# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

code 013

\_ not for publication

code 121

administration

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

#### 1. Name

historic

The Grady Hospital

and/or common <u>01d Grady Hospital. Georgia Hall</u>

#### 2. Location

street & number 36 Butler Street, S.E.

city, town Atlanta

vicinity of congressional district Fifth - Wyche Fowler

Fulton

state Georgia

# 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	agriculture	museum
building(s)	private	unoccupied	commercial	park
	both	work in progress	educational	private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	in process	<u>x</u> yes: restricted	government	scientific
	being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
	-	no	military	<u>x</u> other: hospital

county

### 4. Owner of Property

name J.W. Pinkston, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer; The Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority

street & number 80 Butler Street, S.E.

city, to	wn Atlanta	vicinity of	state	Georgia_	30303
5.	Location of Legal	Description			
courth	ouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior	r Court			
street	& number Fulton County Courtho	ouse			
city, to	wn Atlanta	<u> </u>	state	Georgia	
6.	<b>Representation in</b>	<b>Existing Sur</b>	veys		
title	Historic Structures Field Surv Fulton County, Georgia	has this property b	een determined e	legible?	_yes X_no
date	1975		_ federal sta	te cou	inty local
deposi	tory for survey records Historic Pre	servation Section, G	eorgia Dept,	of Natura	1 Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

# 7. Description

Condition		Check one	C
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	_X
<u> </u>	ruins	<u>_X</u> altered	
fair	unexposed		
	-		

Check one \_\_\_\_\_ original site \_\_\_\_ moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Grady Hospital, when built in 1890-92, was a connected series of buildings described by the architect as being in the "Italianate Style." However, it shows the influence of the Romanesque style. The original brick and frame wards, out-buildings and the one-eighth mile of connecting corridors were demolished c. 1959 to make way for a parking lot. The main building, however, is still in use, and, except for two major changes, the exterior remains intact.

Built of brick in the stretcher-bond pattern, the three-story building rests on a basement of solid granite which rises five feet above ground. Its details of granite and brickwork, the variation of rectangular and arched openings, the recession of second- and third-floor windows above the first-floor extended portico, and the five-story tower add architectural interest to what could have been a plain, functional building.

The main facade, facing west onto Butler Street, has a one-story portico flanked by a set of paired windows and a set of tiered windows; each set if divided by oak engaged columns with Georgia Ionic cusps. The original transom windows have been replaced by double-hung windows with large lights of glass without muntin bars; the window pattern is repeated on the second floor.

Above the portico are the recessed center windows of the second and third floors. Granite brackets above the second floor bring the third-floor balcony of open brickwork flush with the facade. The third floor has four continuous round arch windows on either side of the large arched balcony which was screened in around 1959.

Top lintels of all the windows are of brick, and the sills are granite. The granite sill of the second-floor windows continues as a string course around the parameter of the building.

The granite-faced large round arch of the entry portico is detailed with an egg-and-dart moulding and carved keystone. An ornately carved freize with the name of the hospital in front, runs around the three sides of the portico, and is topped by a concrete balustrade which repeats the design of the third-floor balcony. The design of this entry minus the granite freize was repeated in the ambulance porte-cochere (now gone) on the south side of the building.

The removal of the porte-cochere, c. 1913-14, to make way for a new six-story hospital building, was the second major structural change. To connect the two buildings, an enclosed corridor entered the old building at the site of the west windows in the small emergency room wing. Two balusters on the southwest and the southeast corners of this wing and the arched doorway (now blocked up) remain from the original building.

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The first major structural change occurred c. 1903-04 with the addition of a new operating room attached to the original operating room at the northeast corner of the building. The scars resulting from the alterations to accommodate this addition, as well as those showing the attachment of the original corridors, can be seen on the east facade.

On the north side of the building, facing onto Coca-Cola Place, is the tower, which repeats the rounded arches of the third-floor front facade. Pragmatic, as well as of architectural interest, the enclosed fourth level houses an emergency water tank which remains; the open fifth level with its balustraded arched openings housed the emergency bell. The bell was replaced c. 1900 by chimes, the console of which is now in an attic storage space. The balustrade was removed c. 1932.

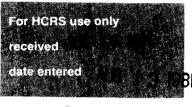
The first-floor bow window on the north side marks the location of the original operating room. The glass roof has been replaced. The windows cut into the base-ment level were done during a renovation project c. 1958-9.

The pyramidal hipped roof, marked by a large double window dormer in the center of the main facade and four tall ornate brick chimneys, was originally surfaced with slate. Hip and valley flashing were of metal. Ridge cap flashing were of metal in an ornate saw-tooth pattern that ended in a volute or scroll over each hip. The roof underwent extensive repair between 1932 and 1938, which culminated in the removal of the original tower cornice and balustrade. The original cornice remained on the main building but was covered over with plywood. In 1976, the cornice again required extensive repair and a restoration program was undertaken. A research program was also undertaken, and it was decided that the cornice should be replaced with one of the original design. Many of the wooden false beams used in this replacement are original.

A series of renovations on the interior of the building has resulted in two areas being changed beyond recognition. A wide hall divides the first floor from side to side, and another hall traverses the building from north to south, separating the main entry from the stairwell at the rear of the building. Original elements retained are the large arches marking the hall intersection, pilasters, some mouldings, and the transom above the entrance. The wide stair way to the second and third floors (now enclosed) is built in the "dogtrot style." The original handcarved newell posts are intact; the one on the first floor differs in its carving from the others.

The second floor was designed for ten private rooms for paying patients. Although the hospital was provided with steam heat from its own plant, six of these rooms had working fireplaces. The rooms were built with rounded corners for purposes of sanitation.

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The seven rooms on the third floor were nurse/staff quarters. This area has been the least affected by interior remodeling efforts and most of the original doors, hardware and moulding is intact.

The two-story operating room located in the northeast corner was designed with a steep balcony on the second level for use of medical students who paid for the privilege of observing surgery. The original interior has been completely obliterated by remodeling. Extensive multiple renovation of the basement area has left little of the original plan.

The landscaping consists of a level lawn with foundation plantings. Mature trees at either side of the front walk are the results of deliberate landscaping efforts.

The original hospital is surrounded on its own block by a parking lot and other medical facilities. Diagonally across the street is the Butler Street C.M.E. Church, and on the other corners are commercial buildings. The Grady Hospital was built on this location to serve the whole community and has, thus, not been included in any nearby historic district. The rest of the hospital block consists of more modern buildings that continue the medical functions.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	Community planning     conservation     economics     education     engineering     industry     industry     invention	Iandscape architectur Iaw Iiterature military music philosophy politics/government	science     sculpture     social/     humanitarian     theater     transportation     x   other (specify)
Specific dates	1890-1892		Gardner, dner, Pyne & Gardner	hospital adminis- tration & medicine

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Gardner, Pyne & Gardner

Contractor: Darling Bros. of Worchester, Mass.

Grady Hospital is significant in architectural and medical history. Architecturally, it is significant for having been built in 1890-1892 as a city-owned and -operated hospital representing the most advanced principles and philosophies of medicine and hospital architecture of that time. Eugene C. Gardner, a prominent architect of Springfield, Massachusetts, who had come to Atlanta for his health, was hired for this project. The hospital is his only known work in the city or the state. The hospital is significant in medical history as a city-sponsored hospital. It was named for Henry Woodfin Grady, the proponent of the "New South." Grady and other Atlantans had long wanted a facility that would be free from all sectarian and denominational influences and prejudices. The hospital has continued to serve in this capacity since its inception, with a larger facility nearby now taking on the major responsibility.

The formal cornerstone-laying of the Grady Hospital took place on December 23, 1890, with much ceremony, as it was held on the first anniversary of the death of Henry Woodfin Grady (1850-1889), Atlanta newspaper editor and champion of the New South.

The Grady Hospital served as the one institution that rallied both black and white citizens to support a common goal. This common interest had culminated when Mayor John Thomas Glen, in his address to the Atlanta City Council on January 4, 1890, outlined a resolution for the City of Atlanta to build a public hospital to give expert and sympathetic medical care to those in the city who might need care and be unable to afford it; to strangers in the city who might become ill; and to any persons who might have accidents or other emergencies while in the city.

The hospital was formally dedicated on May 25, 1892. This was the culmination of years of efforts towards a publicly supported hospital for Atlanta. It was accepted for the city by the mayor. At the ceremony, the orator called it "the grandest institution that was ever founded in Atlanta," since it was to reach rich and poor, black and white. The cost for the hospital and four acres had been \$105,000. The hospital opened its doors on June 2, 1892.

The hospital resulted from a movement that began when the Atlanta Benevolent Home was turned over to a board of trustees in 1881. Shortly thereafter, the board met to decide its dissolution in order to secure "a wider field for doing good."

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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state		code	county		code
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Any new facility was to remain free of religious affiliation. In 1884, the board met to prepare for the sale of the home and to join the movement for a city-supported hospital. A lawsuit later arose over closing the home, which in 1887 lacked funds to even open. By early-1890, all parties agreed to deed the Atlanta Benevolent Home property to the city so that it could be sold to support the hospital effort. In the first city council meeting of 1890, it was resolved to build a hospital in the honor of the late Henry W. Grady, who had died the previous month.

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The site was purchased for \$16,700. The chairman of the sub-committee on building visited northern cities and inspected their hospitals. Plans were then drawn by the firm of Gardner, Pyne, and Gardner, specifically by Eugene C. Gardner of Springfield, Massachusetts, who was residing in Atlanta for his health and had opened an Atlanta office.

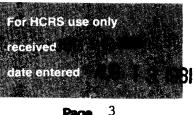
The hospital is historically significant, since it was the City of Atlanta (the state capital's) first publicly supported hospital. The hospital has remained the city hospital for Atlanta, although the site has been expanded and the primary medical functions moved to larger, more modern structures. Various wings and wards were originally part of this building. They have all been removed, as well as the portecochere. In the 1930's, a Works Progress Administration project enclosed the stairway and added bathrooms. After being operated directly by the City of Atlanta from 1892-1945, it was transferred to the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority (a specially created dual-county organization) in 1946 and has remained under its control ever since, as an auxillary structure of the modern hospital facility.

The architectural significance of the Grady Hospital rests with its being built as a hospital whose physical layout and building structure represented the most advanced principles and philosophy of the practice of medicine and of hospital architecture of that time.

Grady Hospital is significant as a good local example of the Richardson Romanesque style. The hallmarks of this style seen in this building include its massive stale, the round arches over the windows, doors and porches, and the straightforward use of stone and brick as building materials. Another important detail is the corners, which are made of the construction material and not applied to the surface. On the interior, the stairway, door, and window trims reflect the style. Another important element is the frieze on the front or entrance portico, which has "The Grady Hospital" in a floral motif and appears inspired by Sullivan.

It also has architectural significance as the only known Georgia building designed by Eugene C. Gardner (1836-1915) of Springfield, Massachusetts. Having settled in Springfield after the Civil War, Gardner was an independent architect for twenty-five years. Then, in 1889, he took his son, George C., and George Pyne

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into partnership. It was under the name of Gardner, Pyne and Gardner that they were operating when Eugene Gardner came to Atlanta for his health and was thus solicited to design this hospital. He appears in the Atlanta City Directories only for 1889-1891 inclusive.

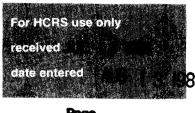
Gardner is described as "Springfield's best known and most influential architect during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries" and "one of the last of the important pattern book authors." He published eight books, five of which dealt with domestic architecture - Homes and How to Make Them (1874), Illustrated Homes (1875), Home Interiors (1878), The House That Jill Built (1882), Homes and All About Them (1885); and three on specific structures - Common Sense in Church Building (1880), Farm Architecture, Houses and Barns (1882), and Town and Country School Buildings (1888). He also contributed to several publications for the betterment of Springfield: Springfield Art Association: Practical Reasons for Its Existence (n.d.) and Springfield Present and Prospective (1905).

Gardner's career began as a school teacher and as a mason. His earliest domestic structures were noted for their masonry ornamented brick and stonework, all of which he used in Grady Hospital. He was also involved in the creation of subdivisions. He varied his work, being noted both for a cemetery chapel and a knitting company mill, as well as the Springfield Hospital in 1889. It was said that by the 1890's, he had designed buildings in nearly every state.

Gardner's early career showed the influence of John Ruskin, a mid-nineteenthcentury English critic and theorist who promoted medieval art. But Gardner showed he was not limited by any style, as his works appear in Richardson Romanesque, Queen Anne, Shingle, Venetian Gothic, and Victorian Eclectic styles, all prevalent during his career. He was a firm believer that residential architecture should be tailormade or custom-designed to the specific needs and wants of the owner and alway encouraged design freedom and experimentation.

Grady Hospital's 88th birthday was celebrated in 1980 by "Great Grady Days" on June 1-2, with a day-long seminar at the Atlanta Historical Society and an exhibit. At that time, a collection of memorabilia associated with the hospital was donated to the Society and requests went out over the wire services for more material related to the history of the hospital.

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