

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

1. Name: Newnan Commercial Historic District
2. Location: In downtown Newnan, Coweta County, Georgia, an area generally bounded by Madison and Lee Streets to the north, Perry Street to the east, Spring Street and Salbide Avenue to the south, and Brown Street to the west.
  - 3a. Description: The Newnan Commercial Historic District is the historic downtown business district of Newnan and includes a commercial core of nine square blocks with central courthouse square and intact historic buildings in surrounding blocks. The majority of commercial buildings in the district are one- and two-story, attached, brick buildings constructed during the late-19th- and early 20th-centuries. Many of these buildings have elaborate brick, stone, pressed-metal, terra-cotta, and cast-iron details. The 1904 Neoclassical Revival courthouse dominates the commercial area. Other landmark buildings include the 1939 Municipal Building, the 1903 former Carnegie Library, and the former Virginia House Hotel built in 1868. A small, historically black commercial row, three churches, two historic service stations, a cotton warehouse, and other freestanding commercial buildings are also located in the district. Noncontributing buildings include both post-1939 construction and historic buildings that have been extensively altered.
  - 3b. Dates of Development: 1828-1939 (50-year cut-off)
  - 3c. Acreage: Approximately 25 acres.
  - 3d. Boundary Explanation: The proposed boundary includes the intact historic development in Newnan's central business district.
  - 4a. National Register Criteria: A and C.
  - 4b. National Register Areas of Significance: Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Politics/Government.
  - 4c. Statement of Significance: The Newnan Commercial Historic District is significant as the historic commercial center of the small, west-central Georgia city of Newnan. The district is significant in the area of architecture for its intact collection of a variety of downtown buildings including attached commercial buildings, many with fine details in a variety of materials; landmark buildings such as the courthouse, former library, and municipal building; and three large churches. A number of these buildings are the work of architects R. Kennon Perry, Butts and Morris, J. W. Golucke, and Rev. Charles M. Lipham. Stylistic influences represented include Italianate, Victorian Commercial, Academic Gothic Revival, and Neoclassical Revival. In the area of commerce, the district is significant as the historic downtown business district that served Newnan and the surrounding county. The district is significant in community planning and development as the intact central area of the 1828 county-seat town plan. The town's grid plan provided a business district of nine square blocks with central courthouse square and additional commercial blocks surrounding this core. In the area of politics/government, the district is significant for the presence of county and city government represented by the courthouse and the municipal building.
  - 4d. Suggested Level of Significance: Local.
  - 4e. National Register Status: The proposed district has been given preliminary certification by the National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office in conjunction with certified rehabilitation projects.
5. Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by the Newnan Main Street Program. Nomination materials were prepared by a consultant.