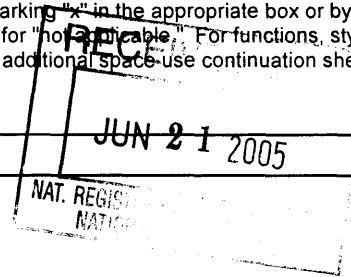


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.



1. Name of Property

historic name C. B. Tarver Building
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 18-23 W. 11th St.
city, town Columbus (N/A) vicinity of
county Muscogee code GA 215
state Georgia code GA zip code 31902

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Resources of Columbus

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Russell Clower

6-14-05

Signature of certifying official

Date

W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

fu

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson Beall

8/4/05

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Bar

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

COMMERCE/TRADE/business and specialty store

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style

Materials:

foundation	brick
walls	brick
roof	asphalt shingles
other	terra cotta

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The C. B. Tarver Building is located in downtown Columbus, within the central business district, a block from the Chattahoochee River, at the southwest corner of West 11th Street and Front Avenue. The building is a two-story red-brick building with basement. The building features decorative terra cotta cornice, cartouches, and string courses. There is a parapet roof. The main facade is parallel with 11th Street with a sidewalk setback. There are new glass storefront window facades at street level to replicate the original storefront windows and entrance. On the second level, the exterior is divided into three bays of five windows each separated by brick pilasters capped by decorative terra cotta caps. The groupings of five windows continues on the west facade. There are terra cotta bandings above and below the window openings. The parapet features a panel with the words "Tarver Building" in blue centered over the former 11th Street entrance. There are also decorative concrete diamond and square motifs on either side of this sign and on both the south and west facades. There is a small 1950s addition adjacent to the southwest corner that is now part of the end apartment unit. The building has been converted to loft apartments with the main entry door and new stairs on the west facade and two interior stairs as part of the atrium/courtyard created in the middle of the building. New metal stairs and walkways connect the floors. The atrium is open to the sky. There are six units in the basement with three on either side of the atrium. The first floor contains four units on either side of the atrium, some with the original storefronts as their south sides. The other four have mezzanines and metal stairs creating a loft effect. The second floor has been converted to eight units, four on either side of and opening onto the atrium. In total there are now 22 units of various configurations in the building. As part of the rehab/apartment conversion, original windows that had been bricked over were replaced, and a few new windows were added. There is parking to the rear. The building abuts another building (on the east side) converted to lofts and is across the street, to the west, from historic industrial buildings.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 -- Description

DESCRIPTION:

The Tarver Building is a good example of an early 1920s store and office building. The footprint is rectangular. The two-story building is classical in its detail. The entire building is red brick. Windows are wood, double-hung, six-over-six multi-light. Bands of concrete separate the floors and provide rooftop edging. The roof is flat. (Photograph 1.)

The main facade is parallel to West 11th Street and set back approximately ten feet from the street to allow for a sidewalk. The main floor is located at grade level and was prior to the loft conversion entered through glass double doors centrally located on the south elevation. The entire south facade now contains mock-store front windows. This elevation is divided into three bays of equal width. Each bay is separated by brick pilasters that are capped by a decorative concrete cap. On the second floor each bay is comprised of five window openings. Concrete banding above and below the window openings provides a continuous horizontal line, both on the front and around the west side of the building. Small decorative concrete squares are located on either side of the pilasters. There is a small parapet at the top of the central bay of the building. A concrete band with the words "Tarver Building" is located in the central parapet. The side bays have decorative concrete diamond and square motifs. (Photograph 1.)

The west facade is comprised of five large bays with small single window bays on each end. Each of the large bays has five window openings on the second floor. The small, post-1951 addition located at the southwest corner obscures two of the bays on the first floor. It is now part of a first floor apartment. Some of the windows in the remaining three bays have been enclosed with glass block. Exterior doors, formerly the loading doors, are located in two of these bays. The horizontal concrete banding, decorative pilasters, diamond and square motifs are also present on this facade. (Photos 3 and 4.)

There is no decorative detailing on the rear (north) elevation. (Photo 6.) The windows on the first floor are small arched windows. A painted sign advertising the Columbus Bowling Center is still visible. The east facade abuts the adjacent building. (Photo 6.)

The building's main floor was basically one large open space with a smaller rear area divided by a wall. It has now been converted to eight apartment units, four on either side of the newly added stairwell/atrium in the center of the building. (Photo 8.) The rear portion of the building has brick perimeter walls. The floor is concrete. There are two stairwells; one is located in the southeast corner and one in the northwest corner of the building, besides the one in the atrium.

The second floor was also originally divided into three bays. Now it too has eight loft apartments, four on either side of the atrium/stairway in the center of the building. The original columns support large crossbeams. (Apartment example in photo 9.)

There is very little landscaping due to the fact that the building is located in the commercial district of

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7 -- Description

downtown Columbus. The building sits adjacent to the sidewalk on the front (11th Street), and to Front Avenue on the west. The parking lot at the rear is not on the nominated parcel. (Photo 6.)

The C.B. Tarver Building is located at 18-23 West 11th Street in the heart of downtown Columbus. [Note the street numbers are not all even or all odd, one source has this building as 16-23.] It is geographically located within the boundaries of the Historic Resources of Columbus National Register Multiple Resource Area but was not originally included within that nomination.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance:

1921 to 1955

Significant Dates:

1921

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

T. Firth Lockwood, Sr., of Columbus, GA

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The C. B. Tarver Building is one of a number of individually significant historic buildings in downtown Columbus dating from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century. Downtown Columbus still retains its identity as the city's historic central business district, but because of a relatively high number of nonhistoric buildings the area does not qualify overall as a National Register historic district. A 1980 multiple property documentation form provides background information on the history and significance of downtown Columbus and identifies a number of individually eligible historic commercial buildings. Other historic downtown buildings have since been identified in the area as well. The C. B. Tarver Building is being individually nominated to the National Register within the this overall context.

The Tarver Building is significant in architecture because it is a good example of a commercial building built at a key downtown location designed by the important local architect, T. Firth Lockwood, Sr., (1868-1920) to be both functional and decorative at the same time. Lockwood is credited with many important buildings of the era, in Columbus and many surrounding towns, many of which survive today. The Tarver Building is one of the last buildings designed by him, as he died in 1920, and his son took over the firm. The building's last commercial use, that of a furniture showroom and warehouse, was an easy adaptation for the utilitarian interior design of a large open space on both floors with minimal permanent supports. The exterior of the building reflects a good amount of exterior decorative details fairly uncommon for a building built to be a wholesale grocery company and on the industrial side of the downtown business district. It retains decorative brickwork and decorative terra cotta cartouches, diamond insets panels, and a decorative name plaque. These decorative details must have been enhancements for the building's other clients, that of office space, for such places as a stock broker, or other local businesses.

The building is significant in commerce because it was built in 1921 by Clifford Banks Tarver (1887-1963) to house his wholesale grocery business, which he moved to this location and which he ran until the Depression in the early 1930s. After he and his wife, Aminta Flournoy Tarver, divorced in the 1930s, he moved to Atlanta where he died in 1963. After the Tarvers, there were a variety of owner/occupants. Some occupied just part of one of the two floors, thus providing a variety of occupants over the years. An advertisement indicated the second floor was leased out as offices. In 1927 a stock broker had an office there. In 1931, a wholesale dry goods company was in the building, in the 1930s it housed the Columbus Implement Company and the Metropolitan Club, and by 1937 the Columbus Bowling Center was there (on the second floor) until 1945. A feed and supply store followed in the 1940s, as well as the county welfare department, which stayed until the 1950s. Its last major occupant was that of a furniture company from the 1940s until it was sold for conversion to loft apartments, now linked with the adjacent two buildings along West 11th Street as the 11th Street Lofts.

National Register Criteria

The Tarver Building meets National Register criterion A because as a downtown multiple use grocery/office building it fit into the broad patterns of American history as a way a businessman would build a building for his main concern, but also lease out space for other offices, as is frequently done today, but was beginning in the 1920s when this building was built.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

The building meets National Register criterion C because it is a good example of the commercial style building built on the interior rather simply on its first floor to be a grocery/warehouse and with offices to be rented on the second floor. The outside details made the buildings office spaces on the second floor much more enticing to clients as a normal wholesale grocery business building would be thought to be constructed. It was a fine looking building for an industrial side of town.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance runs from the construction of the building in 1921 until 1955, the end of the historic period as the building continued in its same use for many year thereafter.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

There is only one contributing building in this nomination.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

The City of Columbus was founded in 1828 with a plan by Rev. Edward Lloyd Thomas, a state-hired surveyor who both before and afterwards was involved in many major survey projects. In his plan, the city lots were established that remain in the current city plan to this day. This downtown location would have been part of a mixed commercial and residential area from the earliest days. Sanborn Fire Insurance maps from 1886 or thereabouts onward and the 1886 Birds-eye view map of the city indicate earlier buildings on this site.

The 1907 Sanborn map shows a boarding house on this corner, facing West 11th St., and next door a wholesale liquor building on West 11th St. Behind them, facing Front Ave., was a two-story dwelling house.

The C. B. Tarver Building was built after local businessman Clifford Banks Tarver (1887-1963) and his wife Aminta Flournoy Tarver acquired the lot. It was built only one block west of the bustling Broad Street/Broadway the main north-south commercial artery of Columbus.

Tarver previously operated his wholesale grocery business at 1133 First Avenue, a few blocks east of this location. (1918 *City Directory*)

The 1921 City Directory lists C. B. Tarver & Co. wholesale grocers at 21-23 W. 11th St., with the Tarvers themselves living on Wildwood Circle in the Wynnton section of Columbus. Tarver had grown up in the local area, and his parents are buried in Linwood Cemetery, the city's oldest burial ground. He had married into a very prominent local family, to Aminta Flournoy. She was a daughter of

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Thomas Moffett Flournoy, whose descendants are still quite active in Columbus civic and cultural affairs today. Both Mr. Tarver's father and Aminta's father had died before they built the Tarver Building.

The Columbus publication, *The Industrial Index*, issue of 1926, Vol. 20, Number 52, p. 105, has a fine illustration of the Tarver Building and the caption reads: "one of the handsomest store-office buildings in Columbus." It indicated then that the second floor was entirely devoted to offices, either single offices or suites of two. The "rental rates of offices are extremely moderate." This shows the multi-use of the building from the earliest days.

C. B. Tarver ran the grocery business and operated the rental space in the upper floors until after the 1930 Census was taken. He and his wife separated and later divorced, and he eventually moved to Atlanta. His funeral notice appeared in *The Atlanta Journal* of February 24, 1963. It indicated a few relatives, burial in Atlanta, and nothing about his subsequent career.

The *Columbus, Georgia, City Directories*, indicate some of the office renters, as well as other uses of the building over the years, with street entrances at numbers 19-21 West 11th St.:

1927- Fenner and Beane, stock brokers (a local franchise of a national firm)(on 2nd floor).

1931- J. T. Knowles, wholesale dry goods.

1934- Columbus Implement Co., and the Metropolitan Club.

1936- Same.

1937- Columbus Bowling Center (known to be on the upper floor), Valley Truck and Tractor, agricultural implements.

1939- Same.

1940- Bowling Center, Georgia-Alabama Feed and Supply Co.

1941- U. S. Food Stamp office, National Billiard Supply Co., Columbus Bowling Center, Muscogee County Dept. of Public Welfare.

1945- Columbus Bowling Center, National Billiard Supply Co., and the county welfare office.

1946- County Welfare Office, and Raymond Rowe Furniture Co. then occupied the main street level. And the same for 1950.

Raymond Rowe Furniture Company dates their location to this building as 1943 and in 1965 moved their retail outlet elsewhere and the Tarver Building became their warehouse.

The idea to convert the building to lofts began in 2000 with the formation of Columbus Lofts, LLC, with an Atlanta firm as the organizer. Later the project was secured by a local Columbus firm. The *Columbus Ledger-Enquirer* announced on April 26, 2001, in a front page story, above the headlines: "Lofts Planned for 11th Street." The new owner was Flournoy Development Company, Tom Flournoy, president, in a joint venture with the W. C. Bradley Co. The three buildings there, of which the westernmost is the Tarver Building, included the Reich Building (on the National Register) and the Silver's/H. L. Green Co. Building (being separately nominated). The plan evolved into the "11th Street Lofts," under one name and management. This particular building now houses six units in the basement, eight units on the first floor and eight units on the second floor. The three buildings

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

are part of a growing redevelopment of downtown Columbus.

The property received final certification from the Tax Incentives Program, Technical Preservation Branch, National Park Service on April 7, 2003

9. Major Bibliographic References

Columbus Multiple Resource National Register nomination. (1980)

Columbus City Directories

Industrial Index, 1926, Volume 20.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued

date issued: The property received final certification from the Tax Incentives Program, Technical Preservation Services Branch, National Park Service on April 7, 2003.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

State historic preservation office

Other State Agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 688473 Northing 3594168

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated parcel is marked on the enclosed tax map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel boundary is the portion of the city lot that is occupied by this building.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 47 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 414-H
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** May 18, 2005
e-mail ken_thomas@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Bamby Ray/Lyn Speno
organization Ray and Associates
mailing address 328 7th St. NE
city or town Atlanta **state** GA **zip code** 30308
telephone N/A
e-mail N/A

- () **property owner**
- (X) **consultant**
- () **regional development center preservation planner**
- () **other:**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Thomas H. Flournoy
organization (if applicable) Flournoy Development Co.
mailing address 900 Brookstone Centre Parkway
city or town Columbus **state** GA **zip code** 31904
e-mail (optional) N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: C. B. Tarver Building
City or Vicinity: Columbus
County: Muscogee
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: December 2003

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 9

1. Front façade; photographer facing north.
2. Front façade as seen from further east on 11th St., with Reich Building on the right; photographer facing northwest.
3. Front façade, with Reich Building and Silver's/H. L. Green on the right, the other two portions of the 11th Street Lofts; photographer facing northeast.
4. Front façade and west façade (Front Ave. façade); photographer facing northeast.
5. Detail of west or Front Ave. façade; photographer facing east.
6. North façade, note faded bowling center signage on brick, with non-included parking lot in the foreground; photographer facing southeast.
7. North façade, actually northeast corner showing light-colored rear façade of adjacent building; photographer facing southeast.
8. Interior, showing modern stairway/fire escape, added for access to loft apartments on three levels, this being the main floor level; photographer facing west.
9. Interior of a typical apartment loft unit, first floor; photographer facing northwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

N

FRONT

FRONT STREET

SIDEWALK

75.13

33.75

147.83'

92.08'

92.08'

59

52

19

23

151.2

181.46

151.14

6A

151.2

C-1

20

Y.M.C.A


59

SIDEWALK

NOMINATED PARCEL 18-23 W. 11TH ST.

WEST 11TH ST.

C.B. TARVER BUILDING
MUSCOGEE COUNTY, GEORGIA
NATIONAL REGISTER MAP/TAX MAP
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY: 

NORTH: 

SCALE: 1" = APPROX. 50'

SOURCE: MUSCOGEE COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE, 2005

1044

375

71.25 72

13

14

139.45

139.43

140

140

148.75

127.5

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