

### Historic Resources

The Luray Downtown Historic District is located in the Town of Luray and is recognized by the United States Department of Interior and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The district embraces the historic commercial core of the Town, which developed after the Town's establishment in 1812 along the east-west axis of Main Street. The commercial area (and the district) is bisected by Hawksbill Creek, a tributary of the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, and the downtown occupies the hillsides on each side of the creek at elevations of between 700 and 900 feet above sea level.



Page Valley Bank Building, 17 W. Main Street – A one-story Classic Revival building constructed in 1928.

The district embraces approximately thirty-five acres along Main Street with short extensions along Court and Broad streets. It extends from the Norfolk Southern rail line on the east to the park-like grounds of the Mimslyn Hotel on the west. The district is densely built-up with commercial buildings and other building types dating primarily from the 1830s through the 1940s, with a few structures dating before and after that span. The total number of resources is 101, of which seventy-nine (78 percent) are “contributing”, meaning they were in existence during the period of significance (ca. 1830-1953) and they possess sufficient historic integrity.

### Commercial Structures

The commercial buildings in the Town are generally one, two, or three-story brick buildings built up to the street. The earliest surviving commercial buildings, those dating to the antebellum period, are domestic in character (in part a reflection of their dual function as dwellings) with their long dimension along the street, gable or hip roofs, and unspecialized street fronts. Commercial buildings from the postbellum period through the mid-twentieth century are characterized by rectangular footprints with the short dimension on the street, parapeted shed roofs sloping away from the street, and specialized street elevations with storefronts with large display windows. Other historic building types include dwellings, hotels, churches, warehouses, government buildings (a courthouse, firehouse, and post office), a school, a train station, and a monument. Secondary resources such as garages, chicken houses, and sheds are relatively few in number.



Hershberger Building, 57-59 W. Main Street – A two-story Art Deco style mixed-use commercial and residential Art Deco building constructed in 1939.

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