



Cultural resources include historic buildings and structures, unique residential and commercial areas, archaeological sites, entertainment venues and events, educational and religious institutions, and related features that comprise the unique attributes and defining character of Newberry County and its communities. The Cultural Resources Element generates awareness and elevates consideration of historical, archaeological, and heritage assets in planning. It also provides an overview of the historical development of the County, identifies significant historic and cultural resources, profiles local arts and cultural organizations, inventories annual events and opportunities, and explores the current and potential economic impact of these resources in the community.

Preservation and enhancement of the County's abundant historic and cultural resources directly benefit the community through increased tourism activity and revenue, revitalization of core commercial and residential districts, higher property values, stronger community identity, and enhanced attractiveness to new employers and residents. The ability of Newberry County to attract and retain visitors, retirees, and professionals rests in large part on the quality of life offered by a rich historic and cultural resources base.



## 6.1. Historical Development

The rich histories of South Carolina and Newberry County have been extensively documented through several publications including Walter Edgar's *South Carolina: A History* (1998) and Thomas Pope's *The History of Newberry County: Volumes I and II* (1992). Other key historical references include *Newberry County, SC: History and Genealogy* by G. Leyland Summer (1950), *Reminiscences of Newberry* by John B. Carwile (1890), *The Annals of Newberry, Part I* by John Belton O'Neal (1859), and *The Annals of Newberry, Part II* by John A. Chapman (1892).

### 6.1.1. Newberry County

European settlement of the region of South Carolina that encompasses what would become Newberry County began in the mid-18th century by Scotch-Irish, English and German immigrants. These immigrants were drawn by the promise of free land in what was then the Carolina frontier. These new settlements were planted along the rivers of the backcountry, particularly the fertile lands between the Broad and Saluda Rivers. Present-day Newberry County was part of a larger region known as the Dutch Fork that was populated primarily by German and Swiss residents.

The region also formed the southernmost boundary of the Cherokee territory. Conflicts with the Cherokee had escalated by the mid-1750s, with frequent attacks on the new frontier towns that began to fuel a mass exodus of settlers from the backcountry settlements to areas closer to the coast. As a result, multiple militia campaigns were launched by the colonial government against the Cherokee. The Treaty of Charleston was signed in 1761 to officially end the Cherokee War and to expel the Cherokee from the region.

The end of the Cherokee War prompted a new wave of immigration into the frontier region. The increase in population fueled the need for law and order in the new settlements. By 1769 Newberry was part of the Ninety Six judicial district, one of seven regional districts established in the colony to provide a more accessible system of courts. This reorganization would become the impetus of a movement to establish greater independence for the backcountry from Charleston's control.

Although initially slow to join in the Revolutionary War effort, residents of the Ninety Six District that includes present-day Newberry, Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, and Edgefield Counties quickly responded to the British capture of Charleston. Many of the more than 250 Revolutionary War battles fought in South Carolina occurred within the Ninety Six District and Newberry County.

Newberry County was formally established in 1785 upon the division of the Ninety Six District into Edgefield, Abbeville, Laurens, Spartanburg, Union and Newberry Counties. The village of Newberry was formally established as the County seat in 1789. Both the commercial and political life of the village was greatly influenced by a small contingent of professionals and merchants. The introduction of the cotton gin in the late eighteenth century transformed the County into a leading pre-war cotton market. By the 1820s large-scale cotton farming replaced smaller subsistence farms that had characterized the region. With its new economic position, Newberry quickly attracted a number of doctors, lawyers, and other professionals.



In 1832, Newberry citizens petitioned the General Assembly for incorporation as a town. Two decades later, Newberry secured the first upstate railroad line in 1851, followed by the Laurens railroad in 1854. The Town experienced a great deal of growth during the latter half of the nineteenth century because of its key position as the State's leading inland cotton market, the extension of the railroad, and the relocation of Newberry College in 1855.

Newberry County participation in the Civil War was limited geographically. Although an estimated 500 Newberry residents died in the War, no battles actually occurred in the County. However, the impact of the Civil War and its aftermath were overwhelming and eroded much of the local wealth and status that had been heralded by cotton farming. Renewed rail construction in the post-war years helped boost the economic recovery. The Columbia, Newberry & Laurens (CN&L) Railroad Company was constructed in 1885, making Newberry a hub for both the CN&L and Southern Railroads.

Rail line expansion was accompanied by an investment in upstate textile mills. The first textile factory in the County, Newberry Cotton Mills, was built in 1882 and was the largest mill in the State. This new wealth prompted growth in educational and cultural opportunities. The Newberry Opera House was opened in 1882 and the public school system was formed in 1891. Many of the community's historic homes and buildings were constructed during the period of railroad, cotton market, textile, and lumber mill growth.

Agriculture continued its dominance of the County's economy through the Civil War and into the Twentieth century. A severe drop in cotton and tobacco markets, increased competition, and infestation of the boll weevil ravaged the Palmetto State economy in the early 1920s, bringing depression conditions to the area nearly a decade before the Great Depression hit the nation. The local economy would not fully recover until World War II.

Following the Second World War, major infrastructure projects prompted a transition of the County's economy as manufacturing emerged as a growing segment of the State and local economic base. The construction of Interstate 26 in the early 1960s brought additional challenges and opportunities to the County. However, the same Interstate system that sapped economic activity in smaller towns after construction is now enabling residents who work in the Columbia and Lexington Metro areas to live and commute from many of these smaller communities such as Little Mountain, Prosperity, and Whitmire.

The construction of Lake Murray in 1930 and Lake Greenwood in 1940 for hydroelectric power was part of an effort to support the electrification of South Carolina. These popular man-made lakes also created new recreational opportunities that have attracted additional residential growth to the County.

### **6.1.2. Town of Little Mountain**

The Town of Little Mountain is located in the southeastern portion of Newberry County, approximately 12 miles east of the City of Newberry and south of Interstate 26. Known as "The Heart of the Dutch Fork," Little Mountain is the the highest point of land between Greenville and Charleston. Its name describes its location on a unique geological formation known as a monadnock, an isolated mountain or rock that has resisted the process of erosion and stands alone in an otherwise flat area.



The area surrounding Little Mountain was first settled in the 1750's as a part of the Orangeburg District and later as part of Lexington County. The settlement was originally named Ruff's Mountain, after one of the early settlers. The original boundary dividing Newberry and Lexington Counties bisected the Town, with half of Little Mountain in each county. A post office was established at Little Mountain in 1852. The arrival of the Columbia, Newberry & Laurens Railroad to the area led to the incorporation of Little Mountain in 1890. Construction of a depot and other commercial buildings and residences soon followed.

### 6.1.3. City of Newberry

The City of Newberry is centrally located in the County and is the largest of the County's municipalities in both area and population. After the creation of Newberry County as part of the Ninety Six District in 1785, John Coate donated two acres for a courthouse and public square in 1789. The Town was laid out in 25 one-acre squares of four lots each. Originally called Newberry Village and later Newberry Court House, the Town was incorporated in 1832 as the County seat (*S.C. Historic Marker 36-24*).

The arrival of the Greenville & Columbia Railroad in 1851 launched a period of substantial growth. The relocation of Newberry College to the community in 1855 was followed by the construction of the Newberry & Chester and the Newberry & Augusta rail lines. These lines fueled the growth of three textile mills that established Newberry as a major center of commerce and the State's leading inland cotton market. Newberry Cotton Mills, the first textile factory in Newberry and the largest in the state, was built in 1882. The influx of new wealth with the textile industry shaped much of the City's residential and commercial growth into the twentieth century.

### 6.1.4. Town of Peak

The Town of Peak is located in the easternmost portion of the County near the Parr Reservoir and the Broad River. Peak lies north of Interstate 26 and close to the Richland County border. The Town was founded in 1853 as Peak's Station along the Greenville & Columbia Railroad. The station was named for railroad superintendent H.T. Peake.

A little over a decade later in 1865, Federal troops destroyed the railroad tracks from Peak to the Broad River. Peak was incorporated in 1880 and grew as a railroad town and local center of farming, business, and medical care. The Town has rebounded from multiple fires in the Twentieth century (*S.C. Historic Marker 36-15*).

### 6.1.5. Town of Pomaria

The Town of Pomaria is located in eastern Newberry County, north of Interstate 26 and just west of the Town of Peak and the Parr Reservoir. Considered the heart of the Dutch Fork region, the area was settled by German, Swiss, and Welsh/English settlers. Pomaria was originally named Countsville when the first post office was opened in 1823. The State's first Lutheran Seminary, which would later relocate and grow into the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, was founded in Countsville in 1830.

The community was renamed Pomaria in 1840 for William Summer's nearby home and nursery of the same name. The Columbia & Newberry Railroad completed a line through the Town by 1851,



bringing rapid growth and supporting the development of a thriving town. The Town of Pomaria was incorporated in 1903. (*S.C. Historic Marker 36-10*).

### **6.1.6. Town of Prosperity**

The Town of Prosperity is located approximately five miles southeast of the City of Newberry, midway between Newberry and the Town of Little Mountain. The first settler arrived in 1827 to the area that would become the Town of Prosperity. The first store was completed in 1830. The Town was first chartered under its local name of Frog Level in 1851 in the wake of the arrival of the Greenville & Columbia Railroad.

A little over two decades later in 1873, citizens petitioned the State legislature to rename the Town to Prosperity. The name Prosperity was inspired by the Prosperity Meeting House, the nearby meeting location of the Associate Reformed Presbyterians. In 1886, the Columbia, Newberry, & Laurens Railroad was completed, bringing the economic benefit of a second rail line to the Town.

### **6.1.7. Town of Silverstreet**

The original community of Silverstreet was located in the valley of the Saluda and Little Rivers, along the old Cherokee Trail used by the Cherokee and later by colonial merchants and settlers. The Town of Silverstreet, named after a local business known as the Silverstreet Carriage Manufactory, was not incorporated until the construction of the Southern Railroad in 1850. The addition of a depot and train stop fueled additional commercial and residential growth. Growth slowed significantly with the decimation of the cotton crop in the early 1900s and the subsequent discontinuation of passenger rail service to the Town. Agriculture shaped the Town's early development and continues to characterize the rural community today.

### **6.1.8. Town of Whitmire**

The Town of Whitmire is located approximately 15 miles north of the City of Newberry. Whitmire is known as "The Pearl of the Piedmont" in reference to its scenic location surrounded by the Sumter National Forest and the Enoree River. Named after early settler George Whitmire, the community had its start as trading center on the Enoree River. The Whitmire area continued as a small, crossroads settlement with few residents until 1890, when the Georgia, Carolina & Northern Railroad was completed through the area. The Town was incorporated in the following year in 1891.

The construction of the community's first cotton mill sparked additional population and economic growth in Whitmire. Established in 1905, the Glenn-Lowery Mill became a major employer for the community that would continue through the twentieth century. The creation of the Sumter National Forest in the 1930s impeded growth with the transfer of private lands to the federal government. The discontinuation of rail service also slowed growth, as did the more recent decline of the textile industry.

## **6.2. Historic Resources**

Small towns and rural communities with attractive cultural, scenic, and historical resources are among the fastest growing heritage tourism and retirement destinations. Communities can enhance their livability and distinctiveness through awareness and protection of these resources.



The historic and cultural resources of Newberry County and its communities contribute to the appeal of the area as a retirement and tourist destination and a desirable place to work and live. These local resources warrant special consideration in the comprehensive planning process to protect their special character from development pressures or deterioration. Protection of the County's historical and architectural resources requires an active partnership among public and private property owners, local governments, and State and Federal agencies.

In recognition of the economic potential of the community's historic resources, the City and County jointly sponsored a comprehensive *Historical and Architectural Survey of Newberry County* in 2003. These assessments were conducted primarily to determine properties and districts that should be considered for National Register designation. Properties considered for the survey were those at least 50 years old and that retained a good level of historical integrity. The survey assessed 1,537 properties throughout the County including 581 residential, 122 commercial, seven religious, three educational, and two industrial properties within the City of Newberry.

*A Historical and Architectural Survey of the Towns of Little Mountain, Pomaria and Prosperity* was completed in 2002. The project surveyed 252 properties within a total area of 3.49 square miles. The study found 29 properties eligible for National Register listing in Little Mountain, 15 eligible properties in Pomaria, and 78 eligible properties in Prosperity. The report also identified a potential historic district within the Town of Little Mountain that includes 27 properties. Also identified was a potential downtown commercial historic district within the Town of Pomaria that included 13 properties. The Town of Prosperity had a downtown commercial historic district that included 28 properties and a residential historic district that included 49 properties.

### 6.2.1. National Register Listings

The *National Register of Historic Places* is the nation's official list of historic and cultural resources that have been formally deemed worthy of preservation. Authorized by the *Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, the National Register is the foundation of a national effort to identify, evaluate, and protect irreplaceable architectural and archaeological resources. Under the oversight of the National Park Service, the Register includes buildings, structures, districts, sites, and objects that qualify as significant in the context of American history, architecture, engineering, culture, and archaeology. The benefits of National Register listing include wide recognition of a property's significance, consideration, and review in the federally assisted project planning process; eligibility for federal tax benefits for rehabilitation and easements; and eligibility for federal and state historic preservation grants.

National Register listings can be achieved for larger *historic districts* that contain broader areas of multiple historic properties that have collective significance, for *individual* properties that meet the criteria, and for *landmark* sites that represent historical significance beyond the local and regional levels. Historic districts can be designated to protect larger areas of historic properties and landscapes from adverse impacts of development. National Register criteria for historic districts require that the majority of the components that comprise a district's historic character have integrity, though alone they may be individually undistinguished.

National Historic Landmarks are districts, buildings, and sites designated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior as having exceptional value or quality that have meaning to all Americans beyond the



local or regional level. There are 76 National Historic Landmarks in South Carolina, with the majority located in the coastal areas of the State. At present, there are no historic landmarks within Newberry County.

South Carolina has more than 1,400 listings in the National Register, with 160 historic districts statewide. There are currently ten designated historic districts in Newberry County.

**Table 6-1. National Register Districts in Newberry County**

DISTRICT	SIGNIFICANCE	LISTED
Newberry ( <i>Newberry Public Square</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by Boyce, Caldwell, Coates, College, Friend, Harrington, Main, McKibben, and Nance Streets</li> <li>▪ Expanded along sections of Main, Lindsay, and Wilson Streets in 2004</li> <li>▪ Features six structures built between 1850 and 1900 with Greek, Gothic, and Romanesque revival architectural styles</li> <li>▪ Constructed during growth as an important rail stop between Columbia and Greenville</li> </ul>	1974 1980 2004
Newberry College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by College, Bachman, and Evans Streets</li> <li>▪ Four buildings typify late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century institutional architecture with both Victorian style and Neo-classical revival buildings</li> <li>▪ Represent College's development between 1877 and 1925</li> </ul>	1976
Boundary Street- Newberry Cotton Mills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by Boundary, Charles, Academy, Crosson, Drayton, and Tarrant Streets</li> <li>▪ Two distinct historical neighborhoods - one of upper and middle professional class homes of the period and the other representing the City's first industrial complex and residential factory worker village</li> <li>▪ 144 contributing properties, ranging from classical and vernacular styles (1857-1898) to a village of frame and clapboard dwellings (1885-1910)</li> </ul>	1980
Caldwell Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of Caldwell, Boundary, Coats, and Snowden Streets</li> <li>▪ Eleven properties dating between 1885 and 1918 with styles ranging from Upcountry Plantation and Decorated Victorian to Neoclassic</li> <li>▪ Represents affluent lifestyles of Newberry financial leaders with the founding of the Newberry Cotton Mills (1884)</li> </ul>	1980
College Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of College Street</li> <li>▪ District retains a strong sense of neighborhood unity</li> <li>▪ Residential neighborhood developed in the 1880s with 20 contributing properties that depict a variety of architectural styles through 1925</li> <li>▪ Significant features reflect the neighborhood origins as Newberry College faculty residences in the 1880s</li> </ul>	1980
Harrington Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of Harrington Street, with eleven contributing buildings dating 1870 to 1930</li> <li>▪ Architectural styles include Victorian Raised Cottage, Neoclassic Mansion, and other vernacular modes</li> <li>▪ District retains visual integrity without modern intrusion</li> </ul>	1980



DISTRICT	SIGNIFICANCE	LISTED
Main Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of Amelia, Calhoun, Cheatham, Crenshaw, Friend, Glenn, McMorris, Main, Martin, and Walnut Streets</li> <li>▪ Fifty contributing properties from the 1850s to 1930s</li> <li>▪ Diverse architectural styles and elements including large Victorian clapboard, two-story dwellings of asymmetrical form</li> <li>▪ Reflects agricultural and mercantile wealth of antebellum Newberry</li> </ul>	1980
Vincent Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of Crosson and Vincent Streets</li> <li>▪ Seven contributing properties exhibit late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century styles</li> <li>▪ Notable twin raised cottages and Greek Revival dwelling</li> <li>▪ Cohesive collection of turn-of-the-century residential examples of domestic vernacular building modes</li> </ul>	1980
West Boundary Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bounded by portions of Jessica and West Boundary Streets</li> <li>▪ Four contributing properties exemplify popular late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century styles including Greek Revival, Classical Revival, and Brick Bungalow</li> </ul>	1980
Little Mountain Historic District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intact collection of 64 homes, businesses, and other institutional properties constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries</li> <li>▪ Most constructed after completion of the Columbia, Newberry &amp; Laurens Railroad through Little Mountain in 1890</li> <li>▪ Reflect Gothic Revival, Neo-Classical, Colonial Revival, Victorian or Queen Anne, and Bungalow styles</li> </ul>	2003

Source: National Register of Historic Places, 2022

Although each historic district has multiple contributing properties, there are also numerous individual National Register sites that are located outside of these districts (Table 6-2).

**Table 6-2. National Register Sites in Newberry County**

SITE	SIGNIFICANCE	LISTED
Jacob Bedenbaugh House (Prosperity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Built circa 1860</li> <li>▪ Original owners, Jacob and Sarah Bedenbaugh, were an interracial couple during the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Jim Crow eras</li> </ul>	2011
Burton House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Built circa 1857</li> <li>▪ Exemplary Newberry County antebellum planter's house</li> <li>▪ Rectangular two-story weather boarded Greek Revival with gable roof</li> </ul>	1980
Coateswood (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Built in 1841</li> <li>▪ Gabled roof, Greek Revival house originally home of Chancellor Johnstone</li> </ul>	1975
Cousin House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructed circa 1880</li> <li>▪ Only example of the Second Empire style of architecture appearing in the City locality</li> </ul>	1980
Folk-Holloway House (Pomaria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Built circa 1835</li> <li>▪ Important example of common southern house type, the "I-House," with regional features such as the recessed front porch deck and freestanding columns (a rain or "Carolina" type porch)</li> </ul>	1992





SITE	SIGNIFICANCE	LISTED
Hannah Rosenwald School (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built in 1924-1925 school year</li> <li>Significant association with African American education during South Carolina segregation era</li> <li>Embodies distinctive characteristics of Rosenwald school design</li> </ul>	2009
Hatton House (Pomaria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1892</li> <li>Excellent example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century, South Carolina upcountry house in a Folk Victorian or vernacular late Italianate style</li> </ul>	1990
Francis B. Higgins House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exemplifies introduction of Federal and Greek Revival design elements into South Carolina vernacular building tradition</li> <li>Built circa 1820 and is oldest documented dwelling in Newberry.</li> <li>Two-story weatherboarded residence consists of an "I" form</li> </ul>	1980
Hope Rosenwald School (Pomaria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant for its role in African American education and social history in South Carolina between 1925 and 1954</li> <li>Embodies distinctive features of early 20<sup>th</sup> century schoolhouse construction popular throughout the southern U.S.</li> </ul>	2007
Howard Junior High School (Prosperity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructed in 1924-25 with Rosenwald funding</li> <li>Significant for its role in black education in South Carolina</li> <li>Property embodies distinctive characteristics of a construction popular throughout the South from 1913-1932</li> </ul>	2006
Moon-Dominick House (Chappells)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1820</li> <li>Typical upcountry, central-hall farmhouse house with distinctive Federal style architectural features</li> <li>The "Tin House" - reputedly had the first metal roof in Newberry County</li> </ul>	1982
George Mower House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built in 1893</li> <li>City's only authentic Queen Anne specimen</li> <li>Constructed as the residence of George Mower, Newberry attorney, director of Newberry Cotton Mills, and member of the South Carolina House of Representatives and the South Carolina Senate</li> </ul>	1980
Newberry County Memorial Hospital (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructed in 1924-25</li> <li>Significant for the role it played in the history of 20<sup>th</sup> century health care and medical treatment in Newberry County</li> <li>Designed by South Carolina architect James Calvin Hemphill</li> </ul>	2004
Newberry Opera House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1881 in Newberry's central square</li> <li>Romanesque Revival design with bricks handmade in Newberry</li> <li>Popular hub of cultural and civic activities</li> </ul>	1969
Oakland Mill (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initially built between 1910 and 1912, with subsequent expansions</li> <li>Architecturally significant as an essentially intact and significant textile mill complex</li> <li>Romanesque Revival style-influenced textile mill</li> <li>Only locally standing extant textile mill and complex</li> </ul>	2011
Old Court House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erected in 1852 as fourth of five County Courthouses</li> <li>Outstanding example of Greek Revival architecture</li> <li>Used for court sessions between 1852 and 1906</li> </ul>	1971



SITE	SIGNIFICANCE	LISTED
Pomaria Summer-Huggins House (Pomaria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructed by John Adam Summer circa 1825</li> <li>Combines elements of both Federal and Greek Revival architecture</li> <li>Property includes log smokehouse, board and batten privy, and Carpenter Gothic post office</li> <li>Site of Pomaria Nurseries dating back to 1840 and first post office in Dutch Fork</li> </ul>	1979
Ike Reighley House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1885</li> <li>Victorian two-story weatherboarded dwelling is the only house in Newberry to display the "stick" influence of the period</li> </ul>	1980
St. John's Lutheran Church (Pomaria)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1809</li> <li>St. John's Church was established in the 1750s by German settlers</li> <li>Oldest frame Lutheran church building in South Carolina</li> <li>Church cemetery contains several early graves with fieldstone markers</li> </ul>	1978
Summer Brothers Stores (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built in 1898</li> <li>Row of four one-story brick commercial buildings representing a significant survival of a late Victorian commercial range</li> </ul>	1980
Timberhouse (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built circa 1858</li> <li>Two-story frame weatherboarded, Greek Revival plantation house</li> </ul>	1980
Wells Japanese Garden (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designed in 1930 by W. Fulmer Wells, Newberry native and architect</li> <li>Small, landscaped park with indigenous and exotic flora accented by Japanese tea house under a tiled roof, a torii, and two small ponds</li> <li>Donated to the City for public use in 1971</li> </ul>	1980
Osborne Wells House (Newberry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built in 1860</li> <li>Designed and built by prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century Newberry builder, planter, and brick manufacturer</li> </ul>	1980

Source: *National Register of Historic Places, 2022*

### 6.2.2. Historical Markers

Historical markers give recognition to places, people, events, and structures that have historical significance at the local, state, or national level. The South Carolina Department of Archives and History manages the *South Carolina Historical Marker* program. Markers are sponsored and purchased by civic, church, historical, or educational organizations.

The *Historical Marker* database includes more than 1,700 markers statewide, with 27 markers in Newberry County. There are 14 markers in the City of Newberry, six in and near Pomaria, two in and near Peak, one near Silverstreet, and four in other locations in the County (Table 6-3). These markers recognize diverse sites of historical significance throughout the County that include cemeteries, churches, and mills.

**Table 6-3. State Historical Markers in Newberry County**

MARKER ID	LOCATION	MARKER NAME
36-1	Pomaria	Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
36-2	South of City of Newberry	Bush River Quaker Meeting
36-3	City of Newberry	Newberry College
36-4	City of Newberry	Old Court House



MARKER ID	LOCATION	MARKER NAME
36-5	City of Newberry	Opera House
36-6	Newberry County	Bush River Church
36-7	Between Pomaria and Peak	St. John's Church
36-8	South of City of Newberry	The Rock House
36-9	City of Newberry	Newberry College Historic District
36-10	Pomaria	Pomaria
36-11	Northeast of City of Newberry	Mount Bethel Academy
36-12	Near Silverstreet	New Chapel Church
36-13	City of Newberry	Calvin Crozier Murder Site
36-14	City of Newberry	Newberry Cotton Mills
36-15	Peak	Peak
36-16	City of Newberry	Mollohon Mill
36-17	Pomaria	Folk-Holloway House
36-18	Pomaria	Bethlehem Lutheran Church
36-19	City of Newberry	Miller Chapel AME Church
36-20	Pomaria	Hope Rosenwald School
36-21	Pomaria	St. Paul Lutheran church
36-22	City of Newberry	Newberry Village Cemetery
36-23	City of Newberry	Oakland Mill
36-24	City of Newberry	Newberry
36-25	City of Newberry	Rosemont Cemetery
36-26	City of Newberry	Peoples Hospital
36-27	City of Newberry	Frederick Nance House-Oak Grove

Source: S.C. Historical Markers Guidebook, 2022

### 6.2.3. Archaeological Resources

Archaeological sites can be particularly fragile and vulnerable to development. Most sites are discovered during the land development process, especially road construction. As growth intensifies, Newberry County and its municipalities should work not only to preserve known sites, but also to identify and protect additional potential areas of archaeological significance.

The South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology maintains a central cataloging database for discovered archaeological sites in the State. Within the Midlands region, Richland and Newberry Counties have the greatest number of documented archaeological sites, with more than 620 archaeological sites identified throughout Newberry County to date. Due to the sensitive nature and wealth of information that can be gained over time from careful study of these sites, locations are typically not publicly disclosed.

Federally controlled lands, such as the Sumter National Forest in the northern portion of Newberry County, are subject to heightened regulatory requirements. The presence of the Sumter National Forest has also contributed to the higher number of discovered sites in the County. Such sites on federal or tribal lands or that are potentially impacted by federally funded projects are protected to a limited degree by the *Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979*, the *Native American Graves and Repatriation Act of 1990*, *Executive Order 13007 of 1996*, and the *Department of*



*Transportation Act of 1966*. At the State level, multiple laws and regulations protect archaeological resources including the *South Carolina Mining Act*, the *South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act*, the *South Carolina Water Resources and Planning Act*, as well as various State codes related to abandoned cemeteries and burial grounds. The State has also developed *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations* as an advisory framework for archaeological fieldwork and reporting in the state of South Carolina.

#### 6.2.4. Cemeteries

Cemeteries are a significant historical resource in every community as important repositories for social, religious, artistic, genealogical, and cultural heritage. Vandalism, development, and neglect are the biggest threats to these historic resources. There are more than 400 cemeteries in Newberry County, ranging in size from small family plots to historic church cemeteries and memorial gardens. These sites have historical significance that includes the resting place of veterans from the Mexican War, Civil War, First and Second World Wars, Korean War, and Vietnam War. Most cemeteries in Newberry County have been inventoried by the S.C. Genealogy Society Cemetery Mapping Project using the archived federal Geographic Names Information System. The Newberry County Cemetery GPS Mapping Project website contains cemetery information including aerial views, map coordinates and directions, and links to photos, and tombstone texts. *Newberry Cemetery Survey Books* are also maintained by the Newberry County Historical Society.

#### 6.2.5. Unique Areas and Scenic Corridors

There are currently four *National Scenic Byways* and 21 *South Carolina Scenic Byways*, comprising more than 450 miles, in South Carolina. Although none of these are in Newberry County, there are numerous unique areas and corridors that showcase local history, culture, and geography.

Two historic and scenic corridors within Newberry County offer potential for byway designation. The first is the section of U.S. Highway 76 that passes through the Towns of Little Mountain and Prosperity to connect Columbia with the City of Newberry. This route parallels Interstate 26 and is a historic transportation corridor that is included on the 1825 Robert Mills map of Newberry County. The second route lies north of Interstate 26 along U.S. Highway 176, connecting the Towns of Pomaria and Whitmire through the Sumter National Forest.

Named one of the 50 most scenic drives in America, the historic *Woodpecker Trail* runs through Newberry County along historic Route 121. The trail was once a popular pre-interstate route that linked Charlotte, North Carolina along a 620-mile stretch to St. Petersburg, Florida. Marketed as a tourist route since the early 1920s, the Trail was promoted to northern tourists as the quickest way to the Gulf Coast. The Trail offers abundant cultural and nature tourism development opportunities to communities that line the route. The drive highlights small town charm and provides access to state parks, historic homes, and scenic farmlands.

As South Carolina's largest bicycle and pedestrian project, the 380-mile *Palmetto Trail* will span 500 miles when completed and traverse the State of South Carolina from the mountains to the sea. The Palmetto Trail is designed as a series of passages through 15 counties, with each designed to showcase the unique history, culture and geography of both the local area and the State. The Trail has been designated a federal *Millennium Legacy Trail*.



Four sections of the Palmetto Trail pass through Newberry County. These include the Enoree Passage near Whitmire, the Newberry Passage that routes hikers through the historic downtown, and the Lynch's Woods segment that marks the *Gateway to the Upstate* for the Palmetto Trail. The fourth section is the Peak to Prosperity Passage that follows the inactive Norfolk Southern Railroad line to the County line at the Broad River. The passages are detailed in the *Natural Resources Element*.

Newberry County is also considered by many to be a key entrance to the South Carolina National Heritage Corridor. As it extends from the mountains of Oconee County to the port of Charleston, the corridor showcases the State's diverse historical, cultural, and natural resources. Although not within the 240-mile long corridor, Newberry County borders Greenwood and Saluda Counties, which are included in the Freshwater Coast Heritage region.

### 6.2.6. Historic Preservation Planning

Land use, transportation, and zoning decisions can critically impact historic preservation efforts. Communities that plan ahead to preserve historic properties and districts have a greater likelihood of success. South Carolina law allows local jurisdictions to enact zoning provisions that preserve and protect the character of a community. These communities can enact historic preservation ordinances that contain specific procedures and standards for designating historic properties and districts, design guidelines, and a process for reviewing proposed changes to historic properties. The focus of such ordinances is on preserving the appearance, rather than the use, of identified historic properties.

State and local agencies, boards, and nonprofit organizations assist Newberry County and its municipalities in maintaining their local character by preserving historic and cultural landmarks, providing technical assistance, and offering limited grant programs. Table 6-4 profiles active agencies and organizations.

**Table 6-4. Organizations Supporting Historic Preservation in Newberry County**

ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>STATE</b>	
South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH)	Preserves and promotes the documentary and cultural heritage of the Palmetto State through archives and records management, history education, and historic preservation
State Historic Preservation Office	Housed in the SCDAH and responsible for implementing the goals of the <i>National Historic Preservation Act</i> , assisting local communities with preservation efforts, coordinating the Statewide Survey of Historic Properties, nominating eligible resources to the National Register of Historic Places, managing the Historical Marker program, administering the Certified Local Government Program, and reviewing Federal and State-funded projects, licenses, permits and certifications



ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>STATE</b>	
South Carolina Institute for Archaeology and Anthropology	Maintains the official inventory of discovered archaeological sites in the State and serves as the lead agency concerned with South Carolina's prehistoric and historic archaeology
South Carolina African American Heritage Commission	Created in 2001 to identify and promote the preservation of historic sites, structures, buildings, and culture of the African American experience in South Carolina and to assist and enhance the efforts of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History
Preservation South Carolina	Non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the historic and irreplaceable architectural heritage of South Carolina through assistance with tax credits, sale of properties for restoration, and preservation easements, with one preservation easement secured in Newberry County to date
Palmetto Conservation Foundation	Founded in 1989 to conserve South Carolina's natural and cultural resources, preserve historic landmarks, and promote active outdoor recreation on the Palmetto Trail and other greenways
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Newberry County Historical and Museum Society	Formed in 2005 to preserve and document the history of Newberry County through the collection, preservation and display of historical artifacts, books, manuscripts, charts, photographs, genealogies and similar items and the operation of the Newberry County Museum and Farm Museum
Newberry Opera House Foundation	Formed in 1992 to lead fundraising and renovation efforts for the historic Opera House facility
City of Newberry Board of Architectural Review	Created in 1996 to administer the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance and review plans and applications for all construction within the Historic Buildings District, including modification of existing buildings, demolition, and new construction

### 6.2.7. Historic Resource Funding Opportunities

Historic preservation yields wide-ranging economic benefits from higher property values and job creation in rehabilitation industries to increased heritage tourism. Communities are also strengthened through the preservation of historic places and patterns that enhance livability and promote social and cultural connections between residents. Rehabilitation of historic structures also encourages energy conservation and infrastructure savings through the reuse of existing structures.

Incentives such as tax credits and grants encourage the preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings and the donation of conservation easements to protect historic sites. Table 6-5 summarizes the Federal and State preservation tax incentives currently available to eligible property owners in Newberry County.

**Table 6-5. Summary of Federal and State Tax Incentives for Historic Preservation**

INCENTIVE	ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS SUMMARY	LEVEL
20% Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal income tax credit equal to 20% of eligible rehabilitation costs</li> <li>Income-producing use such as offices, stores, or rental housing with individual or contributing National Register (NR) status</li> </ul>	Federal
10% State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State income or license tax credit equal to 10% of rehabilitation costs</li> <li>Same as federal credit above and does not require separate state application process</li> </ul>	State
10% Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal income tax credit equal to 10% of rehabilitation costs</li> <li>Non-residential income-producing use for buildings in service before 1936 that do not have individual or contributing NR status</li> </ul>	Federal
25% State Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State income tax credit equal to 25% of allowable rehabilitation costs not to exceed \$1 million</li> <li>Owner-occupied residence with individual NR status or contributing to historic district or outbuilding associated with eligible residence</li> </ul>	State
25% Abandoned Buildings Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administered by State Department of Revenue</li> <li>Provides tax incentives to encourage the rehabilitation, renovation, and redevelopment of abandoned buildings</li> </ul>	State
25% Textile Revitalization Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation and reuse of former textile manufacturing facilities</li> <li>Credit against local property taxes or a State income tax credit equal to 25% of rehabilitation costs</li> </ul>	State
Federal Income Tax Credit for Low Income Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Credit to rehabilitate historic buildings for low income housing and rental units that can be paired with <i>Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit</i></li> <li>Low Income Housing Credits allocated by the S.C. Housing Finance &amp; Development Authority</li> </ul>	Federal State
Conservation/ Preservation Easements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntary legal agreements used to protect significant historic, archaeological, or cultural resources through contribution of a partial interest in a historic property (easement) to a government or nonprofit</li> <li>Owner must meet criteria for donated easements for tax benefits</li> </ul>	Federal State
Credit for Retrofitting Fortification Costs/ Sales/Use Tax Credit on Retrofit Purchases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resiliency incentives for homeowners that retrofit their personal property to make the property more hurricane resistant</li> </ul>	State
Special Property Tax Assessment (Bailey Bill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local governments offer special property tax assessments for rehabilitated historic property and low and moderate income rental property</li> <li>Income-producing real property and owner-occupied property for buildings designated as historic by NR or local government</li> </ul>	Local

Source: S.C. Department of Archives and History, 2022

Although Federal and State grant resources to support historic preservation efforts are limited in scope and funding, there are additional local opportunities available to property owners and local governments for historic preservation efforts. Eligible projects can combine Federal, State, and local credits with one or more other local incentives resulting in even greater benefit. The *Bailey Bill* was passed by the State legislature to allow South Carolina cities and counties to provide property tax incentives for improvements to historic structures.

The SCDAH also offers two matching grant programs with funds from the National Park Service for *Survey and Planning* and *Stabilization Projects*. However, only Certified Local Governments are eligible for grant consideration. *Survey and Planning Grants* can be used for identifying and

recognizing historic properties, planning for historic districts, strengthening local government preservation programs, preservation education, and planning for individual historic properties. *Stabilization Project Grants* are used for stabilization repairs to National Register buildings, including roofs, structural framework, and deteriorated doors and windows. To date, 36 South Carolina communities have been designated as Certified Local Governments. There are currently no municipalities in Newberry County participating in this program.

### 6.3. Cultural Resources

Cultural resources envelop the broad spectrum of the heritage, the traditions, the religions, and the arts of a community. Participation and awareness of the arts can significantly enrich the quality of life for residents. Partnerships among schools, libraries, arts and civic groups, churches, higher education, and local business and industry can leverage local cultural opportunities to increase exposure to the arts for residents of all ages and backgrounds.

Cultural resources include buildings and places where cultural programs are housed and provide public access points for the arts. Newberry County has a range of diverse cultural venues for residents and tourists that include museums, an acclaimed Opera House, a library system with two locations, community festivals, performing arts center, community theater, and a private liberal arts college.

#### 6.3.1. Museums and Libraries

High quality and accessible museum and library facilities, programs, and services can enhance, enrich, entertain, and educate residents of all ages, while presenting opportunities for life-long learning and fostering cultural understanding. Newberry County is home to several museums that carefully preserve the diverse cultural and social heritage of the County and its communities, as well as the contributions of its residents. These facilities are profiled in Table 6-6.

**Table 6-6. Museums in Newberry County**

MUSEUM	SIGNIFICANCE	LOCATION
Newberry County Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Located in the historic five-acre Coppock House complex overlooking downtown Newberry</li> <li>▪ Grounds include the old Water and Lights Building and the Gauntt House</li> <li>▪ Extensive collection of artifacts and displays relative to Newberry County history</li> </ul>	City of Newberry
The Newberry Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-profit educational organization that serves to protect, preserve, present, and promote the ongoing history and heritage of Newberry County and College</li> <li>▪ Opened to the public in 2019 in the renovated former Newberry County Library building</li> </ul>	City of Newberry
South Carolina Room of the Newberry Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dedicated collection of local history and genealogy resources housed in the Hal Kohn Memorial Library</li> </ul>	City of Newberry





MUSEUM	SIGNIFICANCE	LOCATION
Historic Rail Depot and Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Housed in the last remaining train depot in Newberry County, the 80-year old structure represents the integral role that railroads played in the growth and development of the County</li> <li>▪ Facility is also available for public and private special events</li> </ul>	Town of Prosperity
Prosperity Town Hall Art Gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Partnership with Crooked Creek Art League to provide a rotating exhibit of local artists in the Town Hall</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>	Town of Prosperity
Prosperity Civic Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Operated by the Town to provide meeting and event space that accommodates groups from 20 up to 300</li> </ul>	Town of Prosperity
Whitmire Museum and South Carolina Bottle Museum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Nonprofit created to display and teach the history of the Whitmire community including its schools, churches, families, and businesses</li> <li>▪ Co-located with museum, housing more than 1,600 bottles manufactured in South Carolina since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century</li> </ul>	Town of Whitmire

High quality library facilities, programs, and services can enhance, enrich, entertain, and educate residents of all ages, while presenting opportunities for life-long learning and fostering cultural understanding. Library service in Newberry County dates back to the early 1800's. The *Newberry County Library System* currently operates two locations, with the main facility located on Friend Street and a smaller branch in the Town of Whitmire. The system plays a vital role in promoting genealogical research, computer and internet access, and early and adult literacy through programs such as preschool story time, book clubs, and reading programs. In addition to public computers and wireless internet service, the libraries offer meeting space and eBooks.

The *Hal Kohn Memorial Library* is housed in a 21,200 square foot facility constructed in 2009. The Library has a collection of nearly 62,300 volumes and an annual circulation of more than 101,120. The main Library also houses a dedicated South Carolina Room featuring local history and genealogy resources. Additional support is provided by the Friends of the Newberry County Library through book sales and other fundraisers for library materials.

The *Whitmire War Memorial Library* is located on Church Street in the Town of Whitmire. The library was originally built in 1950 as a memorial to the veterans of World War I and World War II. The site underwent extensive renovation in 1976 and now offers seven computer terminals with internet access, as well as wireless internet access.

The *Wessels Library* of Newberry College is the focal point for accessing, evaluating, and using research materials that support learning and teaching. The library houses a comprehensive collection of more than 83,000 volumes, periodicals, and non-print materials. An Archives and Special Collections room of the Library contains many historical documents relating to Lutheranism and to the local area as well as a special facsimile of the Book of Kells. The library participates in the *Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries*.

The *Library Resource Center* of the Newberry campus of Piedmont Technical College offers student computer access to on-line Library resources, reference books, e-books and streaming, interlibrary loans, and other instructional support resources. To provide extra support and resources for Piedmont Tech students, the Newberry Center Library has formed cooperative agreements with local libraries, including the Wessels Library of Newberry College and the Newberry County Library.



### 6.3.2. Fine and Performing Arts Centers and Organizations

Although it remains largely rural, Newberry County boasts a number of cultural resources that serve to both educate and enrich the lives of its residents and visitors. Community facilities are available throughout the County that host a variety of events including community performances, private functions, and productions. Smaller multi-purpose community centers and school facilities can be found in unincorporated communities throughout the County including Helena, Stoney Hill, Fairview, and Chappells. The larger facilities are listed in Table 6-7.

**Table 6-7. Arts Facilities in Newberry County**

FACILITY	SIGNIFICANCE	LOCATION
Newberry Opera House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Visual landmark for the City of Newberry built in 1881</li> <li>▪ On the National Register of Historic Places</li> <li>▪ 427-seat theatre provides state-of-the-art venue for acts ranging from country music concerts to Broadway productions</li> <li>▪ Spurred an economic and cultural renaissance and serves as a catalyst for increased tourism and further preservation and rehabilitation activities in the downtown core</li> </ul>	Newberry
Newberry Arts Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formed in 2014 and operated by the City's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department</li> <li>▪ Provides quality arts experiences to interested citizens</li> </ul>	Newberry
Ritz Theater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Art Deco Style facility built in 1936 for use as a movie theater</li> <li>▪ Current home of the Newberry Community Players</li> <li>▪ Second anchor in the City's developing downtown arts district</li> </ul>	Newberry
Newberry County Fairgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Located in the City of Newberry</li> <li>▪ Site of livestock shows, food and vendor booths, rides, and stage entertainment</li> <li>▪ Hosts the County Agricultural Festival, Newberry Farmers Market, a Fall Rodeo Festival, Halloween Haunted House, and summer Master Gardener's Market</li> </ul>	Newberry
Fire House Conference Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Former 19<sup>th</sup> Century fire station in historic downtown Newberry</li> <li>▪ Renovated and converted into a state-of-the-art multi-purpose facility in 2006 to host multi-day meetings, conventions, and events</li> </ul>	Newberry
Newberry Amphitheatre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Joint initiative between the City of Newberry, Newberry County, and Newberry Opera House for a downtown location to accommodate community concerts and Newberry College and Newberry County School District events</li> <li>▪ \$3.65 million concept plan has a capacity of 1,500 with a pavilion and restroom</li> </ul>	Newberry
Newberry College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Home to performing venues including Wiles Chapel Theatre and the Alumni Music Center that houses a 150-seat recital hall, practice rooms, a band room, offices, and classrooms</li> <li>▪ Herman Langford Communications Center has state-of-the-art communications facilities including a television and radio station and audio and video production suites</li> </ul>	Newberry
Piedmont Technical College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Located in the old National Guard Armory</li> <li>▪ Newberry Campus Center includes a 150-seat auditorium that is available to the public and community organizations</li> </ul>	Newberry



FACILITY	SIGNIFICANCE	LOCATION
Old Pomaria School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under restoration to host plays, performances, and community meetings</li> </ul>	Pomaria
Prosperity Civic Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hosts programs and events including receptions, music and dance events, pageants, and fashion shows</li> </ul>	Prosperity
Community Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovated the Park Street School cafeteria</li> <li>Now used for meetings and private functions</li> </ul>	Whitmire

Arts and culture play an important role in shaping community identity and civic pride, as well as providing economic opportunities for creative residents. Community members connect with art and one another when they attend and take part in music, dance, and theater performances, tour architectural sites and art exhibits, share works of literature, and engage and express themselves through electronic and digital media. Newberry County has a thriving creative sector that includes local writers, artisans, and musicians. The County has active arts groups in areas including drama, music, and folk arts.

The arts are easily integrated into strategies that improve community livability. An analysis of the economic impact of the arts in South Carolina reveals that the arts cluster supports 115,000 jobs statewide, generates \$269 million in tax revenue, and contributes more than \$9.7 billion to the State's economy (*South Carolina Arts Commission*). Table 6-8 profiles national, state, and local organizations that have an impact on the arts in Newberry County.

**Table 6-8. Newberry County Arts and Cultural Organizations**

ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>NATIONAL</b>	
National Endowment for the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established by Congress in 1965 to give Americans the opportunity to participate in and experience the arts</li> <li>Awards project-based funding through multiple grant programs that support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for individuals, states, and communities across the country</li> </ul>
National Endowment for the Humanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seeks to promote and fund excellence in the humanities and convey the lessons of history to all Americans</li> </ul>
<b>STATE</b>	
South Carolina Arts Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advances and promotes excellence in the arts and a thriving arts environment in South Carolina</li> <li>Focused in three areas: arts education, artist development, and community arts development</li> <li>Offers grant programs for individual artists, arts organizations, and schools</li> </ul>
South Carolina Humanities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statewide nonprofit with the mission to enrich the cultural and intellectual lives of all South Carolinians by increasing public understanding of and support for the humanities</li> <li>Provides major grants, mini and planning grants, fast track literary grants, and council program grants</li> <li>State grant recipients include local libraries, individual schools, churches, civic groups, and community historical and arts councils</li> </ul>



ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
Arts Access South Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes quality and accessible art experiences for people with disabilities</li> <li>Works with artists, educators, arts administrators, and human service providers to establish inclusivity in the arts for people with disabilities</li> </ul>
<b>LOCAL</b>	
Newberry Arts Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formed in 2014 and operated by the City's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department to provide quality arts experiences to interested citizens and increase support for working artists</li> <li>Hosts art classes and workshops for adults and youth in media ranging from watercolors and oils to clay and textiles</li> <li>Hosts annual South Carolina Clay Conference for clay artists</li> </ul>
Newberry Made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formed in 2019 as an artist registry to host exhibitions of local Newberry County artists and makers</li> <li>Grown to an active group of over 160 creative individuals and enterprises hosting regular exhibitions at local businesses and municipal venues</li> </ul>
Newberry Ballet Guild	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established in 1977 to promote the art of dance through teaching and performance</li> <li>Holds annual public performances at the Newberry Opera House, presenting classical ballets, as well as original ballets and modern dances for local and non-local patrons</li> </ul>
Newberry College Chamber Orchestra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Campus/community partnership open to both Newberry College students and community members</li> <li>Performs music literature from the Baroque period to the 21st century</li> </ul>
Newberry Community Choir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offers two major performances each year</li> <li>Easter cantata presented during the week before Holy Week</li> <li>Christmas program presented in early December</li> </ul>
Newberry Community Players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All-volunteer, non-profit group that presents live theater at the historic Ritz Theater</li> <li>Offers annual stage performances throughout the year including a musical and a children's show</li> <li>Launched <i>Young Players Club</i> to give local youth access to productions, special events, audition coaching, and discount tickets to encourage an early interest in the performing arts</li> </ul>
Newberry County Friends of the Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-profit Friends group promotes interest in the functions, resources, services, and needs of the Newberry County Library System</li> <li>Conducts annual book sale, hosts annual literary luncheon, and author presentations</li> </ul>
Newberry County Historical & Museum Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserves, documents, and fosters awareness of Newberry County history through the collection, preservation, and display of historical resources and artifacts</li> </ul>
Newberry Opera House Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formed in 1992 to lead fundraising and renovation efforts for the historic Opera House facility</li> </ul>



ORGANIZATION	DESCRIPTION
Newberry College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sponsors diverse annual events on campus and in the community ranging from concerts and plays to art exhibits and lecture series</li> <li>▪ Offers multiple degree options in visual arts, theatre, graphic design and digital marketing, and music education and performance</li> <li>▪ Offers variety of performing ensembles that include the College Singers, Jazz Big Band, Jazz Combo, Madrigals, Newberry Chamber Orchestra, Scarlet Spirit Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, improvisational theatre, and plays</li> </ul>

A wide range of agencies and organizations at the national, state, and local levels provide technical and funding support for individual artists and arts and cultural initiatives. Six Newberry County arts organizations have received more than \$102,800 in grants from the South Carolina Arts Commission over the last two years.

### 6.3.3. Annual Festivals and Special Events

Local governments, cultural and civic organizations, and the private sector play a valuable role in providing recreational, cultural, and entertainment opportunities that enhance the sense of community for residents, attract tourists, and boost activity in traditional downtowns. Newberry County communities and organizations host numerous festivals and special events throughout the year for the enjoyment of residents and visitors. These festivals and events promote the heritage and scenic resources of the region and feature activities ranging from holiday parades and fireworks displays to Irish and German heritage festivals and the State's oldest reunion gathering in Little Mountain (Table 6-9).

**Table 6-9. Annual Festivals and Special Events in Newberry County**

EVENT	LOCATION	DATE	ACTIVITIES
SC Ag+Art Tour	County	June	Free self-guided tour of local farms and markets featuring local food and artisans
<b>LITTLE MOUNTAIN</b>			
Little Mountain Reunion	Reunion Park	August	Since 1882, annual tradition of gathering for music and food, parade, talent show, road race, vendors
<b>NEWBERRY</b>			
Newberry College Jazz Festival	Newberry College	March	One of nation's longest running jazz festivals featuring local and internationally known musicians
Irish Fling	Downtown Newberry	March	Music, food, vendors, children's activities
Pork in the Park	Downtown Newberry	April	Chicken and pork rib BBQ cooking contest, BBQ vending, music, kids rides, and entertainment
Taste of Newberry	Downtown Newberry	May	Fine food and wine tasting catered by Downtown restaurants and music
Newberry Juneteenth	Newberry	June	Street festival featuring Black-owned businesses with cuisine, arts, live entertainment, and history
Grow Newberry Farmers Market	Downtown Newberry	Summer	Locally sourced seasonal produce, plants, baked goods, and arts and crafts



EVENT	LOCATION	DATE	ACTIVITIES
<b>NEWBERRY</b>			
SC ClayCon	Downtown Newberry	September	One of the largest annual pottery sale sales in South Carolina featuring the work of presenters and attendees
Newberry County Ag Expo and Rodeo	Newberry County Fairground	September	Multi-day fair with crafts, animal/horse shows, vendor booths, antique tractor exhibit, historical exhibits, pageant, art show, and rodeo
Newberry Oktoberfest	Downtown Newberry	October	Music, children's activities, local food and craft vendors, motorcycle and classic car displays, culinary stage, and local, regional, and national entertainment
Newberry Harvest Festival	Enoree River Winery	October	Winery and vineyards, unique arts and crafts, dessert food vendors
Main Street Lights	Downtown Newberry	November	Downtown open house with official lighting of City's decorations and tree
Shoppers Walk	Prosperity	December	Merchant open houses, local entertainment, Santa visits, treats, and prizes
Christmas Tour of Homes	Private Homes	December	Tour of participating homes
North Pole Nights	Downtown Newberry	December	Santa visits, faux snow machines, and story time with Mrs. Claus
<b>PROSPERITY</b>			
Community Market & Yard Sale	Grace Street Lot	April-October	Rental tables with local vegetables, crafters, and plant growers
Prosperity's Hoppin'	Town Square	May	Festival with street dances, food, vendors, local entertainment, crafters, 5K run, pageant, and children's activities
4th of July Celebration	Lake Murray	July	Fireworks
Spooktacular in the Square	Town Square	October	Downtown activities with costumes and candy for children
Christmas Tree Lighting	Town Square	December	Official lighting of the Town's Christmas tree and holiday carols
<b>WHITMIRE</b>			
Party in the Pines	Main Street	June	Three-day festival with food, arts and crafts, parade, carnival, live music, and entertainment

Source Discover South Carolina, 2022

#### 6.3.4. Educational Institutions

Communities that promote a philosophy of lifelong learning among residents are better positioned to successfully compete in a global economy and benefit from a more engaged citizenry. Music and arts education programs are provided to 5,760 students each year in 12 schools through the *School District of Newberry County*. The District's art curriculum exposes students to a variety of media to ensure a better understanding of the arts, including a Gifted and Talented arts program in music and visual arts. The most recent Strategic Plan for the District seeks to "implement a quality sequential K-12 fine arts program." This will be accomplished by hiring highly qualified art teachers for schools, raising awareness of student artistic achievements,



and integrating student instruction and exposure to traditionally under-represented arts such as drama, dance, strings, piano, and visual arts.

With an enrollment of more than 200 students, *Newberry Academy* is the largest private school in the County serving pre-school through the twelfth grade. The Academy has served Newberry County for more than five decades. Located in the City of Newberry, the Academy emphasizes art and music as a key part of all students' curriculum.

Newberry County students and residents have access to two postsecondary institutions within the County, Newberry College and the Newberry Campus of Piedmont Technical College. These institutions provide residents and organizations with a greater level of access to cultural and recreational events, research resources, meeting and conference facilities, professional development, and distance education opportunities.

*Newberry College* has contributed more than 150 years of service and educational leadership to the Newberry community and the State of South Carolina. The College was founded in 1828 as a Lutheran seminary and classical academy at the annual meeting of the Lutheran Synod in South Carolina and adjacent states. The new seminary-academy opened its doors in 1831 near Pomaria and moved to neighboring Lexington County in 1834 where it would remain for another two decades. In 1854, the Synod voted to relocate the College to Newberry.

Newberry College's 90-acre wooded historic campus is located less than a mile from downtown shopping areas and cultural venues. The campus is comprised of more than 20 buildings and athletic facilities that center on a landscaped quadrangle. The quadrangle is anchored on three sides by four campus buildings that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places – Smeltzer, Keller, Holland, and Derrick Halls. On the fourth side of the quadrangle stand the McClurg Center for Teaching and Learning, the Langford Communications Center, and the Wessels Library.

Opportunities for Newberry College student involvement in cultural and arts activities are numerous and include the *Newberry College Singers*, the *Madrigal Singers*, the *Scarlet Spirit Marching Band*, the *Newberry Concert Band*, a *Jazz Ensemble*, and the *Jazz Combo*. Additional on-campus activities include drama/theater, a lecture series, literary magazine, musical theater, radio station, student newspaper, television station, and yearbook.

### 6.3.5. Related Venues

Newberry County has many agricultural tourism sites and facilities that strongly complement its historic, arts, and cultural resources. Newberry is one of only ten counties featured in the annual *South Carolina Ag + Art Tour*. The annual free, self-guided tour highlights participating agriculture, farmers markets, and local artisans throughout the month of June. Tour artists range from weavers, painters, musicians, storytellers, metalworkers, and craftsmen, to poets and live musicians. Launched in 2012, the tour is the largest free farm and art tour in the nation, attracting more than 45,000 visitors over the past ten years. There are five tour stops in the County.

In addition to supporting the County's agricultural economy, agritourism attractions showcase the cultural and historical traditions of the community. A number of local farms have looked beyond traditional markets to diversify their operations through agritourism, incorporating farm tours and



field trips, wine tastings, dinners, on-site farm-to-table restaurants with markets, workshops, festivals, and u-pick operations. These operations are detailed in the *Economic* element.

Newberry County also has several sites and facilities that combine natural and cultural resource opportunities. There are nearly 50 public parks and recreation facilities encompassing almost 700 acres in the County. Although most of these sites are recreational, several also have cultural significance. These sites are detailed in the *Natural Resources* Element.

### 6.3.6. Religious Institutions

Churches played an important role in the early development of Newberry. These institutions continue to positively impact the quality of life by hosting events such as annual community concerts and reunions that preserve community and family histories, maintaining historic cemeteries, providing diverse youth activities and summer camps, and participating in festivals that showcase local food, talent, and crafts.

The estimated 240 churches, synagogues, and faith communities in Newberry County are vital partners in broadening community access to cultural opportunities. The numerous and varied denominations reflect the diverse cultural history of the community. In addition to the many Lutheran churches, there are active Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Associated Reformed Presbyterian, African Methodist Episcopal, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Assembly of God, Jehovah's Witness, and many other non-denominational and independent churches.

### 6.3.7. Media and Community Engagement

Newspapers, magazines, television, radio stations, and social media platforms can be key conduits of information for cultural engagement. Although there are no network television stations located within Newberry County, residents are served by major network affiliate stations based in the nearby Columbia metro area.

**Table 6-10. Media Serving Newberry County**

SOURCE	TYPE	FORMAT
<b>NEWSPAPER</b>		
Newberry Observer	Newspaper	Published once weekly
<b>RADIO</b>		
WKDK (Newberry)	News, Sports, Oldies, Contemporary	AM 1240/101.7 FM
WNIR-LP (Newberry College)	College programming	FM 95.5
WNBK (Whitmire)	Oldies	FM 90.9
<b>OTHER</b>		
Newberry Magazine	Lifestyle magazine	Published bi-monthly
Newberry Now	Online local features	Updated weekly
Newberry Living	Local features magazine	Published monthly

### 6.3.8. Cultural and Heritage Tourism

Tourism has grown to a \$23.8 billion industry in South Carolina, accounting for nearly three percent of the State GDP. Tourism now supports one in ten jobs statewide. Domestic travelers to





the State spent more than \$12 billion on transportation, lodging, food, entertainment, recreation, and incidentals. Sector spending also generates \$1.7 billion in State and local tax revenue. This equates to a tax burden transfer from residents to tourists of \$895 per household (*SCPRT, 2021*).

Although revenue and jobs fell by nearly a quarter in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic, the sector is on the rebound statewide. The County benefitted from more than \$37.7 million in travel and tourism related expenditures before the pandemic, with \$1.9 million in local tax revenues in 2019. Tourism generated nearly \$5.6 million in local payroll. This activity ranked Newberry at 28<sup>th</sup> among South Carolina counties in total travel expenditures.

Newberry County received \$234,808 in total accommodations tax allocations for fiscal year 2020-2021, with \$120,740 of this total going to the City of Newberry, \$3,151 to the Town of Prosperity, \$2,992 to the Town of Whitmire, \$964 to the Town of Silverstreet, \$604 to the Town of Little Mountain, \$372 to the Town of Pomaria, and \$133 to the Town of Peak (*SCPRT, 2022*).

Cultural tourism in particular offers significant economic opportunities for local businesses and residents through the creation of new retail and service markets in the areas of arts and culture, historical tours and sites, genealogy resources, agribusiness, specialty foods, and related products. In addition to visiting historic places and museums during their trips, heritage visitors enjoy shopping, parks, cultural events and festivals, and outdoor recreation activities such as hiking, boating, or biking. Such tourism is an attractive economic development resource for Newberry County as it preserves community character, instills local pride, promotes community investment, improves the overall quality of life, and generates local employment and entrepreneurial opportunities. The cooperation of public and private interests in marketing, preservation and revitalization, and programming for cultural tourism will position Newberry County and its municipalities to continue building upon local heritage tourism assets that include historic sites of state and national significance, cultural attractions, festivals, outdoor events, and diverse culinary and retail offerings.

The *South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism* (SCPRT) operates and manages South Carolina's State Parks, markets the State as a preferred vacation destination, and provides assistance to local communities for development and promotion of parks, recreation and tourism. SCPRT offers annual grants to support local governments and nonprofits in developing marketing and generating visitors to the state (Table 6-11).

**Table 6-11. Cultural and Heritage Tourism Support Opportunities**

GRANT	PURPOSE	ELIGIBILITY	AMOUNT
Emerging Destination Marketing	Generate new visitation through select tourism advertising activities for highly developed, emerging tourism destinations	501(c) non-profit charged with marketing tourism for specific city or unincorporated area	\$100,000 to \$200,000 with 2:1 cash match
Destination-Specific Tourism Marketing	Support destination specific advertising that generates a proven economic return for the State	Qualified tourism partners	\$250,000+ with 2:1 cash match

GRANT	PURPOSE	ELIGIBILITY	AMOUNT
Sports Tourism Advertising and Recruitment	Recruit new sporting events that generate significant economic impact to local communities through additional participant/visitor spending	Nonprofit tourism or sports-related organizations, applying through local governments	Up to \$50,000 with 1:1 match
Tourism Advertising	Expand economic benefits of tourism across the state with competitive, matching grant funds to qualified tourism marketing partners for direct tourism advertising expenditures in festivals and events, attractions, and destinations	SC tourism regions, tourism marketing organizations, and local governments attracting out-of-market visitors to destination, event or attraction	\$3000 max for festival; \$40,000 for attraction; \$100,000 for destination with 1:1 or 2:1 match
Undiscovered SC	Assist communities and nonprofits with development of <i>publicly owned</i> tourism products and attractions that encourage visitation to the State	County/municipal governments with ATAX distributions of \$900,000 or less	\$100,000 to \$200,000 with 1:1 match

Source: S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, 2022

### 6.4. Goals, Objectives and Implementation Strategies

The following table summarizes actions to be undertaken in the coming decade to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the Cultural Resources element. Element goals are broad-based ideals intended to guide the future of the community, while objectives elaborate the goals to outline the framework and provide the basis for more detailed and measurable plan strategies. Each supporting implementation strategy includes a listing of the agencies that are accountable for implementation, as well as a general time frame for completion.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES	ACCOUNTABLE AGENCY	TIMEFRAME
<b>GOAL 6.1. Protect the historic and cultural heritage of Newberry County, as embodied and reflected in its historic structures, sites, and districts</b>		
<b>OBJECTIVE 6.1.1. Protect the sites, structures, and districts that represent or reflect elements of cultural, social, economic, political, and architectural history at the community, county, regional, and state levels</b>		
<i>STRATEGY 6.1.1.1.</i> Continue to encourage the adaptive reuse of historic or architecturally significant buildings that connect Newberry communities with their histories.	Newberry County, Municipalities Chamber of Commerce, Palmetto Trust, Private Property Owners	Ongoing
<i>STRATEGY 6.1.1.2.</i> Maximize additional grant funding from the S.C. Department of Archives and History and other sources to support preservation and revitalization efforts.	Newberry County, Municipalities, Private Property Owners	Ongoing



GOALS/OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES	ACCOUNTABLE AGENCY	TIMEFRAME
<b>OBJECTIVE 6.1.2. Promote increased resident and business owner awareness of the significance of cultural and historic resources in Newberry County</b>		
<i>STRATEGY 6.1.2.1.</i> Promote awareness among individuals and business owners of the multiple Federal and State tax incentives, technical assistance, and grant programs available to historic property owners.	Newberry County, Municipalities, Chamber of Commerce	Ongoing
<b>GOAL 6.2. Strengthen community-wide access and involvement in the arts</b>		
<b>OBJECTIVE 6.2.1. Strengthen the capacity of existing community arts and cultural organizations to support cultural enrichment, recognition of local artists, regional exposure, and resource maximization</b>		
<i>STRATEGY 6.2.1.1.</i> Continue to support cultural and arts venues through annual appropriation of Accommodations Tax revenues.	Newberry County, Municipalities, Nonprofits	Ongoing
<b>GOAL 6.3. Leverage the County's historic and cultural assets as an integral economic development resource</b>		
<b>OBJECTIVE 6.3.1. Promote and enhance the County's attraction to residents, tourists, and visitors</b>		
<i>STRATEGY 6.3.1.1.</i> Work in partnership with municipal and community organizations to protect the historic and cultural heritage of Newberry County, as embodied and reflected in its historic structures, sites, and districts.	Newberry County, Municipalities, Public & Private Property Owners	Ongoing
<b>OBJECTIVE 6.3.2. Identify ways to support businesses and industries engaged in the cultural and heritage tourism, agri-tourism, and nature-based tourism sectors</b>		
<i>STRATEGY 6.3.2.1.</i> Recognize, build upon, and promote the County's historic and cultural assets with Southern, African American, German, agricultural, and other themes through local historical and arts institutions and programming.	Chamber of Commerce, Municipalities, Newberry College, Newberry County Historical & Museum Society, Capital City/Lake Murray Country Regional Tourism Board, Public and Private Arts Groups, State Agency Funders, Business Owners	Ongoing