

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting 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 (NPA Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number See Continuation Sheet N/A not for publication

city or town Athens N/A vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Limestone code 083 zip code 35611

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

8/21/97

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)

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:

X 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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

10/10/97

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Numbers and Street Addresses for the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District

1. 101 East Green Street
2. East Green Street
3. 108 West Green Street
4. 101 North Jefferson Street
5. 107 North Jefferson Street
6. 109-111A North Jefferson Street
7. 112 North Jefferson Street
8. 114 North Jefferson Street
9. 115 North Jefferson Street
10. 122 North Jefferson Street
11. 124 North Jefferson Street
12. 126 North Jefferson Street
13. 100 South Jefferson Street
14. 102 South Jefferson Street
15. South Jefferson Street
16. 112 South Jefferson Street
17. 110-112-114 North Marion Street
18. 116-118-120 North Marion Street
19. 122 North Marion Street
20. 124 North Marion Street
21. 126 North Marion Street
22. 101 South Marion Street
23. 103-105 South Marion Street
24. 107-109 South Marion Street
25. 111-113 South Marion Street
26. 117 South Marion Street
27. 121 South Marion Street
28. 123 South Marion Street
29. 212 South Marion Street
30. 214-216 South Marion Street
31. 220 South Marion Street
32. 100-102 East Market Street
33. 101-103 East Market Street
34. 105 East Market Street
35. 106-108 East Market Street
36. 109 East Market Street
37. East Market Street
38. 100 West Market Street

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39. 102 West Market Street
40. 104 West Market Street
41. 106 West Market Street
42. 108-110 West Market Street
43. 111B West Market Street
44. 112 West Market Street
45. 114 West Market Street
46. 116 West Market Street
47. 120 West Market Street
48. 122 West Market Street
49. 200 West Market Street
50. 204 West Market Street
51. 206 West Market Street
52. 208 West Market Street
53. 210 West Market Street
54. 214 West Market Street
55. 216 West Market Street
56. 218 West Market Street
57. 220-222 West Market Street
58. 307 West Market Street
59. 309-313 West Market Street
60. 315 West Market Street
61. 317 West Market Street
62. 111-117 North Monroe Street
63. 119 North Monroe Street
64. 100 East Washington Street
65. East Washington Street
66. 102 East Washington Street
67. 104 East Washington Street
68. 106-110 East Washington Street
69. 101 West Washington Street
70. 102 West Washington Street
71. 103 West Washington Street
72. 105 West Washington Street
73. 107 West Washington Street
74. 109 West Washington Street
75. 111 West Washington Street
76. 113 West Washington Street
77. 115 West Washington Street
78. 121 West Washington Street

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- 79. 200 West Washington Street
- 80. 201-203 West Washington Street
- 81. 205 West Washington Street
- 82. 207 West Washington Street
- 83. 209 West Washington Street
- 84. 211 West Washington Street
- 85. 310 West Washington Street

Athens Courthouse Square Historic District  
Name of Property

Limestone County, Alabama  
County and State

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply.)  
**Category of Property** (Check only one box.)

private  
 public-local  
 public-State  
 public-Federal

building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>64</u>	<u>20</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	objects
<u>67</u>	<u>23</u>	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**

1

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT:courthouse  
GOVERNMENT:city hall  
GOVERNMENT:post office  
COMMERCE/TRADE:business  
COMMERCE/TRADE:professional  
COMMERCE/TRADE:financial institution  
COMMERCE/TRADE:specialty store  
RELIGION:religious facility  
LANDSCAPE:parking lot  
TRANSPORTATION:rail-related  
SOCIAL:meeting hall  
DOMESTIC:hotel  
RECREATION/CULTURE:theater  
HEALTH CARE:clinic

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT:courthouse  
GOVERNMENT:government office  
COMMERCE/TRADE:depart. store  
COMMERCE/TRADE:business  
COMMERCE/TRADE:professional  
COMMERCE/TRADE:specialty store  
COMMERCE/TRADE:financial inst.  
COMMERCE/TRADE:restaurant  
RELIGION:religious facility  
LANDSCAPE:parking lot  
SOCIAL:meeting hall  
VACANT/NOT IN USE

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY:Greek Revival  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Neo-Classical Revival  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Gothic Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:Craftsman  
OTHER: One-Story Commercial Block  
OTHER: Multiple-Story Commercial Block

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation BRICK/STONE  
roof ASPHALT/UNKNOWN  
walls BRICK/WOOD/STONE/STUCCO  
SYNTHETIC/CONCRETE  
other GLASS/METAL/CERAMIC TILE

### Narrative Description

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

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**DESCRIPTION**

The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District is located in the City of Athens, Limestone County, Alabama. Athens is approximately half way between Birmingham and Nashville, in the Tennessee Valley Region. The district encompasses the courthouse square and the surrounding adjacent city blocks in downtown Athens. Containing a total of eighty-five properties, the buildings date primarily from ca. 1888 to 1945 with an earlier building that dates from 1836.

Developed in the 1810s on land purchased by Richard Beaty and John D. Carroll, the streets of Athens were laid out in a grid pattern, oriented to the compass points, North, South, East, and West. The downtown area is designed in a Shelbyville square plan, typical for southern towns founded in the nineteenth century. This plan has a central courthouse square with north/south and east/west streets. Although the railroad is located one block east of the courthouse, no train service is currently provided in the downtown area. U.S. Highways 31 and 72 run through town providing north/south and east/west transportation routes respectively, and the town is located just west of Interstate 65.

The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District is located mainly on Green, Washington, and Market Streets between Madison and Clinton Streets. This area encompasses the earliest commercial buildings in the downtown area along with the Limestone County Courthouse, the original Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the original Methodist Church.

Contributing buildings within the district represent local interpretations of the Greek Revival, Romanesque Revival, Gothic Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman, and Modernistic (Art Deco) styles. Heights of the buildings range from one to three stories, while the predominant original facing material of the historic buildings is brick. Decorative features include brick corbelling (a feature of many buildings in the district), cast iron pilasters, and stone details such as lintels and sills. The majority of buildings within the district boundaries are in good condition with many experiencing common alterations such as the replacement of original doors and display windows.

In addition to identification by style, most buildings in downtown Athens can be classified as either one-story or multiple-story commercial blocks. This terminology is commonly used to describe commercial buildings in Alabama and is based upon a classification system described in Richard Longstreth's 1987 publication, The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture. One-story commercial buildings are those that are one-story in height, generally with traditional storefronts, and with plain or enriched upper facades. This terminology is used in Alabama and corresponds to Longstreth's "one-part commercial block." Multiple-story buildings are those that are two or more stories in height and have separate storefronts and upper facades. This terminology is used in Alabama and corresponds to Longstreth's "two-part commercial block."

Fires in the nineteenth century and urban renewal in the twentieth century have also changed the face of the district. Consequently, there are no surviving Italianate-influenced commercial buildings. The commercial buildings tend to

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be rectangular in shape with homogenous designs and ornamentation. The earliest remaining building is the former Methodist Church at 124 North Marion Street built in 1836. It retains much of its original form and some of its decorative exterior details. One of the oldest commercial buildings is the one-story commercial block at 101 North Jefferson constructed ca. 1896. Other buildings include the Neo-Classical style Limestone County Courthouse, the Gothic Revival First Presbyterian Church, and the Neo-Classical style building at 116 West Market Street. The Louisville and Nashville Depot built in 1907, reflects the Craftsman style commonly used for railroad depot construction during this period. Also, the former United States Post Office at 310 West Washington Street was individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 for its Classical Revival architecture. Within the district, one building displays elements of the Art Deco style. Located at 209 West Washington Street, the building still possesses vertical decorative fluting with a central pylon on the front facade.

During the mid- to late-twentieth century, the commercial buildings within the district experienced typical modifications in the replacement of pedestrian doors and display windows. Businesses tended to move down to the first floor level with the upper stories left vacant. There has been very little post-war construction in the downtown Athens. New construction that is extant is concentrated in the 100 block of North Marion Street and is not included in the district boundaries. In the 1970s, there were two major remodelings on the square: 218 West Market Street and 213 West Washington Street. These buildings were modified with mansard roofs, replacement storefronts and interior alterations. Today, the square continues to be a thriving commercial area with very few vacancies.

In addition to the buildings in the district, the nominated property also includes three contributing and three non-contributing objects. These are statues, memorials and a flagpole erected on the surrounding lawn of the Limestone County Courthouse.

The boundaries of the district are drawn to include architecturally and historically significant structures within the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District and to exclude as much post-war development as possible. Of the 85 buildings in the district, 65 or 77% are contributing. Contributing buildings are at least fifty years of age and possess sufficient architectural character and building fabric and/or historical significance to meet the National Register criteria. Non-contributing buildings total 20 or 23% and are those of recent construction and historic buildings that have been altered to a point that they currently do not contribute to the character of the district.

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**INVENTORY** (Original building uses are listed, if known, current use listed in parentheses)

Green Street (East)

1. 101 East Green Street Beasley Milling Company Warehouse (Upholstery Shop) ca. 1935. This one-story commercial block building has a stucco exterior and a metal gable roof. The concrete block building has a south front facade and a stepped parapet with concrete coping. This facade was modified ca. 1980 with a metal and glass door in the center bay. Also on the front facade, there is a three panel wood door with a single light and a solid wood door. Windows are nine-light metal pivoting sash. The north facade also has a stepped parapet with concrete coping. The interior has the original open floor plan and wood panel doors. (C)

2. East Green Street Beasley Milling Company Warehouse (Vacant) ca. 1935. This one-story commercial block building has a stucco exterior and a metal gable roof. The rectangularly shaped concrete block building has a stepped parapet on both the east and west facades with concrete coping. There is a ca. 1970 metal shed roof addition on the north facade and a ca. 1975 shed roof porch on the south facade. Also on the south facade is a ca. 1975 overhead door and a ca. 1970 wood pedestrian door. Windows are metal sash. There was no access to the interior. (C)

Green Street (West)

3. 108 West Green Street (Estes & Son) ca. 1919. This one-story commercial block building has a metal gable roof with a six-course common bond brick exterior. The building rests on a cast concrete foundation and has stepped parapets on the north and south facades. Windows are six- and twelve-light pivoting metal sash with brick sills. The center bay in the north facade has a ca. 1970 replacement overhead track door. The south facade has a ca. 1975 replacement overhead track door in the east bay. In the center bay of the south facade is a ca. 1975 replacement metal and glass pedestrian door with a one-light transom. The interior has an exposed wood truss structural system and a skylight on the east slope. The interior walls are exposed six-course common bond brick. This building was constructed by the Robinson-McGill Company from Pulaski, Tennessee as a buggy sales agency. (C)

Jefferson Street (North)

4. 101 North Jefferson Street (U. G. White Hardware) ca. 1896. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront is divided into three bays. Each bay has original brick bulkheads and ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows. The original wood panel door with a single-light is intact on the east front facade. The building has a ca. 1960 crimped metal awning spanning the east facade with a solid course beltcourse and an enclosed transom. The upper facade is divided into three bays by brick piers. On the south facade are four-light wood sash windows with arched brick surrounds, and an interior brick chimney is extant. The interior has an original open floor plan, hardwood floors and plaster walls. At the rear of the building is an original mezzanine level. The ceiling was replaced in 1995. This building was constructed as a furniture store

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under the direction of Henry Warten. It was purchased by the Boston Coffman Furniture Company in 1920, and in 1937 it became U. G. White Hardware. (C)

5. 107 North Jefferson Street (Creative Coiffures) ca. 1910, ca. 1965-75. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and ca. 1965 vertical metal siding on the east front facade. The brick building has a storefront with ca. 1965 vertical wood bulkheads with metal and glass display windows. There is a ca. 1975 metal and glass pedestrian door with a single-light transom on the front facade. The south facade has an interior brick chimney and six-course common bond brick exterior. There is a ca. 1975 concrete block addition on the west facade of the building. The interior has a ca. 1970 dropped ceiling, a linoleum floor, and added partition walls. (NC)

6. 109-111A North Jefferson Street (Bob's Place (109)/The Porcelain Stork Inc. (111)/Fitness Place (111A)) ca. 1897. This two-story commercial block flat roofed building has a common bond brick exterior with vertical crimped metal siding added ca. 1965 on the lower front facade. Display windows are metal and glass. Bulkheads in 109 consist of ca. 1935 Carrara glass, and in 111 North Jefferson they are replacement brick. The second floor retains its original brick wall surface and decoration. Windows are ca. 1990 twelve-over-nine single-hung aluminum sash windows with soldier course lintels. Above the windows is an original concrete belt course. The center bay of the second floor has an original one-over-one double-hung wood sash window. The north and south facades have exposed rafter ends with overhang eaves and on the north facade are original multi-sash wood windows. The rear (W) facade has a stepped parapet. The interior has a dropped ceiling and replacement floors and walls. This building was originally constructed as a cotton warehouse. (C)

7. 112 North Jefferson Street (Am South Bank) ca. 1980. This one-story commercial block building has original fixed wood sash windows on the west front facade with multi-lights. Each has soldier course surrounds. The original multi-light door is recessed in an arched entryway. (NC)

8. 114 North Jefferson Street (Brian's Pets) ca. 1940. This two-story commercial block building has a common bond brick exterior with a flat roof. The storefront has original brick bulkheads with metal and glass display windows. The original wood and glass pedestrian doors are recessed with single lights. On the west front facade, second floor windows are six-light pivoting metal sash with soldier course lintels and concrete sills. On the upper facade are vents with metal grilles. The interior retains its original open floor plan, plaster ceiling, and concrete floor. (C)

9. 115 North Jefferson Street (Athens Podiatry Center) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and glass fixed sash windows. The front (E) entry is a recessed ca. 1975 metal and glass door. The building has decorative brick corbelling, patterned brickwork, and a stepped parapet on the front facade. The north facade has an interior brick chimney and six-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with soldier course lintels and brick sills. There is a ca. 1975 concrete block addition to the rear (W) facade. The interior has a dropped ceiling and carpeted floor. The building was originally constructed by local physician Dr. Belue. (C)

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10. 122 North Jefferson Street (Vacant) ca. 1940. This one-story commercial block building has a rectangular plan with a flat roof and a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original metal and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. The double wood entry doors are original and have large single lights. There is a ca. 1970 metal awning spanning the front (W) facade. The upper facade has a soldier course beltcourse with metal grilles. The interior has an open floor plan and a ca. 1970 dropped ceiling with a carpeted floor. (C)

11. 124 North Jefferson Street (Athens Vacuum) ca. 1940. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original metal and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. There is a ca. 1965 metal awning spanning the front (W) facade. The upper facade has a soldier course beltcourse with metal grilles. The interior has an open floor plan. (C)

12. 126 North Jefferson Street (Economy Cleaners) ca. 1940. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. The door is a ca. 1970 wood panel door with an arched brick surround. There is a ca. 1970 metal awning spanning the front facade. Windows on the north facade are fixed and pivoting metal sash. There is a soldier course beltcourse on the north facade and a ca. 1975 overhead metal track door in the east bay. (C)

Jefferson Street (South)

13. 100 South Jefferson Street (C.E.I. Bookstore) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick and stucco exterior. The building was modified ca. 1990 with brick bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows on the east front facade. The building has a recessed entry on the front facade with a ca. 1990 aluminum and glass door. On the north facade are one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with arched surrounds on the upper level. Also on this facade are original wood panel doors with single lights. There is a ca. 1975 overhead metal track door and a ca. 1970 plate glass display window in the adjacent bay. (NC)

14. 102 South Jefferson Street (Sherrill, Batts & Mathews Attorney At Law) ca. 1910. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront is divided into two bays and each has ca. 1985 wood panel bulkheads with replacement wood and glass display windows. Doors are ca. 1990 wood paneled with a large single-light and a solid wood panel door. There is a soldier course beltcourse above the display windows. The second floor has one-over-one single-hung wood sash windows in pairs with concrete sills and soldier course lintels. The building has rectangular vents covered with metal grilles in the upper facade and concrete coping at the roofline. The interior was inaccessible. (C)

15. South Jefferson Street (Rogers Center, First Presbyterian Church) ca. 1906, Remodeled 1990. Historically part of Athens City Hall, this two-story commercial block building was modified in 1990 with replacement common bond brick veneer, stained-glass windows with decorative surrounds, and replacement doors. Each window has a three-light transom. The interior was also altered with a replacement floor and ceiling. (NC)

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16. 112 South Jefferson Street (First Presbyterian Church) 1895. Gothic Revival. Originally the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, this irregularly shaped building has a four-course common bond brick exterior with a gabled and hipped composition shingled roof. The building has a stone foundation and watertable, and the original steeple is on the southeast corner. The building has brick buttresses with stone caps at the exterior corners. Windows are stained-glass with pointed arch brick surrounds. In the gable fields the building has decorative brick corbelling. The main entrance is on the east front facade and has the original five panel wood doors recessed behind ca. 1975 metal and glass doors with arched stained-glass transoms. In 1967, the sanctuary was renovated. Changes to the interior included refinishing the woodwork, adding Gothic panels around the windows and doors, and installing indirect lighting. The pews were removed for refinishing; however, all but one burned in a fire that gutted the refinishing business where the pews had been taken. In the early 1970s, the church constructed the educational building that adjoins the church to the north. This addition was designed by the architectural firm of Northington, Smith, and Kranert of Florence and was constructed by Martin and Cobey Construction of Athens. (C)

Marion Street (North)

17. 110-112-114 North Marion Street (Limestone Pawn (114) ca. 1975. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond brick veneer exterior. The storefront is divided into three bays by brick columns. Each storefront has original aluminum and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. Entrance is provided through metal and glass pedestrian doors with single-light transoms. This building replaced a building that was destroyed by a gas line explosion in the mid-1970s. (NC)

18. 116-118-120 North Marion Street (Balloon Factory (116)/Vacant (118); Pepper Insurance (120)) ca. 1915. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and common bond brick and faux stucco exterior. The building is divided into three storefronts. The storefront at 116 North Marion has ca. 1965 metal and glass display windows with ca. 1990 faux stucco bulkheads. The entry has a ca. 1965 metal and glass door with an enclosed transom. The interior of this section was remodeled ca. 1950 with a dropped ceiling and ca. 1975 partition walls. The original pressed metal ceiling is extant in the rear of the interior. The storefront at 118 North Marion has ca. 1965 metal and glass display windows with wood panel bulkheads. The original wood and glass doors are intact along with a multi-light serrated glass transom. In the upper facade is decorative brick corbelling. The interior of 118 North Marion has an original skylight, pressed metal ceiling, and plaster walls. The storefront at 120 North Marion has original wood and glass display windows and wood panel bulkheads. The recessed door has original double wood pedestrian doors with large single lights. Above the display windows is an original serrated glass multi-light transom. There is a ca. 1993 cloth awning spanning this bay. The interior of 120 North Marion has an original open floor plan. There is a soldier course beltcourse with decorative brickwork below the roofline. The building has a stepped parapet with stone coping. (C)

19. 122 North Marion Street (Forum Green, Inc.) 1926. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a four-course common bond brick exterior. The front (W) facade has brick pilasters at the building corners. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows with brick bulkheads. The main entrance has a ca. 1990 four-light wood door with a six-light transom. There is an original fourteen-light transom above the display

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window, and a ca. 1993 canvas awning spans the width of the building. On the upper facade is a soldier course beltcourse. The interior has original wood floors, and the interior brick walls were exposed ca. 1990 along with the beam support system. Partition walls were also added at the time. This building was constructed under the direction of R. H. Walker. Originally the building housed T. D. Copeland Grocery; however, it is more widely known as the former home of the Ritz Cafe when the Ritz Theater was located at 124 North Marion Street. (C)

20. 124 North Marion Street Methodist Church, (Marion Street Church of Christ) 1836, remodeled ca. 1900, ca. 1950, ca. 1990. Greek Revival. This two-story, gable front, rectangular plan building has a shingled gable roof with a brick foundation. The exterior is original six-course common bond brick. Much of the building's present appearance dates from ca. 1900 when the congregation enclosed the original recessed entrance and added two of the window openings on the main facade. The building retains its original 1836 Doric wall pilaster and engaged columns and its wood cornice with modillion blocks. The ca. 1900 remodeling is retained with the addition of brick walls between the engaged columns and pilasters in the central section of the building. The arched window surrounds with egg and dart molding on the second floor were added ca. 1900. Remodelings in recent decades have included the infilling with brick of the ca. 1900 stained glass central window and the addition of a ca. 1990 Palladian window. A large bay window and two smaller rectangular windows were added ca. 1990 on the first floor and at this time a new entrance was added in the south bay of the building. This building was constructed as the Methodist Church in 1836 and remodeled by the congregation ca. 1900. The church was sold to a local hotel association ca. 1925. The association, in turn, sold it to the Tri-City Theater Group in the late 1920s. Tri-City converted the building to a movie theater, added a marque to the front of the building, and named it the Ritz Theater. In 1965, the building was purchased by Gilbert Furniture and the marque was removed. In the early 1990s, the building again became a church. The interior has been remodeled several times and no significant pre-1945 historic fabric remains extant. Despite the numerous alterations to the building, it is included as a contributing element to the district since its overall form and plan from the ca. 1900 remodeling is evident. (C)

21. 126 North Marion Street (Gilbert Interior) 1926. This two-story commercial block building has a common bond wire brick exterior. There are brick pilasters at the front (W) facade corners. The storefront has original wood panel doors in the north and south bays that flank a wood and glass display window. There are original nine-light transoms above the doors and a fourteen-light transom above the display window. Between floors on the front facade is a slab of limestone with "Limestone Democrat Founded 1891" engraved in it. The building has a brick header beltcourse and six-over-one double-hung wood sash windows on the front facade second floor. The center window on this facade is flanked by double-hung one-over-one wood sash windows. Each window has a soldier course lintel with a concrete keystone. Above the windows is a soldier course beltcourse with pattered colored brick accents. On the north facade, windows are nine-light metal pivoting sash on the first floor. On the second floor windows are nine-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with brick sills and soldier course lintels with concrete keystones. Also on the north facade is an interior brick chimney and a metal fire escape. The building has the original open floorplan and hardwood floors. It was constructed in 1926 under the direction of R. H. Walker who was the owner and publisher of the *Limestone Democrat*. The building originally housed the *Limestone Democrat* on the first floor and the Southern Bell Telephone Exchange on the second floor. (C)

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Marion Street (South)

22. 101 South Marion Street (Kelly Nelson Photography) ca. 1905-1907. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a brick foundation. In addition, it has a one-course common bond brick western front facade and five-course common bond brick on the remaining facades. The storefront has original marble bulkheads with replacement wood and glass display windows and a recessed ca. 1990 metal and glass door. The original cast iron pilasters with a decorative motif flank the main entrances. Each has "Long & Jervis Decatur Ala. 1899" molded at the foot. Above the display windows are original nine-light transoms. The second floor of the building has one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with concrete sills. There is a heavy cornice with a stepped parapet. On the north facade windows on the first floor are fixed wood sash with a single-light and on the second floor windows are one-over-one wood sash. In addition, there is a decorative limestone surround with "Smith" engraved above the ca. 1980 replacement door with a one-light transom. Also on the north facade of the building are ca. 1960 replacement bulkheads and wood and glass display windows in the storefront at 113-115 West Market Street. This building was constructed by W. J. Hagan in 1905 for Gilbert Drug Store. The second story was added in 1907 for professional offices. (C)

23. 103-105 South Marion Street (Vacant (105)/Vacant (103)) ca. 1899-1903. This two-story commercial block building has a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1975 tile bulkheads with replacement metal and glass display windows. The recessed entryway has ca. 1975 metal and glass double pedestrian doors with a large single-light transom. Decorative brick corbelling and a concrete beltcourse are found between the floors. The second floor has two sets of ca. 1990 one-over-one wood sash windows flanking a large plate glass window. There is decorative brick corbelling and stepped brickwork in the upper facade, and at the roofline is a stepped parapet with stone coping. The rear (E) facade has decorative wood pilasters and a two-light transom above an enclosed pedestrian door. The center bay contains ca. 1980 double metal pedestrian doors. Windows are one-over-one single-hung sash. The interior has a ca. 1975 dropped ceiling, carpeted floors, and an open floor plan with rear offices. (C)

24. 107-109 South Marion Street (Kids World (107)/Athens Sewing Center (109)) ca. 1900. This one-story commercial block building has a one-course common bond brick exterior and brick foundation. The storefront at 107 South Marion has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. The recessed entry has ca. 1975 double metal and glass pedestrian doors with a one-light transom and one-light sidelights. The lower facade has been covered with aluminum siding, and there is a ca. 1985 hipped roof awning with asphalt shingles spanning the facade. The storefront at 109 South Marion has a ca. 1970 metal and glass door with a one-light sidelight and a transom. Display windows are ca. 1975 metal and glass resting on brick bulkheads. In the upper facade is decorative brick corbelling and three rectangular areas of recessed brickwork. The rear (E) facade has cast iron fluted pilasters with "Decatur, Ala." molded in the foot. The interior of 107 has the original open floor plan and plaster wall with a ca. 1975 dropped ceiling. The interior of 109 has the original open floor plan, pressed metal ceiling, and plaster walls. This building was constructed after the 1893 fire and in 1904 was Legrand Hardware. (C)

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25. 111-113 South Marion Street (Earl King (113)/Bee Bright School Supply (111)) ca. 1900, ca. 1962. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and brick foundation. The front (W) facade has a ca. 1962 metal panel exterior. The storefront has ca. 1962 metal and glass display windows with replacement wood bulkheads. The recessed entryways are ca. 1975 metal and glass doors with one-light transoms. The rear (E) facade has original cast iron pilasters on either side of the enclosed and modified original pedestrian entrance. The pilasters have a decorative design and "Decatur, Ala." molded in the foot. In addition, there is an interior brick chimney on the southeast corner. The interior of 113 South Marion has an original open floor plan, pressed metal ceiling, and plaster walls. The interior of 111 South Marion has the original open floor plan and plaster walls, a ca. 1970 dropped ceiling and ca. 1980 replacement flooring. (NC)

26. 117 South Marion Street (Southeastern Bridal Formalwear) ca. 1899, ca. 1945. This one-story commercial block building has a stucco and ca. 1970 tile exterior. The storefront is divided into two bays and each has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows resting on aluminum bulkheads. Each bay has ca. 1975 double pedestrian doors of metal and glass with four-light transoms. In the upper facade there are decorative round vents with metal grilles. The rear (E) facade has an interior brick chimney and ca. 1970 four-over-four and six-over-six single-hung metal sash windows. There is a ca. 1980 solid metal pedestrian door. The interior has the original pressed metal ceiling and plaster walls. Interior partition walls and carpeting were installed ca. 1970. (NC)

27. 121 South Marion Street (Athens Emporium) ca. 1890, ca. 1945. This two-story commercial block building has a stucco exterior. The storefront is divided into two bays. Each has ca. 1965 metal and glass display windows resting on Carrara glass bulkheads. The recessed entrance has metal and glass double pedestrian doors with a one-light transom. On the second floor, windows are ca. 1945 eight-over-eight double-hung wood sash. The upper facade was modified ca. 1945 with a masonry beltcourse and rectangular vents with metal grilles on the upper front facade. The rear (E) facade has an interior brick chimney and six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows. There are double wood pedestrian doors in the center bay. The interior has an original pressed metal ceiling and hardwood floors. (C)

28. 123 South Marion Street Gilbert-Gray Building (Crowning Touch) ca. 1920. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a stepped parapet and a common bond brick exterior. The storefront on the front (W) facade has ca. 1980 metal and glass display windows with concrete bulkheads. Entrance is provided through a ca. 1980 metal and glass door with a corrugated metal surround. The building has decorative brickwork above the display windows in the upper facade. Windows on the second floor are ca. 1985 one-over-one single-hung wood sash with concrete sills and brick soldier course lintels. The rear (E) facade has a brick chimney in the northeast corner and six-light fixed wood sash windows on the first floor. On the south facade is an original limestone door surround with an original wood door with a single-light and a multi-light transom. Every third bay on the south facade has projecting decorative brickwork. In the east bay of the south facade there is a ca. 1980 vertical wood bulkhead with aluminum and glass display windows. An original ribbon of three-light wood sash transoms are extant. The interior was remodeled ca. 1975 with a dropped ceiling and replacement flooring. (C)

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29. 212 South Marion Street (Jerry R. Barkedale Lawyer) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a common bond brick exterior on the east facade and a six-course common bond brick exterior on the north and west facades. On the east front facade are ca. 1980 replacement multi-light bay windows. In the center bay is a ca. 1975 metal and glass door. The building has an original multi-light transom and a ca. 1990 cloth awning spanning the east front facade. The upper facade has decorative patterned brickwork. The interior was renovated ca. 1970 with wall paneling, a dropped ceiling, and the addition of interior walls. (C)

30. 214-216 South Marion Street (State Farm Insurance (214)/Cable TV Division (216)) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a common bond brick exterior with a flat roof. The building has two storefronts. 216 South Marion Street has wood mullions overlaid on plate glass windows resting on brick bulkheads. The entry is a ca. 1975 metal and glass door. There are single light transoms above the door. The storefront at 214 South Marion has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows resting on brick bulkheads. There is a crimped metal awning spanning the width of the building. Above the awning are multi-light transoms, an area of brick corbelling, and a stepped parapet at the roofline. There is a crimped metal roll-up door in the west bay of the south facade. The interior was modified ca. 1970 with interior walls and carpeting. (C)

31. 220 South Marion Street (Beasley Produce) ca. 1945. This one-story commercial block building has a common bond brick exterior with a barrel roof of asphalt shingles. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows with common bond brick bulkheads. The recessed entryway has ca. 1975 metal and glass doors. There is a nine-light metal awning window in the south bay on the east facade. Above the display windows is a metal shed awning. There are brick chimneys on the north and south facades and roll-up track doors in the third and fifth bays of the south facade. Also on the south facade is a ca. 1970 plate glass window in the east bay. The interior has the original open floor plan and original brick and tile walls. A dropped ceiling was added ca. 1970. (C)

Market Street (East)

32. 100-102 East Market Street (Quality Vinyl Siding and Supplies (100)/Clem's Construction (102)) ca. 1920. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1965 with metal and glass display windows resting on original brick bulkheads. In the west bay of the front facade is a ca. 1975 overhead roll-up track door. The entrances are ca. 1985 multi-light metal doors. Above the storefronts are enclosed transoms. The upper facade has a soldier course beltcourse and heavy brick corbelling. The interior was modified ca. 1985 with the addition of a showroom. The original pressed metal ceiling and open floor plan exists behind the ca. 1985 interior addition. This building was constructed for Horton Lewis and Limestone Motor Company. In 1924, Hudson and Essex Motor Cars was located here. (C)

33. 101-103 East Market Street (Joe's Diner) ca. 1910. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a four-course common bond brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1980 with wood and glass display windows resting on vertical wood bulkheads. Entrance is provided in the corner bay through a ca. 1990 multi-light metal door. The transom has been enclosed and ca. 1970 metal awnings span the south facade and the south bay of the west facade of the building. There is heavy decorative brick corbelling above the display windows in the

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upper facade. On the west elevation a door was enclosed ca 1960. The interior was remodeled ca. 1975 with wall paneling, replacement flooring, and a dropped ceiling. This building is part of the G. W. Long Block (101-109 East Market) named after the man who had the buildings along this row constructed between 1910 and 1914.(C)

34. 105 East Market Street (S & K Upholstery Shop) ca. 1914. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows and ca. 1970 vertical wood bulkheads. Entrance is provided through original double wood pedestrian doors with large single lights. There is a corrugated metal shed porch with square wood posts on the front (S) facade. At the roofline is a heavy corbelled brick cornice. The interior has the original pressed metal ceiling, plaster walls, and open floor plan. (C)

35. 106-108 East Market Street Hesser Building (Billiards (106)/World Enterprises (108)) ca. 1911. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The building has a brick foundation. 108 East Market has ca. 1965 wood siding over the bulkheads with fixed six- and eight-light wood sash display windows. Entrance is provided in the west bay through a ca. 1965 metal and glass pedestrian door. There is a ca. 1985 shed roof awning above this storefront. 106 East Market has ca. 1970 vertical wood bulkheads with original cast iron pilasters and an original metal step. The pilasters are fluted with a starburst pattern, and "Huntsville Alabama" is molded at the foot. Entrance to this business is provided through an original wood panel pedestrian door with a large single-light. The transoms are enclosed. The upper facade contains a great deal of decorative brick corbelling and two square vents with metal grilles. There is a stepped parapet on the east facade. 108 East Market was home to the Dixie Theater in 1911, and in 1921 it housed the Buehite Coca-Cola Bottling Plant. (C)

36. 109 East Market Street (B & J Pets) ca. 1914. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior and a brick foundation. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows with wood panel bulkheads. In the center bay, entrance is provided through original double wood and glass pedestrian doors with a large single-light transom. There is a crimped metal roof porch with wood and metal columns on the south front facade. Above the porch is an area of decorative brick corbelling and a decorative square vent with a metal grille. The rear (N) facade has an interior brick chimney and a ca. 1970 metal shed roof addition with corrugated metal siding. In addition, there is an arched door surround with a wood door covered with metal bars. The interior has an original pressed metal ceiling and plaster walls. Interior partition walls were added ca. 1960. This building is part of the G. W. Long Block (101-109 East Market Street) named after the man who had the buildings along this row constructed between 1910 and 1914. (C)

37. East Market Street (East part of B & J Pets) ca. 1914. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior and a brick foundation. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows with wood panel bulkheads. In the center bay, entrance is provided through original double wood and glass pedestrian doors which have a large single-light transom. There is a crimped metal roof porch with wood and metal columns on the south front facade. Above the porch is an area of decorative brick corbelling and a square vent with a decorative metal grille. The interior has the original pressed metal ceiling, open floor plan, and plaster walls. (C)

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Market Street (West)

38. 100 West Market Street (8 Ball) ca. 1912. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick, stucco, and vertical metal siding exterior. The building has a storefront with ca. 1970 three-light awning windows. In the center bay is a ca. 1975 double metal and glass pedestrian doors with an original multi-light transom. On the east elevation are original fluted cast iron pilasters in the north bay. The interior has the original open floor plan and an original wood and glass counter; however, the interior was altered ca. 1970 with a dropped ceiling and a replacement floor. (C)

39. 102 West Market Street (Martin & Hobbs Inc.) ca. 1912, ca. 1975. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1980 brick bulkheads with twenty-light fixed wood sash windows. The building has a ca. 1975 recessed entry with a multi-light wood panel door. There is a ca. 1980 wood awning spanning the width of the building on the south front facade. Above the display windows are decorative brick corbelling and recessed brickwork. The interior was altered ca. 1970 with a dropped ceiling, ca. 1980 with interior walls and carpet, and ca. 1990 with a solid metal replacement pedestrian door. (NC)

40. 104 West Market Street (William A. Owner Jr. Attorney at Law) ca. 1912, ca. 1970. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1970 vertical wood bulkheads with sixteen-light fixed sash windows. The building has a recessed ca. 1970 glass and metal door with a wood shed awning. Above the awning there is original decorative brick corbelling and recessed brickwork. The interior was modified ca. 1970 with interior walls, a dropped ceiling, and carpeting. (NC)

41. 106 West Market Street (Dub's Burgers) ca. 1912. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1980 wood bulkheads with metal and glass display windows and an enclosed transom. The original wood and glass pedestrian door is intact in the west bay. There is a ca. 1965 metal awning spanning the south front facade. In the upper facade is decorative brick corbelling. The interior has the original open floor plan and pressed metal ceiling. The building was altered ca. 1965 with a linoleum floor. (C)

42. 108-110 West Market Street (H & R Block (108)/Dobbs Shoe Service (110)) ca. 1910. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond wire brick exterior. 110 West Market has original brick bulkheads and wood and glass display windows. In the east bay is a ca. 1990 replacement door with a boarded over transom. 108 West Market has original brick bulkheads with ca. 1975 glass and metal display windows. The transom is boarded over. There are ca. 1970 metal awnings spanning each storefront. In the upper facade of the building is decorative brick corbelling. Both commercial areas have open floor plans and dropped ceilings. (C)

43. 111B West Market Street (C. R. Higgins Appraisal Co.) ca. 1890. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a brick foundation. The exterior is common bond brick. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows with two-light transoms and brick bulkheads. There are decorative milled wood pilasters on the front (N) facade with a decorative milled beltcourse. Entry is provided through a ca. 1980 pedestrian door in

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the west bay. The east bay door has a single light transom. The second floor has one-over-one double-hung wood sash recessed windows with wood lintels and sills. The west bay window has been enclosed. The upper facade contains decorative corbelling and a heavy wood cornice with scrolled brackets at the roofline. On the east facade, first floor windows have been replaced with one-light fixed sash windows. Between the floors are elliptical one-light fixed sash windows. Windows on the second floor are one-over-one double-hung wood sash with heavy hoods and decorative brick corbelling in the window bays. This facade has the same heavy cornice. The interior of the building has an original pressed metal ceiling and exposed brick walls. The building was originally constructed as the Athens Bank by the Frost Family from Shelbyville. (C)

44. 112 West Market Street (Professional Hair Design) ca. 1920. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond wire brick exterior. The building has original brick bulkheads with ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows. In the west bay is the original wood and glass pedestrian door with a single-light sidelight. Above the display windows is a multi-light transom with serrated glass and a ca. 1980 metal awning spans the south front facade. The second floor has four-over-four double-hung wood sash windows. The interior was altered ca. 1980 with a dropped ceiling and replacement wood floors. (C)

45. 114 West Market Street (American Legion) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond brick exterior. This first floor front facade was modified ca. 1975 with a wood and glass display window and a four panel wood door with two lights. This entry area is recessed. Above the display windows is an enclosed transom with vertical metal siding. On the second level, windows are eight-over-one double-hung wood sash. The upper facade of the building has decorative brick corbelling, patterned brickwork, and a stepped parapet with stone coping. There was no access to the interior. (C)

46. 116 West Market Street (United Way) ca. 1895/1920. Neo-Classical. This two-story "vault type" commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. This building was remodeled ca. 1920 with a Neo-Classical exterior by architect Bem Price of Birmingham. The building has limestone door surrounds on the first level with ca. 1975 metal and glass pedestrian doors and single-light sidelights and transom. On the second level, the center bay has been covered with wood and has a limestone surround. Decorative limestone detailing flanks the center bay. The building has large engaged pilasters on either side of the center bay with a heavy limestone cornice and copping. The interior of the building was altered ca. 1980 with a dropped ceiling, carpeting, and the addition of interior walls. This building was home to the First National Bank in the early-twentieth century. (C)

47. 120 West Market Street (Pinnacle Group) ca. 1905. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The building is divided into two storefronts. Each has wood panel bulkheads with wood and glass display windows. Above the display windows are large light transoms and a steel beam beltcourse with small metal anchors. Entrances are recessed wood panel doors with large single lights. The second floor has paired one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with stone sills and lintels. The upper facade has recessed rectangular areas of brick and decorative brick corbelling. The interior of the building was renovated ca.

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1996. The original pressed metal ceiling is intact. Interior brick walls have been exposed and part of the original terrazzo tile floor in the interior entryway is intact. (C)

48. 122 West Market Street (Pinnacle Group) ca. 1895. Romanesque Revival. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefronts on both the south and west facades wood panel bulkheads and wood and glass display windows with multi-light transoms. There are recessed double wood panel pedestrian doors with single lights on the west and south facades with two-light transoms. A similar entry is found in the north bay of the west facade. On the south facade, flanking the recessed entry, are original cast iron pilasters with a heavy molding above the display windows. Above the storefront on the southwest corner is a wood beltcourse with decorative scrolled brackets. On the second floor, windows are one-over-one single-hung wood sash with stone lintels and sills. In the upper facade of the southwest corner is an area of decorative brick corbelling and a raised corner parapet. On the west facade, windows are ca. 1995 single-light wood sash on the first floor and one-over-one wood sash on the second floor with stone sills and lintels. The interior of the building was sympathetically renovated ca. 1996 with replacement flooring, interior walls and a replacement ceiling. (C)

49. 200 West Market Street (Limestone Drug) ca. 1917, ca. 1945, ca. 1965. Neo-Classical. This one-story commercial building has a flat-roof with a ca. 1945 stone veneer exterior. The building has ca. 1965 two-light aluminum awning windows on the front facade with corrugated metal panels above each window. The front (S) facade entrance has recessed ca. 1965 metal and glass double doors with an arched light transom and an arched surround. The entry has a large stone pediment with two stone Ionic pilasters flanking the main entrance. The pilaster capitals have egg-and-dart molding. The interior has the original open floor plan, a ca. 1975 dropped ceiling, and a carpeted floor. The building was constructed as the Limestone County Bank. (C)

50. 204 West Market Street (Beasley's) ca. 1900, ca. 1985. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The building has a ca. 1985 recessed storefront. There are bay windows in the east and west bays. The center bay has a ca. 1985 metal and glass door with a pedimented door surround. A ca. 1985 shed roof awning spans the building. The upper facade contains soldier course decorative brickwork. The interior has a ca. 1980 dropped ceiling, carpeted floor, and wall paneling. (NC)

51. 206 West Market Street (Frames 'N Things) ca. 1900. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The building has a storefront of ca. 1965 corrugated metal bulkheads with metal and glass display windows. There is a ca. 1975 shed awning spanning the south front facade. Above the storefront is an elliptical multi-light fixed sash window. The building has a stepped parapet on the front facade. The interior has a dropped ceiling, carpeted floor, and wall paneling. (C)

52. 208 West Market Street (Wilson's Bargain Center) ca. 1900. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1965 corrugated metal bulkheads with metal and glass display windows. Entrance is provided in the center bay through double ca. 1975 metal and glass doors. There is a ca. 1975 shed awning spanning the width of the building. In the upper facade, the building has

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decorative brick corbelling and recessed patterned brickwork. The interior has the original open floor plan with an original pressed metal ceiling and plaster walls. (C)

53. 210 West Market Street (Pat's) ca. 1900. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The building has a storefront with ca. 1965 corrugated metal bulkheads and original wood and glass display windows. There is a ca. 1975 wood hipped roof awning spanning the front (S) facade. The center bay entrance has ca. 1975 double metal and glass doors with a one-light transom. In the upper facade, the building has decorative corbelling. The interior has the original open floor plan, pressed metal ceiling, plaster walls. (C)

54. 214 West Market Street (Gray-Holt) ca. 1888, ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. (There is no second floor on the interior). The building has ca. 1925 marble bulkheads and metal and glass display windows. The recessed entry in the center bay has an original wood and single-light door. The building has a ca. 1990 metal awning spanning the south front facade. The building has a decorative brick beltcourse with ca. 1990 one-over-one single hung aluminum sash windows on the second level. There is decorative corbelling in the upper facade. The interior has original hardwood floors, open floor plan, pressed metal ceiling, and plaster walls. The building was the Dixie Theater ca. 1915-1925. In 1934, "Doc" Gray purchased the building and opened a dry goods store which he operated for 54 years. (C)

55. 216 West Market Street (Jinny's) ca. 1888. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. This building has a storefront with ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows and original marble bulkheads. The center bay recessed entrance on the south front facade has an original wood panel door with a single-light and a multi-light transom. The building has a decorative beltcourse. The upper facade contains decorative brick corbelling. The interior has the original open floor plan and pressed metal ceiling. (C)

56. 218 West Market Street (East part of Cluxton's Jewelry) ca. 1900, ca. 1975. This two story commercial block building has a flat roof with a stucco exterior. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows. The second floor has a ca. 1975 cantilevered full-width porch with milled wood columns and a balustrade. Windows on the second level are eight-light fixed wood sash. The building has a mansard influenced roof. (NC)

57. 220-222 West Market Street (Cluxton's Jewelry) ca. 1900, ca. 1975. This two-story brick commercial block building has a mansard roof with recessed windows. The storefront has metal and glass windows with marble bulkheads. The building was extensively altered ca. 1975. (NC)

58. 307 West Market Street (East part of Dr. Charles Neese, Optometrist) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront has patterned brick bulkheads with original wood and glass display windows. The entrance is a ca. 1980 two panel wood door with nine lights. There are ca. 1980 multi-light sidelights and a multi-light transom. The transom over the display window area was boarded over ca. 1980. The building has brick corbelling and decorative recessed brickwork in the upper facade. There was no access to the interior. (C)

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59. 309-313 West Market Street Nelson-Young Building (Dr. Charles Neese, Optometrist (309)/Intel Investigations Inc. (311)/Dr. Jerry Tucker, Chiropractor (313)) ca. 1927, ca. 1975. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront of this one-story building was extensively modified ca. 1975 with vertical wood bulkheads and eight-light fixed sash windows sheltered by an arched colonnade. Doors on the front (N) facade are ca. 1980 six-panel wood with multi-light sidelights and transoms. The west bay of the front facade has a ca. 1980 fixed sash multi-light window with an arched brick surround. The building has a soldier course beltcourse and brick corbelling in the upper facade with concrete coping. The interior floor plan was modified ca. 1975 with interior walls, a dropped ceiling, and carpeting. (NC)

60. 315 West Market Street (Patton, Latham, Legge & Cole) ca. 1927. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1990 with glass block windows. The entrance is recessed with a 1996 multi-light wood door. A cloth awning extends to the street from the building facade. In the upper facade is a soldier course beltcourse with brick corbelling and tile coping. On the rear (S) facade is a ca. 1970 concrete block shed addition with two-over-two metal single-hung sash windows. The interior was modified ca. 1980 with interior walls, a dropped ceiling, and replacement flooring. (C)

61. 317 West Market Street (Mutual Savings Life/Masonic Hall) 1923. This two-story commercial block building has a common bond wire brick exterior with a stone watertable. The center bay entrance on the north front facade is recessed with a ca. 1970 metal and glass door and a single-light sidelight with a stone surround and an original seven-light transom. The front facade also has one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with soldier course lintels on the first floor. The second floor has one-over-one double-hung sash windows with six-light transoms. There is a stone stringcourse above the second floor with brick corbelling and stone coping at the roofline. The south facade has an interior brick chimney and a ca. 1970 metal and glass pedestrian door in the center bay. The only existing window on this facade is an original three-over-one double-hung wood sash. On the east facade, in the southernmost bay, is a metal fire escape. Windows on this facade are one-over-one wood sash with three light transoms on the second floor. The interior has plaster walls and ceilings with wood panel doors. There are three-light transoms on the second floor above the interior doors, and the open floor plan on the second floor is intact. (C)

Monroe Street (North)

62. 111-117 North Monroe Street (Mutual of New York (111)/AA (115)) ca. 1921. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a one-course common bond brick exterior on the front (W) facade and six-course common bond brick on the remaining facades. The building has four storefronts with original wood and glass display windows resting on brick and wood bulkheads. Entry is provided through original wood panel pedestrian doors with two-light transoms on the west front. Above the display windows are original multi-light transoms with a brick soldier course lintel. On the second floor are one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The center bay of the second floor has a glass and wood pedestrian door with a multi-light transom. The upper facade contains decorative corbelling and rectangular vents within recessed brick panels. On the north facade are one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with arched surrounds and brick sills. On the rear (E) facade the window and

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door surrounds are arched. The only pedestrian door was replaced ca. 1950 with a wood panel door. In addition, there is an interior brick chimney and a ca. 1940 shed addition. The interior of 111 North Monroe has an original pressed metal ceiling. It was remodeled ca. 1975 with the addition of interior walls and the installation of paneling to existing walls. The 115 North Monroe Street interior was inaccessible. This building is part of "Chapman Quarters," named after J. E. Chapman who purchased the property in the early 1940s. The building was originally constructed as a hotel. On the north facade is a faded advertisement "Griffin Hotel Rooms 50c." (The 50 is partially painted over with 75). (C)

63. 119-123 North Monroe Street (Athens Land Company (119)/Vacant (121-123)) ca. 1894. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a one-course common bond exterior on the west front facade and a six-course common bond brick exterior on remaining facades. The original storefront has original wood panel bulkheads and glass display windows with a metal step leading to the original double wood and glass pedestrian doors. Also on the front facade are original round metal columns. The transom has been enclosed. The upper facade has decorative brick corbelling. To the west are remnants of gas pumps from the early-twentieth century. The interior of the southernmost storefront has the original open floor plan, exposed brick walls, and a ca. 1970 dropped ceiling. The storefront occupied by Athens Land Company has a ca. 1994 interior wall and replacement interior wall treatments and flooring. This building is part of "Chapman Quarters," named after J. E. Chapman who purchased the property in the early 1940s. (C)

Washington Street (East)

64. 100 East Washington Street (Magnuco Inc. Engineering Services) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows with brick bulkheads. In the east and west bays of the north facade are original three-panel wood doors with single lights. Above the display windows is a canvas awning and brick corbelling with a stepped parapet on the front facade. On the west facade, multiple doors were enclosed with concrete block ca. 1980. On the rear (S) facade is an original brick wing which was used as an auto repair center. This wing has brick arched windows and doors and a stepped parapet at the roofline. Windows and doors in this wing have been replaced or concealed beneath wood or metal panels. On the east facade of the building is a small ca. 1975 concrete block shed roof addition. There was no access to the interior. (C)

65. East Washington Street (West side of Easter's Cafe) ca. 1925, ca. 1970-75. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The east bay on the north front facade was enclosed ca. 1970 with vertical wood siding. In addition, a metal pedestrian door with one-light was installed ca. 1970. The only window is a ca. 1975 one-light fixed sash window. The interior was remodeled ca. 1975 with wall paneling, replacement flooring, and a dropped ceiling. (NC)

66. 102 East Washington Street (Easter's Cafe) ca. 1925. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with an exterior of common bond brick. The front facade (N) storefront has original wood and glass display

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windows with brick bulkheads. The original wood and glass entry door is recessed in the center bay with a canvas awning spanning the width of the building. Above the awning is a brick soldier course beltcourse and decorative brickwork. The interior was remodeled ca. 1975 with wall paneling, replacement flooring, and a dropped ceiling. (C)

67. 104 East Washington Street (The Carpet Shop) ca. 1929. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof and a common bond wire brick exterior. The storefront has ca. 1970 wood and glass display windows with brick bulkheads. There is a three light transom in the west bay, a ca. 1970 metal overhead track door in the center bay, and a ca. 1970 enclosed transom in the east bay. There are original wood and glass doors on the front facade. There is a soldier course beltcourse in the upper facade. On the rear, (S) facade is a concrete block room addition. The interior has an exposed steel truss structural system and the original open floor plan. Interior walls are exposed six-course common bond brick. An office was added ca. 1980 to the northwest corner of the interior. (C)

68. 106-110 East Washington Street (Sundry Printing Office Supply Inc. (110)/Buddy's Barber Shop (108)/Fast Forward Car Stereo System (106)) ca. 1929. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior and a five-bay storefront. The storefront at 106 East Washington was modified ca. 1996 with enclosed windows and a ca. 1975 replacement wood door. The storefront at 108 East Washington was modified ca. 1989 with metal and glass display windows and a ca. 1975 six-light three panel wood door. The west bay of 110 East Washington has a roll-up track door in the garage bay. The storefront was modified ca. 1975 with replacement windows and the application of vertical wood siding. In addition, decorative wood hoods were added above the display windows. The east bay shelters a parking area with a rectangular pylon at the northeast corner. Between the bays on the front (N) facade are decorative patterns of header bricks. Above the storefronts is corbelled brick with concrete diamond-shaped accents. The building has a stepped parapet with concrete coping. On the east facade, vertical wood siding was added ca. 1975 and the original center garage bay was partially enclosed and metal and glass pedestrian doors installed ca. 1980. Windows on the east facade and the rear (S) are metal 20-light pivoting windows with brick sills. Also on the south facade is a square brick interior chimney. The building was constructed under the direction of L. C. Hightower in 1929 as a bus station. The Ford Motor Agency was located in the building in 1930-31. At the time of its construction, the Bee Line Highway (US 31) and the Lee Line Highway (US 72) intersected at this building. (C)

Washington Street (West)

69. 101 West Washington Street (Hendricks-Patton Furniture) ca. 1914, ca. 1950, ca. 1965. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof and one- and six-course common bond brick exterior. The front facade (N) has a storefront with ca. 1965 metal and glass display windows on the first and second floors. On the third floor, vertical wood siding was installed ca. 1965. Entry to the building is provided through recessed ca. 1965 metal and glass pedestrian doors. On the east facade, windows on the first floor have been enclosed. On the second floor is an original nine-light metal pivoting window. In addition, there is an exterior brick chimney on the east elevation. There is a loading area with an original wood door in the south bay of the east facade with an arched door surround. On the rear (S) facade of the building is a ca. 1950 gable roofed addition with corrugated metal

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siding and a crimped metal roof with exposed rafter ends. Also on the south facade is an original loading dock and an original wood door with an arched door surround. Windows on the south facade are double-hung wood sash in one-over-two and six-over-six configurations. The interior of the building was modified ca. 1950 with a dropped ceiling and interior partition walls. There is an original hand-crank elevator in the southeast corner of the building. Constructed in 1914, the building was home to the Tennessee-Alabama Wholesale Grocery (1914-1922) and the United States Postal Service from 1927 to 1933. (NC)

70. 102 West Washington Street Louisville and Nashville Railroad Depot (L & N Portrait Studio) 1907. Craftsman. This one-story frame passenger depot building has an asphalt shingled gable and hipped roof. The exterior of the building has original vertical and horizontal wood siding with watertable, and there are wide overhang eaves with decorative Craftsman knee brackets. On the north facade windows are one-over-one double-hung wood sash with metal storm windows. There is a three-light transom over a replacement two-light pedestrian doors and original metal lanterns flanking the doorway. On the east facade in the north bay is an original wood panel door with a multi-light transom. Also on this facade is a set of original double wood pedestrian doors with a three-light transom and a projecting wooden deck. Windows are one-over-one wood sash. The west facade has double wood panel pedestrian doors with a three-light transom. The interior has original wood floors and beadboard walls, and a concrete fire wall was added ca. 1985. Other interior partition walls were added ca. 1990. This former railroad depot was constructed by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad using a standard design to replace a mid-nineteenth century depot that was located on the site. (C)

71. 103 West Washington Street (W. E. Estes & Son) ca. 1919. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows resting on wood paneled and beadboard bulkheads. There are decorative cast iron pilasters on the front facade on either side of the center entrance bay. The main entrance is recessed and has original folding metal and glass doors. Above the display windows is the original multi-light transom with serrated glass and a brick header beltcourse. The second floor has original one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The upper facade has decorative brickwork above the windows and a stepped parapet at the roofline. The rear facade (S) has one-over-one single-hung wood sash windows and an original wood panel overhead door with 12 lights. The interior of the building has the original pressed metal ceiling, open floor plan, wood flooring, and exposed common bond brick walls. On the second floor, the steel truss structural system is exposed. Offices were added to the southeast corner of the interior ca. 1940. There is an original hand-crank elevator in the southwest corner of the interior that was originally used to store tractors on the second floor of the building. The building was constructed by J. J. Burk of Decatur. W. E. Estes & Son has occupied the building since 1941. (C)

72. 105 West Washington Street (Johnson, Feigley and Associates) ca. 1915, ca. 1985, ca. 1995. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1985 with wood and glass display windows with fake mullions. These rest on ca. 1965 crimped metal bulkheads. Entry is provided through a ca. 1995 recessed glass and wood door. Above the display windows, vertical wood siding was installed ca. 1985 and a decorative Colonial Revival cornice with fluted pilasters were installed. On the second floor there are ca. 1995 eight-over-eight single-hung metal sash windows with eight-light transoms. The

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windows have decorative hoods and there is a wood parapet. On the rear (S) facade the windows were enclosed on the first floor and ca. 1980 double metal pedestrian doors installed. The second story has four-over-four double-hung wood sash windows. There was no access to the interior, however, Sanborn maps show that it originally contained seven skylights. (NC)

73. 107 West Washington Street (Athens Custom Interiors Inc.) ca. 1915, ca. 1980, ca. 1985. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has recessed ca. 1985 wood and glass display windows and doors. The incised porch that shelters the display windows has ca. 1985 square wood supports with decorative woodwork set on brick piers. There is a brick soldier course beltcourse. On the second floor, there are ca. 1980 12-light fixed wood sash windows with wood shutters. In the upper facade are two rectangular areas with recessed and stepped decorative brickwork. The rear (S) facade has arched brick window surrounds and ca. 1980 replacement doors and windows. The interior of the building has the original pressed metal ceiling and exposed seven-course common bond brick on the interior walls. (NC)

74. 109 West Washington Street (Athens Customs Interiors Inc.) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original wood and glass display windows resting on wood panel bulkheads. There are wood and glass pedestrian doors on either side of the display windows. Above the storefront is a large three-light transom and a brick soldier course beltcourse. On the second floor there are three enclosed windows. Above the windows is a recessed brick panel and indented brick at the roofline. The interior has its original pressed metal ceiling, tile floor, and open floor plan. (C)

75. 111 West Washington Street (Razor's Edge) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1975 with aluminum and glass display windows and crimped metal bulkheads. The entryway has an original wood door with a large single light. A serrated single-light transom is above the door; ca. 1980 vertical wood siding is above the display windows, and there is a brick soldier course beltcourse. On the second floor are recently added eight-over-eight metal single-hung sash windows with eight light transoms. In the upper facade is brick corbelling and a recessed brick panel. Interior walls were added in the 1930s. The building has been a barber shop since the late 1920s/early 1930s. The front room interior was remodeling ca. 1975 with a dropped ceiling, linoleum flooring, and wall paneling. The rear room maintains its pressed metal ceiling, skylight, and wood floor. (C)

76. 113 West Washington Street (The Grasshopper-Young Fashions) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original marble bulkheads and wood and glass display windows. The recessed entry has an original wood and glass door with a single-light transom. Above the storefront is an enclosed transom and a soldier course beltcourse. On the second floor, the windows were replaced ca. 1985 with large fixed single lights. In the upper facade is decorative brick corbelling and a recessed brick panel. The rear (S) facade has original two-light wood panel pedestrian doors in the center bay. There are original cast iron pilasters on either side of the entrance with decorative motif and the name "Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Co." molded in it. Windows with arched brick surrounds have been enclosed. The interior

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of this section has its original pressed metal ceiling and plaster walls. Some of the interior walls were covered ca. 1975 with paneling and the display window areas have ca. 1950 dropped ceilings. (C)

77. 115 West Washington Street (Roger's Portraits) ca. 1915. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. The storefront has original marble bulkheads and wood and glass display windows. The entry has an original wood and glass door with a single-light transom. Above the storefront is an enclosed transom and a soldier course beltcourse. The three windows on the second level are enclosed with wood panels. On the rear (S) facade is a ca. 1980 wood panel pedestrian door. There are original cast iron pilasters on either side of the entrance with decorative motif and the name "Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Co." molded in it. Windows have been enclosed but arched brick surrounds remain. The interior of this section has the original pressed metal ceiling, ca. 1975 partition walls, and replacement flooring. (C)

78. 121 West Washington Street (Woodroof & Woodroof Attorneys At Law). ca. 1906, ca. 1980. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a one-course common bond brick exterior. The storefront was modified ca. 1980 with a recessed entryway and the enclosure of the west bay. There are ca. 1980 solid metal pedestrian doors on either side of a large wood and glass display window with fake mullions. In addition, there are original six-light transoms above the doors and a ten-light transom above the plate glass window. There is a soldier course beltcourse, and the second floor has ca. 1980 eight-over-eight single-hung aluminum sash windows with brick sills and stone lintels. In the upper facade are three round windows with concrete surrounds. On the west facade are ca. 1980 eight-over-eight aluminum single-hung sash windows with non-operational wood shutters. The rear of the building has a solid pedestrian door in the west bay and a recessed area that sheltered the heating and cooling unit. This building was constructed by local dentist Dr. McDaniel ca. 1906 on the site of a 1811 Chickasaw Trading Post and the 1832 Bass Tavern. In 1910, the building was occupied by the Farmers & Merchants Bank. (NC)

79. 200 West Washington Street (Limestone County Courthouse) 1916-1919. Neo-Classical. Designed by architect Bem Price of Birmingham, this three-story building has a hipped asphalt shingle roof with a copper dome. The building has a common bond brick exterior with a stone watertable. There is a portico in the center of each facade with four smooth surfaced round Corinthian columns and two square pilasters. The entablature has decorative friezes with dentils and "Limestone Covnty Covrt Hovse" carved in each. In the gable fields of the pediments are original circular clocks. Pilasters on each facade flank the original wood and glass double pedestrian doors and one-light transoms. Each door has a stone surround with heavy pediment. There are granite steps leading to each door with original lamp post set on limestone retaining walls. Windows are ca. 1975 one-over-one aluminum sash with one-light transoms on the third floor. There is a square brick interior chimney on the west slope. The building has a heavy stone cornice and parapet. The interior has original terrazzo floors, marble wainscoting, metal and wood staircases, and wood panel doors. (C)

79A. To the northeast of the building is a Confederate War Memorial statue placed here in 1909. (C)

79B. On the east side of the courthouse is a stone marking the surrender of Col. Wallace Campbell U.S.A. to Nathan Bedford Forest C.S.A. in September 1864. This marker was placed in 1907. (C).

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- 79C. On the east side of the courthouse is a flagpole erected by the American Legion in 1934 in memory of all Limestone County veterans. (C)
- 79D. On the northwest corner of the courthouse is a ca. 1990 veterans memorial. (NC)
- 79E. On the west side of building is an historical marker describing "Athens Sacked and Plundered" placed by the Limestone County Historical Society in 1991. (NC)
- 79F. Also on the west side of the building is an historical marker describing "A County Older Than the State" placed by the Alabama Historical Association in 1956. (NC)
80. 201-203 West Washington Street (Steanson Computer Service/Dobbs Barber Shop (201)/Crawford's Creative Crafts & Gifts (203)) ca. 1911. This two-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a common bond brick exterior. 201 West Washington has a ca. 1975 modified storefront with metal and glass display windows and single-light sidelights and transom. 203 West Washington has a replacement display window of wood and glass with a brick bulkhead. There is an original multi-light transom with sidelights on the main facade. Above the display windows is an area covered by ca. 1975 vertical wood siding. On the second floor are six-over-one and four-over-one double-hung wood sash windows with soldier course lintels. Windows on the east facade are original six-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. In the upper facade are two metal vents, a stepped parapet and stone coping. On the rear facade (S) are brick arched door and window surrounds. Pedestrian doors were replaced ca. 1970. The interior of the first floor was renovated ca. 1975. The second floor has original plaster walls, wood floors and original panel doors with one-light transoms. This building was constructed by L. C. Hightower in 1911. On the north facade sidewalk is an original section of sidewalk from ca. 1900. (C)
81. 205 West Washington Street (Athens Republican Party Headquarters) ca. 1925, ca. 1970, ca. 1975. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a brick veneer storefront and crimped metal upper facade exterior. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows and doors resting on brick bulkheads. There is a four-light transom above the display windows, and a ca. 1970 crimped metal awning spans the width of the building. The rear facade (S) has nine-over-nine and three-over-three double-hung wood sash windows. There is a two-light transom over the replacement pedestrian door. The interior was renovated in the 1950s with a dropped ceiling and replacement flooring. An interior partition wall was also installed ca. 1970. (NC)
82. 207 West Washington Street (Smith's) ca. 1925, ca. 1975. This one-story commercial block building has a brick veneer exterior and a flat roof. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and glass display windows with an original marble bulkhead. There is a cloth awning spanning the width of the front facade. The rear (S) facade has a six-course common bond brick exterior with arched windows and door surrounds and replacement pedestrian doors. The interior was renovated ca. 1975. (NC)
83. 209 West Washington Street (Axiom Computer Service) ca. 1920. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a brick and stucco exterior. Originally a movie theater, the storefront was modified ca. 1970 with metal and glass display windows and a ceramic tile bulkhead. The upper portion of this main facade displays elements of the Art Deco style in smooth surfaced vertical fluting with a central pylon. The interior was renovated

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ca. 1985 with a dropped ceiling and sheetrock walls. The rear facade (S) has a six-course common bond brick exterior with an interior chimney. In addition, the rear pedestrian door has an arched brick door surround. (C)

84. 211 West Washington Street (Hyatt & Sims Paint Store) ca. 1915. This one-story commercial block building has a flat roof with a stucco exterior. The storefront has ca. 1975 metal and plate glass display windows and an aluminum and plate glass door with a one-light transom as well as a standing seam metal awning. The interior has its original open floor plan configuration, pressed metal ceiling, and skylight. The rear (S) facade has a six-course common bond brick exterior. (C)

85. 310 West Washington Street Old Athens, Alabama Main Post Office (NR 2/18/82) (Washington Street Courthouse Annex/Limestone County Archives) 1932. Neo-Classical. This rectangular shaped one-story building has a full basement with a stone foundation and watertable. The hipped roof is covered with clay tile and the exterior is five-course common bond brick. The nine-bay front (S) facade has six-over-six double-hung wood sash windows in the east and west bays with stone surrounds and stone bottom panels with brackets. The center seven bays are recessed with two bays of twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood sash windows flanking three bays of original copper panel pedestrian doors with single lights. Above each door are original eight-light transoms. There are marble panels above each bay in this recessed area. Between each bay is a fluted Doric stone column with an eight-sided base and egg-and-dart molding on the capital with flower medallions. There are stone steps leading to the entry with ca. 1950 metal handrails and original lamp posts on the east and west sides of the steps. The building has a heavy stone frieze with dentils and stone coping. The east and west facades have twelve-over-twelve double-hung wood sash windows with stone lintels and sills and marble panels above each bay. Between each bay is a brick pilaster with a Doric capital. Windows at the basement level are eight-over-eight double-hung wood sash. The rear facade has an exterior brick chimney and an original one-story, flat roofed ell with ca. 1980 metal replacement doors. The interior has original marble floors, wainscoting, brass doors and heating registers. Dropped ceilings were added ca. 1980. This building was originally constructed as a United States Post Office at a cost of \$58,100. It began service on November 14, 1933 and became a courthouse annex ca. 1980. (C)

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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPONENT**

Although no formal archaeological survey has been made of the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District, the potential for subsurface remains may be high. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting an entire property or the district as a whole.

Athens Courthouse Square Historic District  
Name of Property

Limestone County, Alabama  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**  
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualify 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 N/A  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)
- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
  - B** removed from its original locations.
  - 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.

**Areas of Significance**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture  
Commerce  
Politics/Government  
Transportation

**Period of Significance**  
1836, 1888-1945

**Significant Dates**  
N/A  
N/A

**Significant Person**  
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)  
N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**  
N/A

**Architect/Builder**  
Architect: Bem Price  
Architect: Britt Aldermam  
Architect: Hiram Higgins  
Builder: A. Bradley  
Builder: W. B. Smith  
Builder: Little-Cleckler  
Builder: Cyrus W. Crenshaw

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

- Primary location of additional data:**
- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 97001164

Property Name: Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District

County: Limestone State: Alabama

Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*Linda McClelland*  
Signature of the Keeper

October 10, 1997  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8. Period of Significance. The date, "1836", is hereby dropped from the period of significance to correspond with the narrative statement of significance, which states that the historical integrity of the former brick church (#20) dates to the ca. 1900 remodelling that enclosed the portico and made changes to the fenestration of the original Greek Revival church.

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Trina Brinkley of the Alabama Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Criterion A: Commerce, Politics/Government, Transportation

The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District in Limestone County, Alabama, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance in commerce, politics/government, and transportation. The square and its environs has traditionally been the center for the city's businesses and commercial activities. The majority of the district is composed of one-story and multiple-story brick commercial buildings centered around a courthouse square. These buildings date primarily from ca. 1888 to ca. 1935 with one building predating this period, a ca. 1836 church.

The district is significant under Criterion A for its association with the commercial development of Athens. The downtown district has historically been the center for the city's and county's businesses and is comprised of various commercial buildings, banks, professional offices, civic buildings, specialty stores, restaurants, transportation-related buildings and businesses, warehouses, hotels, and recreational interests.

The district is also significant under Criterion A for its role in politics/government. The district is centered around the Limestone County Courthouse which was completed in 1919. Athens was chosen as the county seat in 1819 and continues to be the center of government activities in the county. The present courthouse is the fifth in the county's history and was designed by architect Bem Price in the 1910s. The building was constructed between 1916 and 1919 and is considered an outstanding example of Neo-Classical architecture in Alabama. The district also contains the Neo-Classical style U.S. Post Office completed in 1932. This building served as Athens main post office until recent decades when it was converted into a courthouse annex.

The district is also significant under Criterion A for its significance in transportation. The former Louisville and Nashville Railroad Depot is located on West Market Street and retains much of its original design and detailing. The railroad was built through Athens in 1858 and had a major impact on the growth and development of the community. Following the Civil War, the railroad made Athens a center for the shipping of agricultural products and numerous small industries also began operation near the railroad. The present depot was constructed in 1907 and remained in operation until the mid-twentieth century when passenger rail service to Athens was discontinued. In addition to the railroad, Athens is the crossroads of U.S. Highway 31, a major north/south transportation corridor, and U.S. Highway 72, a major east/west thoroughfare. During the early twentieth century, before the arrival of the interstate, these two highways brought many travelers into the downtown area. Numerous buildings remain in the historic district which are associated with the importance of the automobile in the 1920s and 1930s.

Criterion C: Architecture

In addition to Criterion A, the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District is also eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance. The district contains a wide variety of commercial architecture dating from ca. 1888 to ca. 1935. The buildings are examples of late-nineteenth and twentieth century commercial blocks with vernacular detailing influenced by the Neo-Classical Revival, and

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Modernistic (Art Deco) styles. Other architectural influences in non-commercial buildings include Gothic Revival and Greek Revival. Generally, the buildings reflect the periods of prosperity of the town in the 1910s and 1920s. The buildings generally follow the forms and designs of one-story and multiple-story commercial blocks which were built throughout America at the turn of the century. Although most storefronts have been altered, most buildings retain their character on the upper facades.

**Historic Summary**

In 1798, the United States Congress created the Mississippi Territory that encompassed all of present day Alabama, including the project area. In 1808, Mississippi Territory governor, Robert Holmes, signed a proclamation creating Madison County that included present day Limestone County in the Tennessee River Bend area. This proclamation extended an organized system of government to the area. By 1816, Madison County had a population of approximately 10,000 whites and 4,000 slaves (Walker 1973:4-6, 30). On March 1, 1817, the Alabama Territory was created out of the Mississippi Territory and William Wyatt Bibb of Georgia was appointed the first governor in September of that year. The following year Limestone County was carved out of Madison County on February 6, 1818 by an act of the territorial legislature (Walker 1973:29-30, 33).

In 1818, Robert Beaty and John D. Carroll purchased 160 acres in the present day Athens area at a government land auction in Huntsville. This site became the nucleus for the town of Athens. The town was surveyed by Ernest Hine and designed in a square plan, a typical plan found in Southern towns in the nineteenth century. Beaty and Carroll began selling lots, and on November 19, 1818 the state legislature incorporated the city. At this time, Limestone County had a population of 4,489 with 1,015 being slaves. In 1819, Athens received its first post office, and on December 3rd, the town was chosen as the county seat over the settlements of English Springs and Cambridge. The first incorporated limits of Athens were bound by West Street (Houston Street), North Street (Hobbs Street), East Street, and South Street. Five Trustees were chosen for the county seat that included a president, tax assessor, tax collector, and constable. Also in 1819, bids were opened for the construction of the jail, courthouse, pillory, and stocks (Dunnivant Jr. 1994:6, 8; Walker 1973:34, 52).

The first courthouse constructed was a two-story log building measuring 40 by 60 feet. In addition, the jail was a two-story building that was 20 by 40 feet in size. Work on the courthouse began on January 11, 1820 and was completed at a cost of \$125 (Dunnivant Jr. 1994:7). At the time of the completion of the first courthouse, there were 9,871 people in the county with 6,922 whites, 2,919 slaves, and 30 free persons of color.

Athens grew rapidly and by the mid-1820s it was a thriving village. In 1825, a brick structure replaced the log courthouse. This second courthouse was occupied until 1831 when the building began to structurally deteriorate and the walls began to crack. The building was sold for \$505 and removed from the square (Walker 1966:5). The third courthouse in Athens was designed by local Architect Hiram H. Higgins and was completed in 1832 by contractor A. Bradley. The masonry, hipped roof structure was topped with a steeple that reached a height of 110 feet. Other buildings constructed in town during this time included the Masonic Hall (1827, no longer extant) and the Methodist Church (1836, #20). The Methodist Church was established in Athens in the 1810s; however, a

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permanent building was not constructed until 1836. This brick building was occupied by the church until 1925 when a new building was completed (First United Methodist Church History n.d.).

During the decades of the 1840s and 1850s, Athens prospered due to the booming cotton industry. As a result, there was a large increase in the slave industry. In 1830, the population of the county included 8,077 whites and 6,689 slaves. By the decade of the 1850s the population of the county was 16,883. This number included 8,399 whites and 8,068 slaves (Walker 1973:53, 72). During the decade of the 1850s, the first railroad arrived in Athens. The Tennessee & Alabama Central Railroad was under construction by March of 1858. In June, limited service was available to the town and a passenger depot was constructed. This allowed for a more accessible mode of travel and more expedient way to transport goods to and from market. Until this time, farmers, merchants, and travelers had mainly relied on keel boats and steamboats which traversed the Tennessee River and its tributaries for access to areas such as New Orleans and Knoxville.

Only three years after the first railroad arrived in town, the Civil War began. In May of 1862, Athens was occupied by Union troops. During the occupation, the command of Colonel John Basil Turchin "looted and plundered stores and homes stealing clothing, jewelry, and anything of value, destroying what they did not want" (Historical Marker on Courthouse Square 1991). In September of 1864, Nathan Bedford Forrest arrived to recapture the town. On September 23rd and 24th, additional forces joined Forrest's 3,600 men and the combined detachment advanced on the town. In this battle, Forrest captured 1,900 men, two pieces of artillery, a large amount of small arms, wagons, ambulances, 300 horses and a large amount of supplies. The Confederates lost five men and had 25 wounded. The courthouse along with a large part of the commercial area of the town was burned during this battle (Walker Jr. 1973:107-128).

Following the war, the county commission contracted with Cyrus W. Crenshaw to have the county courthouse reconstructed within the standing exterior walls of the burned structure. By 1867, the exterior of the building had been completed and a roof placed on the building. However, the commission had to borrow additional money to complete the structure. The building was partially occupied by mid-1868, but not finished until May of 1869 (Dunnivant Jr. 1994:16, 41; Alabama *Courier* 13 July 1916).

During the Reconstruction Era, and immediately following, the town experienced a construction boom. However, in April of 1882 the north side of the square was burned and 16 businesses were destroyed at a cost of \$30,000. By the end of the decade, the town had generally recovered from the fire and in 1889 received its first financial institution that operated strictly as a bank. The Athens Bank building was constructed by the Frost Family from Shelbyville, Tennessee and was located on West Market Street (#43). This bank gave birth to the Citizens Bank in 1899 and the Farmers and Merchants Bank in 1910.

The early 1890s brought trying times to the City of Athens. The Panic of 1893 hindered the economic and agricultural growth of the town. In addition, the east side of the square was destroyed by fire in that year. The downtown area experienced another fire in December of 1894 and an additional one in January of 1897. These fires led to the construction of more masonry buildings around the square that were considered fireproof. By the end of

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the 1890s the courthouse square began to resemble what is present today (Walker Jr. 1973:144, 153, 158; Sanborn Insurance Map 1897).

In the late 1890s, one of the most notable buildings on the square, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was constructed (#16). Founded in Athens by Rev. Robert Donnell of Guilford, North Carolina in the mid-nineteenth century, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church originally shared facilities with the local Baptist Church. The first permanent home of the church was located on the corner of Washington and Monroe Streets, adjacent to the railroad. The building was occupied by Union soldiers during the Civil War in 1863 and by the end of the war, the building was in ruins. Repairs were begun on the church and regular meetings were resumed on November 22, 1868. In April of 1888, the congregation sold the church building to George Sherrill for \$2,090 in order to build a new building at the northwest corner of Washington and Jefferson Streets. By 1890, the church had raised \$6,200 for the new building's construction. The church purchased the lot for \$1,000, the brick for \$730 and paid out labor and miscellaneous construction expenses of \$3,985. The present Gothic Revival style building was completed ca. 1895 (Dunnivant Jr. 1994:21; Axford 1979:6-38).

At the turn of the century, city leaders made a concerted effort to attract new residents and promote crop diversification in the county. Fruit trees and vegetable farming increased and nurseries were also promoted during these years (Caudle, 8-3). With the diversification of crops in the county in the late nineteenth century, marketable agricultural products increased and the town prospered. New settlers arrived in the area with most coming from the Midwestern states of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin. By the turn of the century, the county had a population of 22,687, and the population of Athens was 1,010. The first telephone service in the town was installed in the early 1900s and in 1907 street lights were introduced; however, the square was not paved until 1919 (Walker Jr. 161-162; Axford 1979:25).

During the 1910s and 1920s, the town of Athens experienced a major construction boom in the downtown area and approximately 45 buildings constructed during these years remain standing. During these years Athens prospered due to improvements in agriculture and increased shipping opportunities via the railroad. The Fulton Cotton Mill opened around 1900 and produced a variety of cloth products such as lace curtains. The Athens Planing Mill supplied lumber products for building construction and manufacturing. As the agricultural economy increased and diversified, new business opportunities arose and many new brick buildings replaced earlier structures around the square.

Many of the buildings constructed around the courthouse square sold goods and products for area farmers and their families. An example of this type of business was the W.E. Estes and Son Store which moved into the building at 103 West Washington Street around 1919 (#71). This business originally sold seed, livestock feed, and farm implements. With the mechanization of agriculture in the 1910s and 1920s, the business extended its service to include farm machines such as tractors and harvesters from companies such as Allis Chambers. As electricity was expanded to rural areas in the 1930s and 1940s, the business began supplying electric water pumps and motors to area farmers (*Athens News Courier*, 22 March 1988).

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Increased rail service also had an impact on the growth and development of the city. In the early 1900s, the Louisville & Nashville (L&N) Railroad acquired the Tennessee and Alabama Central Railroad which had served Athens since 1858. In 1907, the L&N demolished the 1858 passenger depot and constructed a new one in its place. The depot was constructed in the Craftsman style of architecture utilizing a standardized company design (#70). In 1908, the L & N began to plan for a new route between Athens and Nashville. The railroad announced it would double track its railroad from Calera to Athens and then northward to Brentwood, Tennessee, just south of Nashville. This provided improved shipping facilities for agricultural products and industries. By 1911, the company had constructed its "Lewisburg and Northern Division," and the following year work began on the 13.5 mile segment of the railroad between Athens and the state line. The estimated cost of the segment was \$200,000. In 1914, the first train from Nashville using this route arrived in Athens.

The improved services and connections of the L&N Railroad led to a number of transportation-related services and businesses in Athens. At least one hotel associated with the railroad remains standing in the district. The Griffin Hotel (#62) on North Monroe Street was constructed ca. 1921 directly across the street from the depot. The hotel catered to the traveling salesmen and "drummers" who passed through Athens or stopped in the city on business. Other downtown hotels such as the Ross Hotel on E. Washington Street (now razed) also provided lodging to visitors. These hotels closed as passenger rail service declined after World War II. Passenger service was discontinued in Athens in recent decades, however, the city is still served by freight service. (Dunnavant Jr. 1994:96, 109).

In addition to the railroad, transportation was enhanced in Athens by the completion of major U.S. highways through the city. By 1920, the Bee Line Highway (U.S. 31), and the Lee Line Highway (U.S. 72) were constructed through Athens (Caudle 1988). As a result, many new buildings were constructed in the downtown area to cater to the increased automobile traffic. These businesses included gas stations, repair shops, and auto dealerships. In the decade of the 1920s there were approximately 20 dealerships that opened in town. These included R. A. Chambers & Sons that sold General Motors trucks at 115 West Washington Street (#77), the Starkey Motor Company at 105 West Washington that sold Pontiacs (#72), and the Gilbert & Garrett Chevrolet Company at 311 West Market Street (#59). Local businessman L. C. Hightower also constructed a bus station at the intersection of the two highways which included a Sinclair Service Station and work area. This station serviced both the Greyhound and Trailways bus lines until the 1950s (Croley 1996). The 1932 Sanborn map of the city shows approximately eighteen automobile oriented buildings in and around the square including four gas stations. Automobile oriented businesses continued to be significant in the downtown area until the construction of Interstate 65 in the 1960s.

In the summer of 1916, the reconstructed courthouse from the 1860s was sold to M. A. Pope for \$100 sans clock, vault, and furnishings, and the offices in the building were moved to commercial space on the square. Pope began demolition of the building in July to provide space for a new courthouse. Limestone County's fifth and present courthouse was designed by Birmingham architect Bem Price in 1914 and was constructed between 1916 and 1919 (#79). The design of the building was influenced by the Neo-Classical Revival style and the Palladian villa, "LaRotunda" (1565-1569), designed by Andrea Palladio. The Limestone County Courthouse is an example of the

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“transformation of the villa form to non-domestic use” in Alabama (Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts 1991:31). Like the Villa Rotunda, the building has four identical porticoed facades with a central dome and extends symmetrically outward. The architect was concerned with the building’s “dominating presence and command of the surrounding space, which is the nature of Palladio’s Villa Rotunda and was the desired effect of government architecture” (Ibid. 33-34).

The original contractor for the construction was Little-Cleckler and Company of Anniston; however, due to the rise in prices of copper and building materials during World War I, the company went bankrupt. Johnson-Chambers & Company, a local lumber company, assumed responsibility of the project and completed it in the summer of 1919. Completed at a cost of \$200,000, the building exceeded the constitutional debt limit for the county and modifications to the original plans were made to reduce cost. The specified maple floors were changed to linoleum-covered pine and the steel structural system was replaced with wood. The first floor of the building housed the Red Cross Room, a heating plant, and grand jury room. The second floor, on the east side, housed the probate judge’s offices, tax collector and assessor, and on the west side were the sheriff’s office and record room. On the third floor were the circuit and probate courtrooms. The building was officially dedicated in 1922 (Dunnivant Jr. 1994:vi, 124-125, 128; Alabama *Courier* 2/8/1919; Axford n.d.a:65).

In addition to commercial businesses, Athens was also the home to numerous theaters in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Sherrill Opera House operated on the square in the late nineteenth century. Movie entertainment came to the downtown area with the establishment of the Ritz Theater. In the late 1920s, the Tri-City Theater Group purchased the Methodist Church building (# 20) and converted it to a theater naming it the Ritz. The group also converted a retail store at 209 West Washington Street in the 1920s to a movie theater (#83). In addition, the building at 214 West Market Street operated as the Dixie Theater ca. 1915-1925 (#54) (Croley 1996.; Sanborn Map Company 1894).

Even though Athens received its first post office in 1819, a permanent building was not constructed for more than one hundred years. In the 1930s, the United States Postal Service purchased the site for a building at the northeast corner of West Washington and South Madison Streets for \$6,500. The Neo-Classical Revival style building was designed by Britt Alderman of Atlanta, Georgia and was constructed by W. B. Smith of El Dorado, Arkansas for a cost of \$58,100 (#85). Construction began on the building in September of 1932 and was completed in November of 1933. The building opened to the public in November 1933 (Axford n.d.b:63; Dunnivant Jr. 1994:155; Loveland and Mertins 1981).

The new post office building opened the year that Franklin D. Roosevelt took office as President of the United States. In 1929, the nation had experienced a stock market crash and a subsequent National Depression. When Roosevelt came to office, he proposed ways to pull the nation out of its economic decline. One of the construction/employment programs he created was the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). This organization was formed to bring electrical power to the Tennessee Valley region. Athens was the first city in the State of Alabama and the second in the TVA system to receive electrical power from the organization. On March 22, 1934, Athenians

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voted 581 to 1 to begin purchasing the city's power from the TVA. In June of that year the TVA began servicing the town (Dunnavant Jr. 1994:163). During this decade of economic depression, the population of Limestone County was 36,629 and the population of Athens was 4,238 (Walker Jr. 1974:165).

Over the next decade Athens experienced steady growth. By 1949, Athens had a population of approximately 6,000 people and the city continued to purchase its power from the TVA. There were 4,400 farms in the county and approximately 220,000 acres of the 348,800 total acres in the county were cultivated (Smith n.d.:49). In the 1950s and 1960s, the downtown commercial buildings experienced typical modifications in the replacement of pedestrian doors and display windows. Typically, businesses were concentrated on the first floor leaving the upper floors vacant. Today, Athens is a thriving community that benefits from its position as county seat and its proximate location to Interstate 65, a major north/south transportation artery. There is a renewed interest in the downtown historic buildings. Several buildings have undergone rehabilitation, most notably are those at 120 and 122 West Market Street (#47 & #48). The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District encompasses many of the commercial and public buildings that have contributed to the steady growth of the town over the last two centuries.

One property in the district, the Old Athens, Alabama Main Post Office, was individually listed on the National Register in 1982 under National Register Criteria A and C (#85). It is located at 310 West Washington Street. The Robert Beaty Historic District, listed in 1984 under National Register Criteria A and C, borders the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District on the southeast. The George S. Houston Historic District, listed in 1989 under Criterion C, borders the Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District on the northwest. The Athens State College Historic District is located several blocks to the northeast. This district was listed in 1985 under National Register Criteria A and C.

Athens Courthouse Square Historic District Limestone County, Alabama  
Name of Property County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 14 Acres

**UTM Reference**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>16</u>	<u>502420</u>	<u>3851200</u>	C	<u>16</u>	<u>502890</u>	<u>3850750</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>16</u>	<u>502890</u>	<u>3851200</u>	D	<u>16</u>	<u>502400</u>	<u>3850750</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**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 Phil Thomason & Dawn Wise & Trina Binkley, AHC Reviewer

organization Thomason & Associates date 12/20/96

street & number P.O. Box 121225 telephone (615) 385-4960

city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37212

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 Multiple

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 instruction, 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 Service 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.

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**VERBAL BOUNDARY**

The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial District roughly includes the 100 block of East Green Street-north side only, the 100 block of West Green Street-north side only, the 100 block of North Jefferson Street, the 100 block of South Jefferson Street, the 100 block of North Marion Street-east side only, the 100 and 200 blocks of South Marion Street, the 100 block of East Market Street, the 100 and 200 blocks of West Market Street, the 300 block of West Market Street-south side only, the 100 block of East Monroe Street, the 100 block of East Washington Street, the 100 block of West Washington Street, the 200 block of West Washington Street excluding the building at 213-217 West Washington, and the 300 block of West Washington Street-north side only. The boundaries are depicted on the attached boundary map.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The Athens Courthouse Square Commercial District includes buildings in the original commercial area of Athens. The buildings are located on and adjacent to Limestone County Courthouse Square, the commercial and governmental center of the town. The boundaries include buildings within the period of significance in a wide variety of architectural styles and which retain their architectural integrity. Excluded from the district are buildings heavily altered or those constructed after the period of significance. The boundaries were drawn to include the greatest number of contributing resources and the least number of non-contributing resources.

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1. Name of Property: Athens Courthouse Square Commercial Historic District
2. Location of Property: Athens, Limestone County, Alabama
3. Photographs by: Dawn Wise, Thomason & Associates
4. Date of Photography: September 1996
5. Location of Negatives: Alabama Historical Commission
  
6. 100 Block of North Marion Street (east side) North and West elevations
7. #1
  
6. 100 Block of West Washington Street (south side) North and West elevations
7. #2
  
6. 100 Block of North Jefferson Street (east side) North and West elevations
7. #3
  
6. 200 Block of West Market Street (north side) South elevation
7. #4
  
6. 100 Block of West Market Street ( west side) South and East elevations
7. #5
  
6. 100 Block of East Market Street (north side) South and West elevations
7. #6
  
6. 100 Block of East Monroe Street (east side) West elevation
7. #7
  
6. 310 West Washington Street (#82), South elevation
7. #8
  
6. 102 West Washington Street (#70), North and East elevations
7. #9
  
6. 317 West Market Street (#61), North and East elevations
7. #10
  
6. 124 North Marion Street (#20), West elevation
7. #11

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6. 126 North Marion Street (#21), North and West elevations  
7. #12

6. 112 South Jefferson Street (#16), North and East elevations  
7. #13

6. 200 West Washington Street (#76), West elevation  
7. #14

6. 103 West Washington Street (#71), North elevation  
7. #16

6. 216 West Market Street (#55), South elevation  
7. #17

6. 122 West Market Street (#48), South and West elevation  
7. #18

6. 114 North Jefferson Street (#8), West elevation  
7. #19

6. 100 North Jefferson Street (#4) North and East elevations  
7. #20

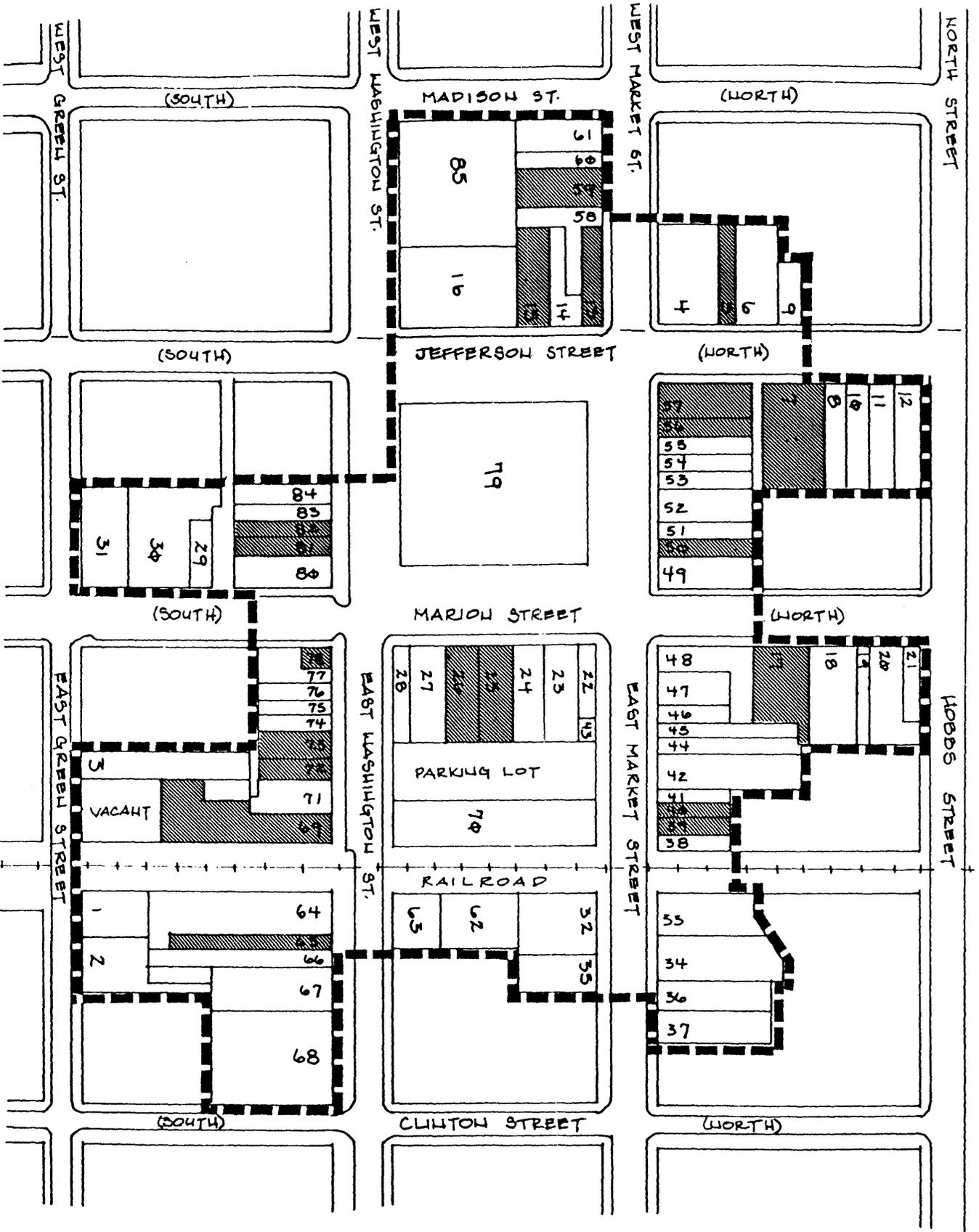
6. 207 West Washington Street (#79), North elevation  
7. #21

6. 111-113 South Marion Street (#25), West elevation  
7. #22

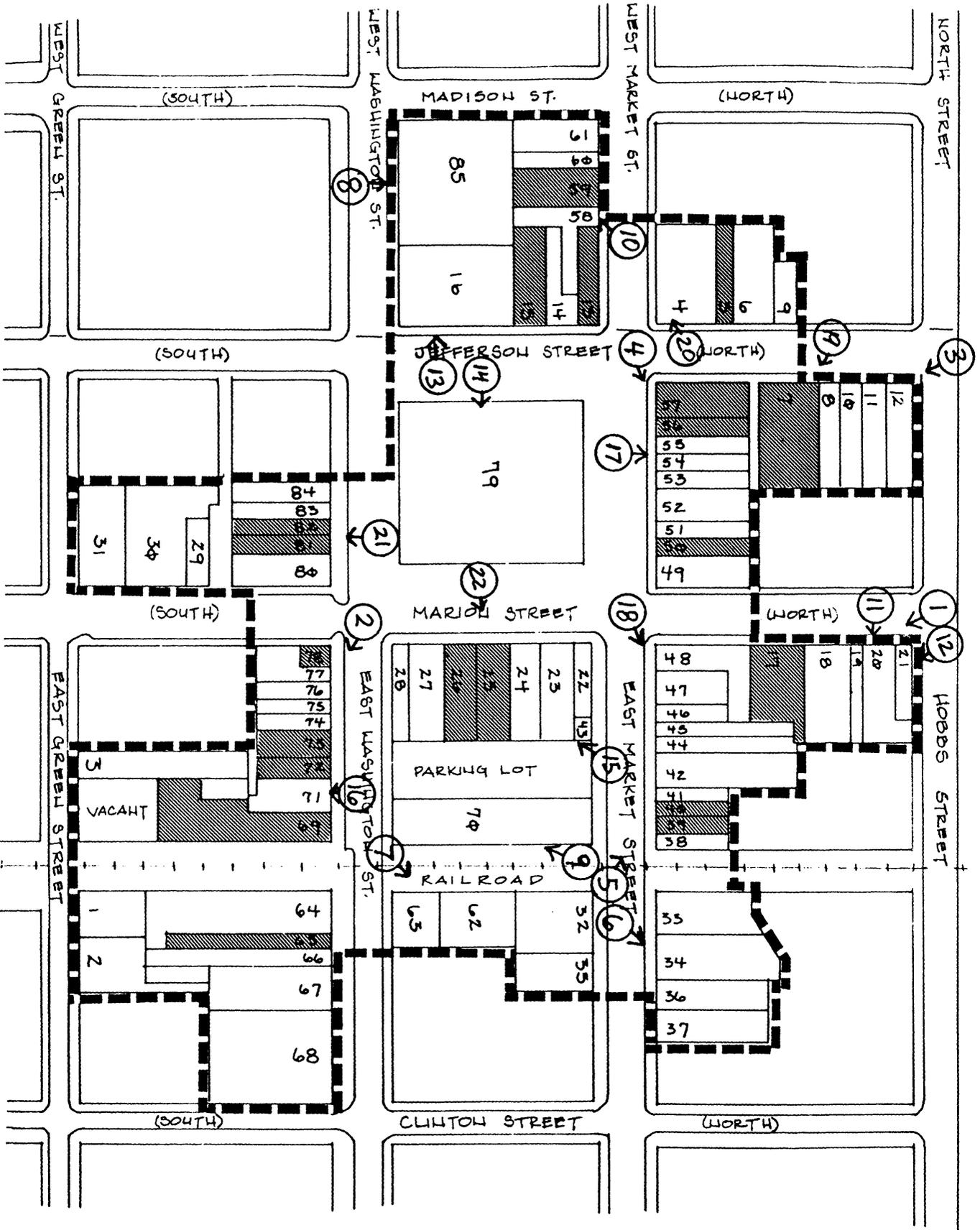
ATHENS COURTHOUSE SQUARE -  
 COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 ATHENS, LIMESTONE COUNTY, ALABAMA



NON-CONTRIBUTING -  
 APPROXIMATE SCALE 1"=100'  
 BOUNDARY LINE -



ATHENS COURTHOUSE SQUARE -  
 COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 ATHENS, LIMESTONE COUNTY, ALABAMA



NON-CONTRIBUTING -  
 APPROXIMATE SCALE 1" = 100'  
 BOUNDARY LINE -  
 Photo Key

