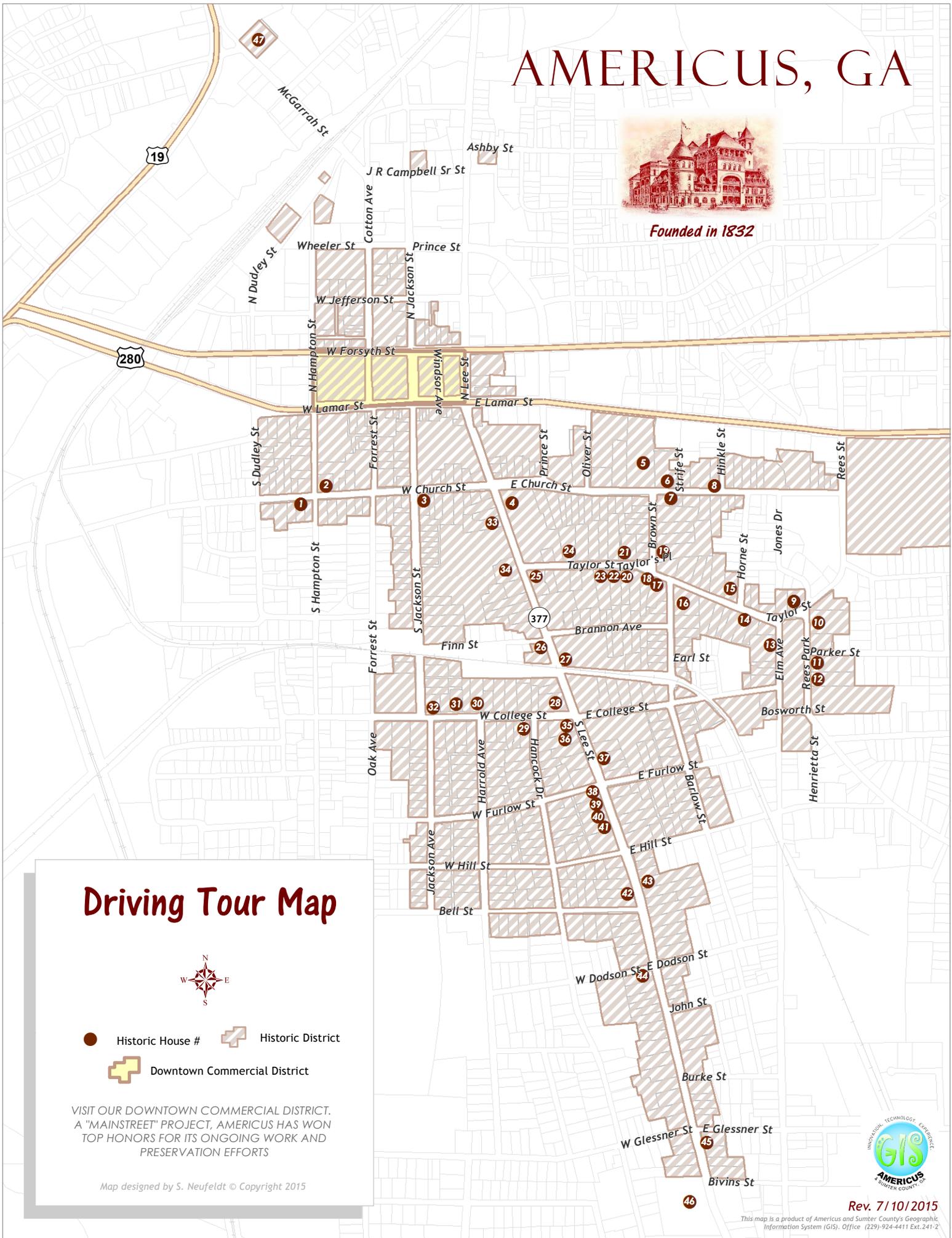


AMERICUS, GA



Founded in 1832



Driving Tour Map



-  Historic House #
-  Historic District
-  Downtown Commercial District

VISIT OUR DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT. A "MAINSTREET" PROJECT, AMERICUS HAS WON TOP HONORS FOR ITS ONGOING WORK AND PRESERVATION EFFORTS

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AMERICUS DRIVING TOUR LIST

1. **404 West Church Street** - This 1850s cottage combines the symmetry of the Greek Revival with interesting early-Victorian latticed decoration on the porch. Early photographs show that the porch originally extended down the sides of the house to recessed wings on either side. At some point in the first half of the 20th century, the wings were cut off and made into separate houses!
2. **323 West Church Street** – This mid-Victorian house built around 1879 combines elements of Italianate (arched windows and doors) with a sort of Swiss Chalet Revival (wide, flared eaves and decorated gable trusses). The Scammozi Ionic columns on the porch are an early 20th century alteration.
3. **130 West Church Street** - Built c.1858, this large house, like many other late-Antebellum buildings, combines the proportions and symmetry of the Greek Revival with early-Victorian decorative trim. This is the only large antebellum house in Americus to have retained its original façade unchanged.
4. **200 South Lee Street** - First United Methodist Church. Built in 1925 after its predecessor had been destroyed by a fire, this imposing edifice typifies the renewed interest in classical forms during the early decades of the 20th century.
5. **318 East Church Street** - Built in 1901-1902 by prominent local banker Lee Council as a wedding gift to his bride, this handsome red-brick and terra cotta mansion is a fine example of Italian Renaissance Revival. Note the lavish use of stained glass in the transoms and the stairwell windows. Now the headquarters of the Sumter Historic Trust, the Lee Council House is a popular venue for wedding receptions and other events.
6. **406 East Church Street** - Built in 1890 for prominent attorney and Americus Mayor E.A. Hawkins, this large Shingle-style residence was designed by Gottfried Normann who also designed the Windsor Hotel.
7. **405 East Church Street** - This charming, turreted house of the 1880s typifies the free-ranging eclecticism common to the period.
8. **514 East Church Street** - Built c. 1912. A terrific example of the early 20th century Craftsman style, with shingled walls, wide overhanging eaves, knee braces, deep porch and ingenious built-in cubbyholes.
9. **408 Taylor Street** - Pleasant Antebellum cottage with jig-sawn scrollwork added to its porch in the late 19th century.
10. **504 Rees Park** - This impressive house, now a bed-and-breakfast inn, was built before the Civil War and enlarged and remodeled during the 1880s.
11. **602 Rees Park** - Built c. 1890 for banker Malcolm Council. A particularly palatial example of the late-Victorian Queen Anne style.
12. **606 Rees Park** - A smaller version of its massive neighbor, this house built around 1905 represents the last gasp of the Queen Anne style.

13. **409 Elm Avenue** - Rees Park School. Built as Americus High School in 1910, this Classical Revival structure now houses the local Chamber of Commerce and Payroll Development Authority.
14. **301 Taylor Street** - Well to do farmers in the 19th century often maintained town residences as well as homes on their remote farms. In 1870, the town house of the Maxwell family, on this site, was destroyed by fire; in the reduced circumstances of the Reconstruction Era, the family had their modest farmhouse moved into town to replace it. The front rooms with their floor-length windows were added at that time. A further remodeling c. 1915-20 gave the house its current roofline and square porch pillars.
15. **234 Taylor Street** - Built c. 1872 to replace an earlier house which had burned, this interesting residence combines features of the late-Antebellum Period (low-pitched roof, wide bracketed eaves, and large six-over-six windows) with mid-Victorian asymmetry.
16. **217 Taylor Street** - This handsome Greek Revival house, built between 1856 and 1859, is one of the finest surviving antebellum buildings in the city. Note the exceptionally tall windows, the wide corner pilasters, and the fine Doric entablature. The columned portico was added about 1910.
17. **201 Taylor Street** – Originally built by pioneer resident Seth Kellum Taylor in the 1850s, the house was left to Taylor’s daughter Lucy and her husband Mayor John B. Felder. Mayor Felder served as mayor for 20 years, a city record. This imposing residence, originally built in the Italianate style, was extensively remodeled in the Classical Revival style in 1906-07 by Frank Lanier, when it gained the Corinthian columns, the two-storied portico, the plate-glass windows, and the leaded-glass fanlight entrance. The wide, paneled pilasters at the corners, with their jig-sawn ornamentation at the tops, survive from the original façade.
18. **155 Taylor Street** - Late-Victorian house (c. 1892) remodeled in the Colonial Revival style popular in the 1920s and 1930s. Note the Tower-of-the-Winds Corinthian columns and the “Florida” room with its attractive casement windows on the east side of the house.
19. **226 Brown Street** - Built in 1933 for Frank Sheffield, a scion of a prominent local banking family, this house is a very good example of 1930s Colonial Revival. Mr. Sheffield was interested in music and theatre, and the second floor was set up so that two bedrooms could be converted into a miniature home theatre by means of a sliding wood partition.
20. **145 Taylor Street** - A good example of the early 20th century Italian or Mediterranean Revival style, this beautiful house with its tower and deep arcaded porch was designed about 1917 as an expansion and remodeling of an existing house by prominent Georgia architect T.F. Lockwood of Columbus, who also designed 124 Taylor Street. It was occupied for many years by the original builder, prominent wholesale grocer Carr S. Glover. Since 1977 it has been the home of Senator George Hooks and family.
21. **144 Taylor Street** - Elegant Antebellum cottage (c. 1850s) with unusual nine-over-six windows on the front. The original front porch was removed and pediment door-case was added in a 1930s remodeling.
22. **139 Taylor Street** - Built in 1892-1893 as the home of Charles F. Crisp, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1891 to 1895. This was the highest position in the United States government ever attained by a Confederate veteran.

23. **133 Taylor Street** - Built about 1848 as a modest one-story cottage, this handsome house was greatly enlarged and remodeled around 1885. Similar in appearance and construction history to the house at 504 Rees Park.
24. **124 Taylor Street** - This impressive 1920s house is a superb example of the Mediterranean Revival style popular at the time. Note the original tile roof with its deep overhangs and beautifully designed arched windows. The house was designed by noted Georgia architect T.F. Lockwood for prominent local businessman Davis R. Anderson. It was for many years the home of Coca-Cola bottler J.T. Warren.
25. **107 Taylor Street** - Built in 1881 by prominent haberdasher John R. Shaw as a gift to his bride Kate Felder, a sister of the mayor, this charming cottage is another example of mid-Victorian eclecticism. Subsequently, it became the home of Samuel R. Heys, the Clerk of the Superior Court. Upon Mrs. Heys' death the home was sold to her nephew William C. Smith, prominent local attorney, who for many years used it as his law office. Although not a large house, the lavish detail attests to the prosperity of the original owner. Note Mr. Shaw's initials engraved in the frosted front door.
26. **401 South Lee Street** - Handsome Greek Revival cottage, c. 1850, with dentilled cornice and pediment portico with Doric columns in antis (set between square pillars). Other than two bay windows added to the north side of the house in the 1870s, the exterior is almost completely unchanged.
27. **408 South Lee Street** - Calvary Episcopal Church – Present English Gothic-style edifice was built in 1919 to replace a frame building from the 1860s. Calvary Church and the log Pennington chapel in Andersonville were the only buildings in Georgia to have been designed by Ralph Adams Cram of Boston, considered the foremost church architect of the United States in the early 20th century. The interior boasts beautiful carved woodwork.
28. **427 South Lee Street** - This gargantuan Queen Anne style residence was built c. 1893 by Uriah Harrold, prominent local cotton broker from one of Americus' wealthiest families.
29. **202 West College Street** - This exquisite cottage, built c. 1853-1854 for Americus' first newspaper publisher is the town's only surviving example of the Gothic Revival style popular in the middle years of the 19th century. The steeply pitched roof, clustered chimney stacks, finials, trefoils, and lace-like bargeboards are all typical of the style. The front porch, originally only as wide as the center gable, was extended across the entire façade in the 1890s.
30. **301 West College Street** - This imposing residence, built in 1909 for a scion of the prominent Harrold family, is a fine example of the Classical Revival popular in the early 20th century. The beautiful leaded glass around the front door is echoed at 302 West College (across the street,) a late-Victorian house remodeled c. 1912 by the brother of the builder of 301 West College.
31. **309 West College Street** - Attractive Greek Revival cottage, built c. 1850, very little altered except for the addition of brackets and spindle frieze to the portico around 1890.
32. **317 West College Street** - Handsome mid-19th century residence. Note the front door with its arched panels and the beautiful floor-length windows, which originally opened onto a full-width porch removed during early 1970s remodeling.

33. **211 South Lee Street** - Originally built about 1840 as a single story cottage, this house had a second floor added in the 1880s and was again remodeled after being damaged in a fire in 1917 which destroyed its neighbors to the north. The stucco and half-timbered Tudor Revival apartment house next door and the red brick Colonial Revival house next door to it were both built to replace structures burned in the 1917 fire.
34. **301 South Lee Street** - The Second Empire style, so called because the characteristic mansard roofs were modeled after buildings during the reconstruction of Paris during the "Second Empire" reign of Napoleon III in the 1850s and 1860s, is uncommon in the South as it was popular during a period in which few Southerners were building fine houses. This impressive structure, the only local example of the style, was built in 1867 by a wealthy physician from Baltimore, whose descendants occupied it for over a century. The present front porch replaced a smaller one in about 1900. Note the heavily carved front doors.
35. **501 South Lee Street** - Built in 1906, this large house is another good example of the Classical Revival style of the early 1900s. (Sometimes called the Second Classical Revival.)
36. **505 South Lee Street** - Exceptionally fine Greek Revival cottage. Originally built in Oglethorpe, Georgia, around 1850 for Charles J. Malone, this house was moved a few years later to Americus after the former town was devastated by a yellow fever epidemic just before the Civil War. Malone sold the house to cotton planter and banker William W. Hooks. Following Mr. Hooks' removal to his plantation in 1882, it was sold to Captain John A. Cobb who with his family occupied the home for almost a century. In the 1970s it was sold to J. Emory Rylander who implemented major renovations. Following the death of Mr. Rylander, the home was sold to Dr. Henry King Stanford who served as the President of both Georgia Southwestern State University and the University of Georgia. The present windows and window-casings date from the late 1870s.
37. **522 South Lee Street** - Good example of the late-Victorian Queen Anne style, built in 1899.
38. **601 South Lee Street** - This attractive house was built around 1905 in the Classical Revival style; after having been badly damaged by a fire in 1931, it was brick-veneered and extensively remodeled in the prevailing Colonial Revival style by architect T.F. Lockwood for prominent local physician Dr. Herschel A. Smith.
39. **603 South Lee Street** - Built in 1892 for a local merchant, this house is another example of the Queen Anne style. The oriel window at the front left corner and the two-tiered portico are nice features.
40. **605 South Lee Street** - This Antebellum cottage built in the 1830s was enlarged some years later and displays the Greek Revival style in such details as rectangular plan, columns, cornice and pediment.
41. **609 South Lee Street** - Built in 1906 by prominent wholesale grocer G.W. Glover, this house is a beautiful example of the early 20th century Classical Revival style. Notable features include a full-width pediment portico with Corinthian columns, hanging balcony, and delicately ornamented frieze. The house was sold to business leader and planter Thomas B. Hooks in 1911 who with his family occupied the home for a quarter of a century. Subsequent owners included Dr. B.T. Wise and Dr. J.H. Robinson who with their families resided here for decades.

42. **713 South Lee Street** - Charming late-Victorian cottage, built in 1902.
43. **720 South Lee Street** - Handsome Greek Revival cottage, built about 1850, with square columns and dentil cornice. Present windows are from the early 20th century.
44. **901 South Lee Street** - Good example of the Craftsman style popular in the United States from the first decade of the 20th century through the 1920s. This particular example is somewhat unusual in having been built of brick with a tile roof.
45. **1202 South Lee Street** - Queen Anne style at its most picturesque, with shingled walls, brackets, spindles, and multi-colored windowpanes. Built about 1890.
46. **1301 South Lee Street** - This elegant house was built in the 1860s but heavily remodeled about 1912-1914. Note the cast-concrete block masonry, the massive entablature, and the extensive grounds.
47. **723 McGarrah Street** – This Greek Revival “raised cottage”-style home was built in 1833 for James Peter Guerry, a judge, state representative, and planter. The house contains eight rooms with center halls and has 12 fireplaces. All the floors and the glass in the house are original. An outside staircase leads to the upstairs. Fourteen artesian wells are on the property, which originally was called Springhill Plantation. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1984, the house is the oldest original home in Americus.