

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

received **AUG 7 1984**
date entered **SEP 1984**

**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 Ludowici Well Pavilion

and/or common Old Well

2. Location

street & number McQueen Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Ludowici

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia

code 013

county Long

code 183

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name City of Ludowici, Sammy I. Stapelton, Mayor

street & number P.O. Box 800

city, town Ludowici

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 31316

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Liberty County Courthouse

city, town Hinesville

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:

title Long County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1974

federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Ludowici Well Pavilion is located in the center of the town in a flat, open, public area. The land is bordered by three roads, a railroad and depot, several houses, and a commercial block. The structure is an octagonal-shaped, open pavilion constructed of wood with benches inside on six sides and a roof of "Dixie" Ludowici Celadon clay tile. Cypress wood is used for the eight posts that support the roof, and pine for the rest of the supports. The tile pieces are held in place by their own weight. The top of the conical roof supports a specially-made clay finial. Changes to the structure and its setting include the loss of surrounding pines and renovations in 1958 and 1983. A paneled ceiling was removed, as was a brick floor. The benches were originally on the outside, but are now permanently fixed on the inside. Originally, the palings were vertical but were replaced with horizontal ones. A steel post has been added in the center to support the structure. There are no other structures on the property and a minimum of landscaping.

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) public works/ sanitation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1907 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ludowici Well Pavilion is significant in architecture, public works and sanitation and social/humanitarian history. In architecture, it is significant for being a fine example of a public well structure built for a functional purpose as well as for a social or public purpose and for its use of local material, in this case, Ludowici tile. (Ludowici tile was made locally during the first two decades of the twentieth century and marked under the trade name of "Dixie." It is a distinctive regional building material.) The structure retains most of its original materials and creates the same open, gazebo effect. It stands as a historic landmark in downtown Ludowici. It is significant in the history of public works and sanitation for being the site where the town's public artesian well was opened in 1907 so the townspeople and others in the county could obtain pure, uncontaminated water. It was a necessity for many communities to have such wells and it was to this cause that the McQueen family donated this site for public use. The well pavilion is significant in social/humanitarian history as a representation of the philanthropy of the Neill McQueen family in giving the property for public use, specifically designating it to be a public park with access to everyone. It was also a local gathering spot for political rallies, Fourth of July celebrations, singing events, as well as informal gatherings.

These areas of significance support the property eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

Historical Narrative

The Ludowici Well Pavilion is located in an area where settlement began in Georgia's colonial era. Liberty County, created in 1777 by the first State Constitution, contained the site of Ludowici. After the advent of the railroad in the 1830s and 1840s, the community that grew up around the railroad stop became known as "Johnston's Station" after Allen R. Johnston (1823–59) built his home here in 1859. In 1920, Long County was created out of Liberty, and Johnston's Station, by then known as Ludowici, became the county seat.

In 1904, William Ludowici, president of the Ludowici Celadon Company, established a roofing tile factory in the small town of Johnston's Station. Ludowici was a German of Italian descent whose family had been making tile in Europe for centuries. In the 1880s, the Ludowici Company began manufacturing tile in the United States, and in 1889, it merged with the Celadon Company to form the Ludowici Celadon Company. The Ludowici Celadon Company made roofing

[continued]

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Ludowici, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	7	4	2	9	3	4	0	3	5	0	8	3	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property consists of that land donated to the City of Ludowici by the McQueen family for the public well. It is marked as parcel 40 on the enclosed tax map L-4.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

date June 13, 1984

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 30334

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon

Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7/19/84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 9/7/84

J. Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

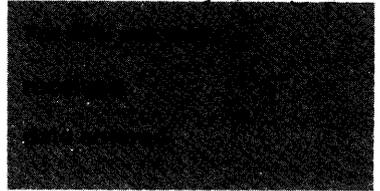
date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

01111
EXP. 12/31/77



Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

tile from the rich clay deposits along nearby Jones Creek and operated in the community from 1904 to 1914.

Mr. Ludowici offered to donate money towards the building of a school if the local citizens would rename Johnston's Station as Ludowici. The school building was one of many important contributions that Ludowici made to the town which bore his name. Many of the buildings in the community had Ludowici tile installed.

By 1907, the rapidly growing town needed a pure water supply. The Neill McQueen family donated a lot in the center of town for the sinking of an artesian well to provide the community with pure water. The McQueens stipulated that the city raise a pavilion over the well when they deeded it. In the deed of gift, dated August 23, 1907, Mrs. Mary E. (Johnston) McQueen (1854-1912) stated that the parcel of land being donated was forty feet wide and fifty feet long with its center "where an artesian well is to be bored by said town." The lot was to be "kept open and free of access to the public." If the city ceased to use it for a well, or for furnishing water to the public, or "erect on said lot anything other than an open pavilion," it would revert to her family. Mrs. McQueen was a daughter of Allen R. Johnston, namesake of Johnston's Station. Mr. McQueen, a North Carolina native, had come to Georgia in the 1880s and married into the Johnston family, which owned most of the land in the town. For many years that followed, the well provided the main pure water supply for Ludowici. An artesian well was needed for health reasons to avoid contaminated water that brought typhoid and other diseases. The artesian well flowed freely until the 1920s, when a hand-pump had to be installed because of the drop in underground water pressure.

The Old Well not only provided the community with water, but was an important local gathering spot. On Saturdays, farmers and the town's residents would gather at the well while shopping. Socials and singing events were also held at the Old Well. The well was also the site of political meetings, and candidates for public office often spoke here. Today, the well pavilion is still used for community socials, and it stands as a historic landmark in the center of town.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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



Continuation sheet

Bibliography

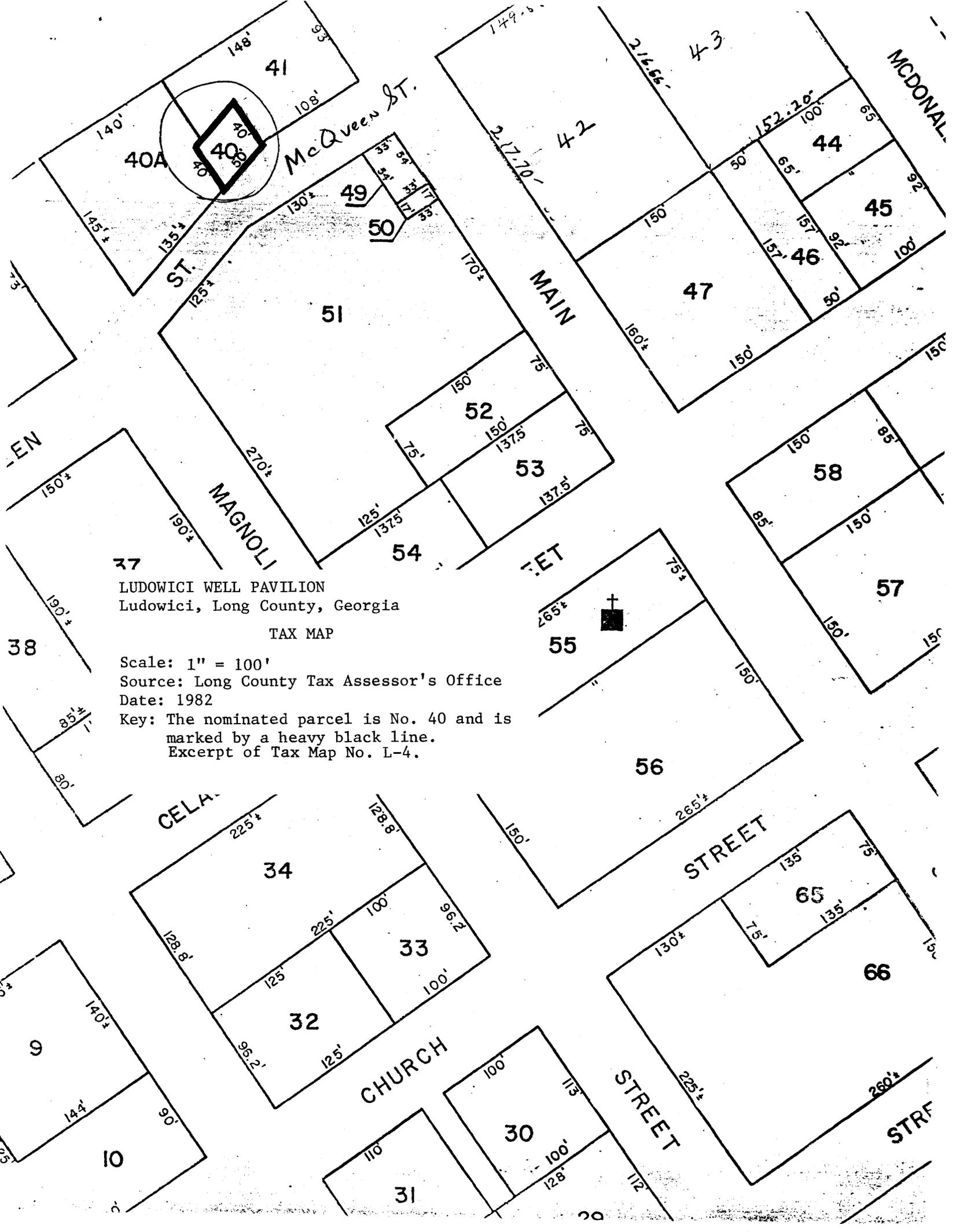
Item number 9

Page 2

"Old Landmark at Ludowici to be Rebuilt," Savannah Morning News, April (May?)
19, 1958.

Potterfield, Ty. "The Old Well," Historic Property Information Form, Septem-
ber 1, 1983. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia
Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

"What's in a Name?" Undated brochure on the naming of the town of Ludowici.



37
 LUDOWICI WELL PAVILION
 Ludowici, Long County, Georgia
 TAX MAP

Scale: 1" = 100'
 Source: Long County Tax Assessor's Office
 Date: 1982
 Key: The nominated parcel is No. 40 and is
 marked by a heavy black line.
 Excerpt of Tax Map No. L-4.