

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

**1. Name**

historic <sup>c</sup> The Jaeckel Hotel

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number 50 East Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Statesboro N/A vicinity of congressional district First - Ginn

state Georgia code 013 county Bulloch code 031

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. Horace Z. Smith

street & number P.O. Box 10, 314 Savannah Avenue

city, town Statesboro N/A vicinity of state Georgia 30458

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Bulloch County Courthouse

city, town Statesboro state Georgia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records None

city, town state

# 7. Description

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

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

### General Description

The Jaeckel Hotel, built in 1905, is a three-story structure built of terra cotta block with a brick veneer. The original plan as built was a "T" plan; three-bay wings flanking a projecting three-bay central block formed the front facade at the top of the "T", and a rear block set perpendicularly to this formed the shaft of the "T." The building faces East Main Street. The East Main Street facade has a one-story, Neoclassical porch across the face of the building. The entablature of the porch, consisting of a three-part architrave and dentils at the cornice, was supported by paired Ionic columns resting on a wooden landing; sometime after 1939, deterioration necessitated renovation. The columns were removed and shortened, and they now sit on a brick base which extends thirty inches from the porch floor. The capitals were removed at this time. The porch was originally wood but had deteriorated and was replaced with a cement porch. The wooden steps were also replaced. The first- and second-floor balustrades are missing from the building. From the central block at the second-floor level a pair of doors opened onto the roof of the front porch. This porch was roofed with canvas, so that it could be used as a roof garden in the summer. Above the third floor of the building is a band of brick dentils topped by a boxed cornice. Stone quoins are used to enrich the angles of the central block of the facade.

The double entrance doors are heart pine, the upper panels of which are glazed with beveled glass. Half-circle fluted pilasters separate the doors from beveled-glass sidelights, and over the door is an elliptical fanlight with radiating muntins.

A side porch of wood, accessible from the lobby, still exists on the east side of the building between the original building and a later addition.

The lobby, parlors, stairs, and original dining room are detailed in a Neoclassical manner. The public rooms have wainscoting with chair rails and pressed-tin ceilings. Two columns are in the lobby. The open passage from the lobby to the stairway and dining area is framed by an arched opening enriched with a bead-and-reel molding. The stairway itself is of wood, with turned newelposts at each landing.

The floors in the parlors and dining room are heart pine. The dining room floor has been covered with a vinyl floor covering but the original floor is intact underneath.

The dining room is a space thirty-two feet by thirty feet with unusually long windows down the entire length of both the east and west walls. The windows are approximately eight feet in height. Similar windows are found in

[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

Page 2

the front parlors. This gives plenty of light to a room that would normally be dark due to the porch on the east. The double doors are framed with Ionic pilasters topped by an architrave with dentil moldings.

A three-story rear addition was made to the hotel in 1935 to accommodate a greater need for more hotel space and quarters for those who operated the hotel. This addition was of simple brick veneer over wood-frame with floor levels marked by string courses of brick protruding slightly from the plane of the brick walls.

In 1939, an elevator was added next to the stairs for the purpose of modernizing the hotel for the guests' comfort. The elevator's construction cut into the area that had previously contained the front office.

#### The Drummers' Building

In 1910, the lot adjacent to the hotel on the west side was purchased, being twenty-nine feet, ten inches, in width and running southward a distance of 148 feet. On the rear of this property was constructed the Drummers' Building, a brick structure of compatible style with the hotel. The Drummers' Building consisted of three large display rooms for the traveling merchants to display their wares and ply their trade. The "drummers," or traveling merchants, were the life of trade in that day, and with the Jaeckel's proximity to the railroad depots, success was eminent. The Drummers' Building still stands, and today it has been altered into a storage structure.

#### Landscape

On the west side of the hotel originally was a formal landscaped garden filled with bulbs, annuals and perennials. Through this garden was access to the Drummers' Building. The other notable landscape feature of the Jaeckel Hotel is the front sidewalk. The sidewalk is constructed of hexagonal paving blocks and is the only such sidewalk still intact on East Main Street.

#### Setting

The population of Statesboro in 1890 was 525, and by 1900 was 1,150. In 1905, Statesboro consisted of a few buildings scattered along a small area radiating from

[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

Page 3

the center of town, the intersection of the two main streets. Interspersed between the places of business were residences and vacant lots. From the few stores, metal shed roofs extended over the sidewalks. Streets were dirt roads and in times of rainy weather were muddy. Stray cows sometimes wandered into the streets of downtown Statesboro. Travel was mostly by buggy and wagon.

At the turn of the century, Bulloch County was a rapidly developing agricultural center, producing one-tenth of the world's crop of sea-island cotton. Statesboro was the largest inland sea-island cotton market in the world. Also in dry goods, fertilizers, mules, buggies and wagons, Statesboro led markets of other counties in this part of the state.

At the time of the building of the Jaeckel, East Main Street had a few small retail stores, some residences, a wood-frame hotel building, a garage and law offices. East Vine Street, behind the Jaeckel, had two cotton-storage warehouses, a blacksmith shop, two stables and a seed-storage building. Immediately in front of the Jaeckel on East Main were two large residences; to the east of the Jaeckel was a wood-frame hotel and to the west was the open area that would serve as the garden. Beyond that was another residence.

Today, East Main Street is entirely commercial, consisting mostly of retail stores and offices. Immediately to the west of the garden area is a row of retail-store buildings. In front of the Jaeckel, across East Main Street, is an auto-body shop, a gun shop, a lot recently used as a used-car lot, a restaurant and the Goodwill Store. To the east of the Jaeckel is the office of a finance company and a large vacant building and warehouse formerly occupied by the Chevrolet agency. There are no residences in this area now.

#### Boundaries

The boundaries of the nominated property include most of the original lot purchased for the hotel in 1905 as well as the small lot adjoining to the west purchased for the 1910 Drummers' Building and landscaped garden. Not included is a small piece of the original hotel property to the rear, fronting on East Vine Street, which has been subdivided from the Jaeckel Hotel property and contains a modern office building. Also included in the boundaries is the sidewalk in front of the hotel and Drummers' Building property along the south side of East Main Street; this is the only section of sidewalk paved with turn-of-the-century hexagonal block remaining in the city, and forms a historic "forecourt" to the hotel.

#### Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in August, 1980 still provide an accurate view of the property. No significant changes have been made since this date.

# 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** 1905                      **Builder/Architect** A.J. Franklin/Julian deBruyn Kops

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Jaeckel Hotel is significant in terms of the architectural, commercial, and local history of Statesboro. Few historic buildings have touched the lives of so many people in this city as has the Jaeckel Hotel. For many years, it was the hub of social and commercial life in the community. Built in 1905, it was among the largest and most impressive buildings in the county seat, the boast of Statesboro, "the best hotel, with all modern improvements, to be found in any city of her size in this section of the state."

Architectural History

In terms of architectural history, the Jaeckel Hotel is significant as one of the largest and most impressive historic buildings in Statesboro. It stands as a local version of the turn-of-the-century "grand hotel," and it is the only surviving historic hotel from this era in the city. When built in 1905, its three-story height and brick walls stood in sharp contrast to the older, two-story wood-framed hotels in Statesboro. It reflected locally the increased use of brick and terra cotta in downtown commercial buildings throughout Georgia at this time. Its eclectic Neoclassical design was innovative for Statesboro, which had a tradition of late-Victorian design, and it complemented the new Neoclassical residences being built along the major streets in the city. Its utilities, including steam heat, electricity, and hot and cold running water, were the most modern in the county. The hotel was designed by Julian deBruyn Kops, a noted Savannah architect who was cited as one of the South's ten leading architects in the May 31, 1916, issue of the Industrial Index. It was built by A.J. Franklin, one of Statesboro's principal turn-of-the-century general contractors, who built numerous commercial, institutional, and residential structures in Statesboro. Franklin also ran a retail building supply store. The masonry was laid by J. Roy Blackburn, a local mason who is reported to have worked on approximately two-thirds of the commercial buildings in downtown Statesboro. The front columns of the hotel were turned by Vincent J. Fontaine, a prominent local craftsman.

Commercial History

In terms of commercial history, the Jaeckel Hotel is significant for having served as a center of commercial activity in Statesboro during the early-twentieth

[continued]

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED  
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .62 acre

Quadrangle name Statesboro, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

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4	2	6	5	5	0
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3	5	9	0	2	2	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary is described by a heavy black line on the attached "property/sketch" map and is justified in Section 7 of this form.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, architectural historian

organization Historic Preservation Section  
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources date December 17, 1980

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon

Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/21/82

### For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
Entered in the  
National Register

date 4/17/82

*for* Alvina Byers  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

century. It was built as the result of a self-conscious effort on the part of local business, political, and civic leaders to increase local commerce and trade at a time when the regional economy was growing dramatically, due primarily to the success of sea-island cotton production and railroad transportation. Numerous local interests organized the Statesboro Hotel Company early in 1905, and by the end of the year property had been purchased, local subscriptions raised, the building designed and built, and the hotel opened -- an extraordinary feat of business engineering, even for turn-of-the-century businessmen. The hotel was managed in a fine "European" manner by the experienced local hotelier Gustave Jaeckel. The hotel's location midway between the railroad depots to the east and the county courthouse to the west reflected its local and regional commercial role -- the railroads brought in out-of-town business, while the courthouse square served as the center for local commerce. By 1910, traveling salesmen (or "drummers," as they were called) had increased so dramatically that the Jaeckel Hotel management built a separate facility specially designed to store and display goods; this facility, still known as the Drummers' Building, survives toward the rear of the hotel property. By the mid-1930s, hotel business in general had expanded to such a degree that additional hotel space was warranted, and in 1935 an addition was made to the rear of the hotel. Throughout the early-twentieth century, in addition to promoting local commerce and trade, the Jaeckel Hotel itself was a major local business that contributed significantly to the economic life of downtown Statesboro.

Local History

In terms of local history, the Jaeckel Hotel is significant for having served as the center of local social life during the early-twentieth century. Important balls, conventions, receptions, and reunions were periodically catered at the Jaeckel. Weekly meetings of local associations such as the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Civic Garden Club were held in rooms at the hotel. Less obvious, but equally important to the social life of Statesboro, were traditional Sunday dinners in the Jaeckel's fine dining room, evening card games in its lobby, and casual conversations from rocking chairs on its front porch. Among the notable individuals to have stayed at the Jaeckel Hotel were William Jennings Bryan (1911), Cornelius Vanderbilt (1935) and Henry Ford (1930s).

Preservation Interest

The Jaeckel -- a hope for Statesboro's future -- could be the spark that revitalizes downtown Statesboro. Mr. Horace Smith, the present owner of the Jaeckel,

[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

Page 3

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intends to restore the facade and the first floor to its original appearance and reestablish the formal garden on the west side. It is anticipated that the Drummers' Building will be used for either shops, offices or public exhibits. A new use for the upper two floors must be studied further. Uses being considered are housing for the elderly; studies have shown Statesboro is in need of 1,500 elderly housing units. Offices are an alternative, the building being so close to the county courthouse. Apartments are also being considered. The first-floor kitchen and dining room are still in existence and the feasibility of returning them to operation is being studied.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**  
**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

## BOOKS

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- Martin, Thomas H. Atlanta and Its Builders, Vol. II. Atlanta: Century Memorial Publishing Co., 1902.
- McCullar, Bernice. This Is Your Georgia. Montgomery: Viewpoint Publications, Inc., 1972.
- Coleman, Leodel, and G.C. Coleman, Jr. (Eds.). Statesboro...1866-1966...A Century of Progress. Statesboro, Ga.: Bulloch Herald Publishing Co., 1969.

## PERIODICALS

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- "A Deadlock," Statesboro News, August 24, 1906.
- "Added Rooms for Jaeckel Hotel," Bulloch Times, July 30, 1936.
- "At Jaeckel Hotel," Statesboro News, March 11, 1911.
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- "A \$25,000 Hotel," Bulloch Times, March 11, 1905.
- "Ball a Brilliant Affair," Statesboro News, March 11, 1911.
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- "Congressional Convention Now in Session," Statesboro News, August 31, 1906.
- "Distinguished Visitor Among Us," Bulloch Times, March 9, 1939.
- "Distinguished Visitors Spend Night at Jaeckel," Bulloch Times, March 14, 1935.
- Editor's File, Statesboro News, Bulloch Times, Bulloch Herald, from Pamphlet File under "Jaeckel Hotel," Statesboro Regional Library.

[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

Continuation sheet

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Item number 9

Page 3

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- "Fight News Eagerly Received in Statesboro," Bulloch Times, July 6, 1910.
- "For a 'Statesboro Spirit'; More Than Hundred Public-Spirited Citizens Respond to Mayor's Call," Bulloch Times, May 11, 1905.
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- "Important Persons Spent Last Night in Statesboro," Bulloch Times, December 3, 1925.
- "Jaeckel Arrives as Manager of the Screven," Statesboro News, March 9, 1909.
- "Jaeckel Hotel Changes Hands," Bulloch Times, March 16, 1939.
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[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

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Item number 9

Page 4

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"The Drummers," Statesboro News, November 29, 1901.

"The Statesboro Hotel Organizes for Business," Statesboro News, May 5, 1905.

"202 Ballots and No Nomination; After Fruitless Balloting for Three Days the Con-  
vention Takes Adjournment Until Thursday Morning," Statesboro News, September  
4, 1906.

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INTERVIEWS

Anderson, Mrs. Lee Franklin, June 4, 1980

Averitt, Dr. Jack N., June 21, 1980

Averitt, Mrs. Percy, June 4, 1980

Benson, Mr. Robert M., June 11, 1980 (Mr. Benson's uncle was B.B. Sorrier, who was  
instrumental in organizing the Statesboro Hotel Company in 1905. Mr. Benson  
loaned the 1922 map of Statesboro for copy.)

Blackburn, Mr. J. Carl, June 17, 1980

Bland, Mr. and Mrs. Dan (Catherine), June 3, 1980

Brannen, Ms. Dorothy, June 10, 1980

Brannen, Mrs. Julian, June 12, 1980

[continued]

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 5

Franklin, Mr. Paul G., Jr., June 14, 1980 (Mr. Franklin's father purchased the Dr. Sam Crouch house, on adjacent lot west of Jaeckel Hotel.)

Johnson, Mrs. Naomi, June 26, 1980

Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. George M. June 23, 1980

McDougald, Mrs. Walter (Isabel), June 26, 1980

Lamb, Mrs. B.P. (Martha Kate), June 10, 1980

O-liff, Mrs. C.P., June 6, 1980

Porritt, Mrs. Mamie Hall, June 26, 1980 (Mrs. Porritt was born in the house owned by Mrs. Enoch Smith, two lots east of the Jaeckel Hotel.)

Williams, Mrs. J.C., June 15, 1980

OTHER

Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. Robert. Draft of National Register Inventory-Nomination form, "The Jaeckel Hotel," June 30, 1980.

