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

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state	Missouri co	ode 029 (county Pike		code	163
3. Clas	sification					
Category _x_ district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered x N/A	Status _x occupied _x unoccupied work in pro Accessible yes: restric yes: unrest no	gress educa enter ted gover	ulture nercial ational tainment mment ttrial	museum park private re religious scientific transport other:	:
street & number					,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
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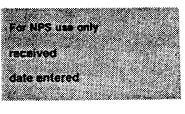
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Georgia Street Continuation sheet Historic District

- Item number Item 4
 - 4

- Masonic Temple
 621 Georgia Street
 Louisiana, Missouri
- Ramon and Patricia Duckworth 1304 S. Carolina Street Louisiana, Missouri
- Ed and Debbie Johnson Route 1 Louisiana, Missouri
- 4. Randall and Anne DeVerger Louisiana, Missouri
- Fowler Lumber Company Otis Fowler (owner) 601 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- I.O.O.F. Lodge
 521 Georgia Street
 Louisiana, Missouri
- 7. (see #6)
- 8. Charles and Wanda Moesch Clarksville, Missouri
- Peggy R. Camara 1801 Marion Street Louisiana, Missouri
- I.H. and Marie Miller
 201 Dolveare Street
 Louisiana, Missouri
- Davis Benning c/o Pat Benning 10947 Manchester Road St. Louis, Missouri
- 12. Elmer and Elizabeth Asquith 119 North 18th Street Louisiana, Missouri

- 13. Leonard E. Murta 3232 Fleet Street St. Charles, Missouri and Donald W. Flansburg Route #2 Louisiana, Missouri
- 14. Eugene and Jessie Sizemore 1115 Tennessee Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 15. (see #14)
- Harold Tully
 715 River Ridge
 Louisiana, Missouri
- Robert Waggoner
 622 N. Carolina Street
 Louisiana, Missouri
- 18. Edgar Strother 401 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 19. Louisiana Plumbing and Heating Inc. 116 North Fourth Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 20. Commerce Bank of Louisiana 101 South Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 21. Charles and Mary Brown 121 North Fourth Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 22. Edward and Gail Branstetter c/o Mercantile Bank 222 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- Andrew and Joyce Graham 420 North Third Street Louisiana, Missouri



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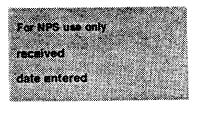
Georgia Street Continuation sheet Historic District

- Item number Item 4
- 33. Ruby Hotz c/o Marie Burton 2117 Lillian Drive Louisiana, Missouri
- 34. Mark Morris 1413 Tennessee Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 35. (see #34)
- 36. Ellen Abrams c/o Pauline Stein 40 North Kings Highway St. Louis, Missouri 63108
- 37. Charles Pitney 804 N. Carolina Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 38. Carpenter's Union Local #1008 214 1/2 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 39. Mercantile Bank 222 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 40. (see #39)
- 41. Press-Journal Publ. Co. 112 South Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 42. James Rittenbaum, Gilbert Haigler, and Virginia Holmes 123 South Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 43. Louisiana Properties Inc. c/o James Rittenbaum
 123 South Third Street
 Louisiana, Missouri

24. Le Airways Inc. c/o Ed Hoaglin P.O. box 207 Pittsfield, Illinois 62363

- 25. Raymond and Eugenia Lovell 801 River Ridge Louisiana, Missouri
- 26. Pat, William, Michael, and Tim Sheehan c/o Ann Kelly 503 North Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 27. Wanella Maly 112 Margaret Street Louisiana, Missouri
- Best Buy Pharmacy Inc.
 309 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- Haley Insurance and Real Estate Inc.
 305 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 30. Lowell and Ruth Denny 625 North Euclid Box 509 A St. Louis, Missouri 63166
- 31. Allison and Helen Dewey 814 Frankford Road Louisiana, Missouri
- 32. Margaret Rose Sheehan c/o Ann Keller 503 North Third Street Louisiana, Missouri

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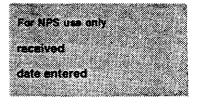
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- 44. Thomas Cashman 113 1/2 South Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 45. Phillip and Andrea Smith 215 North Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 46. Commerce Bank of Louisiana 101 South Third Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 47. (see #46)
- 48. Fry Farms Inc. c/o James Fry 1612 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 49. Eugenia Lovellc/o Shirley Shop310 Georgia StreetLouisiana, Missouri
- 50. Raymond Lovell 801 River Ridge Road Louisiana, Missouri
- 51. Frieda Sisson 314 1/2 Louisiana, Missouri
- 52. Charles and Betty Pitney 804 N. Carolina Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 53. Thomas and Martha Gates 302 Forrest Hill Drive Louisiana, Missouri
- 54. Troy and Yetta Harness Skyline Drive Louisiana, Missouri

- 55. William Erickson 406 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 56. Perry Rosenberg Route 1 Frankford, Missouri 63441
- 57. William Rottman McCarthy's Trailer Court Louisiana, Missouri
- 58. Eugene Sizemore 1115 Tennessee Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 59. Clark Louisiana Tire Repair 500 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 60. Post Office 522 Georgia Street Louisiana, Missouri
- 61. Lesley's Printing Co. 306 North 30th Street Louisiana, Missouri



Item number Item 4

Item 4

Description

Condition

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Check one <u>___x</u> original site

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Georgia Street Historic District contains sixty-one buildings, seven of which are non-contributing. Most front Georgia street with a smaller number on adjacent Third and Fourth streets. Georgia street runs from the wharf on the Mississippi River and continues westward through the central business district and into the prestigious residential neighborhood of the primary east-west focus street which upon leaving the city limits continues as the sole westward leading road towards the interior of the state. The central business district, the core of the district, presents a unified streetscape of two- and three-story brick commercial buildings built to the sidewalk and with party wall construction. Eighty-five percent of the buildings in the district are attached commercial buildings, ten percent are detached commercial buildings and five percent are detached institutional buildings [a Masonic Temple and a Federal Post Office]--there is a single dwelling. Of the fifty-four contributing historic buildings eight are designed in a Greek Revival style; thirty-six in the Italianate style, and ten in Revival styles.

From the era of World War II to the present, the business district has shrunk considerably leaving empty buildings to decay and then be torn down. Not one single building survives on the waterfront from the nineteenth century, for example. Between the east edge of the district and the wharf are entire blocks swept free of their historic commercial buildings. The few that remain are in such a bad state of repair that they will almost certainly be torn down in the near future. The core of the district is unfortunately composed of many vacant and underused buildings many of which need substantial repair. As in most central business districts in this country the first-story storefronts have suffered a mixed fate, most having been remodeled at one time or other. However, many of those in the Georgia Street Historic District have suffered less than might be expected with minor rather than major alteration. The second story and cornices define the district and remain largely intact though there are three buildings in the district which have lost original projecting metal cornices.

GREEK REVIVAL circa 1845-1870

This group is represented by a relatively small number of buildings (8). Six are brick with party wall construction and are three stories in height. Four have flat parapets with corbeled cornices and two have street facing gable roof plans (photos 12 and 14). Facades are strictly symmetrical at the second- and third-story level. Strongly characteristic of the commercial Greek Revival are the flat lintels of stone or wood found on four examples, or the triangular pedimented cast-iron lintels found on the other four buildings (see photo 10). All but one of the Greek Revival commercial buildings have altered storefronts--generally the addition of a supporting steel beam to allow greater storefront window space popular in the late nineteenth century. Three of the Greek Revival buildings have had additions of second-story oriel windows, sometimes rather incongruously placed (photo 12), another popular feature of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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Two buildings of the Greek Revival style fall outside of the norm described above. The first is the earliest building of the district constructed of coursed stone (photo 14) with dressed quoins, and preserving the first story with four half-round arched entry bays. The original gable-shaped roof was altered at a later date with the addition of a parapet wall and projecting cornice. The second Greek Revival building is the single dwelling within the district (photo 2). It is brick, two-story, endgabled, and detached with a center-hall plan and rear service ell. The original two-story classical porch has been removed, replaced with a Queen Anne porch.

ITALIANATE--early mode circa 1870-1885

Eight commercial buildings are built in an early Italianate mode. All are attached and built of brick with six two-story, and two three-story examples. The early mode of the Italianate has the corbeled brick cornice (photo 19) typical of the earlier Greek Revival, and symmetrical fenestration characteristic of all periods. Typically the windows have segmental arches (on five examples) sometimes unadorned, but often slightly projected and otherwise accented as a design feature such as with the bordered keystone visible on photo #19. There are three examples of half-round arches, two of which combine the segmental arch with the half-round arch to visibly accent the different story levels (photo 17).

ITALIANATE--late mode circa 1880-1915

With 30 examples the commercial Italianate style, in its late mode, is by far the more numerous. Virtually all are attached party wall constructed. All are brick and all but five are two-story with four three-story, and one four-story examples. The striking characteristic of the commercial Italianate in its late mode is the flat parapet with projecting pressed metal cornice (photos 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21). A few of the cornice parapets have center steps with the construction date and name of the builder embossed on pressed metal (photos 3, 5). Pressed metal brackets, sometimes with modillions, support a molded and often embossed fascia. Frequently building corners are accented with oversized end block brackets (photos 8, 13, 19). All have an embossed frieze of pressed metal. Elaborate brick corbelling is common beneath the pressed metal cornice (photos 3, 7, 4, 8). A few of the buildings have entire pressed metal curtain wall facades beneath the cornice (photo 5, and the second and third buildings from the right in photo 9). Often, as that visible in photo #5, the embossed pressed metal is heavily decorated with pilastered second-story window surrounds, rosettes, and other design features. Photo #11 is a more simplified later example eschewing ornament for larger window bays. The more common brick facade commercial Italianate buildings have elaborate metal window hoods, another prominent feature of the style (photos 3, 7, 8). The entablatured hoods are lobed with geometric conceived architraves of arches and triangular forms, always with an exuberance of embossed decoration.

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At the turn of the century second-story projecting chamfered three-sided oriel windows became a popular design feature, sometimes the dominant facade element (photo 13) or part of the overall pattern of fenestration (photo 5). All of the storefronts have hidden steel beams over the storefront generally covered with an embossed or moulded string course (photos 7, 13). Storefronts are divided into different glass bays by either cast iron column supports (photo 7), or brick pillars (photo 13) sometimes with attached cast iron pilasters (photo 3).

REVIVAL STYLES circa 1905-1935

Of the Revival style the Neo-Classical, with five examples is by far the most common (photo 23). All are brick, two-story buildings topped by a parapet with characteristic posts and cap above projecting terra cotta (three examples) or stone (two examples) cornices. The terra cotta cornices are moulded and have modillion blocks. Pilasters of brick (photo 16) or stone facing separate the facade into clearly articulated bays. Window treatment is simple relative to their Italianate neighbors. Sometimes stone banding is used to highlight window lintels and sills (photo 16). There is a single freestanding Revival building designed as a copy of a Greek temple with Ionic capitaled pillars and pedimented porch (photo 1). A two-story brick commercial building echoes the popular Spanish Mission Revival style with pent roofs, patterned parapet, and soft brown hued brick facing.

OTHER

The movie palace building (photo 22) was remodeled and given an Art Deco geometrically formed facade with a liberal use of two-toned carrara glass.

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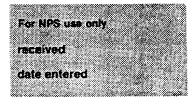
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Properties in the district are as follows:

- Masonic Temple, 621 Georgia: As far as is known this is one of the two architect designed buildings in the Georgia street district. Built in 1910 designed by St. Louis architect, A.B. Grover. This is an imposing temple front classical revival building with Ionic capitals and fluted columns at the porch with a fully pedimented gable above. The brick rectangle shaped building is in a perfect state of preservation.
- 2. 615 Georgia: This is the only surviving residential building in the district. It dates to ca. 1855. Brick constructed, rectangle shaped with a two-story ell, five symmetrical bays at either story, center bay entry, and a late 19th century Queen Anne era porch.
- 3. 613 Georgia: The one-story stucco over frame and patterned parapet wall dates to ca. 1920. Behind the facade is a frame one-story building which dates to ca. 1890.
- 4. 607 Georgia: Ca. 1950 one-story brick commercial building. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 5. 601 Georgia: Ca. 1885 two-story brick commercial building. The first story has been completely altered and the second story is hidden behind a modern metal sheathing. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 6. 521 Georgia: Built in 1890 with an Odd Fellows lodge on the second floor and two commercial spaces in the first story. Pressed metal bracketed cornice, second story window hoods, moulded press metal string course over the first story cast iron column supports. There is elaborate brick corbeling above the second story windows. The storefronts are essentially unaltered.
- 7. 519 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building constructed ca. 1890-1895. The entire facade is covered with pressed metal topped by an ornate projecting metal bracketed cornice. The first story storefront with cast iron pilasters has had only minor alterations.
- 8. 517 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890. Brick corbeling at the cornice and projecting brick window hoods at the second story with a moulded pressed metal string course above the first story. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 9. 515 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890-1895 with two storefronts. The wall surface of the second story is entirely covered with pressed metal topped by a projecting metal bracketed cornice. The pressed metal string course over the first story is intact. The left hand storefront has been extensively altered while the right hand storefront has had few changes with the original cast iron pilasters in place.

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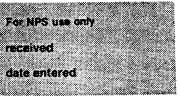
- 10. 513 Georgia: Two-story brick commercial building built ca. 1950. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 11. 505-511 Georgia: Two-story brick commercial building built in 1891 with four separate storefronts. The wall surface of the second story is covered entirely with pressed metal with chamfered three-sided oriel windows above the first and fourth storefronts. Above the second story is a projecting bracketed metal cornice in the Italianate style. The first-story storefronts have had few alterations.
- 12. 501-503 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880 with two storefronts. Simple five-bay second-story fenestration with no ornamentation. Above is a recessed brick frieze and bracketed pressed metal cornice. The first-story pressed metal string course is intact and the first-story storefront has had only minor changes. The second storefront was completely changed ca. 1935 as the corner was turned into a drive-through service station leaving the corner brick pillar standing.
- 13. 417 Georgia: Two-story brick commercial building built ca. 1950. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 14. 411-415 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1895 with three storefronts. Above the entrace of each storefront is a three-sided chamfered oriel window between which are two window bays with one-half-round window arches. There is a bracketed press metal cornice. The projecting and wide press metal string course over the first story is decorated with swags, brackets and dentil pattern. Each of the flanking storefronts have had minor alterations, and the middle three-bay storefront has been extensively altered.
- 15. 409 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890-1895 with two uneven-sized storefronts. The second-story windows have elaborate projecting metal hoods above which is a well executed brick corbeling topped by a projecting bracketed press metal cornice. The firststory metal string course is intact as are the cast iron column supports. The storefronts are virtually intact.
- 16. 405 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880, with elaborate projecting metal window hoods above which is a well executed brick corbeling topped by a highly decorative press metal cornice with brackets and a broad frieze. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 17. 403 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880 as a twin to its neighbor to the west. The only difference is a slightly different projecting metal window hood over the second-story window openings. The storefront is covered with a ca. 1930 sheathing of carrara glass.

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- 18. 401 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880 with eleborate projecting metal window hoods above which is a brick corbeling topped by a projecting press metal cornice. The press metal string course over the first story is intact though the storefront has been extensively altered.
- 19. 112-116 North 4th: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1910 with two storefronts above which are chamfered three-sided projecting oriel windows. The building is topped with a pressed metal cornice with bracketing. The metal string course over the storefronts is intact, and the storefronts have had only minor alterations.
- 20. 120 North 4th: One-story brick commercial building built ca. 1925 as a lumber retail and storage building. The simple window and door arrangement of the facade is intact rising to a patterned parapet wall with tile coping.
- 21. 121 North 4th: Two-story brick commercial building built in several stages beginning ca. 1885 and receiving the present integrated facade ca. 1895 with a long twelve-bay second-story facade fenestration. The building was used as a foundry and machine shop gradually added to, over time. The first-story storefront was added ca. 1935-1940.
- --North 4th: One-story brick commercial building built ca. 1905 and added to ca. 1950. The earlier building has been extensively altered. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 23. 323 Georgia: Three-story brick Greek Revival style building built ca. 1860. Simple three-bay fenestration at the second-and third-story levels with triangular iron lintels and moulded iron sills with a brick corbeled cornice. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 24. 321 Georgia: Three-story brick Greek Revival style commercial building built ca. 1860 within a short time after its neighbor to the west. The fenestration, and lintels match as does the brick corbeled cornice. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 25. 319 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880. The brick is covered with a concrete stucco applied at the same time the original metal cornice was removed. The center bay of the second story is a projecting chamfered three-sided oriel window. The wide pressed metal string course above the storefront is intact as are the cast iron pilasters. The storefront itself has been altered to a minor extent.
- 26. 313-317 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built



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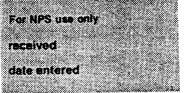
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in 1885-1886 with two storefronts. There are elaborate projecting metal window hoods above which is a brick corbel. The building is capped with a projecting pressed metal bracketed cornice. The dentilled pressed metal string course over the first story is intact. The storefronts have been extensively altered.

- 27. 311 Georgia: Three-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1870-1875. The three-bay second-and third-story fenestration is differentiated with half-round arches at the second story and segmental arches at the third story. Projecting brick hoods at the windows with a corbeled brick cornice above. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 28. 307-309 Georgia: Four-story brick Italianate variant style commercial building built ca. 1910-1915. The wide and tall five-bay fenestration with narrow pilasters reflects the influence of contemporary commercial curtain wall construction of high rise urban design. Above the window bays is a projecting pressed metal bracketed cornice. Separating each story is a narrow projecting pressed metal string course. The storefront has been only slightly altered.
- 29. 305 Georgia: Two-story brick simplified Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880, but with the facade totally rebuilt at the same time as the building to the west was erected ca. 1910-1915, with the same pressed metal moulded string coursing between the storiesalso used as a simple cornice to the building. The storefront has been altered.
- 30. 301 Georgia: Three-story Greek Revival style commercial building built ca. 1855 with two storefronts. Low pitch gable roof with a brick corbeled cornice. The window bays have wood lintels. The first two bays of the second story are covered with a three-sided chamfered oriel window probably dating to ca. 1890, perhaps the same time the two storefronts were rebuilt with iron beams and cast-iron columns between storefront bays. There is a press metal string course covering the support beam over the storefronts. The storefronts have been extensively altered.
- 31. 108 North Third: Three-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1910. Each of the two bays at the second and third stories carries a three -sided chamfered -shape projecting oriel window. Above is a projecting press metal cornice with bracketing. The simple storefront under the iron beam remains essentially unaltered.
- 32. 112-114 North Third: Four-story crudely coursed stone industrial building built ca. 1845-1850. Smooth dressed quoins at the facade corners. Stone lintels. Symmetrical four-bay facade at the first three stories. The first story has four-door bays with half-round arches and keystone. The building was



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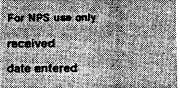
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originally gable-roofed, but ca. 1910 the gable roof was built up to a parapet wall and a projecting pressed metal cornice added. Initially the building was a steam flouring mill, later a tobacco factory and in the early part of this century a wholesale grocery warehouse with lodgehalls and armory on the upper floors. The building is in an excellent state of integrity.

- 33. 221 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890-1895. Ornamental projecting metal window hoods with brick corbeling and topped by an elaborate pressed metal bracketed cornice. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 34. 219 Georgia: Three-story brick Greek Revival style commercial building built ca. 1860. Symmetrical three-bay fenestration with iron triangular pedimented lintels and sills. Corbeled brick cornice. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 35. 217 Georgia: Three-story brick commercial building built ca. 1860 with the entire facade rebuilt ca. 1960. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 36. 215 Georgia: Three-story brick Greek Revival style commercial building built ca. 1860 with iron triangular pedimented lintels and symmetrical three bay fenestration. The first-story storefront has been extensively altered and the brick cornice has been rebuilt.
- 37. 213 Georgia: Two-story brick Neo-classical style commercial building built ca. 1905. There is a broad projecting entablature of pressed metal above which is a parapet wall with pedestals and moulded terra cotta coping. Above the six-bay second-story fenestration is a broad terra cotta frieze with applied terra cotta floriate elements and window surrounds. The first-story storefront has been extensively altered.
 - 38. 212-214 Georgia: Two-story brick Italinate style commercial building built ca. 1875-1880 with two storefronts. Elaborate projecting metal window hoods. brick corbeling and projecting pressed metal bracketed cornice. The storefronts with their broad transoms of 'luxfer' glass dates to ca. 1910 and remains substantially intact.
 - 39. 216 Georgia: Three-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1870-1880. Four-bay fenestration with half-round arches at the openings. The cornice is corbeled brick. The pressed metal string course above the first story is intact and the cast iron corners of the storefront remain though the rest of the storefront is altered.
 - 40. 218-222 Georgia: Two-story brick Neo-classical style brick bank building



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built in 1923. Brick pilasters paired at the corners separate the bays with cast concrete detailing with a broad architrave and frieze topped by a cornice above which is a crest parapet wall with coffered pedestals. The main entry has a console supported architrave and swag decorated frieze. All window openings have modern glass.

- 41. 114-116 South Third: Two-story brick Neo-classical style commercial building built ca. 1900-1902 as the Louisiana Press-Journal office and press. Brick parapet wall above a terra cotta cornice with modillions below which is a terra cotta moulded string course and brick corbeling. Rock faced stone string courses define lintels and sills at the second-story fenestration. The center bay projects slightly at the first story with half-round stone arch and a recessed entry. The facade is unaltered.
- 42. 119-125 South Third: Two-story brick Italianate style building constructed in 1885 as a hotel and salesman sample room. This is the last surviving 19th century first class hotel in Louisiana. Projecting center bay with moulded stucco pilasters supporting an entablature between stories. Tripartite window with half-round brick arch and decorative iron pilasters flanked by smaller half-round windows at the second story. Brick corbeled cornice. The first story bays with broad segmental brick arches have had only minor alterations.
- 43. 115-117 South Third: Three-story brick Greek Revival commercial building with two storefronts built ca. 1855-1860. Restrained brick corbeled cornice typical of the earlier brick commercial building in the district. The first bay of the second story is a chamfered three-sided oriel window added ca. 1890 at which time the facade was covered with a concrete stucco and the storefronts modernized with beam supports and glass storefront bays. The first storefront still has its rope-turned cast-iron columns. The second storefront has been extensively altered.
- 44. 113 South Third: Three-story Greek Revival style commercial building built ca. 1855-1860. Three-bay fenestration at second and third stories. The third story has its original six-over-six light sash. Windows have flat brick arches. Corbeled brick cornice copied by contemporary building to the south. Center bay of the second story is a three-sided chamfered oriel window over an iron beam with rosettes and with pilastered storefront--all added ca. 1890. The storefront is substantially intact.
- 45. 111 South Third: Three-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1870 with a corbeled brick cornice, projecting segmental arched windows with keystone and the original four-over-four light sash. Circa 1890 an iron beam with pressed metal string course was placed over the storefront leaving

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brick column supports. The storefront remains intact.

- 46. 107-109 South Third: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880 with two storefronts. The metal cornice is missing. Well executed brick corbelling above the seven-bay second-story fenestration each with segmental arched opening. The storefronts have been completely altered.
- 47. 101 South Third: Two-story brick Neo-classical style bank building completed in 1923. Fluted cast concrete pilasters separate the bays and support a broad architrave and frieze with dentiled cornice above which is a simple parapet wall. The moulded entry surround has a projecting cornice topped by a pedestal with decorative scrolled volutes. Windows have modern glass replacements.
- 48. 304 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1880 as two storefronts. Elaborate triangular pedimented metal window hoods and a projecting pressed metal bracketed cornice. Moulded string course above the storefronts is intact, though the storefronts have been completely altered.
- 49. 310 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1905 with ornate projecting bracketed pressed metal cornice and projecting metal window hoods. The moulded string course over the storefront is original. The storefront was remodeled ca. 1935 with a sheathing of carrara glass.
- 50. 312 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890-1895 with ornate projecting pressed metal and bracketed cornice and decorative projecting metal window hoods, and an original projecting metal bracketed string course above an altered storefront.
- 51. 314-316 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1896-1902 as two storefronts with a projecting pressed metal cornice above a brick corbel pattern. There are three bays at the second story with a paired center window with decorative metal lintels. The first and third bays are chamfered three-sided oriel windows. The storefront has been extensively altered.
- 52. 318 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890-1895 with projecting pressed metal bracketed cornice above a corbeled brick pattern. Three-bay second-story fenestration with ornate projecting metal window hoods. Cast iron corner pilasters at the first story are intact though the rest of the storefront has been altered.

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- 53. 320 Georgia: Two story brick movie theater in Art Deco style with the original neo-marquee and two-toned carrara glass sheathing at the first story. The wall rises to a patterned parapet with case concrete coping. The building is actually much older constructed as a music store and opera house between 1890 and 1895. The Art Deco facade dates to ca. 1935.
- 54. 400-402 Georgia: One-story brick Italianate style commercial building built ca. 1890 as two storefronts with a wooden projecting cornice and brick pillars supported the iron beams over the storefronts. The simple storefronts are essentially intact.
- 55. 406 Georgia: Two-story brick commercial building built ca. 1880 as a dwelling and cobbler shop. The entire facade was remodeled ca. 1900 with concrete lintels added over the voids.
- 56. 408 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building constructed ca.1880 as a 2nd class hotel and saloon. Brick corbeled cornice. Pressed metal string course over iron support beam on brick pillars. The first story has had only slight alterations.
- 57. 414 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style building constructed ca. 1880 and used as city hall in the decade of the 1880s, used later as a buggy manufactory. The original pressed metal cornice is missing below which is a dentiled and corbeled brick pattern above the five-bay window openings of the second story with segmental shaped brick arches. The first story storefront has been extensively altered.
- 58. 418-422 Georgia: Two-story brick commercial buildings in a Spanish Mission Revival style built ca. 1935 reusing part of the brick walls of an earlier building gutted by fire in 1930. The facade rises to a pedestaled parapet with an ogee-shaped center section with scrolled cast concrete coping. The flanking bays -- separated by brick pilasters -- have ceramic tile pent roofs supported on false through joists. The storefront was modernized ca. 1950.
- 59. 500 Georgia: Ca. 1960 one-story brick and glass gas station. NON-CONTRIBUTING.
- 60. 522 Georgia: Single story brick post office in the Neo-classical style built in 1905 and designed by architect Raymond Lavercombe. Parapet wall with heavily accented smooth stone faced pedestals above a projecting stone moulded and dentiled cornice with a broad frieze and architrave supported on brick pilasters which separate the center three bays. Flanking first and fourth bays are actually slight projecting wings. Entry in center bay with Greek key moulded surround, dentil cornice and three part transom. All openings have segmental shaped brick arches with keystones. The single story is

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raised well above the street level over a tall stone faced cellar. With the exception of a handicap access ramp on the facade, the building is intact.

61. 600-610 Georgia: Two-story brick Italianate style commercial building built in several stages in the late nineteenth century and with the integrated facade dating to 1920. Simple dentil brick cornice with brick paneled frieze above segmental shaped brick arches at each of the eight window bays of the second story. The storefront was modernized ca. 1960.

Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of SignificanceC archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications		Iandscape architectur Iaw Iaw Iterature Iterat	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The resources of the Georgia Street Historic District, Louisiana, Missouri, are significant according to criterion C, and are eligible for listing in the following area: Architecture: The district is representative of the sweep of commercial architectural styles built in a prosperous river and railroad transportation nexus during the second half of the nineteenth and into the early twentieth century. The district represents the ebb and flow of popular style changes in commercial structures ca. 1850 to ca. 1935. There are the tall three-story 1850s Greek Revival commercial buildings typically found in rapidly expanding mid-century river towns like Louisiana. But it is the 40 year period, ca.1870-ca.1910, which defines the visual impression of the district when viewed The popular architectural style of the era was a highly for the first time. decorative Italianate model which in commercial architecture was expressed with structural cast iron elements and a liberal use of pressed metal. The Georgia Street Historic District is one of the finest, and best preserved, emphatically expressed Italianate styled central business districts in the region. After the turn of the century, the Revival styles superseded the long standing hegemony of the Italianate style. There are several Neo-Classical Revival buildings in the district which complement the streetscape in a more restrained image than their more flamboyant neighbors. Several Revival buildings, two of which are high style, architect-designed free standing buildings, are found at the west edge of the district, the last commercial buildings erected in a final burst of commercial expansion in the central business district in the early part of the twentieth century. The Revival style buildings are in what was a residential section. The district includes a mill (ca. 1845) and a dwelling (ca. 1855), the last surviving examples of the more heterogeneous mix of the nineteenth century central business district.

GEOGRAPHIC MORPHOLOGY AND EARLY HISTORY OF LOUISIANA

The importance of the geographic location and general topography of the immediate area and site of the town of Louisiana cannot be underestimated. The following description of the site was published in 1883:

"The site of the town is a magnificent one, and such as nature had seemed to prepare for the location of a beautiful city. Gently rising for several squares from the margin of the [Mississippi] river, the surface becomes, for quite a distance, comparatively level, when, finally, it falls away with a gentle slope towards the west and south. On the north are the bluffs, which swinging around towards the west, form a crescent-shaped line of hills, which partially encircle the city. On the south, and below the Noix [creek running through town in whose valley the town is built], is another range of hills....These...trend westward, and first falling away into foothills, then into undulating table-land, make the gap through which passes both the gravel and the railroads."1

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The site of Louisiana is the first accessible high ground on the Missouri side downstream from the confluence of the Mississippi River and the Salt River, a major drainage in Northeast Missouri.

The town of Louisiana was platted by survey in 1817 and grew rapidly. Just one year later, the Missouri Intelligencer wrote the following about the new town: "Having an excellent landing place, and enjoying the advantages of an uninterrupted navigation and an easy communication, with the interior settlements it must be a place of considerable commercial importance".²

Louisiana's possession of a suitable landing would prove of lasting value. The river landing channeled the growing volume of agricultural products into Louisiana as the region moved rapidly out of the frontier stage and into commercial agriculture.

Louisiana grew to a population of about 200 by 1827, with several active merchants.³ Most of the early settlement clustered on the high ground on Front and Water streets facing the river. In 1821, the first steamboat tied up at Louisiana.⁴ By the mid 1840s, trade at the river had made the muddy landing a morass, spawning agitation for construction of a rock surfaced wharf, completed in 1848.⁵ The commerce at the wharf was enormous. By 1837, the Pike county region exported large quantities of agricultural produce and was considered one of the premier agricultural regions of the state. The census of 1840 establishes the pattern in agriculture which would remain in place until after the turn of the century. Wheat, livestock, and tobacco were the mainstays of the economy, although the order of importance would change over time. In 1840, Pike county was sixth in production of wheat in Missouri; by 1860 the county was third with nearly 150,000 bushels grown. A number of mills were built near the wharf to grind the wheat as it was brought to town. A superb example, Alexander's Mill, was built in the mid 1840s (photo 14) overlooking the wharf. The immense bulk of the three- and one-half-story stone building dwarfed the primarily frame constructed commercial and residential district which surrounded it.

HISTORIC CONTEXT ca. 1850-1865: THE GREEK REVIVAL STYLE

The wealth passing to and from the wharf in the 1840s and 1850s fueled a building boom in Louisiana as prosperous farmers sought the retail goods of St. Louis and other manufacturing centers available in the dry goods stores clustered about the river front. The merchants became perhaps the dominant, certainly the most wealthy, class in the community, defining taste and fashion through their prodigal ability to display it with their new found wealth. In the 1850s they built imposing three story brick commercial houses with party wall construction and uniform facade line, creating an unbroken wall in the more densely built sections of Main, Georgia, and Third streets (photo 18). At the northwest corner of Third and Georgia streets survives one (photo 12) of what was once a row of similar sized buildings constructed in the 1850s.

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Further to the west on Georgia Street the commercial buildings straggled, interspersed with dwellings. The westernmost, and best surviving, Greek Revival commercial building was built in 1862 by Charles Wahl--an imposing three-story Greek Revival building (photo 10) with the flat parapet, corbeled cornice, and triangular pedimented iron lintels characteristic of the Greek Revival in Louisiana and in other prosperous river towns of the period. Further still on the western reaches of Georgia Street, merchants built fashionable Greek Revival dwellings in the 1850s. The one example in the district (photo 2) is typical of those found in other parts of town from this era: two-story brick with a center-hall plan, service ell at the rear, and evidence of a now removed two-story Classical porch with entry at either story flanked by sidelights and with transom.

POST CIVIL WAR PROSPERITY AND THE DOMINANCE OF THE ITALIANATE STYLE IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT CA. 1865-1915

The river trade made Louisiana wealthy and made possible the construction of popular Greek Revival style commercial buildings and dwellings. But it was the railroad which ushered in the next era of prosperity. Louisiana participated in some of the earliest agitation for railroad development in the state. A line called the Louisiana and Columbia railroad received a charter from the legislative session of 1836-1837, although the line was never officially organized. In 1860 a preliminary survey of a route was made for what was now called the Louisiana and Missouri River Railroad, although the Civil War put a stop to any further movement. It wasn't until February of 1867 that a notice appeared in the Louisiana paper informing people of a meeting to organize a railroad venture constructing a line to Mexico, Missouri. The meeting was a success and there was immediate movement for subscription of stock. Construction began and in July of 1871 the first train ran from Louisiana to Mexico.⁶ Another joint stock company of local citizens combined to finance construction of a Mississippi River bridge to provide a link with the Chicago and Alton railroad on the Illinois side. The bridge was completed and opened in February of 1874, predating, although by only a few months, the Eads bridge in St. Louis. The line was continuous now to Chicago and Kansas City. By 1879 a north-south line linked the river towns with St. Louis.⁸

The superior transportation facilities and the agricultural and manufacturing advantages of Louisiana in the post-war years combined to make Pike county the eighth wealthiest county in Missouri during the 1870s.⁹ The county was among the top ten producers in all of the important cash crops and livestock in the second half of the nineteenth century. In Louisiana, there developed a tobacco industry to handle the enormous crop production in the region. By 1880 the tobacco industry was one of the largest manufacturing concerns of any kind in the region, employing a work force of nearly 400 persons.¹⁰

Louisiana, as a shipping point and manufacturing and retail commercial center reaped the benefits of the wealth flowing in and out of the region. The

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Continuation sheet Historic District population in 1880 was nearly 5000, making Louisiana one of the largest towns north of St. Louis on the Mississippi River, rivaling Hannibal, Missouri, and Quincy, Illinois, to the north, both important railroad and river transportation

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The wealth and position of the community was reflected strongly in the quantity and quality of Louisiana's commercial construction in the ensuing years of the nineteenth century. The central business district began to push further westward by circa 1880, moving beyond Fifth street for the first time. Merchants and artisans expanded and rebuilt in the period beginning in the 1870s, expressing their confidence and wealth in new commercial construction executed in the flamboyant Italianate style. The commercial Italianate style, the influential nationally popular style of the day, dominated the streetscape of the Louisiana central business district.

In the earliest years of the 1870s the decorative Italianate features appear to have been limited to window treatment, with sometimes elaborate projected brick segmental or half round arches (photo 19), sharply contrasted with the staid fenestration of the Greek Revival buildings adjacent (see photo 18), but similar in that both have corbeled cornices. In the late 1870s, the Lonergan Brothers Drug Company (photo 4--fifth from the right--the building has lost its cornice) built a two-story commercial building which mixes the elaborate brick window hoods with a new-found feature of the Italianate style--the projecting pressed metal cornice. From circa 1880 onward, new commercial construction would include the highly ornamental projecting pressed metal cornices significant in defining the Italianate style in the central business district of Louisiana.

The quality and quantity of the flamboyant Italianate storefronts in the district built in the next approximately thirty years distinguish the Georgia Street Historic District. One of the finest surviving examples of the richness of Italianate expression in the district was built in the early 1880s following a typical scenario. The Baird Brothers dry goods company tore down their pre-Civil War storefront between Main and Third streets on Georgia street. Thev then built what would become the archetypical commercial Italianate storefront, one of the first to employ the metal window hoods (photo 15) which would be found, henceforth, on all buildings of the Italianate style, representing its full maturation.

During the late 1880s and into the first decade of the twentieth century most of the pre-Civil War buildings in the central business district were torn down, with the exception of the three-story brick commercial buildings still surviving. They were replaced by the fully matured commercial Italianate style buildings which exhibited very little variation except in minor points of decorative design; most had elaborate metal window hoods, projecting pressed metal cornices, and corbelled brick or pressed metal curtain wall facades. Some of the best examples of the commercial Italianate are the J. W. Fritz building (photo 5) built in 1891, the IOOF Lodge hall (photo 3--built as a commercial storefront with the lodge on the second floor) built in 1896, and the Hesser Millinery store (photo 8--second from right) built in 1891 (see also photos 7,8,11,13).

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Storefronts on the commercial Italianate style buildings incorporate innovative construction design with steel lintels over the storefront, freeing the space beneath for large plate glass display windows. The lintel is supported by cast iron columns or pilasters or brick piers. The IOOF lodge building (photo 3) built in 1896 (see photo 7 also) is a well preserved example.

The building boom of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century resulted in the remodeling of earlier buildings so as to modernize their facades in keeping with the prevailing fashion. All of the surviving Greek Revival buildings have rebuilt storefronts with steel beams over broad display windows (photo 12). Only the old mill building escaped "modernization", probably because of the expense of shoring up the ponderous weight of the facade wall of the three and one half story building while adding the beam supporting member. However, the owner tried a different tack, and built up a parapet wall and applied a projecting pressed metal cornice, thus bringing the former street-facing gabled building into harmony with its Italianate neighbor (photo 14).

One building (photo 11), built ca. 1915 at the end of the era of Italianate stylistic hegemony, exhibits the characteristic cornice, but below that is a more restrained fenestration with large plate glass bays in a metal frame curtain wall. The building represents a transition between the long standing Italianate and a newer era of restrained ornament.

DIMINISHED COMMERCIAL GROWTH CA. 1915-1935 AND THE INTRODUCTION OF REVIVAL ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

The end of the Italianate style and the beginning of the Revival styles overlap for over a decade in the first years of the twentieth century. The simplicity of ornament, excepting the cornice, is a hallmark of the increasingly popular Neo-Classical Revival style as built in Louisiana in the early twentieth century. The Louisiana Press-Journal office (photo 16) built in 1900-1902 is a good example of the new style with terra-cotta cornice, brick pilaster-separated facade bays, restrained fenestration and a freer use of first-story space without a supporting beam across the entire facade. In 1904, the Federal Government reinforced the shifting focus of prevailing style in Louisiana when it constructed a high style Neo-Classical Revival post office at the extreme fringe of the central business district. The freestanding single story brick building with raised basement was designed by Raymond Lavercombe (photo 23).

Of even higher contrast to the predominate streetscape style is the outstanding Greek Temple Revival building constructed in 1910 and designed by St. Louis architect A. B. Groves (photo 1) for the local Masonic lodge. The attention to the detail, purity of revival style design, and quality of construction, contribute to the significance of the building. The freestanding building is at the very edge of the central business district, leap-frogging the last dwelling in the district to the east so it could be more prominently visible on a street corner lot. The tall pedimented gable porch with terra cotta frieze, architrave

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and Ionic capitals on squat fluted columns is a stark contrast to the marching ranks of Italianate style commercial buildings in the central business district, reinforcing the immensity of the change in architectural style and fashion then in motion.

The 1910s and 1920s brought a number of economic transformations to the community. The tobacco industry in town fell victim to centralization away from the regional centers towards the huge combines in St. Louis and elsewhere.¹¹ The agricultural region continued to prosper, but smaller towns, with locally competing retail markets, made inroads on Louisiana's trade territory. In 1928, the auto bridge across the Mississippi River was finished, complementing a general era of improvement and optimism in town. Georgia street was paved for the first time and new street lighting and sewer systems were installed. However, trade did not increase significantly. The central business district had grown as large as it ever would midway in the 1890-1910 period, hovering for a while, but beginning to decline by the 1930s. Regardless, both city banks built two of the last four buildings erected in the district. In 1923, both of the banks tore down imposing three-story Italianate buildings at the important intersection of Third and Georgia streets. In their place were erected Neo-Classical revival style buildings, each two-story with stone-faced pilaster-separated bays and with parapet walls above simple entablatures.

The more eclectic revival styles are represented by Sizemore's Furniture store, built ca. 1930 in a Spanish Mission Revival style. The theater, always more architecturally daring, erected an Art Deco facade in the 1930s on a nineteenth century building shell (photo 22).

The citizens of Louisiana and the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office have long known that the central business district of Louisiana was significant to interpreting the cultural heritage of Missouri. The original survey of this area was completed in 1980. At that time the surveyor, Washington University's Urban Research and Design Center, recommended that the area, Main to 7th Street between Tennessee and South Carolina, be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The district is significant not only in its scope as a representational model of a moderate-sized town's commercial district development, but also in the quality of its survival. It is well known that most first-story business facades are most susceptible to the whims of modernization oftentimes with appalling result. This is not unknown in Louisiana, but it appears to have had a much lesser impact with many facades surviving virtually intact, complete with original fenestration, cast iron support columns, and intact pressed metal string course above the storefront, leaving the Georgia Street Historic District with a sense of late 19th century regional transportation (river and rail) center.

Since 1983, concerned citizens of Louisiana have been working to nominate the area to the National Register. Later in 1984, Missouri Heritage Trust was able to supply them the technical expertise to prepare this nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, with additional technical assistance from the Historic Preservation Program staff.

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FOOTNOTES

¹<u>History of Pike County, Missouri</u>. (Des Moines, Iowa: Mills and Co., 1883) p. 644.

²<u>Missouri Intelligencer</u>, May 27, 1820.

³Atlas Pike County, p. 29

⁴Keith, <u>Centennial History</u>, p. 11

⁵<u>History Pike County</u>, pp. 210-211.

⁶History Pike County, pp. 149-355.

⁷George Block, "Regarding the Louisiana and Missouri Railroad," <u>Missouri</u> <u>Historical Review</u> 27 (January 1933), p. 181.

⁸Boonville Weekly Advertiser, February 13, 1874.

⁹Keith, Centennial History, p. 12.

¹⁰Census of Industry of Missouri, 1880. MSS on file with the State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri.

¹¹Sesquicentennial of Louisiana, Missouri. (Louisiana, Mo: 1968), p. 51.

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See continuation sheets.

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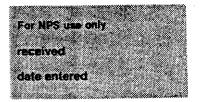
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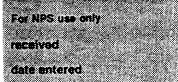
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Begins at the southern corner of lot 469 Block 55 or the southeast corner of 7th and Georgia Streets north to the midpoint of lot 470 where the line moves east at the rear of the property to the alley then south to the northwest corner of lot 412 moving east to the east side of 6th Street where the line moves north until reaching the building line of lots 389, 390, and 332, then crossing Fifth Street eastwardly until the rear of lot 250 is reached (at the Town Branch Creek) where the line moves north until reaching the south line of Tennessee Street where it moves eastward across 4th Street until reaching the northeast corner of lot 232 where the line moves south until reaching the building line in lot 170 where the boundary moves east once more until reaching the alley midpoint in Block 18. The line then moves south in the alley until reaching the southeast corner of lot 146 where it then moves west to 3rd Street, west side, thence south to the northwest corner of 3rd and S. Caroline Streets where the line moves west until meeting the southwest corner of lot 176. The line moves north at the rear of lots 176, 175 and part of 174 progressing along building lines to the west across 4th Street until meeting the west line of 5th Street. The line passes north until meeting southeast corner of lot 398, then west along the rear line of the lots across 6th Street along the rear line of lot 413 until the alley is reached thence north to the north side of Georgia Street where the line moves west to the point of origin.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

To the east the commercial district has been all but completely torn down so that the district is bounded by empty lots in this direction. To the south the boundary was historically residential though there are now many gaps. To the west on Georgia Street and to the north of the district are the quality residential neighborhoods of Louisiana dating to the earliest periods of Louisiana's development making a clear boundary for the Georgia Street District.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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