

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hawkes Children's Library

and/or common

2. Location

street & number North College Street _____ not for publication

city, town Cedartown _____ vicinity of congressional district 7th- Larry McDonald

state Georgia code 013 county Polk code 233

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Wilburn Brown, Mayor, City of Cedartown

street & number City Hall, East Avenue

city, town Cedartown _____ vicinity of state Georgia 30125

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Polk County Courthouse

city, town Cedartown _____ state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Polk County, Georgia
title Historic Structures Field Survey: has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes no

date 1978 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta _____ state Georgia

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hawkes Children's Library is built in the Georgian Revival Style. It is a one-story building with a basement, built of brick and stone in a rectangular shape with five bays. It has a hipped roof and end chimneys.

The library has very fine detailing on the exterior main entrance and in the rear facade's main window. The front-entrance bay is set off from the rest of the building because it is made of stone. The pedimented entrance employs the triumphal-arch motif that includes paired pilasters and modillion blocks. The rear facade has a central Palladian window that includes two side windows with extra large lintels.

The interior of the main floor consists of one large room with crown moulding and smooth plaster walls that is now used as the museum room. Off of this main room on either side of the front entrance are two small storage rooms. On the northeast side is a small side room with a fireplace used as an office. Across and parallel to it on the southeast side are doors leading to the basement stairs and to a restroom.

The basement has a large meeting room, a small office, and smaller auxiliary rooms. It also has two outside entrances, one on either side of the building.

The property includes very little grounds with landscaping of no note on the three sides facing the streets. The rear facade faces an area under construction that will be a walled garden with a fountain in the center. There are no outbuildings.

This property is across the street on the west from the county courthouse, with dwellings on the south and businesses on the east and north.

The library is in excellent condition and retains virtually all of its integrity. It has had few changes during its conversion from a library to a museum. The only additions are the garden walls attached to the rear facade.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History
Specific dates	1921	Builder/Architect	Hentz, Reid and Adler	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hawkes Children's Library is significant in architecture, social-humanitarian history and local history.

Architecturally, it is significant as a work of the noted Atlanta architectural firm of Hentz, Reid and Adler, of which the principal designer was J. Neel Reid (1885-1926). Although the actual plans for the building are unsigned, the library has, like many other buildings, been directly attributed to Reid. The firm worked throughout the region, although most of their work was in Atlanta. Many of the great homes designed and built in Georgia during the first quarter of this century were designed by this firm. They are also noted for commercial structures and at least one courthouse (in Florida). Their three known existing libraries were all bequests of A.K. Hawkes, the other two being located in Griffin and Jackson, Georgia.

The firm's works are reknown for their implementation of various "revivals" just as this library is significant for its design in the Georgian Revival style, as exemplified by the use of the triumphal arch in the front entrance doorway and the Palladian window in the rear facade. Later, the firm's creations were primarily remembered for their Classical Revival styling, as evidenced by many mansions in Atlanta.

The Hawkes Children's Library is significant in social-humanitarian history as part of the series of libraries built due to a bequest of Atlanta philanthropist, Albert King Hawkes.

Hawkes (1848-1916) was a Massachusetts native who came to Atlanta in the 1880s and began an optical company which became nationally known. A life-long bachelor, he kept somewhat of a low profile with his philanthropic endeavors. His donations were attributed to his interest in "sociological conditions" and in giving where it would most benefit society. He founded the Georgia Training School for Girls with a \$10,000 donation as well as the land. It became a state institution before his death. He donated to various colleges, and a dormitory is named for him at LaGrange (Georgia) College. He provided for overaged Methodist ministers, as well as Methodist orphans. His only sister, Mrs. S.O. Cundy of Rome, Georgia, continued donating to some of these same institutions after his death.

Hawkes' first known interest in establishing children's libraries came after Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) began his nationwide bequests to libraries. Many of

[continued]

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Cedartown West, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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E

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

As marked on the enclosed sketch map. It is all that is presently associated with the library and designated on the City Map as Lot Number 15.

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

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., historian, Richard Cloues, architectural historian
Historic Preservation Section

organization Department of Natural Resources

date May 16, 1980

street & number 270 Washington St.

telephone (404) 656-2840.

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

date 10/2/80

For HCRS use only

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

W. Ray Juce
Keeper of the National Register

date 11/24/80

Attest:

Carl D. Smith
Chief of Registration

date 11/24/80

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Continuation sheet

Significance

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the Carnegie libraries went to large Georgia cities (such as Atlanta and Columbus), while others went to small towns (like Barnesville and Dublin). Hawkes apparently felt he could provide money in a similar manner, but specified that the library had to be oriented toward children.

Libraries especially for children had long been a controversial subject in the United States. It was not until the late-nineteenth century that major cities provided either part of the main public library for children (Brookline, Massachusetts, is a contender for first place in 1890 or Minneapolis in 1893), and by 1908 most public libraries in major cities had a children's department. For a decade or so it was not a universally popular idea. Although Hawkes specifically established his libraries for children, they were actually used by adults, too, since they were the only libraries in the towns.

His first library was established before his death in Griffin, Georgia, where it is still in use. His will provided not only for family bequests and further donations to colleges, children's wards in hospitals and various other places that aided the young or the indigent, but also for other libraries.

Hawkes provided \$7,000 each (later increased to \$7,500 by his executors) for a children's library to be established in Cedartown, Dalton, Elberton, Madison and West Point. He stipulated that each town had to accept the bequest within a year after his death. If one of these first five towns did not accept, he provided that the amount be offered to either Thomasville, Waynesboro, Jackson, Waycross or Hawkinsville. Besides the Cedartown library, in the first group, libraries were constructed in West Point (1922) and from the second group, in Jackson (1925). A library room was added to a school in Elberton.

This library is significant in local history because it was the town's first free public library (that is, not tied to any existing organization). After the bequest was announced, the Cedartown Library Association was formed in early 1919. Land was donated later that spring and the architects and contractor selected. Local citizens raised \$18,000 to add to the \$7,500 bequest. The library formally opened September 30, 1921. It continued to operate as a library until recently. In January, 1976, the library association transferred the library to the City of Cedartown, which then leased it to the Polk County Historical Society to be used as a museum and library open to the public. The building's restoration, assisted by a state grant, was completed by May, 1977, at which time the historical society and the Cedartown Chamber of Commerce began using the building. The museum formally opened in September, 1978, as the county's first museum.

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

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McIntosh, John H. The Official History of Elbert County, 1790-1935, 1940.

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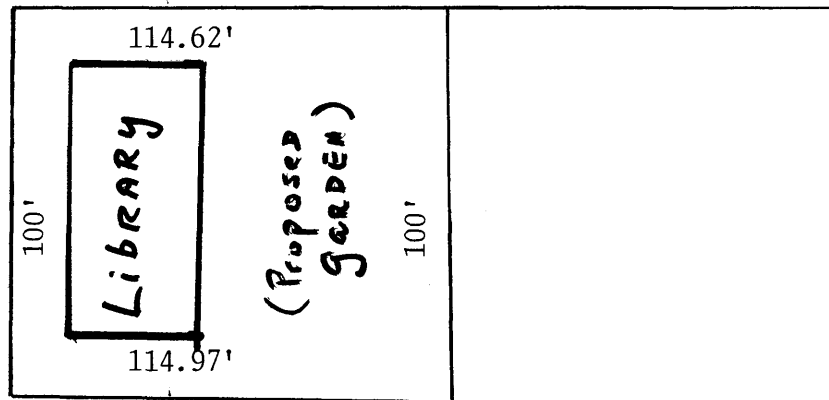
Personal Inspection, May 1980, by Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.

SITE LOCATION MAP



PRIOR STREET

North College Street



GRACE STREET

HAWKES CHILDREN'S LIBRARY
CEDARTOWN, POLK COUNTY, GEORGIA

Scale: 1" = 50'

Source: Cedartown Tax Map

Date: August, 1980

Key: The boundary consists of the four
labeled dimensions.

OCT 21 1980