

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District VDHR File No. 304-1
other names/site number _____

2. Location

Area including Main, Mulberry, Green, Fairfax, Martin,
street & number Short, Germain, and Water streets. N/A not for publication
city, town Stephens City N/A vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Frederick code 69 zip code 22655

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>143</u>	<u>28</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>147</u>	<u>28</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Hugh C. Mollie 6 July 1997
Signature of certifying official Date
Director, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET - PAGE 1

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET - PAGE 1

foundation STONE
walls WOOD: log, weatherboard; BRICK;
STONE: limestone
roof METAL
other WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District is located in the town of Stephens City, in Frederick County, Virginia. Stephens City was chartered in 1758 and is the second oldest town in the Shenandoah Valley after Winchester. Its location along the Valley Pike greatly influenced its growth and development. The historic district encompasses a large portion of the town limits and contains a diversity of building styles and types ranging from the town's earliest history to the present day. The boundaries generally include all of the buildings facing Main Street and extend one block to the east and west. The architectural resources in the district include several mid-to late-eighteenth-century vernacular log dwellings. The district also contains a large number of early-to mid-nineteenth-century and late-nineteenth-century dwellings and churches. In addition, there are examples of early-twentieth-century dwellings, commercial buildings, and schools. The architectural styles represented in the district include: vernacular eighteenth-century log dwellings with late-nineteenth-century Folk Victorian details; Federal; Greek Revival; Gothic Revival; Italianate; Queen Anne; Colonial Revival; Bungalow/Craftsman; and vernacular I-houses.

ARCHITECTURAL ANALYSIS

The area now known as Stephens City was originally settled around 1734 by Peter Stephens, one of a group of people who journeyed down from Pennsylvania with Joist Hite in 1732 and settled in the northern Shenandoah Valley. The exact site of Peter Stephens's house is not known, but it is believed to be at the southern end of town on the west side of Route 11 on what is now an empty lot (304-1-44Fk 5). It was Lewis Stephens, son of Peter Stephens, who was the founder of Stephens City and the owner of the original 900 acres that made up the town. Stephens City, then called Stephensburg in honor of Stephens, was chartered in 1758 and was originally made up of 140 lots.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
TRANSPORTATION

1758-1941

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Significant Person N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stephens City was chartered in 1758 and is the second oldest town in Frederick County. Since its beginnings, Stephens City has been a commercial center as well as a major crossroads. Its location at the intersection of the Valley Pike (U.S. Route 11) and the Old Dutch Wagon Road (State Route 277), once a major road from Alexandria to the west, greatly defined its physical and commercial growth. Because routes 11 and 277 were two very heavily traveled arteries through the Valley during the nineteenth century, the types of businesses that operated in Stephens City were oriented towards transportation. The wagon-making trade was an especially important enterprise in Stephens City, which was known for its high-quality Newtown wagons. The historical integrity of the individual buildings and the general townscape that make up the Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District is impressive. Main Street is particularly noteworthy as it has seen very little new construction or demolition since 1941.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Located in the lower Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, Stephens City is the second oldest town in Frederick County after Winchester. Originally called Stephensburg, the town was chartered in 1758 by Lewis Stephens, the son of Peter Stephens who settled in this area shortly after 1734. It is situated at the crossroads of Route 11, also known as the Valley Pike, and Route 277, the Old Dutch Wagon Road which was a very important east-west passage through the Valley. The town's location played a major role in the development of the town's transportation industry, most notably in the production of the nationally known Newtown wagon. Stephens

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property 65 acres

UTM References

A

1	7
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7	4	0	9	2	0
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4	3	3	0	2	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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7	4	1	0	1	0
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4	3	3	0	1	0	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

1	7
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7	4	0	9	8	0
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4	3	2	9	9	2	0
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D

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7	4	0	8	6	0
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4	3	2	9	5	6	0
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title MS. MARAL S. KALBIAN - ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
 organization _____ date OCTOBER 28, 1991
 street & number ROUTE 1 BOX 86 telephone (703) 837-2081
 city or town BOYCE state VA zip code 22620

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HISTORIC FUNCTIONS

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
multiple dwelling
secondary structure

COMMERCE: specialty store
restaurant

EDUCATION: school

RELIGION: religious facility

FUNERARY: cemetery

CURRENT FUNCTIONS

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
multiple dwelling
secondary structure

COMMERCE: specialty store
restaurant

RELIGION: religious facility

FUNERARY: cemetery

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

FEDERAL

GREEK REVIVAL

GOTHIC REVIVAL

ITALIANATE

QUEEN ANNE

COLONIAL REVIVAL

BUNGALOW CRAFTSMAN

OTHER: I-HOUSE

OTHER: VERNACULAR 18TH CENTURY LOG DWELLINGS WITH LATE-19TH-
CENTURY FOLK VICTORIAN DETAILS.

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The 1758 survey of the town shows its original square grid pattern made up of eighty half-acre lots (twenty of those had five acres of land annexed to them) and sixty ten-acre lots. This early layout of the town is still clearly evident in the town's current street patterns and lot sizes. Main (formerly Market Street now U.S. Route 11), German (originally named German but changed after World War II), and Mulberry streets were the main north-south thoroughfares, while Fairfax (State Route 277), Martin, Locust, and Green streets were the primary east-west roads. The majority of the lots close to the center of town were a half an acre in size and extended a full block in depth. Many were later subdivided. The Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District is primarily made up of the core of the original town limits. The integrity of the district is high with one hundred and forty-seven contributing buildings and sites and only forty-three noncontributing buildings.

The Stephens family was German, as were the majority of the families that settled Stephens City. German was the primary language spoken and written in the town until the early nineteenth century. Many of the early tombstones in the town's three cemeteries bear German markings.

There are many structures in the district that probably date to the earliest period of the town's history. These early buildings are all dwellings, and most have been added to and remodeled during later periods, making it difficult to discern their exact date of construction. The Captain Newcomer House (photo 19) is believed to be one of the oldest houses in town. It is a 1 1/2-story vernacular log dwelling with a steeply-pitched gable roof and corner fireplaces. The house is sited on the corner of Fairfax and Mulberry streets. Other early dwellings of this type are 5382 Main Street (304-1-54) and the Pitman House (304-1-62), both believed to have been built during the last quarter of the eighteenth century.

Another building from this early period is the Dean House (304-1-31), located at 5303 Main Street. This log, two-story, side-passage-plan dwelling is unusual for the fine brickwork of its exterior end chimney and also its brick

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summer kitchen. It is one of the few dwellings in the district with any surviving dependencies.

There are about thirty buildings in the district that date from the late eighteenth to the early nineteenth centuries. The majority are of log construction and were originally 1 1/2 stories (often later raised to two stories using frame), with either a central or exterior end chimney, small windows, and steeply-pitched roofs. These vernacular buildings were usually enlarged later in the nineteenth century and altered on the exterior according to the popular styles of the period. This was most often done during the Victorian era by reworking the front porch and adding decorative details.

Almost all of the dwellings in the district from this early period have a later full length one-story front porch with Folk Victorian details including a sawn or turned balustrade, turned supports, sawn brackets and pendants, and brackets in the eaves. Often brackets with pendants were placed in the frieze under the main roof of the house for added decoration. Despite later modifications, these early structures retain many of their original characteristics.

The best example in the district of an early log dwelling that has been extensively remodeled to reflect a later style is (304-1-21) 5221 Main Street (photo 2). This early-nineteenth-century, 1 1/2-story, gable-roofed, vernacular log dwelling has an exterior end coursed limestone chimney. During the second quarter of the twentieth century, the building was enlarged and several Craftsman details were added including a shed-roofed front dormer, wooden shingle in the dormer, triple three-over-one-sash windows, and a one-bay Craftsman entrance stoop. Despite the twentieth-century alterations, the dwelling is still identifiable as an early-eighteenth-century vernacular log building.

An interesting example of an eighteenth-century log dwelling with several nineteenth-century additions is Locust Hill (304-1-2). The three-bay side-passage-plan section with the exterior end stone chimney is the original portion, believed to have been built around 1791 by Ellis Long (photo 1). The

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two-story, two-bay brick side wing was added in the early nineteenth century by Dr. George Lynn, who used the area as an office. The last addition is a late-nineteenth-century frame wing to the rear. The house has not had any major changes or remodellings since that time and appears much the same as it did in the late 1800s. Not only is this house one of the finest in Stephens City, it has a rich history. It was the site of several incidents during the Civil War, many of which are documented in diaries written by the inhabitants of the house.

Some of the other early log buildings in the district are: 5231 Main Street (304-1-22) and its stone meathouse; 5259 Main Street (304-1-24); 5260 Main Street (304-1-11), which has a fine exterior end brick chimney laid in a Flemish bond pattern with glazed headers; 5288 Main Street (304-1-15); 5326, 5328 Main Street (304-1-48), where the log on the exterior has been exposed and the full dovetail notching revealed; 5330 Main Street (304-1-47), which was used as the parsonage for the Methodist Church (304-1-30) and is one of the few properties in the district with a central chimney; the Driver-Webster House (304-1-43) also with a central brick chimney; the Steele-Grove House (304-1-37), which has a c.1830s brick wing to the south and frame/log wing to the north; 5297 Germain Street (304-1-101), unusual in that it is a double-pile log house; the Samsell House (photo 24) with a semi-exterior end stone chimney; and 5336 Water Street (304-1-121) (photo 25), a one-story, gable-roofed, log dwelling with a central flue (originally a central stone chimney), that was possibly originally a slave's quarters for a property fronting on Main Street.

The earliest brick dwelling in the district is 5408 Main Street (304-1-65), built in 1819. The Tavern (photo 16), as it is commonly called, is a two-story Flemish-bond brick Federal-style dwelling with two interior end chimneys, jack arches over the windows, and a brick carriage house in the backyard. Its prominent location at the intersection of the Valley Pike and State Route 277 reflects its original use as a tavern for travelers making their way along these roads. The double-pile, central-hall plan of the building allowed for a parlor, bar, dining room, and proprietor's bedroom on the first floor, and four large bedrooms on the second

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floor. The kitchen was in the basement. It is believed that Andrew Jackson stopped here and made a speech from the front porch, and that it was used as a hospital during the Civil War. It operated continuously as a tavern until the early twentieth century when it became a private home. It is now used as a bed and breakfast.

The other early brick building is found at the northernmost boundary of the district on Main Street (304-1-123). The Ritenour-Miller House (now Applegate Antiques and Art) was built between 1810 and 1830. It is a two-story, gable-roofed, five-bay, brick (five-course American bond), Federal-style dwelling. Later additions include a side one-story wing with a protruding bay on the front, that was built after the 1860s by Dr. Miller who used it as his office.

The district's only stone dwelling was constructed during this early period of the town's history. The Argenbright-Grove House (304-1-68), located at 5428 Main Street, was probably built around 1800. It is a random rubble, 1 1/2-story, three-bay, vernacular hall-parlor-plan dwelling with a rear frame wing. It was used as a commercial building in the mid-nineteenth century, but was later converted back into a residence.

The other stone building in the district is a commercial building. The Flower Center (304-1-60), located at the intersection of Main and Fairfax streets (photo 15) is Stephens City's oldest surviving commercial building. It was remodeled during the mid-nineteenth century and again, in 1920 and now reflects a Romanesque Revival style. The early stonework, including some of the original stone arches with keystones, is clearly evident on the north side of the building.

Stephens City continued to grow and prosper during the late-ante-bellum period. According to Martin's 1836 Gazetteer of Virginia, Stephens City (then called Newtown or Stephensburg), had a population of seven hundred, four of whom were physicians. It was made up of eighty-eight dwellings, a market house, a Methodist and a jointly-held Lutheran and German Reformed church, three schools, two

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mercantile stores, three tan yards, and three saddlers. Wagonmaking was the principal industry, with more than nine different wagonmakers in business. The Gazetteer emphasizes that these wagons were known for their "neatness, strength, and durability" and were "not to be surpassed in the United States" by any other. No commercial buildings relating to the wagonmaking industry have survived in the district. By the mid-1850s, Stephens City had grown to about a hundred dwellings and had a population of over eight hundred.

During the mid-nineteenth century frame surpassed log as the primary construction material, and a few buildings were also built of brick. Stone was still seldom used except for chimneys and foundations. Although the Federal and Greek Revival styles were used in the district during this period, they were expressed in a subdued rather than ornate manner. The majority of the twenty-eight or so buildings in the district from this time period, however, are vernacular rather than high style. Although these buildings appear to have been built as dwellings, they were probably used for commercial purposes as well. There are only two known commercial examples from this era; the Flower Center (304-1-60) and 5336, 5338 Main Street, a two-story, five-course American bond brick, gable-roofed with parapet building which appears to have been built in at least two sections.

The Bucher-Lemley House (304-1-50) at 5369 Main Street (photo 11), is the district's finest example of a frame Federal-style dwelling. Its two-story, gable-roofed symmetrical, three-bay facade, has six-over-six sash windows, two interior end brick chimneys, and a single transom with tracery over the front door.

The houses at 5286 (304-1-14), 5425 (304-1-64), and 5381 (304-1-53) Main Street are the district's three brick Federal dwellings from this period. The one located at 5286 Main Street (photo 7) was constructed c.1820-1840 and laid in five-course American bond. It has a symmetrical facade with jack arches over the windows, a mousetooth cornice, an interior end chimney, and a single transom with circular wooden tracery over the door. It has a rear two-story brick ell, and the brick summer kitchen in the backyard is one of the few surviving ones of its type in the district. A similar house is 5425 Main Street (Welch House), except it

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has a side-passage plan and a rear two-story frame ell. The third house, 5381 Main Street (photo 13), also has many of the same details as the other two buildings except it lacks a mousetooth cornice. It has a frame one-story rear wing and a side two-story frame addition with two front doors.

The only example of the Greek Revival Style in the district is 5378 Main Street (304-1-57), although the style is expressed in a very subtle manner. It is a two-story, three-bay, symmetrical, gable-roofed, brick (five-course American bond) dwelling, with an interior end brick chimney. Its decorative Greek Revival details include a boxed cornice and wooden lintels with corner blocks over the windows.

Stephens City's religious buildings also reflect the town's history and pattern of settlement. The early settlers in the area were almost exclusively Germans, many of whom were Lutherans. It is not surprising, therefore, that Lutheran worship in Stephens City dates back to 1770. The first church was a log building and stood in the northwest corner of the Old Town Cemetery on Mulberry Street. (Photo 18) The Lutherans shared the use of this building with members of the German Reformed Church, another popular religion of the German settlers. Church records indicate that until the 1820s, all services were conducted in German. Around 1800 a second larger church was built on the west end of the old Lutheran cemetery, located diagonally across from the present Lutheran Church. (Photo 21) The log structure was torn down in 1812 and a brick church was built in its place across the street from the present edifice. This building was extensively remodeled and expanded in 1851 at a cost of \$2,250. The church was seriously damaged during the Civil War when it was used as a hospital. It underwent major repairs in 1884. In 1906, a new church was built on the southeast corner of Fairfax and Mulberry streets in the vernacular Gothic Revival style using many of the old materials from the former building (Photograph 20). Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is still very active and has continued to grow during the twentieth century. A parish hall was built to the west of the church in 1949.

Methodism also existed early on in Stephens City. The first Methodist preaching in the Shenandoah Valley was heard in Stephens City in 1775. This resulted in the organization of

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the first Methodist Society west of the Blue Ridge in that same year. The worship took place within private homes until 1788 when construction began on a log chapel located on Main Street on land donated by Lewis Stephens. Bishop Francis Asbury preached in Stephens City over sixteen times and recorded in his journal in 1790 that, a "spacious chapel" had been built. In 1827 this structure was replaced by a brick church built on the same site. That building was torn down in 1882 and replaced in 1913 with the present brick Gothic Revival-style structure. Several additions and alterations have been made to the church since then, but it still remains the most dominant religious structure on Main Street. The cemetery, located northwest of the present church, has tombstones from the period of the original log church.

The black community of Stephens City had its own churches. The earliest was the Methodist church located on the northern end of Mulberry Street; however the original church was destroyed during the Civil War and a new one was built shortly afterwards near the old site (photo 23). The materials for this church, known as Orrick Chapel, were donated by its first minister and namesake, Robert Orrick, a former slave who was an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He also gave the land for Orrick Cemetery in nearby Winchester (located on the old Valley Pike). Orrick Chapel was completely renovated in 1974 when aluminum siding was added to the original sanctuary and the rear 1961 addition. The windows are modern but retain their original Gothic-arched shape. Two other black churches within the historic district are the Stephens City Freewill Baptist Church, (304-1-25) established in 1892 and located at the northern end of Main Street, and the Glorious Church of God in Christ (304-1-78), established in 1891 and located at the southern end of Main Street. Freewill Baptist Church, 5263 Main Street, is architecturally similar to Orrick Chapel; gable-ended, frame, three bays on the side, with Gothic-arched windows. The church is particularly interesting, however, because of its pressed tin shingles that are used as roofing material. The Glorious Church of God in Christ, 5488 Main Street, has the same form as the other two churches, but lacks their vernacular Gothic Revival details.

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Several cemeteries are found within the limits of the historic district including the oldest, Old Town Cemetery, located at the corner of Mulberry and Green streets. (Photo 18) The earliest deed for this land dates back to 1799 and is signed by Lewis Stephens, Jr., however, the land may have been set aside earlier by Peter Stephens. The cemetery is surrounded by a split rail fence and is maintained by the town. It contains many readable tombstones but some are just simply dressed fieldstones with no inscription, while others are sunken and unmarked. The graves of Lewis Stephens, Jr. and his wife Mary are located just inside the rail fence.

The Lower Shenandoah Valley played a major role in the Civil War, as did Stephens City. With the Valley Pike as its Main Street, both Confederate and Federal troop movements through Stephens City was almost constant. The town changed hands many times, six times in one day alone, and its buildings and homes served as hospitals for the wounded. Luckily it escaped much destruction during the war, but experienced very little growth during the period shortly thereafter. Economic stability returned to the area by the early 1880s, however, and Stephens City experienced a tremendous building boom.

There are over thirty-five resources in the district that date from the late nineteenth to early twentieth century period. Almost all are dwellings of frame construction, ranging in architectural styles and forms from vernacular I-houses to the Queen Anne Style. Several commercial buildings were also constructed during this period, more of which survive from any other period in the town's history.

The only example of a one-story frame commercial building from this period in the district is 5296A Main Street (304-1-17) (photo 8). It was built between two earlier dwellings, one from the late eighteenth century, and one from the early nineteenth century. The Folk Victorian style is expressed in its strong cornice with brackets and in its porch with turned balusters, turned fretwork, and brackets. The original facade, complete with four-light, full-height windows and transoms, makes this one of the best preserved storefronts in the district.

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Spitzer's Furniture Company (304-1-138) on Main Street is also a commercial building dating from this time period, but its facade has been so greatly altered that it is considered a noncontributing building.

Further south along Main Street is 5339-5343 Main Street (304-1-36), a two-story, five-course American bond brick, hip-roofed, Italianate commercial building with segmented-arched windows and a heavy bracketed cornice. The second story of this building housed a cigar factory during the late nineteenth century. This is one of the district's finest examples of the Italianate style expressed in brick.

Another fine commercial building located along Main Street that is in fairly original condition is 5359-5361 Main Street (304-1-38). This two-story, frame, shed-roofed, vernacular building with a decorative cornice and parapet has a storefront on the first story and originally housed the Stephens City Opera House.

Almost directly across Main Street from the Opera House is another commercial building that was originally used for a social/cultural purpose. Gregory's Incorporated (304-1-59) was built in the 1920s as the Stephens City movie theater and originally showed silent movies. It was remodeled in the 1950s and given a protruding one-story storefront, and is now notable for its mid-twentieth-century architectural details.

The majority of dwellings in Stephens City from the late-nineteenth-century period have the I-house form with some level of Folk Victorian details such as a Folk Victorian porch (turned supports, sawn brackets, sawn balustrade), central front gables, wooden-shingle details, protruding one-story front bays, gable end returns, eave brackets, and decorative window surrounds. Almost all are two-story frame dwellings with a central-passage plan, and a two-story rear ell. The majority have a minimum of decoration, while a few are fairly ornate. An example exhibiting ornate decoration is 5372 Main Street (304-1-32), with its central front gable containing a Gothic Revival-style window, a Folk Victorian porch, a side two-story protruding bay, and bracketed cornice. The house at 806 Martin Street (304-1-90), on the

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other hand, has only a subdued Folk Victorian porch as a decorative feature (photo 22).

As previously mentioned, most of the older buildings in Stephens City were updated during the late nineteenth century with the application of Folk Victorian details to their facades. This was most often done by the addition of a one-story front Folk Victorian porch. A few examples of this type include: 5259 Main Street (304-1-24), an early-nineteenth-century log dwelling (photo 5); 5260 Main Street (304-1-11), a late-eighteenth-century log dwelling; 5280 Main Street (304-1-13), an early-nineteenth-century log example; and the Clem House (304-1-40), a mid-nineteenth-century log example.

There are three examples of the Italianate style in the district; two are residences and the third is a mid-nineteenth-century commercial building that once housed a cigar factory. Of the two dwellings, one is fairly simple and the other is highly ornate. The house at 5241 Main Street (304-1-23), is a side-passage-plan, two-story, frame dwelling with a heavily bracketed cornice and an Italianate-style one-story front porch. The larger and more sophisticated building is 5331 Main Street (304-1-33). It was built around 1880 by G. Mayer, a former mayor of Stephens City, as a private dwelling, but now houses a series of apartments. It is a fine example of the Italianate style with details such as paired one-over-one sash windows with segmental arches and rectangular window heads, a bracketed entablature with dentils, matching trim around the porch, arched bays on the porch, a central front gable containing a round window, full-height windows under the porch, and two interior end corbeled-brick chimneys.

Stephens City continued to grow during the early twentieth century. Unlike earlier periods, new construction was not limited primarily to dwellings, but included churches, schools, and commercial buildings.

The three commercial buildings from this era were a telephone office, a bus station, and a bank. The building at 5279 Main Street (304-1-28) was constructed in the second quarter of the twentieth century as a grocery store and later became the Stephens City telephone office (photo 6).

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It is a one-story stretcher-bond brick building with a hipped, standing-seam metal roof, and plate-glass front windows. It has generally been used for commercial purposes, although it is currently vacant. About a block south on Main Street is the ca.1930 to 1950, one-story, frame, shed-roofed, three-bay, vernacular building that originally housed the Stephens City bus depot (304-1-34). Even further south, at the intersection of Main and Fairfax streets, is 5395 Main Street (304-1-55). This prominent two-story, seven-course American-bond brick, Colonial Revival building was built in the 1920s as the People's Bank of Stephens City (photo 14). It has a flat roof with a parapet and sits on a raised basement. The Colonial Revival details include: a wide wooden cornice, jack arches with keystones over the first-floor openings, a brick belt course, and a pedimented door surround. The building has since served several different functions, including housing the town post office. Its location at the main intersection of town as well as its monumentality make it a very prominent building in the district.

Another prominent element of the district is the group of four educational buildings located on Main Street at the southern-most end of town. The main school building (304-1-80), is a two-story, brick (six-course American bond), hip-roofed, three-bay, vernacular building with triple full-height windows, a round-arched window in the recessed front central bay, concrete panels demarking the floor locations, and exposed rafters in eaves (photo 17) It was constructed in 1916 as a high school and later used as an elementary school. The three other buildings are also of brick construction and include: the agricultural and home economics classroom building, built around 1927; the elementary school built around 1928; and the school cafeteria, built around 1942 as a canning factory to encourage local citizens to can goods during World War II. The buildings have been vacant for several years, but are still in very original condition. Together they stand out as Frederick County's finest example of an early-twentieth-century educational complex.

The majority of dwellings from the early to mid-twentieth century are found at the northern end of the district,

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farthest away from the original core of the town. The styles used are Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and Bungalow/Craftsman. Generally, all the buildings are particularly impressive examples of their style.

In the 5200 block of Main Street are two examples of the Colonial Revival style. The building at 5206 Main Street (304-1-4) is a 2 1/2-story, stretcher-bond brick, hip-roofed dwelling, with a one-story pedimented front portico. A few doors to the south is 5226 Main Street (304-1-7), an excellent example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style (photo 3). This two-story, frame house has an unusual cross-gambrel roof, wooden shingles in the gambrel ends and the gable end returns, an integral one-story front porch, and diamond-shaped attic windows. Another example in the district, the Eldridge Lemley House (304-1-44), is a mid-nineteenth-century dwelling that was dramatically altered in the early to mid-twentieth century to reflect the Colonial Revival style.

Three examples of a modified Queen Anne style in Stephens City are spread throughout the district. They are: 5440 Mulberry Street (304-1-3); 5220 Main Street (304-1-6); and 5373 Main Street (304-1-51). All are frame with either simple cross-gable or hipped with lower cross-gable roofs. The exterior decoration on each dwelling, except on the porches, is very minimal.

The house at 5256 Main Street (304-1-10) is the only example of the Craftsman/Bungalow style in the district, although several of the buildings have Craftsman-style porches. These porches usually have short, square, wooden columns on brick piers. The house is a classic example of the style. It is a 1 1/2-story, frame, gable-roofed, three-bay dwelling with a one-story front porch (photo 4). Its Craftsman details include a low-pitched roof with a wide overhang and exposed decorative rafter ends and roof beams, a gabled dormer with triple windows, a battered foundation, stucco with bits of colored glass as siding, multi-pane sash over single-pane sash windows, a full-width front porch with square battered stuccoed columns on brick piers and a solid brick balustrade, and curved shapes between the end porch supports and the house.

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There are four examples in the district of American Foursquare-plan dwellings, each with different exterior details. The houses are located at 5240 Main Street (304-1-8), 5271 Main Street (304-1-27), 5445 Main Street (304-1-70), and 5473 Main Street (304-1-74). All are two-story, frame, hip-roofed examples with Craftsman-style one-story front porches, except for 5473 Main Street (304-1-74), which has a Colonial Revival style porch.

The present-day streetscape of Main Street in Stephens City is very similar to early twentieth century views of it, as seen in old postcards (photo 27). As a Valley Pike town, Stephens City is exceptional because it has changed little through time (photo 12). Even the few noncontributing buildings in the district have little negative impact on the overall integrity of the district, for they are generally sympathetic in material, volume, height, orientation, and to some degree, setback (photo 10). Many physical features that characterize the Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District include the grid pattern of the initial layout of the town, tree-lined streets, and unusual gutters that extend overhead from the houses, over the sidewalk, and empty into the street (photo 9). The side streets in the district have the same types of buildings as found on Main Street, but they are generally later and sited further apart from each other (photo 26).

In all, the historic resources of the Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District are a fine collection of buildings and sites that presents a wide range of building types and architectural styles that cover the entire range of Stephens City's 230-year history.

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NEWTOWN/STEPHENSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT INVENTORY

NOTE: ALL BUILDINGS AND SITES ARE CONTRIBUTING UNLESS INDICATED (NC) FOR NONCONTRIBUTING.

FAIRFAX STREET (RT. 277)

- ✓ 102 Fairfax Street (304 -146): ca.1920-1930, 2 1/2-story, frame (weatherboard), hip-roofed, 2-bay, American Foursquare dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ Trinity Lutheran Church (304 -96): ca.1906, 1-story, brick (7-course American bond), cross gable-roofed, 5-bay, asymmetrical, Gothic Revival church.
- ✓ Cemetery containing graves dating from mid- to late 18th century to the 20th century. Some markers display Germanic designs and inscriptions. The cemetery is located across Mulberry Street from the present church and is immediately east of the site of the original church - contributing site.
- ✓ 805 Fairfax Street (304 -133): 1950s, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
- ✓ 790 Fairfax Street (304 -85) Captain Newcomer House: late-18th-century, 1 1/2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.

FILBERT STREET

- ✓ 930-978 Filbert Street (304 -182): 1970s, 2-story, brick (stretcher-bond) and frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 18-bay, vernacular apartment building. (NC)

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Section number 7 Page 16GERMAIN STREET

- ✓ 5213 Germain Street (304 -158): ca.1935-1945, 1-story, frame (German lap), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5215 Germain Street (304 -159): ca.1935-1945, 1-story, frame (German lap), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5218 Germain Street (304 -98): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house.
- ✓ 5275 Germain Street (304 -99): ca.1840-1860, 1 1/2-story, log (composition siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch. Could have originally been used as a slave's quarters for a house on Main Street.
- ✓ 5285 Germain Street (304 -100): late-19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Folk Victorian dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5297 Germain Street (304 -101): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (German lap on front; weatherboard elsewhere), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling with mid- to late-19th-century, frame 1 1/2-story rear all addition. An unusually large (double-pile, 2-story) log house.
- ✓ 5306 Germain Street (304 -102): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front stoop.
- ✓ 5311 Germain Street (304 -103): early-20th-century, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with enclosed 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5317 Germain Street (304 -104): ca.1910-1930, 2-story, frame (stucco on first story, composition siding on second story), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling.

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- ✓ 5325 Germain Street (304 -150): ca.1975-1985, 1-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
 - ✓ 5334 Germain Street (304 -105): ca.1880-1900, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), parapet gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling; moved to this site around 1970.
 - ✓ 5335 Germain Street (304 -106): ca.1810-1830, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch and ca.1880-1900, 1 1/2-story, frame, rear ell addition.
 - ✓ 5341 Germain Street (304 -149): ca.1975-1985, 1-story frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
 - ✓ 5355 Germain Street (304 -107): ca.1880-1900, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
 - ✓ 5360 Germain Street (304 -108): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
 - ✓ 5367 Germain Street (304 -148): ca.1975-1985, 2-story, frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch. (NC)
 - ✓ 5370 Germain Street (304 -109): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
 - ✓ 5375 Germain Street (304 -147): ca.1975-1985, 1-story, frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
 - ✓ 5385 Germain Street (304 -110): ca.1910-1930, 1-story, frame (German lap), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with reworked 1-story front porch.

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- ✓ 5393 Germain Street (304 -111): ca.1820-1840, 1 1/2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular building used as a blacksmith shop. ca.1870-1890, 2-story frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch; added to the south end of the original log building.
- ✓ 5407 Germain Street (304 -112): mid- to late- 19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular dwelling built in two sections with two front doors, 1-story front porch, and 1-story rear ell; major additions made in late 19th century.
- ✓ 5410 Germain Street (304 -113): late-19th- or early-20th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular duplex with entrance stoop. Architecturally, this is the same building as 5437 Germain Street.
- ✓ 5437 Germain Street (304 -114): late-19th- or early-20th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular duplex. Architecturally, this building is the same as 5410 Germain Street.

GREEN STREET

- ✓ 850 Green Street (304 -132) Cardinal Electric Supply: 1970s, 1-story frame (Texture T-1-11) and brick (stretcher bond), complex-roofed, 3-bay, modern commercial building. (NC)
- ✓ 851 Green Street (304 -185) Stephens City Plaza: 1980s, 1-story, brick (stretcher-bond), mansard-roofed, 7-bay, vernacular commercial mall. (NC)
- ✓ 960 Green Street (304 -177): ca. 1890-1910, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.

MAIN STREET

5100 Block

- ✓ 5155 Main Street (304 -123) Applegate Antiques and

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Art: ca.1810-1830, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed, 5-bay, Federal dwelling with 1-story front porch, side 1-story protruding bay, and 1 1/2-story rear ell.

1 1/2-story stone springhouse/meathouse west of main house - contributing building.

✓ 5187 Main Street (304 -141) Home Discount Tile: 1970s, 1-story, steel frame (sheet metal and stone, random rubble), gable-roofed, 5-bay, modern commercial building. (NC)

✓ 5190 Main Street (304 -142): ca.1830-1850, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with hooded front stoop, and mid-20th-century additions.

✓ 5194 Main Street (304 -143): ca.1945-1965, 1 1/2-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)

✓ 5195 Main Street (304 -19): ca.1840-1860, 2-story, log (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch and 2-story frame rear ell.

5200 Block

✓ 5206 Main Street (304 -4): ca.1900-1940, 2 1/2-story, brick (stretcher bond), hipped-roof, 3-bay, Colonial Revival dwelling with 1-story pedimented front portico.

✓ 5211 Main Street (304 -20) Locust Hill: ca.1790, 2-story, 3-bay, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch, exterior end stone/brick chimney, 2-story, 2-bay, brick (5-course American bond), side ca.1840-1860 addition. This is one of the best historically-documented houses in Stephens City.

✓ 5212 Main Street (304 -5): ca.1865-1880, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 1-story front porch and 2-story rear ell.

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✓ 5220 Main Street (304 --6): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), hip with cross gable-roofed, 2-bay, Queen Anne dwelling with 1-story front wraparound porch.

✓ 5221 Main Street (304 --21): early-19th-century, 1 1/2-story, log (stucco), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with exterior end coursed limestone chimney. 2nd quarter 20th-century Craftsman details added including shed-roofed front dormer, new windows, and 1-bay entrance stoop.

✓ 5226 Main Street (304 --7): ca.1890-1920, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), cross gambrel-roofed, 3-bay, Dutch Colonial Revival dwelling with wooden shingles in gambrel ends and integral 1-story front porch.

✓ 5227 Main Street (304 --145): ca.1930-1945, 1-story, frame (asbestos shingle), clipped end gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with pedimented front stoop.

✓ 5231 Main Street (304 --22): early- to mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1 1/2-story, brick (5-course American bond), rear ell and 1-story front wraparound porch.

Stone meathouse with frame addition located west of main house - contributing building.

✓ 5240 Main Street (304 --8): ca.1890-1920, 2 1/2-story, frame (bricktex), hip-roofed, 2-bay, American Foursquare dwelling with 1-story front porch.

✓ 5241 Main Street (304 --23): mid- to late-19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch, bracketed cornice and 2-story rear ell.

✓ 5252 Main Street (304 --9): ca.1840-1860, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 1-story front porch.

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✓ 5256 Main Street (304 -10): ca.1910-1940, 1 1/2-story, frame (stucco), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Craftsman dwelling with 1-story front porch.

✓ 5259 Main Street (304 -24): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (stucco), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with mid- to late-19th-century, 2-story rear ell with 2-tiered side porches, exterior end stone chimney, and 1-story front porch.

Frame meathouse, garage, and machine shed located north of the main house - 3 contributing buildings.

✓ 5260 Main Street (304 -11): late-18th- to early-19th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 2-story rear wing, 1-story front porch, and exterior end brick (Flemish bond with glazed headers) chimney.

✓ 5263 Main Street (304 -25) Stephens City Freewill Baptist Church: ca.1880-1900, 1 1/2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, vernacular church with rear chancel with Palladian window, and 9-pane circular window in front gable end. Front, 1-story, gable-roofed, brick (stretcher bond), addition (ca.1970) conceals original entrance of building. Is one of three black churches in Stephens City.

✓ 5266 Main Street (304 -12): ca.1840-1860, 2-story, frame (German lap), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 2-story rear ell and 1-story Folk Victorian front porch.

✓ 5267 Main Street (304 -26): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (German lap), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story Folk Victorian front porch and 2-story frame rear ell.

✓ 5271 Main Street (304 -27): ca.1920-1940, 2 1/2-story, frame (stucco), hip-roofed, 2-bay, American Foursquare dwelling with 1-story Craftsman-style front porch and 2-story frame rear wing.

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- ✓ 5279 Main Street (304 -28): ca.1930-1950, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), hip-roofed, 3-bay, commercial building with plate-glass front windows and side shed-roofed 1-story wing; was originally a grocery store and later the town telephone office.
- ✓ 5280 Main Street (304 -13): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (wooden shingle), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with late-19th- and early-20th-century additions including a 1-story Folk Victorian-style front porch.
- ✓ 5283 Main Street (304 -29): mid-19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with brick stoop and late-19th-century rear 2-story ell addition.
- ✓ 5286 Main Street (304 -14): ca.1820-1840, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), 4-bay, Federal dwelling with mousetooth brick cornice, 1-story front porch and rear 2-story brick ell with 2-tier side porches.

1-story, brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed, summer kitchen southeast of house - contributing building.
- ✓ 5288 Main Street (304 -15): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with exterior end stone chimney, 2-story rear ell, and 1-bay entrance porch.
- ✓ 5290 Main Street (304 -16): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 5-bay (south 3 bays are log and north 2 bays are frame additions), vernacular dwelling with central chimney, 1-story front porch, mid-19th-century alterations, and rear 2-story modern apartment addition.
- ✓ 5291 Main Street, Stephens City United Methodist Church (304 -30): 1914, 1 1/2-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, 2-story Gothic Revival Church

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with ca.1980s rear addition.

Cemetery containing graves dating from mid- to late-19th century to the 20th century. The cemetery is located northwest of the present church and is immediately west of the site of the original 1789 church - contributing site.

✓ **5296A Main Street (304 -17):** ca.1880-1900, 1-story, frame (weatherboard), shed-roofed with parapet, 1-story, 3-bay, Folk Victorian commercial building with brackets in eaves and Folk Victorian front porch.

✓ **5296B Main Street (304 -18):** early-19th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with Craftsman-style 1-story front porch, 2-story frame rear ell, 2 interior end chimneys, and late-19th- and mid-20th-century additions.

5300 Block

✓ **5303 Main Street (304 -31):** late-18th- to early-19th-century, 2-story log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 2-story frame rear ell, exterior end brick chimney, and 1-story front porch.

1-story, brick (5-course American bond), summer kitchen located behind main house - contributing building.

✓ **5306 Main Street (304 -137) Farmers and Merchants Bank:** 1970s, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Modern Colonial Revival bank. (NC)

✓ **5307 Main Street (304 -138) Spitzer's Furniture Company:** ca.1880s, 2-story, frame (stretcher-bond brick veneer), flat-roofed with parapet, 13-bay, commercial building with ca.1930 and 1980 additions and alterations including a 1-story modern front porch and a new storefront. Parts of this building were originally used as a bank. This structure was once a fine example of a Victorian commercial building but has been so altered that it now lacks its architectural integrity. (NC)

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✓ 5317 Main Street (304 -139): ca.1940-1960, 2-story, frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular commercial building with 1-story shed-roofed overhang which acts as front porch,. Was originally used as the local Southern States building. (NC)

✓ 5322, 5324 Main Street (304 -49): ca.1880-1900, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular I-house with 2-story rear ell and 1-story front porch.

✓ 5326, 5328 Main Street (304 -48): early-19th-century, 2-story, exposed log (top 1/2 story is V-notch and bottom 1 1/2 story is full dovetail notch), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling. Bottom 1 1/2 story is original and top 1/2 story added in mid-19th century.

Ca.1920-1950, 1-story, frame (board and batten), shed-roofed, 3-bay commercial building located north of dwelling - contributing building.

✓ 5327 Main Street (304 -32): ca.1880-1900, 2-story, frame (German lap), gable-roofed with central front gable, 3-bay, Folk Victorian dwelling with 1-story Folk Victorian porch, side 2-story protruding bay, bracketed cornice, Gothic Revival-style window in central front gable, and rear 2-story ell.

✓ 5330 Main Street (304 -47): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular dwelling with central brick chimney, 1-story modern front porch, and 2-story rear ell. Was built as the parsonage for the Methodist Church (304 -30) and is unusual in that it is one of the few properties in the district that has a central chimney.

✓ 5331 Main Street (304 -33) Yancey Apartments: ca.1870-1890, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed with central front gable, 3-bay, Italianate dwelling with bracketed cornice, Italianate 1-story front porch, 2-story rear ell, decorative trim around windows and door, and 2 interior end brick chimneys.

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✓ 5334 Main Street (304 -46): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling with early-20th-century 2-story frame side wing and 1-story front porch.

✓ 5335 Main Street (304 -34): ca.1930-1950, 1-story, frame (weatherboard), shed-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular commercial building with overhanging-roof. Was originally built as the Stephens City bus depot.

✓ 5336, 5338 Main Street (304 -45): mid-19th-century, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed with parapet, 5-bay, vernacular commercial building which appears to have been built in 2 separate sections. This building was used as a store after the Civil War. It is one of the older commercial structures in the district.

✓ 5337 Main Street (304 -35): ca.1910-1940, 2-story, frame (Texture T-1-11 and aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling.

✓ 5339, 5343 Main Street (304 -36): mid-19th-century, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), hip-roofed, 4-bay, Italianate commercial building with segmentally-arched windows, and a bracketed cornice. A cigar factory was located in the second story of this building during the late 19th century.

✓ 5342 Main Street (304 -44) Eldridge-Lemley House: mid-19th-century, 2 1/2-story, brick (5-course American bond), hip-roofed, 3-bay, Colonial Revival dwelling with a Colonial Revival 1-story front porch, exterior end brick chimney, and ca.1930s alterations and additions. This 19th-century house was altered dramatically in the early to mid-20th century and is now predominantly of the Colonial Revival style.

1-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, carriage house located east of main house - contributing building.

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✓ 5352 Main Street (304 -43) Driver-Webster House: late-18th- to early-19th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with central brick chimney and 1-story rear wing.

✓ 5353-5357 Main Street (304 -37) Steele-Grove House: late-18th- to early-19th-century, 2-story log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay vernacular dwelling which is original portion of house. It has a ca.1830-1840, 2-story brick (Flemish bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay wing to the south; and a 2-story, frame/log (weatherboard) commercial building to the north (which was later attached to the house). This property is an interesting example of the evolution of a late-18th-century house through several stages and periods.

✓ 1-story, stone (coursed limestone), gable-roofed, meathouse behind main house with datestone of "1818"-contributing building.

✓ 5356 Main Street (304 -42): late-19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling. This was built as an addition to 304-1-43 but is now a separate building; the 1-story rear wing is connected to both houses.

✓ 5359, 5361 Main Street (304 -38): late-19th- to early-20th-century, 2-story, frame (German lap), shed-roofed with parapet, 6-bay, vernacular commercial building with decorative cornice, rear 2-story ell, and storefront on first story. This was originally the Stephens City Opera House.

✓ 5360 Main Street (304 -41): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), hip-roofed with central front gable, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch and rear 2-tier porches.

✓ 5363 Main Street (304 -86): ca.1830-1850, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with exterior end stone chimney and ca.1880-1900 additions including 1-story front porch and 1-story rear wing. This was the former residence of the

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owner of the Stephens City Opera House (304-1-38); the two buildings are connected by an interior door.

✓ 5364 Main Street (304 -40) Clem House: mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with late-19th-century 1-story front porch and 2-story rear ell.

✓ 5366 Main Street (304 -39): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling appears to have been built in two parts with late-19th-century additions and 1-story front porch.

✓ 5368 Main Street (304 -59) Gregory's Inca.: 1920s, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), shed-roofed with parapet, vernacular commercial building with bracketed-cornice, protruding 1-story storefront, and 1950s alterations. This was the site of the old Stephens City movie theater.

✓ 5369 Main Street (304 -50) Bucher-Lemley House: ca.1830-1860, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Federal dwelling with 2 interior end brick chimneys, 1-story front porch, and 2-story rear ell with exterior end chimney.

✓ 5372 Main Street (304 -58) Helsley Place: ca.1800, 2-story (1 1/2-story log and 1/2-story frame), aluminum siding, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with exterior end brick chimney, rear 2-story wing. Additions made ca.1820-1840 and ca.1870-1900.

✓ 5373 Main Street (304 -51): ca.1880-1920, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), cross gable-roofed, Queen Anne dwelling with 1-story front porch.

✓ 5377 Main Street (304 -52): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling with Folk Victorian-style 1-story front porch, 2-story rear ell, and 2 front doors.

✓ 5378 Main Street (304 -57): ca.1830-1850, 2-story,

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brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Greek Revival dwelling with closed-in front 1-story porch, 2-story rear wing, wooden lintels with corner blocks over windows, interior end brick chimney, and boxed cornice.

✓ 5381 Main Street (304 -53): ca.1820-1840, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Federal dwelling with frame 1-story rear wing.

✓ 5382 Main Street (304 -56): late-18th- to early-19th-century, 1 1/2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch, and exterior end brick (5-course American bond) chimney.

✓ 5387 Main Street (304 -54): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (German lap), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with coursed limestone exterior end chimney, 2-story rear wing, 1-story front porch, and horizontal ship-lap siding under porch.

✓ 5395 Main Street (304 -55): ca.1920s, 2-story, brick (7-course American bond), flat-roofed with parapet, 3-bay, commercial Colonial Revival building with wide wooden cornice, keystones, brick belt course, and pedimented door surround. This was built as the People's Bank of Stephens City. It was later used as a post office.

5400 Block

✓ 5405 Main Street (304 -60) The Flower Center: early- to mid-19th-century, 2-story, stone (random rubble), shed-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular commercial building. Has had mid- to late-19th-century and early-20th-century additions including: coursed stone storefront, rear brick (5-, 6- and 7-course American bond) wing, wide wooden cornice with brackets, segmentally-arched windows, and storefront on first story. One of the older commercial buildings in the district which has evolved from the early 19th century.

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✓ 5408 Main Street (304 -65) The Tavern: 1819, 2-story, brick (Flemish bond), gable-roofed, 5-bay, Federal dwelling with 1-story front porch and 2 interior end chimneys. This was originally a tavern.

1-story brick carriage house now used as a garage located east of house - contributing building.

✓ 5413 Main Street (304 -61): ca.1880-1920, 2-story, frame (stucco), flat-roofed with parapet, 3-bay, vernacular commercial building with storefront on first story and wooden bracketed cornice.

✓ 5415 Main Street (304 -62): late-18th-century, 2-story, log (stucco), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch and large interior stone/brick chimney.

✓ 5419 Main Street (304 -63): mid- to late-19th-century, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.

✓ 5425 Main Street (304 -64) Welch House: ca.1830-1850, 2-story, brick (5-course American bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Federal dwelling with Folk Victorian 1-story front porch, interior end brick chimney, mousetooth brick cornice, and rear 2-story frame ell.

✓ 5420A Main Street (304 -66): ca.1910-1940, 1-story, frame (sheet metal pressed to look like coursed stone), shed-roofed, vernacular garage building with double garage doors.

✓ 5420 Main Street (304 -67): late-18th-century, 2-story, log (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch, interior end brick chimney, and 1-story rear wing.

✓ 5428 Main Street (304 -68) Argenbright-Grove House: ca.1800, 1 1/2-story, stone (random rubble), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with rear 2-story frame ell with 2-tier side porches. This house appears to have been an addition to 304 -67.

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- ✓ 5436 Main Street (304 -69): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story wraparound porch and 2-story rear ell.
- ✓ 5437 Main Street (304 -131): ca.1955-1970, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 5-bay, Ranch-style dwelling with pedimented portico, rear 1-story apartment wing, and 1-story detached duplex in rear yard. (NC)
- ✓ 5444 Main Street (304 -130): ca.1950-1960, 1-story, brick (6-course garden wall bond), flat-roofed, 5-bay, gas station building. (NC)
- ✓ 5445 Main Street (304 -70): ca.1920-1940, 2 1/2-story, frame (wooden shingle) on second story and brick (stretcher bond) on first story, hip-roofed, 2-bay, American Foursquare dwelling with 1-story Craftsman front porch and side 1-story wing.
- ✓ 5460 Main Street (304 -129): ca.1945-1965, 1-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular commercial building with protruding front bay with perma-stone siding. (NC)
- ✓ 5455 Main Street (304 -128): ca.1985-1987, 2-story, frame (vinyl siding) and brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 7-bay, Modern split-level-style dwelling. (NC)
- ✓ 5465 Main Street (304 -71): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch, 1-story rear wing.
- ✓ 5466 Main Street (304 -72): early-19th-century, 2-story, log (stucco), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch and side and rear wings.
- ✓ 5472 Main Street (304 -73): ca.1880-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular I-house with reworked 1-story front porch and rear 2-story wing.

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- ✓ 5473 Main Street (304 -74): ca.1910-1930, 2 1/2-story, frame (vinyl siding), hip-roofed, 2-bay, American Foursquare dwelling with 1-story front Colonial Revival-style porch.
- ✓ 5479 Main Street (304 -75): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story Folk Victorian porch and rear 2-story wing.
- ✓ 5480 Main Street (304 -84): ca.1890-1920, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story Colonial Revival-style porch and 2-story rear ell.
- ✓ 5483 Main Street (304 -76): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular duplex with Craftsman-style 1-story front porch and 2 front doors.
- ✓ 5484 Main Street (304 -127): ca.1950-1970, 2-story, frame (composition siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular apartment building with 1-bay pedimented portico. (NC)
- ✓ 5488 Main Street (304 -78) Glorious Church of God in Christ: 1891, 1-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 1-bay, vernacular church with wooden belfry with Folk Victorian details. One of three black churches in Stephens City.
- ✓ 5489 Main Street (304 -126): ca.1960-1975, 1-story, frame (aluminum siding and brick veneer), gable-roofed, 6-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
- ✓ 5495 Main Street (304 -77): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with root cellar in backyard.

5500 Block

- ✓ 5506 Main Street (304 -79): 1928, 1-story, brick (6-course variated with glazed headers), hip-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular school building with decorative

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brickwork. This was built for extra space for high school students but was later used as an elementary school.

- ✓ 5511 Main Street (304 .-125) First Virginia Bank: ca.1975-1985, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), hip-roofed, 9-bay, Modern Colonial Revival bank building. (NC)
- ✓ 5516 Main Street (304 .-80): 1916, 2-story, brick (6-course American bond), hip-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular school building with triple full-height windows, round-arched window in recessed front central bay, concrete panels demarking floor locations, and exposed rafters in eaves. This was the first school built on this site-for grades 1 - 12; after 1950 it was used only as an elementary school.
- ✓ 5516 (A) Main Street (304 .-82): ca.1940, 1-story brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular school building. This was used as the school cafeteria.
- ✓ 5516 (B) Main Street (304 .-81): 1927, 1-story, brick (6-course variated), hip-roofed, 5-bay, vernacular school building with exposed rafters in eaves. This building was used as the agricultural and home economics school and later housed the library.

5600 Block

5601 Main Street (~~304-1-447k-5~~): probable mid-18th-century site of Peter Stephens House as well as earlier settlement sites (Archaic and Woodland Period)-contributing site.

MARTIN STREET

800 Block

304-1-1

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✓ 806 Martin Street (304 -90): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 1-story front porch and 1-story rear ell.

900 Block

✓ 904 Martin Street (304 -140): 1960s, 1-story, frame (composition siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)

✓ 940 Martin Street (304 -120): ca.1910-1915, 2-story, frame (composition siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with rear 1-story wing - is one of a matched pair built at the same time as 304-1-119.

✓ 990 Main Street (304 -119): ca.1910-1915, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 2-story rear ell and 1-story front porch - is one of a matched pair built at the same time as 304-1-120.

1000 Block

✓ 1025 Martin Street (304 -118): ca.1840-1860, 2-story, log (original, right 2 bays with aluminum siding), and ca.1880-1910 frame addition (left bay with aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with Folk Victorian 1-story front porch.

✓ 1030 Martin Street (304 -151): ca.1975-1985, 1-story, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)

✓ 1033 Martin Street (304 -83): ca.1820-1850, 1 1/2-story, log (bricktex), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with closed-in 1-story front porch and ca.1890-1920 alterations. May have been a slave's quarters for one of the houses on Main Street.

✓ 1041 Martin Street (304 -152): ca.1900-1920, 1-story, log and frame (Texture T-1-11), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling with reworked 1-story front porch and ca.1960-1985 additions.

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MULBERRY STREET

5300 Block

- ✓ 5300 Mulberry Street (304 -87) Samsell House: ca.1810-1830, 2-story, log (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with semi-exterior end stone chimney and side 1-story wing. One of older houses on this street.
- ✓ 5310 Mulberry street (304 -88) Orrick Chapel: ca.1870-1890, 1-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 1-bay front, 3-bay side, vernacular Gothic Revival-style church. One of three black churches in Stephens City.
- ✓ 5324 Mulberry Street (304 -89): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (stucco), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 1-bay, 1-story pedimented portico.
- ✓ 5341 Mulberry Street (304 -136): 1960s, 1-story, frame (composition siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, Ranch-style dwelling. (NC)
- ✓ 5346 Mulberry Street (304 -135) Stephens City Fire Company: ca.1910-1940, 1-story, brick (stretcher bond), gable-roofed, vernacular fire station with open bell tower and 2-bay ca.1970-1990 concrete block addition. (NC) due to loss of architectural integrity.
- ✓ 5354 Mulberry Street (304 -91): ca.1860-1890, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), shallow gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5357 Mulberry Street (304 -93): ca.1880-1900, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular I-house with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5368(a) Mulberry Street (304 -92): ca. 1920-1940, frame (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with 1-story front porch.
- ✓ 5368(b) Mulberry Street (304 -184): ca. 1940-1960, 1-story, frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 4-bay, vernacular dwelling. (NC)

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✓ 5374 Mulberry Street (304 -94): mid-19th-century, 1 1/2-story, log (V-notched), 5-bay, gable-roofed, vernacular building. Was moved to this site in 1989 and is made up of several log structures put together.

✓ 5375 Mulberry Street (304 -134): ca.1970-1990, 2-story, concrete block (stucco), flat-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular commercial building. (NC)

✓ 5384 Mulberry Street (304 -95): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (exposed V-notched with weatherboard in gable ends and rear ell), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with interior end brick chimney and ca.1975-1985 renovations.

5400 Block

✓ 5416 Mulberry Street (³⁰⁴⁻¹⁹⁰~~304-111~~): mid-19th-century, 2-story, log (aluminum siding), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular dwelling with early-20th-century additions, 1-story front porch, and rear 2-story ell.

Ca.1910-1930, 1-story, rusticated concrete block, shed-roofed, vernacular outbuilding located south of main house - contributing building.

✓ 5426 Mulberry Street (304 -2): ca.1890-1910, 2-story, frame (weatherboard), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular dwelling.

✓ Late-19th- to early-20th-century, frame ⁽³⁰⁴⁻¹⁴⁾ meathouse and barn located east of main house - 2 contributing buildings.

✓ 5440 Mulberry Street (304 -3): ca.1890-1920, 2-story, frame (aluminum siding), cross gable-roofed, Queen Anne dwelling with two, 3-bay, 1-story, Folk Victorian-style porches on either side of 2-story front protruding bay.

✓ Ca.1890-1920, board-and-batten ⁽³⁰⁴⁻¹⁶⁾ meathouse and ⁽³⁰⁴⁻¹⁷⁾ frame 2-story barn located east of main house - 2 contributing buildings.

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✓ 5450 Mulberry Street (304 -97) Old Town Cemetery:
ca.1779, earliest cemetery in Stephens City containing
the town's earliest settlers including members of the
Stephens family; a church, later used as a
schoolhouse, once stood on the lot- contributing site.

NEWTOWN COURT

✓ 1-6 Newtown Court (304 -144): ca.1975-1985, a set of 3
townhouse buildings, 2-story frame (aluminum siding)
and brick (stretcher bond) veneer, gable-roofed, 4-bay,
vernacular apartments with 1-story front balconies on
the second story. (NC)

WATER STREET5300 Block

✓ 5316 Water Street (304 -155): ca.1900-1930, 2-story,
frame (bricktex), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular
dwelling with 1-story front porch and rear 1-story
wing. One of series of three houses on this block from
this time period.

✓ 5324 Water Street (304 -154): ca.1900-1930, 2-story,
frame (vinyl siding), gable-roofed, 2-bay, vernacular
dwelling with 1-story front porch, 1-story rear wing,
and aluminum awnings. One of series of three houses on
this block from this time period.

✓ 5330 Water Street (304 -122): ca.1900-1930, 2-story,
frame (bricktex), gable-roofed, 3-bay, vernacular
dwelling with 1-story front porch and 2-story rear
wing. One of series of three houses on this block from
this time period.

✓ 5336 Water Street (304 -121): late-18th- to early-
19th-century, 1-story log (weatherboard), gable-roofed,
3-bay, vernacular dwelling with central flue
(originally central stone chimney). This may have
originally been a slave's quarters for another property
in Stephens City.

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✓ 5340 Water Street (304 -153): ca.1950-1970, 1-story,
frame (asbestos shingle), gable-roofed, 5-bay, Ranch-
style dwelling. (NC)

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City has had a fairly long sequence of names. Although the town was chartered as Stephensburg, it appeared as Stephens Town in road orders of the same period. By the mid-nineteenth century, the name of the town had changed to New Town, appearing as such for the first time officially in an 1854 act of the General Assembly. In 1879 a new charter was granted to the town, referred to in the document as "The Town of Newtown-Stephensburg." The charter was amended in a May, 1887 act which changed the name of the town to Stephens City.

The proposed historic district boundaries coincide with most of the boundaries of the original town, and the district's period of significance ranges from the town's beginnings in 1758 to 1941. The period of significance reflects the fact that there are noteworthy buildings in the district that are representative of the entire period. Often, older buildings were remodeled to reflect a new period or style instead of being replaced by new ones. The integrity of the architecture and streetscape of present-day Stephens City is unusually high as it clearly reflects the history of growth and development in the town. It is one of the best-preserved Valley towns in the Lower Shenandoah Valley.

In 1732, Peter Stephens journeyed to this area with Joist Hite, a German immigrant from Germantown, Pennsylvania, and fifteen other families. He settled at what would later become Stephens City, approximately fifty yards north of Stephens Run, his house being located on the lot adjoining that of the present-day First Virginia Bank (304-1-44Fk 5). In September 1758 Peter Stephens's son Lewis laid out the town of Stephensburg using a linear grid plan. He divided the town into eighty half-acre lots, each having five- or ten-acre out-lots for gardens. The lots were centered around three public wells and a market house, the latter of which was located in the middle of the intersection of Main (Route 11) and Fairfax (Route 277) streets. The buildings at this intersection were noticeably set back from adjacent ones to accommodate the now-demolished market house. Almost without exception, residents of Stephens City built their homes at the very front edge of their half-acre lot, thereby maximizing the land behind the house for garden or livestock purposes. This pattern of settlement is clearly evident on the present-day streets of Stephens City where the buildings

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are placed close to the front edge of the lot with hardly any setback.

Stephens City was settled almost exclusively by Germans in its early years, many of whom were Lutherans. Lutheran worship in Stephens City dates to 1770. The first church was a log building and stood in the northwest corner of the Old Town Cemetery on Mulberry Street. (Photo 18) A second church was built on the west end of the old Lutheran cemetery, located diagonally across from the present Lutheran church. The German heritage of the town is reflected in the German inscriptions on some of the early markers in this cemetery. (Photo 21) The Lutherans shared the use of the building with members of the Reformed Church. The Reverend Christian Streit was one of several ministers who preached there. Church records indicate that until the 1820s all services were conducted in German. In 1812, the log structure was torn down and a brick church was built. The greater part of this building was taken down and rebuilt in 1851 at a cost of \$2,250. It was seriously damaged during the Civil War when it was used as a hospital. It again underwent major repairs in 1884. In 1906, a new church, Trinity Lutheran, was built at the present site using many of the old materials from the former building. (Photograph 20) The bell that hangs in the steeple of the present church is the same bell donated by George W. Lemley to the earlier 1812 structure.

Methodism also existed early on in the community. The first Methodist preaching in the Shenandoah Valley was heard in Stephens City in 1775. This resulted in the organization of the first Methodist Society west of the Blue Ridge in that same year. Worship took place within private homes until the late 1780s when construction began on a log chapel on Main Street. Bishop Francis Asbury preached in Stephens City over sixteen times and recorded in his journal in 1790 that, a "spacious chapel" had been built. In 1827 this structure was replaced by a brick church built on the same site. That building was torn down in 1882 and was replaced in 1913 with the present brick Gothic Revival structure, now called the Stephens City Methodist Church. The cemetery, located northwest of the present church, has tombstones dating from the period of the original log church.

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The black community in Stephens City had its own Methodist church on the northern end of Mulberry Street, but it was destroyed during the Civil War. The church was rebuilt shortly afterwards near the old site. (photo 23) The materials for this church, known as Orrick Chapel, were donated by its first minister and namesake Robert Orrick, a former slave who was an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. His master, Major Kean (Cain) of Winchester, permitted him to run a business of his own, from which he became quite wealthy. His assets included a livery stable, a mail route, and several farms. He also gave the land for Orrick Cemetery in nearby Winchester (located on the old Valley Pike). Two more black churches within the historic district are the Stephens City Freewill Baptist Church, established in 1892 and located on the northern end of Main Street, and the Glorious Church of God in Christ, established in 1891 and located at the southern end of Main Street.

Several cemeteries are found within the limits of the historic district including the oldest, Old Town Cemetery, located at the corner of Mulberry and Green streets. (Photo 18) The earliest deed for this land dates to 1799 and is signed by Lewis Stephens, Jr.; however, the land may have been set aside earlier by Peter Stephens. The cemetery was made up of two half-acre lots, and was referred to as the "schoolhouse and graveyard lots". A schoolhouse once stood on the northwest corner of the lot and was sometimes called the East Academy. It was originally built as the first Lutheran church in town. Many of the tombstones in the cemetery are simple dressed fieldstones with no inscription and many other graves are sunken and unmarked. The graves of Lewis Stephens, Jr., and his wife Mary are located just inside the rail fence.

Stephens City's economy was based primarily on the transportation industry. Its location at the crossroads of two highly traversed routes helped establish a very successful wagon making industry for which the town became famous. The Newtown wagon became nationally known for its ruggedness and sturdiness during the great migration west and was often used by the forty-niners on their journey to California. Inez Steele, in her 1906 book, Methodism and

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Early Days in Stephens City, Virginia, quotes a mid-nineteenth century author, Major J.M. McCue, describing the wagon trade in Newtown. He states: "... Newtown, which for more than half a century retained the supremacy in building and fitting out the immense wagons, capable of sustaining forty-five hundred to five thousand pounds of freight. The woodwork of the best material was often made by the same man who had them ironed... The harness was very heavy and all the iron used was of the best bar. They cost from one hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars. The horses, six to a wagon, were of the heaviest and best at that day, costing from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five dollars... From six to eight of the wagons traveled in company, and the long trains presented a very picturesque spectacle." (Steele, pp.14-15) By the mid-nineteenth century, Stephens City had thirteen wagonmaker shops, an equal number of blacksmiths, pottery makers, three batteries (where hats were made to order), a machine shop, a tannery, a jeweler, saddle and harness makers, a weaver, a cigar factory, as well as several inns and taverns. Although there are no longer commercial establishments in town that produce any of these goods, Stephens City still remains a strong commercial center for the southern part of Frederick County.

The Tavern, located at the intersection of routes 11 and 277, is the district's finest transportation-related resource. (Photo 16) Built in 1819 by the mason John Cochereel for John Pitman, it is an elegant Federal brick building laid in Flemish bond, and is now used as a bed and breakfast. Across the street from the Tavern is the Flower Center, which was built in the early to mid-nineteenth century as a store. (Photo 15) It was remodeled with Romanesque details in 1920, but the original structure can still be seen on the north elevation of the building.

During the Civil War, troops from both sides marched down the streets of Stephens City almost daily. The town changed hands many times, six times in one day alone, and its buildings and homes served as hospitals for the wounded, especially after the Battle of Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864. The best historically-documented house from this period in the district is Locust Hill on Main Street. (Photo 1) It has been in the Steele family since 1847. As the

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Steeles were active Confederate sympathizers, the house was a site for frequent hideouts and subsequent searches. Two of the Steeles, John M. and Sarah, kept diaries during the Civil War recounting the actions going on in the area and in their house.

Two resources from the social/cultural theme were identified within the district: Gregory's Inc. (304-1-59), built in the 1920s as a silent movie theatre; and 5359-5361 Main Street (304-1-38), a nineteenth-century commercial building that housed the Stephens City Opera House on the second floor.

Stephens City has a group of four educational buildings located on Route 11 at the southern end of town. This complex contains a 1916 high school that was later used as an elementary school; an agricultural and home economics classroom building, built around 1927; an elementary school, built around 1928; and a school cafeteria, built around 1942 as a canning factory to encourage local citizens to can goods during World War II. The buildings are all currently vacant and have been so for several years. They are still in their original condition, however, and together stand out as the county's finest educational complex.

The twentieth century has brought much growth to Stephens City. The town received electricity in 1915, a water system in 1941, and public sewage in 1964. Interstate 81 is located within a block of the town limits, and routes 11 and 277 are still major road systems in the county. In recent years, the area around Stephens City has experienced a boom of residential and commercial activity that will surely continue. The population of Stephens City itself has also increased dramatically, almost doubling in the past twenty years. Stephens City's strong unspoiled historical character is a great asset, and will hopefully foster and support growth in a positive manner.

The district conveys a strong sense of historical and architectural cohesiveness: historical, in that many periods are represented; and architectural in that very few noncontributing buildings are evident, a variety of styles are present, and generally all of the buildings have the same setback, volume, mass, and orientation. The district also illustrates the historical development of the region in

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that it is the second oldest town in the Valley after Winchester, which is located seven miles to the north. This directly reflects the southward movement of settlers through the Valley along the Valley Pike during the eighteenth century.

Stephensburg, also called Newtown when it was expanded northward, was renamed Stephens City in the late nineteenth century, due to an order by the U.S. Postal Service which had too many towns named Stephensburg and Newtown to serve. According to local tradition, Stephens City almost became the county seat but was beaten out by Winchester in the late eighteenth century. Lord Fairfax wanted the seat to be in Stephens City, but Colonel James Wood wanted the site to be Winchester. Apparently, James Wood persuaded one of the justices who was voting on the issue, to vote in favor of Winchester by giving him a "bowl of toddy" (Steele, p.8).

As a Valley Pike town, Stephens City is exceptional because it has changed little through time. The majority of the buildings along Main Street are examples of late-eighteenth-to early-nineteenth-century log dwellings that have been modernized by the application of decorative elements to their exterior. The majority of the remodeling, however, was done during the late nineteenth century. Although the widening of Route 11 has destroyed some buildings and others have been demolished and replaced with modern structures, for the most part Main Street is amazingly intact. There are many physical features which characterize and distinguish the Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District: the buildings are set within the grid pattern of the initial layout of the town; many of the original lots are still evident although some have been subdivided; and the treelined streets and the unusual gutters that extend overhead from the houses, over the sidewalk, and to the street, add to the charming streetscape of the town. (Photo 9)

The town has recently identified the need to protect its historic resources and has developed a local historic zoning ordinance that follows roughly the same boundaries as the district. The district also includes an archaeological site which is possibly the home site of Peter Stephens, the first settler to the area in 1732. Archaic and Woodland Period

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settlements have also been identified on the site.

Driving down the Valley Pike, one goes from town to town with modern development, often commercial, in between. Upon entering the Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District, one finds very few modern intrusions and gets a clear sense of how the town appeared in the late nineteenth- to early twentieth centuries. (Photo 27). There are only twenty-eight noncontributing buildings in the district, and they have little effect on the integrity of the district because their general setback, mass, and volume is compatible with the rest of the district. (Photo 10) Stephens City quite possibly holds the highest level of architectural integrity among the Valley Pike towns in Virginia.

ENDNOTES

Steele, Inez. Methodism and Early Days in Stephens City, Virginia 1732-1905. Winchester, VA:George F. Norton Publishing Company, 1906.

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State of Virginia." Extracts printed in Proceedings of The Clarke County Historical Association, 1941, I, 32-36. (Originally published in Winchester by W. Heiskell in 1810).

Wayland, John W. The German Element in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Bridgewater: C.J. Carrier, 1964.

SECTION 10

UTM REFERENCES - CONTINUED

E	17/740460/4329020
F	17/740300/4329010
G	17/740200/4329080
H	17/740350/4329480
I	17/740630/4329880

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NOTE: REFER TO TOWN MAP FOR BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at point A located at the southeast corner of parcel 160 containing the Stephens City School; thence approximately 600' northwest to a point B located at the southwest corner of parcel 160; thence approximately 420' southwest to a point C on the east side of State Route 11; thence approximately 280' northwest to a point D located on the southwest corner of parcel circle 2 of double-circle 8; thence approximately 700' northeast to point E located on the south side of School Street; thence approximately 100'southeast to point F located at the northwest corner of parcel 1 of double circle 8; thence approximately 100'northeast to point G located at the northeast corner of parcel 52A; thence approximately 100' northwest to point H located at the northwest corner of parcel 52A; thence approximately 170' northeast to point I located at the northwest corner of parcel 55; thence approximately 100' southeast to point J located at the southeast corner of parcel 57; thence approximately

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70' northeast to point K; thence approximately 70' southeast to point L located at the southeast corner of parcel 60; thence approximately 120' northeast to point M at the northeast corner of parcel 60; thence approximately 175' northwest to point N located at the northwest corner of parcel 60; thence approximately 200' northeast to a point O located at the southwest corner of parcel 64; thence approximately 200' northwest to a point P located along the southern boundary of parcel 46; thence approximately 650' northeast to point Q located at the southeast corner of parcel 38; thence approximately 150' northwest to point R located at the southwest corner of parcel 40; thence approximately 360' northeast to point S located at the northwest corner of parcel 31; thence approximately 70' southeast to a point T located at the southwest corner of parcel 30; thence approximately 125' northeast to point U located at the northwest corner of parcel 28; thence approximately 60' southeast to a point V; thence approximately 190' northeast to a point W located at the northeast corner of parcel 26A; thence approximately 175' northwest to point X located at the northwest corner of parcel 26A; thence approximately 100' northeast to point Y located at the northwest corner of parcel 25; thence approximately 80' southeast to point Z located at the southwest corner of parcel 24; thence approximately 75' northeast to point AA located at the northwest corner of parcel 24; thence approximately 240' southeast to point BB located at the southwest corner of parcel 93; thence approximately 35' northeast to point CC located at the northwest corner of parcel 93; thence approximately 150' southeast to point DD located at the southeast corner of parcel 95; thence approximately 50' northeast to point EE located at the northwest corner of parcel 94; thence approximately 25' northwest to point FF located at the southwest corner of parcel 96; thence approximately 125' northeast to point GG located at approximately the center of the southern boundary of parcel 97; thence approximately 125' northwest to point HH located at the southwest corner of parcel 97; thence approximately 75' northeast to a point II located at the southwest corner of parcel 98; thence approximately 80' southeast to a point JJ located in the center of the southern boundary of parcel 98; thence approximately 80' northeast to a point KK located at the southeast corner of parcel B of double-circle 1; thence

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approximately 80' northwest to a point LL located at the southwest corner of parcel B of double-circle 1; thence approximately 175' northeast to a point MM located at the center of the eastern boundary of parcel 99; thence approximately 150' northwest along the southern boundary of parcel 32 to a point NN; thence approximately 900' northeast to a point OO located at the northwest corner of parcel 38; thence approximately 450' southeast to a point PP located on the western boundary of parcel 42; thence approximately 575' southwest along the east side of State Route 11 to a point QQ located at the southwest corner of parcel 104; thence approximately 270' southeast along the southern border of parcel 104 to a point RR located at the southeast corner of parcel 104; thence approximately 1175' southwest to a point SS located at the northeast corner of parcel 123; thence approximately 200' southeast to a point TT located at the northeast corner of parcel 186; thence approximately 100' southwest to a point UU located at the southeast corner of parcel 186; thence approximately 340' southeast to a point VV located at the northeast corner of parcel 183 containing Orrick Chapel; thence approximately 600' southwest along the eastern property lines of parcels 180, 182 and 180 to a point WW located at the northeast corner of parcel 176; thence approximately 100' northwest to a point XX located at the northwest corner of parcel 176; thence approximately 125' southwest to a point YY located at the southeast corner of parcel 178; thence approximately 150' northwest to a point ZZ located at the northeast corner of parcel 177; thence approximately 230' southwest to a point AAA located at the southeast corner of parcel 173; thence approximately 220' southeast to a point BBB located at the northeast corner of parcel 172; thence approximately 110' southwest to a point CCC located at the northeast corner of parcel 170; thence approximately 90' northwest to a point DDD located at the northwest corner of parcel 170; thence approximately 430' southwest to a point EEE located at the southeast corner of parcel 166 containing the Old Town Cemetery; thence approximately 220' northwest to a point FFF located at the southwest corner of the Old Town Cemetery parcel; thence approximately 20' southwest along the western boundary of parcel 165 to a point GGG; thence approximately 150' northwest to a point HHH located along the northern boundary of parcel 153; thence approximately 240' southwest

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to a point III located along the southern boundary of parcel 159; thence approximately 475' southeast to a point JJJ located at the northeast corner of parcel 160 containing the Stephens City School; thence approximately 275' southwest along the eastern property line of the said lot to the point of origin.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

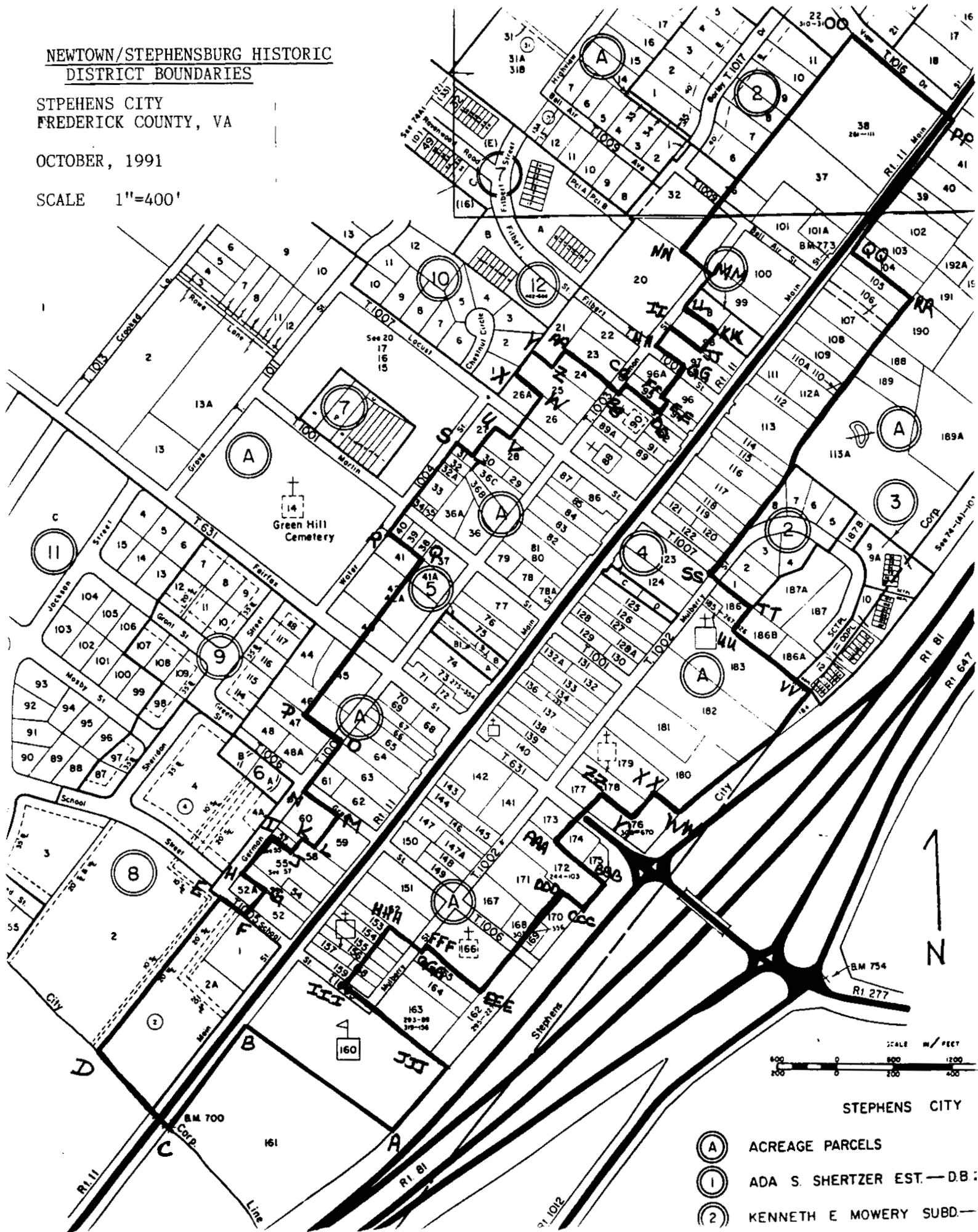
The Newtown/Stephensburg Historic District boundaries are drawn to include the town's largest concentration of historic resources. Generally coinciding with property lines, the district boundaries include the core of the historic town and exclude large collections of noncontributing resources located on the western and northern edges of the district.

NEWTOWN/STEPHENSBURG HISTORIC
DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

STEPHENS CITY
FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

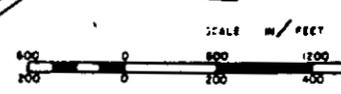
OCTOBER, 1991

SCALE 1"=400'



- (A) ACREAGE PARCELS
- (1) ADA S. SHERTZER EST.—D.B.:
- (2) KENNETH E MOWERY SUBD.—

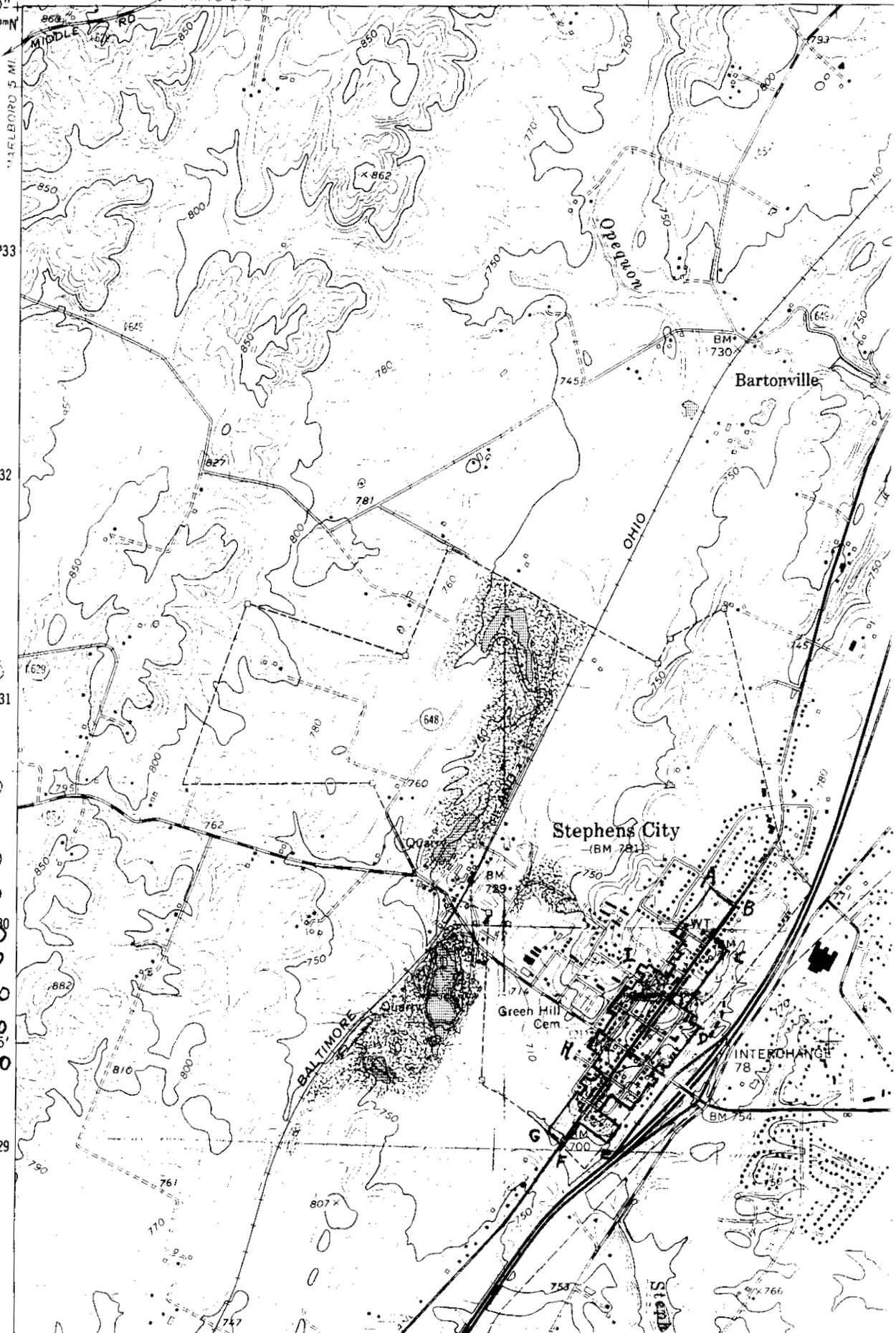
STEPHENS CITY



5362 III NE
GAYFIELD

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

78° 15' 39° 07' 30" 738000m E 4 MI. TO U.S. I. 739 740 741 12' 30"



ewtown/Stephensburg
District

ATM Reference:

- 17 740920 4330200
- 17 741010 4330100
- 17 740980 4329920
- 17 740860 4329560
- 17 740460 4329020
- 17 740300 4329010
- 17 740200 4329080
- 17 740350 4329480
- 17 740630 4329880

4329