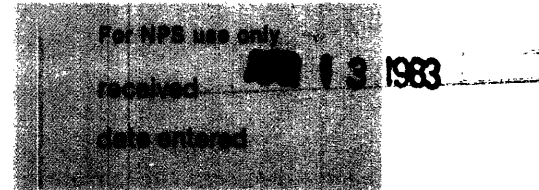


MAP NO. 37-314618
EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park 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 Bamberg Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

Along sections of East Railroad Avenue, Second Street, Midway Street, Elm Street
street & number Cannon Street, North Carlisle Street, and Church Street NA not for publication

city, town Bamberg NA vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state South Carolina code 045 county Bamberg code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	NA 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: cemetery

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bamberg County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Bamberg state South Carolina 29003

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of Historic Places
title in South Carolina has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 (update) federal state county local

depository for survey records South Carolina Department of Archives and History

city, town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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

The Bamberg Historic District is a residential neighborhood of some seventy-five properties lying along both sides of the Southern Railroad tracks in the eastern end of Bamberg, in Bamberg County, South Carolina. The district includes parts of Second Street, East Railroad Avenue, Midway Street, Elm Street, Cannon Street, North Carlisle Street, and Church Street. Fifty-six of the properties define and support the historic character of the district, which represents the major residential section of Bamberg from the period 1880-1930. The buildings of the district range from one to two-and-one-half stories and are primarily of frame construction. Most of the buildings are vernacular residences with prominent porches and profuse carpenter's ornamentation; a few of the largest and most important buildings express the more fashionable architectural styles of the era, including Georgian Revival, Second Empire, Neoclassical, and Gothic Revival. The buildings are set on landscaped lots with tall trees, the largest lots facing on either side of East Railroad Avenue.

Since the development of this district in the period 1880-1930, few modern buildings have been constructed in the area and no major intrusive elements have been added. The district retains its historic integrity as a middle to upper-income residential district. Most of the houses are well-maintained and occupied, and there is still railroad traffic on the tracks.

Key properties defining the historic character of the district:

21. General Francis Marion Bamberg House, Railroad Avenue at Carlisle Street. A two-story brick residence built ca. 1875 for General Bamberg, one of the town's developers. The house has an asymmetrical five-bay facade, with a one-story veranda stretching across the facade and a second-story veranda beneath a cross-gable on the right three bays. Both tiers of the veranda have wooden posts with scrollwork brackets. The windows opening onto the porch are floor-length six-over-nine sash, while the rest of the windows in the house are six-over-six. The standing-seam metal roof has deep eaves with scrollwork brackets. A polygonal bay is on the right side of the house. Six brick chimneys with corbeled caps pierce the roofline.
26. Counts-Lane House, 403 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1899 for Mrs. Susie Counts, schoolteacher and postmistress. The house is sheathed in weatherboard and has a hip roof with two corbelled brick chimneys. The asymmetrical facade has a one-story porch on its right side with turned posts and balusters and spindle-work brackets. Twin eaves on the sides of the facade have gabled second stories, which frame a five-bay gallery above the first-story porch. A large eyebrow dormer pierces the forward slope of the hip roof above this gallery. Window sash is single and paired two-over-two.
38. J.D. Copeland House, 310 E. Railroad Avenue. This two-story frame house was built ca. 1913 for J.D. Copeland II, a planter and merchant. The house features a colossal Ionic portico centered on its facade. The fluted Scamozzi columns have pilaster responds and carry a full pediment with a semicircular lunette in its tympanum. An elliptical second-story porch with a balustrade is sheltered by this portico. The facade has two twelve-over-one windows on either side of the portico on the second story, with tripled windows on either side on the first story. A porte-cochere with

8. Significance

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

Specific dates N/A **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bamberg Historic District is located along sections of East Railroad Avenue, Second Street, North Carlisle Street, Cannon Street, Church Street, Elm Street, and Midway Street in the small town of Bamberg in Bamberg County, South Carolina. The district encompasses the largest concentration of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century residential and religious buildings in the town. The fifty-six properties included date from ca. 1852 to ca. 1930 and range in style from local interpretations of popular Victorian modes to vernacular cottages and bungalows. The district is significant as an illustration of Bamberg's history during the period, as the home of several locally important citizens, and as a fine collection of period architecture.

Additional Information:

The town of Bamberg began about 1832 when a water tower was built at a point called variously Seventy-six, Simmon's Turnout and Lowery's Turnout, on the Charleston to Hamburg rail line. A small village soon grew around this turnout. About 1855 the village was incorporated as Bamberg in honor of William Seaborn Bamberg, who had settled in the area in the 1840s and contributed much to the development of the community. By 1860 stores and residences lined Railroad Avenue, laid out along the tracks as the town's first street.¹ The Civil War dealt harshly with Bamberg. Always a trading and railroad center, it suffered as money became scarce and rail service more erratic. General Sherman's troops destroyed several buildings in Bamberg, including the depot, as well as the railroad tracks for miles on either side of town.² Efforts to revitalize the town were begun in the 1870s led by General Francis Marion Bamberg (#21), brother of William Seaborn Bamberg, Col. T.J. Counts (#34), and H.J. Brabham. Railroad Avenue continued as the main residential street in this period joined by the present Carlisle, Cannon, Church, Fifth, Second, and Faust Streets among others.³ Four of the homes from the 1870s-1880s built in the district survive.

By 1890 Bamberg was entering its most prosperous era. Population was about 1,600. Many of the middle- and upper-income citizens constructed homes along Railroad Avenue and its side streets which now included Third Street, North Street, and extensions of Cannon, Carlisle, and Second Streets.⁴

During this decade several events occurred to spur the town's development. About 1892, a group of prominent local citizens, including Mayor E.R. Hays (#70), General Francis Marion Bamberg, and H.J. Brabham incorporated and constructed the Bamberg Cotton Mill.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 56

Quadrangle name Bamberg, S.C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7	4	9	7	7	1	8	3	6	8	3	9	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	7	4	9	7	4	7	8	3	6	8	3	5	4	2
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	7	4	9	6	7	6	7	3	6	8	3	6	7	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	7	4	9	6	8	6	0	3	6	8	4	2	3	5
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of the Bamberg Historic District is shown as the heavy red line on the accompanying Bamberg County Tax Maps #087-01, 087-02, and 087-06, scaled at 1 inch = 100 feet. This boundary includes all significant properties and the fewest non-contributing properties in this part of Bamberg.

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

state NA code county NA code

state NA code county NA code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Suzanne Pickens Wylie, John Wells Margaret Lawrence, Bamberg, S.C.;
National Register staff Margaret Marion, Lower Savannah Council of Gov.

organization S.C. Dept. of Archives and History date

street & number P.O. Box 11,669 telephone (803) 758-5816

city or town Columbia state South Carolina 29211

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Charles E. Lee *Charles E. Lee* date 3/14/83
State Historic Preservation Officer

For NPS use only

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

for Alvin Byers date 5/19/83
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 7

Page 2

Ionic columns on brick piers is located on the right side of the house.

40. First Baptist Church, E. Railroad Avenue at Carlisle Street. A monumental Georgian Revival building completed in 1928. The pedimented frontispiece has a colossal Tuscan order encompassing three two-story arches with entrances in each of the three. A double brick staircase approaches the facade curving up on either side of a projecting semicircular porch. The building includes a sanctuary, classrooms, assembly rooms, and office space for the church. The present building is the second Baptist Church on the site.
43. Trinity United Methodist Church, Railroad Avenue at Cannon Street. This large brick building was designed by Edwards & Walter of Columbia and built in 1904-1905 by J.A. Benson. The building has a hip-roofed main block with projecting gabled wings on the north and east. A tall brick tower, with the entrances to the church at its first floor, is situated between these wings. The entrances are marked by gabled porches with paired Tuscan columns. Each side of the tower features three tall arched windows. The tower has a pyramidal roof with very wide bracketed eaves which are broken by hipped wall dormers. The north elevation of the building features a traceried Gothic window in its projecting wing and an entrance to the right of this wing with an elliptical-roofed porch. Two louvered dormers pierce the hipped roof of the main block. In 1970 the church was extended by a wing on the east side of the sanctuary.
44. Folk-Zeigler House, 502 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1890 for Conrad Ehrhardt's daughter and her husband, John Francis Folk. The L-shaped house has a two-tier veranda across the projecting wing on the right side of its facade, with turned posts and balusters and sawn pendant-brackets. A one-story porch with similar features spans the left side of the facade as well. Entrances with sidelights and transoms are on both levels of the forward wing. Window sash is two-over-two. The cross-gabled roof has sawn eaves-brackets.
45. Lewis-Hooten House, 508 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame weatherboarded house built ca. 1898 for Dr. Charles Lewis. The L-shaped house has a gable roof with cross-gables on either side of the facade. The two-tier porch on the facade breaks forward around the projecting wing of the L on the left. The porch has turned posts and balusters and spindle friezes. Sash is two-over-two and one-over-one, with louvered shutters. The gable ends feature imbricated shingles. A polygonal bay is on the right side of the house.
52. Counts-Jones House, 616 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-and-one-half-story frame Second Empire residence built ca. 1892 for D. Henry Counts. The house is sheathed in weatherboard and has one-story porches on the facade with turned posts. The mansard roof has upper and lower cornices and shingle sheathing. Hooded dormer windows pierce the slopes of the mansard. Window sash is two-over-two. A one-story polygonal bay is to the right of the central entrance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet 2 Item number 7 Page 3

56. Lewis House, Midway Street at Carlisle Street. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1901-1904 for M.R. Lewis, an insurance agent. The house is a weatherboarded single-pile central-hall building with a two-tier porch across the facade. The porch has turned posts, sawn brackets and balusters, and a shed roof. The five-bay facade has central doorways on both levels flanked by four-over-four sash with louvered shutters. A one-story porch with details similar to those of the facade porch is on the left side of the house.
72. Byrd House, 224 Midway Street. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1898 for J.A. Byrd, a merchant and banker in Bamberg. The house has an irregular V-shape, with a central entrance at the angle of the V, and two-story wings to the right and left. A two-tier porch shelters the entrance and the angle. Each wing has a jerkinhead-gable roof with sawn vergeboards. The house has two-over-two window sash with louvered shutters. There are three brick chimneys piercing the roof.

Other properties contributing to the historic character of the district:

1. 109 Second Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1900. The five-bay facade has a central gabled porch sheltering the three inner bays. Two brick chimneys pierce the ridge of the gabled roof. A one-story bay projects from the left side elevation of the house.
2. 201 Second Street. A one-and-one-half-story frame residence built ca. 1920. The house has a hip roof sheltering the house and facade porch, with a hipped dormer piercing the front slope of the roof. The house is weatherboarded and has exposed rafter ends. The porch, originally spanning the entire facade, has had its left and right ends enclosed.
3. 203 Second Street. A one-story frame weatherboarded house built ca. 1898. The five-bay facade has a central gabled porch sheltering the entrance and the inner bays. The porch has wooden posts on brick piers and twin windows in its gable end.
4. 205 Second Street. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1925. The house has its gable end to the street with an off-center entrance on the right side of the first story sheltered by a one-story gabled porch. A single window is on the right side of the entry and a double window is on the left side. The second story has two single windows on the facade. The main gabled roof and the porch have exposed rafter ends.
5. 207 Second Street. A one-story weatherboarded house with an L-shaped plan, built ca. 1890. A one-story porch in the angle of the L has turned posts and a simple balustrade. The gable roof is pierced by two brick chimneys. The eaves have exposed rafter ends.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 3

Item number 7

Page 4

6. 209 Second Street. A one-and-one-half-story frame bungalow built ca. 1910. The hip roof is flared over a porch which spans the facade and wraps around both sides of the house. Paired columns carry the porch roof. A hip-roofed dormer and two brick chimneys pierce the roof. A simple balustrade runs between the columns of the porch.
7. 303 Second Street. A one-and-one-half-story frame bungalow built ca. 1915. The house has a hip roof which extends to shelter the facade's porch. Wooden posts on brick piers carry the porch roof. A hipped dormer with three lights is centered on the forward slope of the roof. The facade beneath the porch has five bays with a central entrance. Two brick chimneys pierce the roof.
8. 401 Second Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1910. The house has a shed-roofed porch spanning the facade and wrapping around the left side elevation. A small cross-gable with an attic vent is centered on the facade. Two brick chimneys pierce the roof.
12. 304 Second Street. A one-story brick-veneer bungalow, built ca. 1928. The building has a low-pitched gable roof extended forward to shelter the porch, where two brick piers carry the roof. The facade has an off-center door flanked by double windows. The eaves have exposed rafter tails and purlin brackets.
13. 306 Second Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1910. The house has an L-shaped plan with a gabled forward ell and a porch in the angle of the L. Window sash is single and paired two-over-two.
14. 308 Second Street. A two-and-one-half-story brick residence, built ca. 1930. The asymmetrical plan has a main block with a gable roof, a cross-gabled ell on the right side of the facade, and a shed-roofed extension of the main roof in the center of the facade which shelters the main entrance. A shed-roofed dormer is above the entrance. Window sash is single, double, and triple four-over-four.
15. 122 Cannon Street. A one-story frame residence with weatherboard siding and a gable roof, built ca. 1920. The house has a hip-roofed porch across its facade and wrapping around its left side. Wooden colonnettes carry the porch roof. The central door is flanked by double windows.
16. 120 Cannon Street. A one-story frame dwelling with a gable roof, built ca. 1920. The house has its gable end to the street, with a small gabled porch on the left side of the facade. Wooden pillars carry the porch roof. The porch gable end and the main gable end have matching attic vents. A double window is to the right of the porch.
17. E. Railroad Avenue at North Street. A one-and-one-half-story frame residence, built ca. 1885 for Drew Hooten. The house was remodeled in 1905 for W.A. Klauber. The house has a three-bay facade with a central doorway flanked by double multi-light windows.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 4

Item number 7

Page 5

A porch with four colonnettes and a simple balustrade spans the facade. The gable roof has a central gabled dormer and two end chimneys.

19. 207 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story brick residence built ca. 1932. The house has a hip roof and an asymmetrical facade with simulated quoining. The entrance, on the right side, has a single door with transom and sidelights framed by a stone door surround which has Ionic columns, a full entablature, and a broken pediment. A tripartite window with a stone surround is to the left of this door. The second story of the facade has a single window centered over the entrance and two single windows to the left. A porte-cochere is on the left side elevation, and a single-story ell is on the right. It is reported that elements of an earlier, ca. 1910 house are incorporated in this house.
20. 213 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-and-one-half-story frame residence built ca. 1924. The house has weatherboard siding and a hip roof. An entrance with a one-story pedimented porch is centered on the facade and flanked by tripartite windows. The second story of the facade has three paired six-over-one windows with louvered shutters. The eaves have exposed rafter ends. A hip-roofed dormer is centered on the roof.
23. 305 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame house with narrow aluminum siding and an L-shaped plan, built ca. 1890. The gabled forward ell has two-over-two windows on each story and eaves-brackets. There is a two-tier porch in the angle of the L, with chamfered columns and sawn brackets carrying the porch roofs. The entrances on the first and second stories have transoms and sidelights.
24. 309 E. Railroad Avenue. This two-story frame house was built ca. 1905 for John Cope. The house is sheathed in weatherboard and has a hip-roofed main block with a projecting two-story wing on the left side of the facade. The wing has a polygonal front with a two-over-two window in each facet and an overhanging gable roof. Sawn brackets with pendants are located beneath the corners of the gable. A one-story porch with turned balusters and Tuscan colonnettes wraps around the facade, the projecting wing, and the right side of the building. A gazebo and other old outbuildings are located on the property.
25. 313 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame building constructed ca. 1905 for Dr. J.P. Ott, and later used as the Bamberg Baptist Church Parsonage. The house has a hip-roofed main block with a gabled wing projecting on the left side of the facade. A hip-roofed porch is on the right side of the facade and wraps around the right side of the building. The fenestration is varied. The gable end of the projecting wing has imbricated shingles and an attic vent.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet 5

Item number 7

Page 6

27. 405 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-and-one-half-story frame residence built ca. 1910 for Emory Hooten. The house is L-shaped, with a gabled wing on the right side of the facade. A single dormer window pierces the gable roof on the left side of the facade. An original one-story porch in the angle of the L was removed ca. 1933.
29. 501 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story house built ca. 1900 and enlarged ca. 1907 by local merchant John Cooner. The three-bay facade has a one-story porch sheltering a central entrance. The windows of the second story are paired one-over-one sash. The left side elevation features a projecting polygonal bay on the first floor, a Palladian window on the second floor, and a gable end sheathed in imbricated shingles.
30. 505 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story weatherboarded house built ca. 1878 for C.R. Brabham. The house has a three-bay facade with a central cross-gable, and projecting two-story polygonal bays on both the right and left sides. The original two-tier veranda on the facade has been replaced by a simple porch with two-story wooden pillars.
31. 507 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-story brick bungalow built ca. 1924 for E. Roy Cooner, a Bamberg merchant. The house has a broad gable roof with a cross-gabled porch centered on the facade. The main roof and the porch roof have purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends. The brick is laid in shiner-flemish bond. Window sash is five vertical lights over one. One brick chimney pierces the front slope of the roof.
32. 509 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-and-one-half-story frame residence built ca. 1905 for Bennie Wright Simmons. The house has a square plan with a hip roof and gabled eaves on the right and left side elevations. A one-story porch with Tuscan columns spans the facade and the right side. The central entrance features elliptical sidelights and a transom. Window sash is one-over-one. A hip-roofed dormer with lozenge lights pierces the front slope of the roof.
33. 603 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-and-one-half-story frame weatherboarded house built ca. 1905. The house has an L-shaped plan with a gabled wing on the right side of the facade and a one-story porch spanning the entire facade. Similar hip-roofed porches are on the right and left side elevations. Window sash is one-over-one with louvered shutters. Two hip-roofed dormers are on the left side of the gabled roof.
34. 607 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-story frame bungalow built ca. 1900 for Colonel T.J. Counts, a politician, merchant, and officer in the State Militia. The house has a one-story porch with brick pillars spanning the facade and the right side elevation, where it extends into a porte-cochere. Two gabled dormers pierce the front slope of the gable roof. Four brick chimneys rise above the roof.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 6 Item number 7 Page 7

35. 611 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-and-one-half-story brick residence built ca. 1923 for local politician J. Carl Kearse. The house has a porte-cochere on the left side and a one-story extension on the right side. The central entrance has an elliptical hood supported by corbeled brackets. Tripartite windows flank the entrance. A large shed-roofed dormer with four casement windows pierces the tiled roof.
36. 613 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-story brick bungalow built ca. 1924 for H.D. Free. The house has a low gable roof with triangular eaves-brackets and exposed rafter tails, and a shed-roofed porch spanning the facade. An arcade of wooden elliptical arches resting on brick piers carries the porch roof. A gabled wing on the right side of the facade has a diamond-shaped attic vent in its gable end and a tripartite window with a brick jack arch.
37. Southern Railroad Right-of-Way. Steel railroad tracks with wooden crossties on gravel ballast, running east-west through the center of the district. The tracks still carry considerable traffic.
41. 408 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-and-one-half-story frame weatherboarded residence built ca. 1914, reportedly on the foundations of an earlier house. The three-bay facade has a one-story porch with paired columns carrying its roof and doubled nine-over-nine windows on the second story. The first story has triple windows flanking the entrance. A hip-roofed dormer and three brick chimneys pierce the hip roof.
46. E. Railroad Avenue. Simmons Cemetery. A burying ground with thirteen visible grave markers dating from 1852. A cast-iron fence surrounds some plots. The cemetery is heavily wooded.
47. 604 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame weatherboarded residence built ca. 1914 for Edward Henry Henderson, a State Senator and Judge. The house is a typical vernacular foursquare building with a one-story porch across the facade and two brick chimneys piercing the hip roof. The porch roof and main roof have deep eaves and exposed rafter tails. Fenestration is irregular with single and grouped windows and louvered shutters.
48. 608 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame house with weatherboard siding and a T-shaped plan, with a central two-story wing projecting from the facade. The entrance, to the right side of this wing, has a one-story gabled porch. Window sash is nine-over-nine with louvered shutters. The house was built ca. 1896 for A.S. Easterling.
58. 109 Cannon Street. A two-story frame house with weatherboard siding and a gable roof, built ca. 1900. The house has a three-bay facade with a one-story porch across the front. A one-bay porch is centered on the second story. The upper porch has turned posts and sawn brackets in its eaves. Polygonal bays with open porches at the second story are on both the right and left elevations.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

7

Item number

7

Page

8

60. 219 Midway Street. A one-story frame residence with an L-shaped plan, built ca. 1910. The house has a gabled wing extending from the left side of the main gabled block and a one-story porch in the angle of the L. A single gabled dormer and two brick chimneys pierce the roof. The eaves have purlin brackets and exposed rafter tails.
61. 311 Midway Street. A one-story frame bungalow built ca. 1920. The house has a gable roof with a cross-gable on the left side and a cross-gable porch centered on the facade. The porch roof is carried by three wooden pillars on brick piers. The deep eaves have purlin brackets. Two brick chimneys pierce the roofline.
63. Church Street. A two-story central-hall plan frame house built ca. 1900. The house has a one-story porch spanning its facade with wooden pillars carrying the porch roof and paired windows in each of its three bays. The central doorway has sidelights and a transom. A single brick chimney stands at the right side of the house.
65. 201 Church Street. A two-story frame house with a two-tier porch across its facade, built ca. 1890. The porch has turned wooden posts and sawn brackets on each tier. The gable roof is sheathed in standing-seam metal. The three-bay facade has a central entrance on each level.
66. 135 Church Street. A two-story frame residence with a two-tier porch on the facade, built ca. 1890. The porch has wooden pillars carrying its gabled roof, and shelters a single entrance and one window on each level. The windows of the house are one-over-one sash and have louvered shutters.
67. Bamberg Presbyterian Church, Church Street at Elm Street. A small cruciform frame church built in 1898. The building has weatherboard siding and steep gable roofs over each arm. There are traceried Gothic windows in the ends of each arm, and smaller lancet windows in the sides of each arm. An entrance tower is at the northwest corner of the building. This tower had its original spire removed in 1963.
68. 301 Elm Street. A two-story frame house built ca. 1894 for W.D. Rhoad, a Bamberg merchant. The house has a T-shaped plan with a central gabled wing surrounded by a one-story porch. Two-story wings with polygonal end bays are at either side of the central block. The house has sawn balusters and eaves-brackets and weatherboard siding. An original second-story porch has been removed.
69. 212 Midway Street. A two-and-one-half-story brick residence built ca. 1930. The house has a three-bay facade with a central one-story brick porch sheltering its entrance. Windows are grouped in pairs and in threes. The hip roof has exposed rafter tails. A gabled dormer and two brick chimneys rise above the roof.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 8

Item number 7

Page 9

70. 218 Midway Street. A two-story frame house built ca. 1886 for Major E.R. Hays, a merchant, industrialist, and one-time mayor of Bamberg. The house has a two-story gabled wing centered on the facade with a two-tier porch spanning its breadth. The porch has turned posts and sawn brackets and balusters. An attic window is centered in the gable end. The main gabled block of the house extends at either side of the forward wing. A porch on the left side of the house has been removed.
71. 222 Midway Street. A two-and-one-half-story frame residence built ca. 1915 for Clara Hays Spann. The house is weatherboarded and has a one-story porch on its facade. The original porch posts have been replaced with wrought-iron supports. The asymmetrical facade has an entrance on the left side with sidelights and a transom, and a single window on the right. The second story has two windows to the right, and a doorway with a flanking oval window to the left. A hip-roofed dormer and two brick chimneys pierce the hip roof.
73. 228 Midway Street. A two-story frame weatherboarded house built ca. 1900. The house has a one-story porch spanning its facade, with the porch roof carried by wooden pillars on brick piers. The three-bay facade has a central entrance and two-over-two sash. A cross-gable with an attic vent is centered on the gable roof.
75. 232 Midway Street. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1905 for Albion & Mrs. Kirsch, merchants of Bamberg. The house has a five-bay facade with a one-story porch spanning its breadth and a one-bay second-story porch. Windows are two-over-two. The first-story porch wraps around the left side of the house. The gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal.

Properties which do not contribute to the historic character of the district:

9. 208 Second Street. A one-story brick-veneer ranch house, built ca. 1955.
10. 210 Second Street. A two-story brick residence with psuedo-colonial features, built ca. 1960.
11. Second Street. Undeveloped property.
18. Bamberg County Library. A one-story brick building built ca. 1970.
22. 301 E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story brick residence built ca. 1941.
28. Undeveloped property, E. Railroad Avenue.
39. E. Railroad Avenue. A one-and-one-half-story brick residence built ca. 1950.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 9

Item number 7

Page 10

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42. E. Railroad Avenue. Parsonage, Methodist Church. A one-story brick residence built ca. 1950.
49. E. Railroad Avenue. Undeveloped property.
50. 610 E. Railroad Avenue. A one-story brick residence built ca. 1960.
51. E. Railroad Avenue. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1940.
53. Carlisle Street. Robert Black Fellowship Hall. A one-story brick building constructed in 1962.
54. Church Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1950.
55. Midway Street. Undeveloped property.
57. 203 Midway Street. A two-story frame residence built ca. 1893. The building has an asymmetrical plan with projecting gabled wings on the center and right side of the facade. A one-story porch with turned posts and balusters is on the left side of the facade. The building's historic character has been substantially altered by the application of asbestos siding, but the integrity of the property is salvageable.
59. Undeveloped property, Midway Street.
62. Midway Street at Park Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1925 with a cinder-block addition on its facade.
64. 205 Church Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1950.
74. 230 Midway Street. A one-story frame residence built ca. 1950.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 10

Item number 8

Page 1

Also in this year Carlisle Fitting School was opened as a branch of Wofford College. During this time Bamberg became the most active cotton market between Charleston, South Carolina, and Augusta, Georgia, a role which lasted until 1921 when boll weevils devastated the South Carolina cotton industry.⁵ In 1897, a commission including Gen. Francis Marion Bamberg, J.H. Brabham, T.J. Counts, J.F. Folk (#44), Major E.R. Hays, and H.C. Folk (#69) effected the formation of Bamberg County, named for Gen. F.M. Bamberg, from a portion of Barnwell County; Bamberg became the county seat.⁶

Throughout the early part of the twentieth century prominent and well-to-do Bamberg citizens continued to make Railroad Avenue and the surrounding streets their home. Residents included Edward H. Henderson (#47), State Senator and Judge; Mrs. Susie Counts (#26), beloved school teacher and postmistress; J.D. Copeland (#38), planter and merchant; Colonel John F. Folk (#44), planter, merchant, mayor of Bamberg, and Bamberg County treasurer; Dr. T. Charles Lewis (#45), physician; J.A. Byrd (#72), banker and merchant; John Cooner (#29), merchant; Col. T.J. Counts (#34), politician, merchant and militia officer; J. Carl Kearse (#35), local politician; Major E.R. Hays (#70), merchant, industrialist, and mayor of Bamberg; and General Francis M. Bamberg (#21), one of the community's leading figures.

Bamberg continued as an active trading and transportation center and as the center of county government until the twenties and thirties when depressed economic conditions slowed growth.⁷ The central business district of Bamberg, located along Main Street and including several commercial buildings from the early twentieth century and the cotton mill building, no longer retains sufficient integrity or distinction to illustrate its part in Bamberg's history. Modern development has for the most part occurred on the outskirts of the district, leaving the district a relatively intact picture of Bamberg in the early twentieth century.

Architecture:

The Bamberg Historic District is a significant collection of buildings from the period 1875-1930 which presents an accurate depiction of the foremost residential neighborhood of Bamberg of this period. The buildings are of consistent scale, density, massing, and setback, with the largest and most prominent buildings along the central section of East Railroad Avenue and the smaller residences along Second Street, Midway Street, and the extremities of the district. The historic integrity of the district and the excellent state of most of the buildings help express the true history of the neighborhood. Some of the individual buildings in the district, especially the landmark churches and the houses of the most important citizens, express various fashionable architectural styles of the era; for example, the Counts-Jones House (#52) is a noteworthy Second Empire building, and the J.D. Copeland House (#38) has a fine Neoclassical portico.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 11

Item number 8

Page 2

Two of the churches, the Bamberg Presbyterian Church (#67) and the Trinity United Methodist Church (#43) feature the asymmetrical massing, picturesque rooflines, and pointed arches of the Gothic Revival Style. The First Baptist Church is a fine Georgian Revival building.

Most of the residences of the district are vernacular frame buildings exhibiting the predominant porches and profuse carpenter's ornamentation of the turn-of-the-century. The sawn brackets, turned posts and balusters, colonnettes, and vergeboards are ubiquitous in the district, appearing on the largest and the smallest houses alike. Noteworthy examples are the houses at 313 E. Railroad Avenue (#25), the General Bamberg House (#21), the Counts-Lane House at 403 E. Railroad Avenue (#26), the Folk-Zeigler House at 502 E. Railroad Avenue (#44), and the Lewis-Hooten House at 508 E. Railroad Avenue (#45). The houses at 207 Second Street (#5) and 401 Second Street (#8) are smaller houses with simpler ornamental carpentry. Some of these frame houses are elaborated with striking composition and detail, especially the Byrd House at 224 Midway Street (#72) with its V-shaped plan and elaborate vergeboards. Several of the later houses in the district follow the bungalow mode of the early twentieth century; examples are the houses at 507 E. Railroad Avenue (#31), 611 E. Railroad Avenue (#35), and 209 Second Street (#6).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet 12

Item number 9

Page 1

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FOOTNOTES

¹Graham D. Copeland, "Many Years After," (1940) (typewritten), South Caroliniana Library, Columbia, South Carolina, pp. 77, 78; Virginia Kearse Jones, Founding and Settlement of Bamberg (n.p., n.p., 1938) p. 3; Bamberg County Celebrating South Carolina's Tricentennial, Souvenir Program (n.p., n.p., 1970), p. 10. Margaret S. Lawrence, "East Railroad Avenue" (typewritten) National Register Files, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, South Carolina, 1979, n.p.

²Copeland, pp. 81, 82, 139; Catalogue of the Bamberg Graded School 1891-92 (Bamberg, S.C.: Herald Job Press, 1891) p. 11.

³Copeland, pp. 139-140; Bamberg County Celebrating South Carolina's Tricentennial, p. 11; Lawrence, n.p.

⁴Copeland, pp. 166, 172, 173.

⁵Bamberg County Celebrating South Carolina's Tricentennial. p. 11; Copeland, pp. 179, 181, 187, 196; Lawrence, n.p.

⁶Bamberg County Celebrating South Carolina's Tricentennial.

⁷Lawrence, "East Railroad Avenue," "Midway Street," (typewritten) National Register of Historic Places files, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C., 1979, n.p.