnade of four Tuscan columns flanked by two piers which are linked by a low wall. These elements are composed of blocks of glazed terra-cotta. The first floor is reached by a broad flight of steps. The facade is divided into bays by pilasters that reflect the columns. The three center bays were originally double-leaf doors, but the outside bays have been enclosed with tinted plate glass windows. The center bay has double-leaf tinted glass and bronzed metal doors. Over each doorway is a bust in glazed terra-cotta of Blind Justice. All windows are 1/1 DHW. The attic story (3rd floor) is divided into openings by four short piers which correspond to the four columns of the colonnade. Two clock faces occupy the space on each end of the attic story. A modillioned entablature separates the colonnade from the attic story. The two end sections of the building are two stories over a basement with deck-on-hip red tile roofs and pilasters which divide the facade into bays of 1/1 DH double windows. A modillioned cornice tops all three sections of the building. All of the decorative elements are terra-cotta. This building was completed in late 1916.

79. C 13 John M. Patterson, M.D. (Office)  
One-story, brick, side gabled bungalow. Roof overhang with exposed rafter tails. Center front-facing, slightly projecting gable with three exposed purlins. Porch on the east end of the building was enclosed about 1960 to serve as a lobby when this house was turned into a doctor's office. The porch was enclosed with board-and-batten siding. Windows are 8/1 variant DHW windows arranged in groups of three. Stone water table. This house was built around 1920.
80. C 31 First Baptist Church  
Two-story, brick, Neoclassical Revival ecclesiastical building. Hipped-roof and octagonal dome, with spire and decorative railing covered with red barrel tile. Twin tetrastyle unfluted Ionic colonnades, one on the north side facing Washington Street and the other on the east side facing Lafayette Street. Brick pilasters with Ionic capitals divide the north and east facades into bays. Entry into the building is through double-leaf doors located on the flanking walls of the colonnades. Stained glass casement windows throughout. Building is elevated on a raised basement. Colonnades are reached by broad flights of steps. To the rear (south) is a large, two-story, flat roof education wing built about 1975. The original part of the building was constructed in 1914.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetPontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, MississippiSection number 8 Page 1

The Pontotoc Historic District is locally significant for its architecture (Criterion C) because its buildings represent a spectrum of small town Mississippi architecture during the period 1836-1943. The beginning date for the period of significance was selected because that was the year the town was laid out, and the town plat survives visually from that time. The oldest known surviving building in the district dates to circa 1836. The period of significance ends in 1943 which is fifty years previous to the preparation of this nomination and recognizes the architectural changes that began to take place during World War II. Ending the period of significance at this date is particularly convenient because there is a Sanborn Fire Insurance Map available for 1943 that shows which buildings were standing at that time.

Most of the North Mississippi county seat towns contemporary with Pontotoc (dating from the 1830's) still serve as county seats today, among these being Holly Springs, Oxford, and Ripley. All today remain relatively small communities and retain much of their historic character. Pontotoc, while not retaining as extensive a collection of antebellum resources as Holly Springs and Oxford, nonetheless has a rich assortment of historic buildings dating from the 1830's to the 1940's, including several fine buildings of individual significance. Three buildings are known to survive from the antebellum period. The so called "Oldest House" is believed to date to circa 1836 and retains much of its original appearance and fabric, changes to the porch being the only significant alteration. The Thomason House, which dates to the 1850's, is an especially fine Greek Revival house dominated by a tetrastyle Ionic portico. This house is one of the finest Greek Revival houses in North Mississippi. Also dating from the antebellum era is the Fontaine-Winston House built in 1851.

Pontotoc retains few late Victorian buildings but does have a significant concentration of buildings from the early decades of the twentieth century (circa 1900-1930). Most notable among these is the courthouse, built in 1916. This building was designed by noted Jackson, Mississippi, architect N. W. Overstreet. Three notable church buildings were erected during this period, the Methodist Church (1910), the Baptist Church (1914), and the very distinctive Presbyterian Church (1915).

Most of the commercial buildings date from this period as do most of the houses. Among the more notable houses of this period are the fine Craftsman style houses at 113 and 159 South Main Street.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number 8 Page 2

---

The U.S. Post Office in Pontotoc was erected in 1936 and is a representative example of Depression era Colonial Revival federal government architecture. The building's most notable feature is a mural installed about 1939 as a part of the Department of Treasury's Fine Arts Program. This mural depicts DeSoto's 1540 Christmas Feast, which was reputedly held near Pontotoc.

Pontotoc continues to be the commercial and political center of Pontotoc County. It is a growing community that still retains a very real sense of its past in its surviving historic buildings.

### Historical Background

The name Pontotoc derives from an Indian phrase Pakitali, which means (Land of) Hanging Grapes. The place that is known today as Pontotoc has a long and colorful history. DeSoto and his soldiers apparently spent the winter of 1540-1541 with the Chickasaw Indians at a village located just a few miles south of Pontotoc. The French fought the Chickasaws near the site of Pontotoc in 1736. In 1832, after the Chickasaw's ceded their land in North Mississippi to the United States government, a land office was located in the present day city limits of Pontotoc. After the cession, the land was surveyed and in 1836 the State Legislature passed an act creating ten new counties, one of which was Pontotoc County. This act also required that the county's seat of government be located within five miles of its geographical center. In 1836 Pontotoc was laid out and in 1837 was incorporated as the county seat. Pontotoc is the only official county seat the county has ever had. During the antebellum period two academies were located in Pontotoc, one of which became Chickasaw College and continued to exist until 1936. Cotton was the major cash crop of the county. During the Civil War, four skirmishes occurred within the county.

In 1888 the first railroad arrived in Pontotoc. This event caused the rise of the timber business. Pontotoc also became a leading cotton market for North Mississippi.

Pontotoc's activity as a local government and trade center caused it to continue as the county's most prominent community into the twentieth century as it remains today.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number   9   Page   1  

---

Winston, E. T. Story of Pontotoc. Pontotoc, Mississippi: Pontotoc Progress Print, 1931.

Young, Callie B. (editor). From These Hills: A History of Pontotoc County. Fulton, Mississippi: The Itawamba County Times Printers-Publishers, Second Edition, 1978.

Southern Engineering. Map of Pontotoc city and county. Glen, Mississippi: 1991. (This map includes a historical sketch of the community.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc, Mississippi

Section number 10 Page 1

---

### Verbal Boundary Description

See accompanying scale map.

### Boundary Justification

The boundaries for the district have been drawn to include as many of the oldest and most significant properties in the community as possible. Although boundaries appear irregular, they encompass the contiguous concentration of significant properties while excluding the greatest number of adjacent non-contributing resources. The district boundaries are described in the second-to-last paragraph of the description.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number Photos Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

- (1) Pontotoc Historic District
- (2) Pontotoc, Pontotoc County, Mississippi
- (3) Todd Sanders
- (4) May - June 1993
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and History

- Photo 1--(6) House on First Street, southeast corner First and Liberty (#2)  
Front (north) facade, view to south
- Photo 2--(6) "Oldest House," Green Street (#5)  
Front (north) facade, view to south
- Photo 3--(6) No. 4-10 South Main Street (#24, 27, 29)  
Front (west) facade, view to east
- Photo 4--(6) No. 24-26 South Main Street (#37)  
Front (west) facade, view to east
- Photo 5--(6) Town Square (Confederate Park) (#43)  
General view to southwest, towards post office
- Photo 6--(6) Post Office, 59 South Main Street (#44)  
Front (east) facade, view to west
- Photo 7--(6) Mural, Post Office Lobby, view to south
- Photo 8--(6) First United Methodist Church, South Main Street (#45)  
Front (west) facade, view to east
- Photo 9--(6) Thomason House, 107 South Main Street (#57)  
Front (east) facade, view to west
- Photo 10--(6) 113 South Main Street (#59)  
Front (east) facade, view to west
- Photo 11--(6) First Presbyterian Church, 124 South Main Street (#62)  
Front (west) facade, view to east
- Photo 12--(6) 159 South Main Street (#69)  
Front (east) facade, view to west
- Photo 13--(6) Fontaine-Winston House, 197 South Main Street (#73)  
Front (east) facade, view to west
- Photo 14--(6) 6, 8, 10 Marion Street (#74)  
Front (south) facade, view to north
- Photo 15--(6) Wilson TV and Appliance, 12 Marion Street (#75)  
Front (south) facade, view to north
- Photo 16--(6) Shannon and Graham Eye Clinic, 14 Marion Street (#76)  
Front (south) facade, view to north
- Photo 17--(6) Pontotoc County Courthouse, 12 Washington Street (#78)  
Front (north) facade, view to south
- Photo 18--(6) First Baptist Church, 31 Washington Street (#80)  
Northeast corner, view to southwest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

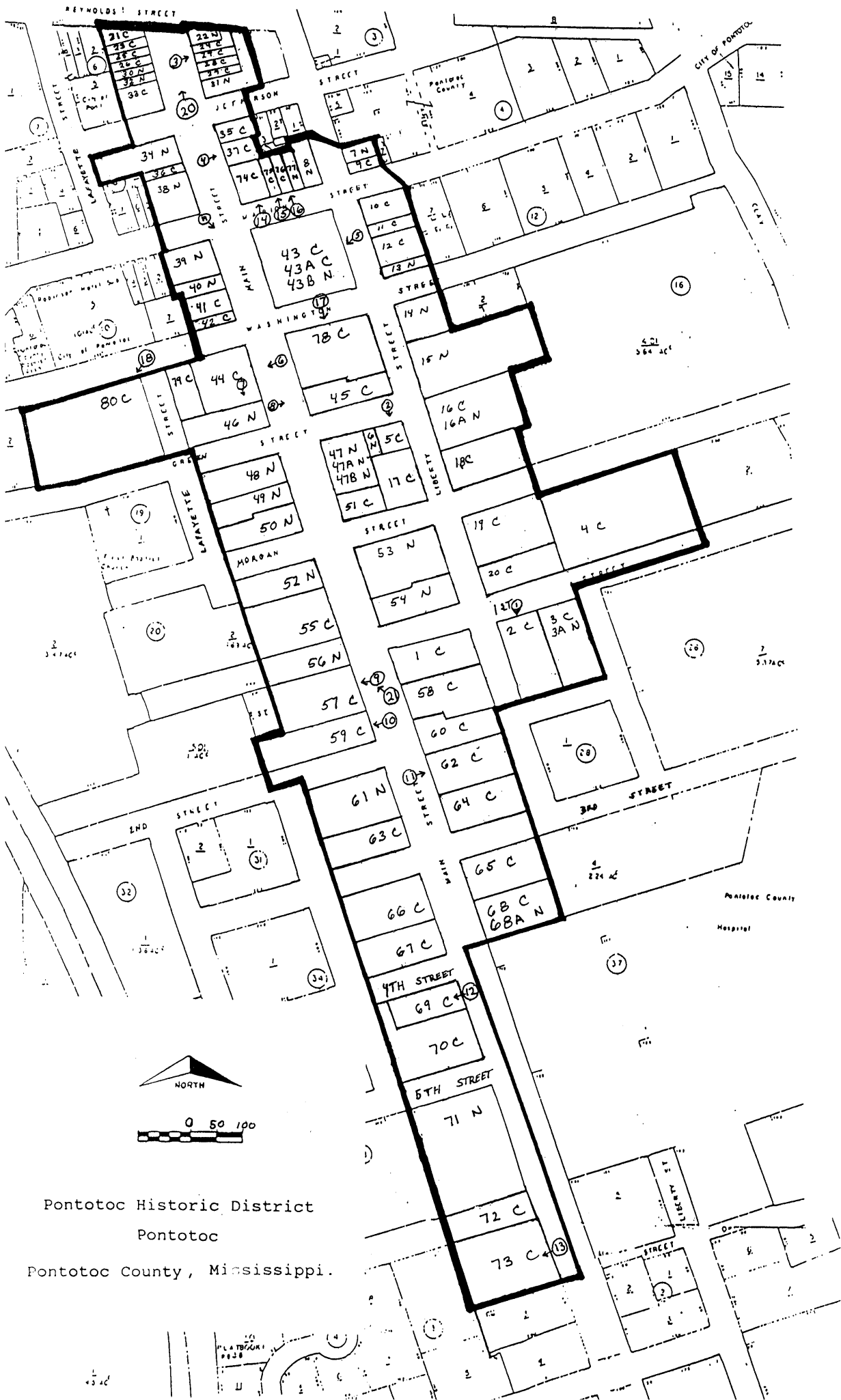
**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Pontotoc Historic District  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi

Section number Photos Page 2

---

- Photo 19--(6) View to southeast toward the Courthouse (#78) from northwest corner of the intersection of South Main and Marion Streets
- Photo 20--(6) View to north from the intersection of South Main and Jefferson Streets
- Photo 21--(6) View of west side of South Main Street, view to northwest



Pontotoc Historic District  
 Pontotoc  
 Pontotoc County, Mississippi.