

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lynnville Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Includes portions of Main, Bugg, Church, High & Vine N/A not for publication  
city, town Lynnville Streets N/A vicinity  
state Tennessee code TN county Giles code TN055 zip code 38472

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>48</u>	<u>19</u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u> structures
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>55</u>	<u>21</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Herbert P. Gayer 2/9/88  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Tennessee Historical Commission  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification .

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Amy Schlager 4/1/88  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
COMMERCE/TRADE: department store  
COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
VACANT/NOT IN USE

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: vernacular Queen Anne & Eastlake  
NO STYLE  
OTHER: commercial vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK, STONE: Limestone, Concrete  
walls WOOD: weatherboard, BRICK  
SYNTHETICS: vinyl  
roof ASPHALT, METAL: tin  
other Wood porches, wood storefronts,  
cast iron storefront

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Lynnville Historic District is comprised of fifty-nine properties which make up the heart of the old market town of Lynnville in northern Giles County, Tennessee. The small community (pop. 600) is one of the oldest in the area and was an important commercial center in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The nominated area contains portions of ten blocks and is centered around the commercial row facing the old Nashville & Decatur (now CSX) railway line. The district extends from the downtown area west along Main Street three and one-half blocks, north and east to the edge of the downtown area, and south along Church Street to the city limits. The community contains one of the best collections of historic buildings in the region dating from nearly every period of the community's development. Almost every building in the district dates from the years following the construction of the Nashville and Decatur railway, a small narrow gauge branch line built through present Lynnville in 1859 and 1860.

Lynnville is located in a gentle valley bisected by the railway line. Dominating the town to the north is the Elk Ridge, a high series of hills forming a divide of the watersheds of the Elk and Duck Rivers; to the east the land opens out to tillable land. Bounding Lynnville on the south is the little Robertson Fork, a peaceful stream, and a second series of hills to the west separates the town from nearby Waco and the Lynn Creek valley. South of town the creek joins with other forks and forms Richland Creek, a major tributary of the Elk River.

Houses in the district are primarily single-family residences dating from the 1860s to the 1930s and include a wide variety of vernacular style houses with Queen Anne, Eastlake, and Italianate influence. Early twentieth century houses include several fine Bungalows and various vernacular styles. The majority of residences retain their original exterior detailing. Most buildings are of frame construction and range from one to two-and-a-half stories in height. Gabled and hipped roofs predominate, and often feature cross-gables, dormers, vergeboards, finials, and other decorative trim. Most of the decorative features appear on the porches, which are often supported by either classical columns or turned or chamfered posts distinguished by intricate sawn or turned friezes and spindlework trim. Bungalow porches are usually supported by tapered wooden pylons set atop brick or stone piers and are commonly found on houses built between 1910 and 1930. Residences are generally set back fifteen to

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Lynnville Historic District

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twenty-five feet from the street which are quite wide and flanked by mature trees. Many of the lots are fronted by stone retaining walls and iron fences.

The commercial district of Lynnville faces the railway. Most of the commercial buildings date from 1860 to the early 1900s, the period following the construction of the railway. The buildings are, for the most part, of substantial brick construction. Although a number of these buildings now show signs of deterioration, almost all retain their original storefronts and major decorative features, including rounded and segmental arch windows, often topped by heavy window hoods, bracketed tin cornices, and finials and other decorative trim. Of particular interest is the circa 1860 McQuigg Brothers building (#46) with its cast-iron storefront.

Two churches are included within the district. The First Presbyterian Church (#16) was built in 1867. The large frame church is an interesting vernacular structure borrowing details from both Italianate and Gothic styles. The Lynnville Methodist Episcopal Church South (#30, now Lynnville United Methodist) was constructed in 1903 and is a cruciform-plan brick church with vernacular Victorian Gothic Revival detailing, including an inset corner bell tower with pyramidal steeple and finial, tripartite lancet windows, and raised stone foundation.

Contributing resources (C) are significant to the historical and architectural development of the district, possess compatible design elements, and maintain the scale and use of the district. Non-contributing resources have little or no architectural significance or integrity or do not fall within the period of significance of the district. The architectural survey of the district was completed by Richard Quin of the South Central Tennessee Development District.

Of the fifty-nine properties listed in the inventory, forty-six properties are contributing. Contributing resources include thirty residences, thirteen commercial buildings, two churches, three garages, three outbuildings, one smokehouse, one water tower, and two wellhouses. Twenty-one resources are non-contributing; these include nine residences, five commercial buildings, five garages, one outbuilding, and one gazebo.

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INVENTORY

BUGG STREET

1. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1965. One-story frame, rectangular plan, masonite siding. (NC)
2. Bugg Street. Water Tower. Ca. 1935. Cylindrical steel tank supported by four riveted iron legs, approximately 1500 gallons, steel water column. (C)
3. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1900. Vernacular, one-story frame, irregular plan, weatherboard, combination hip and cross-gable roof of tin shingles, three-quarter porch supported by square wooden posts atop brick piers, two corbeled interior brick chimneys, two-over-two fenestration. (C)  

Garage. Ca. 1930. One-story frame, weatherboard, front-gable roof, vertical-batten doors. (C)
4. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1910. Vernacular, one-story frame, saddlebag plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof, one-half hip porch supported by Tuscan columns, central interior corbeled brick chimney, one-over-one fenestration. (C)  

Garage. Ca. 1950. One-story frame, tin siding, front-gable roof. (NC)
5. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1920. Vernacular, one-story frame, vinyl siding, side-gable roof, pier foundation, four-over-four windows. (C)
6. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1900. Vernacular, one-story frame, saddlebag plan, weatherboard, hipped roof with scroll cresting, porch supported by Tuscan columns, central corbeled brick chimney, rear additions. (C)
7. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1890. Vernacular, one-story frame, saddlebag plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof, shed porch supported by tapered posts, interior corbeled brick chimney, rear shed addition. (C)

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8. Bugg Street. Bugg-Gilliam House. Ca. 1890. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, vinyl siding, three-quarter porch supported by turned posts, interior corbeled brick chimney, one-over-one fenestration. (C)
9. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1960. One-story, rectangular plan, brick veneer, side-gable roof. (NC)
10. Bugg Street. Residence. Ca. 1960. Ranch House. One-story, brick veneer, side-gable roof. (NC)

CHURCH STREET

11. Church Street. Andrew Mitchell Building (Jones TV and Appliance). Ca. 1900. Commercial Vernacular. Two-story brick three-bay wood and glass storefront, two-over-two segmental arch windows. (C)
12. Church Street. Mitchell Building. Ca. 1890. Commercial Vernacular. Two-story brick, three bays by seven, canted corner, segmental arch two-over-two windows, recessed entries with double-leaf doors and transoms, vertical batten frame and glass storefronts, dogtooth brick cornice. Built by Andrew Mitchell, upper story housed the Lynnville Masonic Lodge, main floor Lee Wigg's funeral parlor and casket shop, later Josh Gregg's, and at one time a saloon. (C)
13. Church Street. Wilson House. 1915. Vernacular. One-story frame, three-bay central passage plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof, bungalow porch with tapered brick columns, gabled dormer, sidelighted entry, exterior brick chimney. (C)
14. Church Street. Mitchell House. 1860. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, weatherboard, hipped roof, integral shed porch with sawn and latticework trim, hipped dormer, interior corbeled brick chimneys, double-leaf doors with sidelights and transom, six-over-six windows. (C)  

Garage. Ca. 1930. One-story frame, weatherboard,  
jerkinhead roof, batten doors. (C)
15. Church Street. Turner House. Ca. 1960. Ranch House. One-story, brick veneer, side-gable roof. (NC)

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16. Church Street. Presbyterian Church. 1867. Vernacular. Frame, three bays by three, weatherboard, front gable roof, bell tower above recessed segmental arch entry is topped by small modern steeple replacement, two-over-two segmental arch windows, bracketed cornice with gable returns, rear additions. (C)
17. Church Street. Presbyterian Manse. 1895. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, three-quarter porch supported by tapered and chamfered posts with brackets and turned spindlework frieze, two-over-two windows, interior corbeled brick chimneys, rear ell. Built for \$1,400. (C)
- Outbuilding. Ca. 1940. One-story cinderblock, tin side-gable roof. (NC)
18. Church Street. Fleming, H. M., House. Ca. 1915. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, weatherboard, side-gable roof, shed dormer, integral front porch supported by square posts on brick piers, mixed fenestration, two corbeled brick interior chimneys. (C)
19. Church Street. Smith, W. J., House. 1860. Vernacular. One-story frame, three-bay central-passage plan, vinyl siding, side-gable roof, segmental arch windows with wooden hoods, shed porch supported by square posts, external gable end chimneys, gable returns, rear ell. Second oldest house in Lynnville. (C)
- Garage. Ca. 1950. One-story cinderblock, front gable roof, batten doors. (NC)
20. Church Street. Locke House. Ca. 1870. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, three-bay central passage plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof, gable dormers, interior brick flue, double-leaf entry, nine-over-nine fenestration. (C)
21. Church Street. Sands, Luther, House. Vernacular. Ca. 1918. One-story frame, irregular plan, weatherboard, hipped roof with gable pavilions, integral porch supported by Tuscan columns, hipped dormers, two interior brick chimneys. (C)
22. Church Street. Jones School Girl's Dormitory. Ca. 1905. Vernacular. Two-story frame, irregular plan, weatherboard, hipped roof with projecting canted gable bay end pavilions, hipped dormers, three-quarter shed porch supported by square posts, Eastlake door with

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transom, paterae molding, one-over-one fenestration, stone pier foundation with latticework infill. Used as a dormitory for Jones School until circa 1915. (C)

Guest House. Ca. 1970. One and one-half-story frame, board-and-batten, front-gable roof, stained glass windows. (NC)

HIGH STREET

23. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1960. Ranch House. One-story frame, cove weatherboard, side-gable roof. (NC)
24. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1900. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, one-story three-quarter porch supported by tapered posts on brick piers, two-over-two windows, Eastlake door with transom, exposed purlines, side additions. (C)
25. High Street. Residence. Vernacular. Ca. 1890. One and one-half-story frame, masonite siding, side-gable tin shingle roof, hipped porch supported by chamfered posts with brackets, four-over-four fenestration, lookout windows, end brick chimneys. (C)
26. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1890. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, three-quarter porch supported by square posts on brick piers, side and rear additions, interior corbeled chimneys. (C)
27. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1915. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, vertical board siding, side-gable roof, integral shed porch supported by square posts, four-over-four fenestration, central corbeled brick chimney, side shed addition. (C)
28. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1900. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, tin shingle roof, three-quarter porch supported by Tuscan columns, two-over-two fenestration, corbeled interior brick chimneys. (C)
29. High Street. Residence. Ca. 1940. Federal Revival. One-story, three bay central passage plan, brick veneer, side-gable roof, pedimented porch supported by Tuscan columns and decorated with

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dentilwork and Adamesque garlands, leaded glass sidelights, Ca. 1880.  
wrought iron fence around property. (NC)

Gazebo. Ca. 1960. One-story frame, latticework,  
pyramidal roof with cupola. (NC)

Outbuilding. Ca. 1910. One-story frame, weatherboard,  
front-gable roof, gable returns, interior brick  
flue, shed porch supported by wooden posts, side  
shed addition. (C)

Wellhouse. Ca. 1880. One-story, frame, gable roof.  
(C)

MAIN STREET

30. Main Street. Lynnville Methodist Episcopal Church South. 1903. Vernacular. One-story brick, cruciform plan with inset corner bell tower, tripartite lancet windows under single pointed arches, occasional smaller single lancet windows, double-leaf entry at base of tower, rusticated stone foundation with coursed ashlar water table, tower topped by pyramidal roof and open belfry with iron finial, molded wooden cornice. One-story Ca. 1960 Sunday school addition rear, modern one-story brick addition under construction at West rear, recessed from primary views. (C)
31. Main Street. Hamlin, C. M., House. Ca. 1860. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, vinyl siding, canted gable bay end, three-quarter porch supported by turned posts with brackets, very fine stickwork frieze, two interior corbeled brick chimneys, one-over-one shuttered windows. (C)
32. Main Street. Hardison House. Ca. 1900. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, shed porch supported by fluted chamfered posts, brick exterior chimney on east gable end, replacement two-over-two windows. (C)
33. Main Street. Reid, C. T., House. Ca. 1860. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, irregular plan, vinyl siding, cross-gable plan, hipped roof with projecting gable pavilions, canted corner, replacement wraparound porch supported by Doric columns, bay window rear, stickwork trim, gable returns. (C)

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Smokehouse. Ca. 1900. One-story frame, weatherboard, front-gable tin roof, batten door. (C)

34. Main Street. Bledsoe House. Ca. 1870. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, three bay central passage plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof, integral front shed porch supported by square posts, paired four-over-one windows, upper story covered with shingles, small gabled dormer with exposed purlines, corbeled interior brick chimney, stone retaining wall across front of property. (C)
35. Main Street. Tarpley House. Ca. 1920. Vernacular. One-story frame, tarpapered front-gable roof, six-over-six windows. Once used as a dentist's office. (NC)
36. Main Street. Witts Building. Ca. 1865. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, wooden frame storefront with recessed entry, double-leaf doors, transom level with ribbed prismatic glass, decorative sawtooth brick cornice. Has been used as a grocery, meat market, tin shop, movie theater; now owned by the City of Lynnville which plans its rehabilitation as a community hall. Vacant. (C)
37. Main Street. Reid, C. T., Store. Ca. 1890. Commercial Vernacular. one-story brick, wooden frame storefront with recessed entry, double-leaf doors, transom level with ribbed prismatic glass, decorative cornice with recessed panels and dogtooth accents. Inlaid tile at entry "C. T. Reid." Initially a dry goods and clothing store, it was used later as an electric appliance store. Vacant. (C)
38. Main Street. Tate Store. Ca. 1900. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, wood and glass double storefront with recessed entries, diagonal batten bulkheads, simple bracketed storefront cornice, bracketed tin main cornice with tin finial at corner. Originally used as a general merchandise store, later divided. Southern bay was the Peoples' Bank, later Dr. Copeland's office, a beauty shop, and crafts store. Northern bay housed Blackburn Brown Drug Store, later Hanna's Grocery. Vacant/work in progress. (C)
39. Main Street. Citizen's Bank Building (Old Post Office Building). Ca. 1900. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, ornamental recessed panel brick cornice decorated with dogtooth brick, altered storefront. Once housed the Citizen's Bank, later First National Bank, then the Post Office, a jewelry store, and warehouse. (C)

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40. Main Street. Commercial Building. Ca. 1900. Commercial Vernacular. one-story brick, ornamental recessed panel brick cornice decorated with dogtooth brick, altered storefront. Building housed hardware stores of R. T. Hickman and Homer Miller, Matthews Brothers, and the Hugh Rhea grocery store; other associated businessmen included Knox Trigg, W. T. Underwood, and W. T. Hickman at present. (C)
41. Main Street. Commercial Building (Cafe). Ca. 1895. Commercial Vernacular. Two-story brick, left half retains original storefront with segmental arch one-over-one windows, brick cornice with dogtooth course. East half altered by enclosure of upstairs windows, removal of tin cornice, minor storefront alterations. North bay housed the Rocket Store and south bay J. W. Alexander's drug store; now occupied by small cafe and dry goods store. (C)
42. Main Street. Commercial Building (Robert B. Jones Memorial Library and Museum). Ca. 1895. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, double-leaf entry, segmental arch windows with arch-radiating voussoirs, sawtooth brick cornice. This building is the former location of the McGregor Hardware Store, a furniture store, and for thirty years, a notions and dry goods store operated by Mrs. Nannie Hewitt Pigg. (C)
43. Main Street. Bank of Lynnville (Union Bank). Ca. 1870. Rusticated stone, altered aluminum siding storefront installed over original storefront. Formerly the Bank of Lynnville which operated until 1930. (NC)
44. Main Street. Witt Grocery Store. (L. E. Moore Drug Store). 1865. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, sawtooth brick cornice, recessed entry, storefront altered by substitute windows and covering of transom, original wooden canopy, dentilwork detailing. Built by the Witt family and used as a grocery, Betts Dry Goods, and Journey's Dry Goods. (C)
45. Main Street. Witts & Bouie Mercantile Store (Country Style). 1865. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick, three-bay front with segmental arch one-over-one sash windows, segmental arch transom over replacement door, brick cornice highlighted by dentils and sawtooth course. Built by Witts as a mercantile store and converted to a drug store by Rupert Waldrop and later Braden and Clark, now a beauty shop. (C)

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46. Main Street. McQuigg Brothers. Ca. 1860. Commercial Vernacular. One-story brick with cast iron storefront by Mesker Iron Works of Evansville, Indiana; recessed entry; ornamental iron work with fluted members, rosettes and anthemions; bracketed tin and iron cornice with finials and "McQuigg Bros." cast in parapet. An historic pool room. (C)
47. Main Street. Ross and Boyd Dry Good Store. Ca. 1895. Commercial Vernacular. Two-story brick, three-bay front, double-leaf entry, wood and tin storefront cornice with raised oval patterns in relief, segmental arch four-over-four windows on second floor, ornamental brick cornice with sawtooth coursing, original wood and tin canopy. Later Smith Brothers, now an arcade. (C)
48. Main Street. United States Post Office. Ca. 1970. One-story brick veneer, flat roof. (NC)
49. Main Street. Clark House. Ca. 1860. Vernacular. One-story frame, three-bay central passage plan, weatherboard, side-gable roof with gable returns, corbeled brick chimneys at gable ends, brick foundation, shuttered one-over-one double-hung sash windows, sidelighted entry with transom, rear ell. (C)
50. Main Street. City Hall. Ca. 1955. Two-story, cinderblock construction first floor houses garage for corporation fire engine, second floor of frame construction, masonite siding. (NC)
51. Main Street. Farm Exchange. Ca. 1940. Two-story concrete block construction, stepped parapet at side, shed roof. (NC)
52. Main Street. Southern Auto Repair. Ca. 1950. One-story cinderblock garage. (NC)
53. Main Street. Beaver House. Ca. 1860. Vernacular. One-story frame, three bay central passage plan, weatherboard, side-gable tin shingle roof, gable returns, exterior brick chimneys at gable ends, shed porch supported by chamfered posts, two-over-two and six-over-six windows, Eastlake door with transom, rear ell. (C)
- Outbuilding. Ca. 1930. one-story board-and-batten frame, shed tin roof. (C)
54. Main Street. Ross House. Ca. 1900. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, three bay central passage plan, weatherboard, shallow

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side-gable roof, shed dormer, small pedimented porch, gabled side porch on east, sidelighted entry, hipped addition on west, brick foundation. (C)

Garage. Ca. 1940. One-story frame, weatherboard, side-gable tin roof. (NC)

55. Main Street. McGregor House. Ca. 1900. Victorian Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, three-quarter porch supported by Tuscan columns on brick piers, gable returns, corbeled interior brick chimneys, sawn decorative window and door architraves. (C)

Well House. Ca. 1900. One-story frame, latticework pyramidal tin-shingle roof, derelict. (C)

Outbuilding. Ca. 1900. One-story frame, vertical board siding, side-gable tin roof. (C)

56. Main Street. Church of Christ Parsonage. Ca. 1910. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, three bay central passage plan, weatherboard, bellcast hipped roof, integral front porch supported by Tuscan columns, bay window on west, paired one-over-one fenestration, pier foundation, sidelighted entry with transom. (C)

VINE STREET

57. Vine Street. McCall House. 1860. Vernacular. One-story frame, cross-gable plan, weatherboard, canted gable bay end, shed porch supported by turned posts with brackets, two corbeled interior brick chimneys, rear ell. (C)

Garage. Ca. 1940. One-story cinderblock, front-gable roof. (NC)

58. Vine Street. Residence. Ca. 1970. One-story, brick veneer, side-gable roof. (NC)

Garage. Ca. 1970. One-story cinderblock, front-gable roof. (NC)

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59. Vine Street. Jones House. Ca. 1860. Vernacular. One and one-half-story frame, two bays by two, vinyl siding, side-gable roof, gable end exterior brick chimney on north side, shed porch supported by bracketed turned posts, rear ell with side gallery. (C)

Garage. Ca. 1930. One-story frame, weatherboard, front-gable roof. (C)

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G    N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1860-1930

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

VARIOUS: Hardy (Hardee)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Fifty-nine properties comprising the heart of the Town of Lynnville, Tennessee, are nominated as an historic district under National Register criteria A and C for their collective significance to Lynnville and Giles County, Tennessee, in architecture, early settlement, and commerce.

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

The land on which the town is now situated was originally part of a land grant made to General John Armstrong for his services in the Revolutionary War. Armstrong came to settle on the land and is sometimes said to have built the old Higdon Home in the east part of town, a large Classical Revival mansion which was the showplace of the northern part of the county for many years before it burned.

In 1783 surveyors appointed by the General Assembly of North Carolina explored the land in this section. James Robertson, the founder of Nashville, and his brother, Elisha were members of this group. James Robertson named Richland Creek, the principal stream in the area, and Elisha named the nearby Haywood and Robertson Fork, the first recorded settlement in the north Giles County area.

In the early 1800s the first permanent settlers came from Virginia, the Carolinas, and their neighboring states to settle here. They crossed the Duck River to the north and came by way of the present village of Culleoka, crossing the high Elk Ridge at Dodson's Gap and built in the vicinity of what is now Lynnville. Among those who came were John A. Walker, Elisha White, John Laird, William Deering, and others. They united and built log houses for one another, cleared the hardwood forests and canebrakes, and began to plant the first crops, mostly corn. Being a religious people, they also built several small churches. The first Methodist Church in the county was organized at what is now Lynnville in 1809. Elk Ridge, the first Presbyterian Church, was organized one and one half miles east by Gideon Blackburn and Robert Henderson the next year.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Shields, Wilmett. "Burning of Lynnville," n.p., n.d.

Dugger, Sara. Interview, April 1987.

Hewitt, Frances. Interview, April 1987.

Hollis, Bobby. Interview, April 1987.

See continuation sheet

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- 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
- Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 19 acres

UTM References

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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See continuation sheet

Lynnville (58NE) & Milkyway (58SE), Tennessee  
Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Richard Quin, Historic Preservation Planner  
organization South Central Tennessee Development District date December 1987  
street & number Post Office Box 1346 telephone 615-381-2040  
city or town Columbia state Tennessee zip code 38402-1346

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Lynnville Historic District

Lynnville was named for Lynn Creek, so called because "lynn" or linden trees grew abundantly along the banks. Old Lynnville, now the village of Waco, was laid off on Lynn Creek in 1810. The Post Office was established in 1814 and was called Lynn Creek. In 1839 the name was changed to Lynnville. For the next fifty years, it was a flourishing place with post office, hotel, stores, and factories, and a wholesale coffee warehouse. At one time it had a town square and was incorporated.

In 1859 and 1860, plans were made to extend the Nashville and Decatur Railroad south from Columbia over Dodson's Gap and down the valley one mile to the east. The railway was completed just before the Civil War. In the course of Civil War conflict, Old Lynnville was raided and burned by Federal troops under General William B. Dodge. After the war, many of the residents of Old Lynnville moved over the hill to the railway, and the town of New Lynnville or Lynnville Station had its beginning at this time. The Post Office moved to New Lynnville about 1865. Old Lynnville (Waco) declined and surrendered its charter; today Waco is a small village of about twenty homes.

Several buildings in the historic district date from this period following the relocation of the community. One of the first houses was built by W. J. Smith on Church Street (#19) in 1860; the small three-bay frame central-passage plan house features segmental arch windows with wooden hoods, external gable end chimneys, gable returns, and a rear ell. Other early houses include the C. M. Hamlin house (1860) on Main Street (#31), a cross-gable plan cottage distinguished by a long porch supported by bracketed posts accented by an intricate stickwork frieze; the Mitchell house (1860s) on Church Street (#14), a one-and-one-half story frame house with hipped roof, interior corbeled brick chimneys, and an integral shed porch, and the circa 1860 C. T. Reid house (# 33) on Main Street, an irregular frame house with canted corners, projecting gable pavilions, bay windows, and stickwork trim. Eight houses, the Presbyterian Church (#16), and four of the commercial buildings date from this first decade of the relocated town.

On February 14, 1907, an act was passed by the Tennessee General Assembly to incorporate (New) Lynnville. The officers of the town were (and remain) a board of mayor and five aldermen elected by the voters of the town. The first election was held the first Thursday in April 1909. C. Herbert Walker was elected the town's first mayor (salary \$60/year), the aldermen were C. T. Reid, R. W. Waldrop, W. M. Gilbreath, J. M. Bray, and C. B. Tate. A town marshal is elected by the council. In 1985 the town elected its first woman mayor, the Honorable Frances Hewitt.

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Lynnville Historic District

COMMERCE

(New) Lynnville grew up in a haphazard fashion around the diagonal crossing of the Nashville and Decatur Railroad (now CSX Transportation) and the Cornersville Turnpike. To supply the building of the town, there was a brickyard, two sawmills, a planing mill, a wood-working shop, a tin shop, and other facilities. A rock quarry on the northern edge of town provided excellent stone for buildings, pillars, chimneys, and steps; this same quarry supplied the stone for the construction of the Federal Arsenal at Columbia, Tennessee in the 1890s.

Four commercial buildings remain from the early settlement period of the new town of Lynnville. The McQuigg Brothers (#46) built circa 1860 exhibits an excellent cast iron storefront. The 1865 Witts and Bouie Mercantile Store (#45) has segmental arched windows and transom. Both the Witt Building (#36) built circa 1865 and the Witt Grocery Store (#44) built in 1865 have sawtooth pattern brick cornices and wood frame storefronts with recessed entries.

Between 1890 and 1900 several commercial establishments were built along Main Street facing the Decatur and Nashville Railway. Commercial buildings constructed during this time frame include the two-story brick C. T. Reid Store (#37) built circa 1890 with wood frame storefront with recessed entry and a transom of prismatic glass. The Ross & Boyd Dry Goods Store (#47) built circa 1895 is an excellent example of late nineteenth century commercial building with with ornamental brick cornice and an original wood and tin canopy. The Tate Store (#38) built circa 1900 is a one story building with a double wood frame storefront with diagonal batten bulkheads and bracket tin cornice.

Two of the commercial enterprises constructed during this period were built for Andrew Mitchell on Church Street, across the railway tracks from main Street. The circa 1890 Mitchell Building (#12) is a two story brick building with canted corner and segmental arch windows that houses the Lynnville Masonic Lodge on the second floor and various establishments on the first floor. The Andrew Mitchell Building (#11) built circa 1900 is a smaller two story brick building that also has segmental arch windows.

Merchants located in Lynnville during the late nineteenth century included: dry goods stores operated by Smith Brothers, George C. Tate, Wigstaff Brothers, and J. M. Walker; J. B. McCale, Shields Brothers, H. Thomas Heindman, and McIntosh, grocery stores; W. B. Pepper and Royster and

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Lynnville Historic District

Company, drug stores; Griffin Brothers Tin Shop; John Bouie, undertaker; J. W. Dickson Planning Mill; J. B. Bray, woodworker; and Thomas Fry and J. H. Lancaster, blacksmiths.

Merchants from the early twentieth century in Lynnville include: Frank McLaurin Tin Shop; J. P. Johnson, Knox Trigg, J. H. Griffin, W. W. Bray, and Witt, Mitchell & Gilbreath, groceries; C. T. Reid, Betts and Journey, dry goods; W. J. Richardson, H. M. Fleming, and Murphy Rivers Saddle and Harness and Lynnville Harness.

Financial institutions in Lynnville over the years have included: The Bank of Lynnville (#43), Union Bank, The Peoples Bank, Citizens Bank (#39), and First National Bank.

Lynnville had a number of early small factories and these included Lee Wiggs Coffin Shop, J. Buggs Tobacco Factory, Blow's Shoe Factory, and overall factory, and a millinery factory. After 1900, the Lynnville Roller Mills built by Chris McCord and later operated by E. E. Hall, Kraft Cheese Plant, a garment plant, an ice plant, a tomato cannery, a two-story hotel, Hickerson's Trailer Factory, and two firms which bought farm produce and hides.

For many years after the building of the railway Lynnville was the principal trade and shipping center for the northern part of Giles County. Cattle, mules, hogs, horses, poultry, eggs, grain, and cantaloupes were shipped by area farmers from Lynnville to other markets.

**ARCHITECTURE**

The district is one of the best collections of late nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial and residential structures in Giles County. The main commercial row along the railway is composed of fourteen one- and two-story brick store buildings, some dating as early as 1865 and most retaining their original form. These commercial structures are vernacular buildings featuring wood and glass storefronts, paneled bulkheads, wood and tin cornices, prismatic glass transoms, and occasionally segmental arch windows. One building, McQuigg Brothers (#46) on Main Street, has an ornate turn-of-the-century cast iron front, one of very few in Giles County. Other distinctive store buildings include the ca. 1890 Mitchell Building (#12) on Church Street, a large two-story brick corner building with canted corners, recessed entries, and a dogtooth cornice; the ca. 1865 Witts Building (#36) on Main Street, representative of a series of small one-story brick store buildings with frame storefronts and ribbed-glass transoms, recessed double-leaf entries, and decorative cornices; and the

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Lynnville Historic District

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ca. 1895 Pigg Store (Robert B. Jones Memorial Library and Museum, #42), also on Main, a narrow three-bay brick building with segmental arch windows at the front.

Residential structures mostly date from the years following construction of the railway. Most houses are of frame construction, one or two stories in height. A wide variety of housing styles are represented, including vernacular examples of the Queen Anne (#22), Eastlake (#s 17 & 33), and Italianate styles as well as a large number of vernacular houses and cottages, including a number of fine bungalows from the early part of this century. Some of the more interesting houses in the district include the C. T. Reid House (#33, ca. 1860) on Main Street, the old Jones School Dormitory (#22, ca. 1905) on Church, a late Victorian influence frame structure, the largest house in the community, of irregular plan and decorated with Eastlake trim, and the circa 1860 McCall House (#57) on Vine Street, built at about the time of the establishment of the town as a common cross-gable plan house of the period, with a canted gable bay end, corbeled interior brick chimneys, and a bracketed porch.

A number of the buildings from the 1890s and early 1900s are the work of a black carpenter named Hardy or Hardee, a Lynnville resident. His houses generally followed a modified saddlebag plan, with principal rooms to either side of a central chimney, with a small central entrance hall at the front and a passage to a rear shed or ell addition at the back. Four houses on Bugg Street (#s 4, 5, 6, and 7) are attributed to him, and other houses in the community are likely his work as well.

Lynnville's excellent collection of historic buildings reflects the architectural development of the community. The district contains the core of the community, with buildings from every decade of the town's development in a setting that largely retains its historical and architectural integrity.

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Lynnville Historic District

- A. 35° 22' 43" N. Latitude  
87° 00' 33" W. Longitude
- B. 35° 22' 42" N. Latitude  
87° 00' 18" W. Longitude
- C. 35° 22' 28" N. Latitude  
87° 00' 33" W. Longitude
- D. 35° 22' 38" N. Latitude  
87° 00' 17" W. Longitude

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is as follows: beginning at a point at the intersection of Church Street and Long Street, north along Church Street approximately 79' to a property line (south boundary of lot C-7); then east approximately 209' to a property line (east boundary lot C-7); then north approximately 570' to School Street; then east northeast along School 217' to a property line junction (east boundary of lot B-20); then north approximately 200' to Vine Street; then west along Vine approximately 260' to a property line junction (west boundary of lot B-3); then north approximately 148' to the Lynnville-Cornersville Turnpike; generally northwest along the Turnpike approximately 170' to Main Street; then northeast approximately 300' to Mill Street; then generally west approximately 270' to the westerly boundary of lot C-3; then southerly along the easterly boundary of lots C-2 and C-19 to the southerly boundary of lot C-19; then west approximately 143' to the east side of Walnut Street to the northwest corner of lot C-10 20'; then westerly approximately 250' to the west side of High Street; then north approximately 60' to the southeast corner of lot D-5.01; then approximately 163' west to the westerly boundary of lots D-5.01 and D-4 to the south side of Mill Street; then west along Mill Street approximately 338' to a property line (west boundary of lot D-2); then south approximately 860' generally along property lines to the north side of Main Street; then east along Main Street approximately 210'; then south approximately 270' to a property line (south boundary of lot A-6); then east approximately 190' to a property line (east boundary of lot A-7); then north approximately 45' to a property line (south boundary of lot A-8); then north approximately 140' generally east and north along the property lines of lots A-8, A-10, and A-11 to the CSX Railroad right-of-way (exclusive); then southeast approximately 90' to the north side of Church

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Street; then south 350'; then west approximately 260' to the easterly right-of-way of the CSX Railroad; then generally south and east along the right-of-way and property lines of lots C-19 and C-20 to the point of beginning. See tax map.

Boundary Justification

The Lynnville Historic District is centered along the main commercial row facing the CSX Railroad and the two principal historic neighborhoods, generally along Main Street to the west and Church Street to the south. Boundaries are drawn to follow fence lines, property lines, and streets. Intrusive properties and farm land are largely excluded. Several properties between Main and Church Streets have been excluded from the district. These properties, containing several non-contributing structures, occupy a gulch along the railway, are not generally visible from the streets in the district. The boundaries of the district are drawn to include sufficient land to provide an historic setting and to protect the integrity of the resources.