

MAY 18 1982

**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 Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 321 West Hill Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Decatur

N/A vicinity of

congressional district Fourth - Levitas

state Georgia

code 013

county DeKalb

code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> <u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. William H. Denton, Chairman
Community Center of South Decatur, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 682

city, town Decatur

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 30031

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court, DeKalb County Courthouse

street & number 556 McDonough Street

city, town Decatur

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1975 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Department 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

General Description

The Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children, dating from 1918-1920, consists of five main buildings and several auxiliary structures on 4.8 acres of land. The property is adjacent to a major street intersection in a largely residential area of south Decatur known as Oakhurst. The five main buildings of the hospital are arranged in a pavilion complex. The central building in the complex is a cubically-massed, hip-roofed, two-story Georgian Revival administration building. It is built of stuccoed brick and detailed with a Palladian front doorway, brick quoins, flat brick arches over windows, and a dentilled cornice. The roof is tiled. The interior is subdivided into a reception room, offices, treatment and recovery rooms, and storage rooms. Walls are plastered, with simple woodwork. Floors are linoleum over concrete; the ceiling, not original, is suspended. Attached to the rear (north) of this administration building is a one-story, flat-roofed service annex, exact construction date unknown, but apparently before World War II. The service annex is also constructed of stuccoed brick and is virtually free of ornamentation. A gabled and tile-roofed porte-cochere projects from the northern end of the service annex. Flanking the administration building and its service annex, and connected to them by low covered passageways, are two one-story Georgian Revival ward buildings. These ward buildings are also constructed of stuccoed brick and have tiled roofs, but they feature expanses of windows subdivided by piers on the south elevations and clerestory monitors along the roofs. The ward roofs are supported by articulated steel-and-wood trusses, partially exposed on the interior. Each ward building contains two open wards on either side of a central nurses' station and utility and treatment rooms to the rear. Sunrooms are located at each end of the ward buildings, and glass-enclosed porches extend across the fronts. To the east of the east ward building, and connected to it by a low covered passageway, is a two-story, hip-roofed nurses' residence. This building was built in the 1940s to provide permanent quarters for the hospital's nurses. It is built of reinforced concrete stuccoed on the exterior and detailed with brick quoins. Auxiliary structures are located to the northeast of the pavilion complex and include a concrete-block maintenance facility, two open sheds, and a concrete-block incinerator. The grounds around the hospital are informally landscaped with a semicircular front drive, sidewalks and paths, patios, low stone retaining walls, a broad, smooth lawn, shrubbery, and large hardwood trees. To the north, behind the pavilion complex, are paved parking lots and driveways. A playground, picnic tables, and barbeque pit are also located to the northeast of the main pavilion complex.

[continued]

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Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

Boundaries

The nominated property consists of an approximately rectangular-shaped tract of land at the northeast corner of West Hill Street and Oakview Road containing 4.8 acres. This tract of land constitutes the original four-parcel lot purchased for the hospital in 1917. A small, narrow, rectangular lot intruding into this tract from West Benson Street on the north has never been part of the historic hospital complex. The hospital acquired additional land north of this tract at the northeast corner of Oakview Road and West Benson Street, but this land was never developed as part of the hospital complex. The hospital is surrounded on three sides by early-twentieth-century residential development and, to the southwest, a small neighborhood commercial center at the intersection of Oakview Road, West Hill Street, Mead Road, and East Lake Drive.

Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in September, 1980 still provide an accurate view of the property. No significant changes have been made since this date.

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) medical

Specific dates 1918-1920

Builder/Architect Neel Reid (Hentz, Reid, and Adler)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Statement of Significance

The Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children is significant in terms of the architectural, landscape architectural, medical, and social/humanitarian history of Georgia and the nation. In terms of architectural history, the hospital is significant as an excellent and virtually intact example of early-twentieth-century hospital design and construction in America. Important characteristics of its type (many derived from European precedents) include the low height and extended pavilion plan of the complex, and the emphasis on admitting fresh air and sunlight through large windows, sunporches, and skylights. The hospital is also a fine example of the early-twentieth-century Georgian Revival style adapted to an institutional use. Traditional elements of style, especially massing, detailing, and plan, and the dictates of hospital programs and maintenance are successfully combined in this modern hospital design. Traditional and innovative construction materials and techniques are also present, including brick, stucco, concrete, glass, and articulated trusses. The hospital is also architecturally significant as a work of Neel Reid, a member of the firm of Hentz, Reid and Adler. This architectural firm was one of Atlanta's most famous, and Reid was one of the nation's foremost "traditional" architects in the early-twentieth century. In terms of landscape architectural history, the hospital is significant for its informal but carefully laid out landscaped grounds designed to mediate the environment in the vicinity of the hospital and provide a place for therapeutic exercise and restful convalescence. Also significant is the orientation of the hospital on its site, with its broad southern exposure, to obtain maximum benefit from fresh air, prevailing breezes, and sunlight. In terms of medical history, the hospital is significant for its local part in a nationwide early-twentieth-century hospital-building movement. During this period, several thousand modern hospitals were built in America, many of them in urban areas. This hospital appears to be the first such modern medical facility in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Nationally, many of these new hospitals were specially designed for particular types of treatments or classes of patients. This hospital was one of several built exclusively for children, and it was the major children's hospital in the Southeast. In terms of social/humanitarian history, the hospital, built between 1918 and 1920 by

[continued]

9. Major Bibliographical References

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

UTM NOT VERIFIED

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 4.8 acres

Quadrangle name Northeast Atlanta, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	7	4	9	8	6	0	3	7	3	8	6	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary is described by a heavy black line on the attached "property" map and is justified in Section 7 of this form.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources date December 14, 1980

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. 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 State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/21/82

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the
<u>for</u> <u>Shelover Byers</u>	National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>6/17/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

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the Scottish Rite Consistory of Atlanta, is significant as the first of the nationally renown Scottish Rite or "Shriner's" children's hospitals in this country; there are now nineteen Shriner's hospitals and three burn-treatment centers across the country, built by other Scottish Rite Consistories, and they all trace their provenance to this facility. These hospitals were founded to provide places where crippled children could receive quality medical care regardless of personal or family considerations. In addition, the early Shriner's hospitals such as this one were staffed entirely by medical volunteers.

Preservation Interest

In 1976, the Scottish Rite Consistory of Atlanta built a new medical facility in the Atlanta metropolitan area and abandoned its historic hospital. Shortly thereafter, the Community Center of South Decatur, Inc., was organized for the purpose of acquiring the property and rehabilitating the complex into a neighborhood center for medical services, legal aid, conferences, and community activities. This project is part of a larger plan to revitalize the Oakhurst area of south Decatur. Recently, the Center was awarded a Community Development grant through the City of Decatur for acquiring the property, and now the Center is engaged in a fund-raising drive for its rehabilitation.

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Continuation sheet Representation and
Bibliography

Item number 6 and 9

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6. Representation in Existing Surveys

The "Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children" was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places on December 7, 1979. This determination of eligibility was requested by the City of Decatur, Georgia, as delegate for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, in conjunction with a community development block grant.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Community Design Center of Atlanta, Inc. "The Oakhurst Neighborhood Services Center, An Adaptive Re-use Proposal for the Old Scottish Rite Hospital," September, 1979

Garrett, Franklin. Atlanta and Environs, II. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1954.

Grady, James. The Architecture of Neel Reid in Georgia. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1973.

Nolan, Nancy. Draft of National Register Inventory-Nomination Form, June 30, 1980.

Nolan, Nancy. Interview with Mr. Tom Redan, current administrator of the Atlanta-area Scottish Rite Hospital, June 27, 1980.

Reid, Neel. Plans and specifications for the Scottish Rite Hospital. Atlanta Historical Society, Atlanta, Georgia.

Rothman, Richard, and Gould, John Charles. "Oakhurst Shopping District Revitalization Plan," February, 1979.

"The Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children, Atlanta, Georgia," American Architect, Vol. 118, No. 2334 (September 15, 1920), pp. 341-44.

Stevens, Edward F. The American Hospital of the Twentieth Century. New York: F.W. Dodge Corporation, 1924.

Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children
 Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP

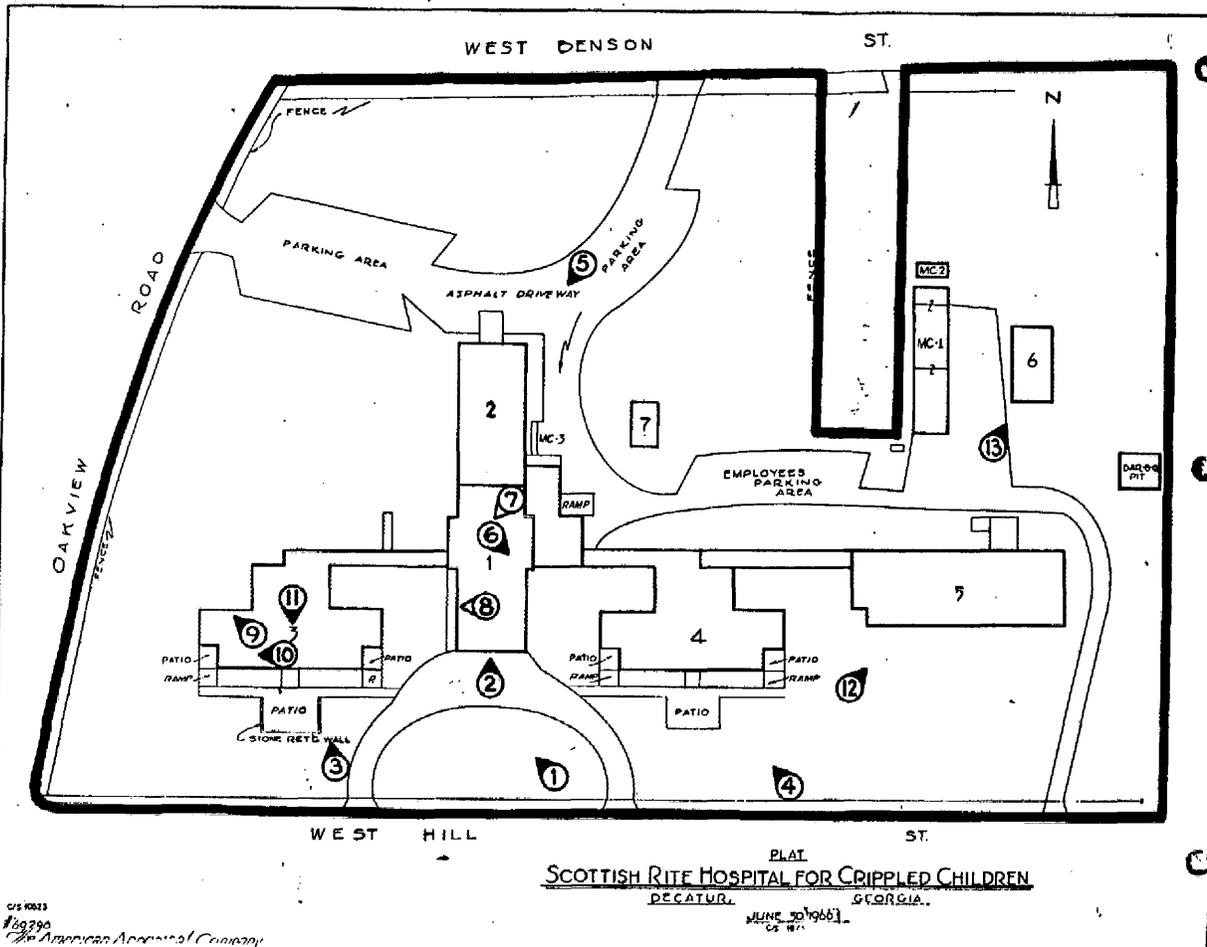
North: ↑
 Scale: 1" = 100' (approximate)

- Building 1: Administration Building
- Building 2: Service Annex
- Building 3: West Ward
- Building 4: East Ward
- Building 5: Nurses' Residence
- Building 6: Maintenance Facility
- Building 7: Incinerator

Photograph and direction of view,
 ground level or first floor: 

Photograph and direction of view,
 second floor: 

Boundary of nominated property: 



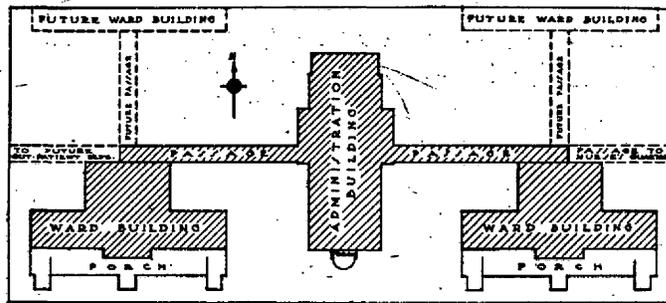
CS 1023
 #29390
 The American Architectural Company

JUNE 20 1961
 CS 1023

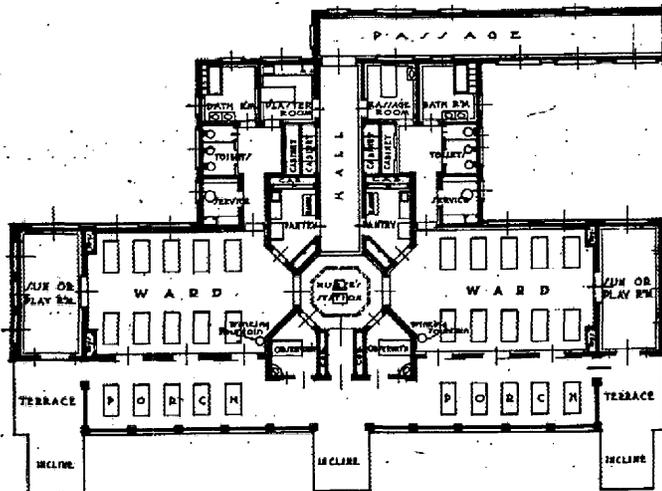
Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children
Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia

FLOOR PLANS AND PLOT PLAN

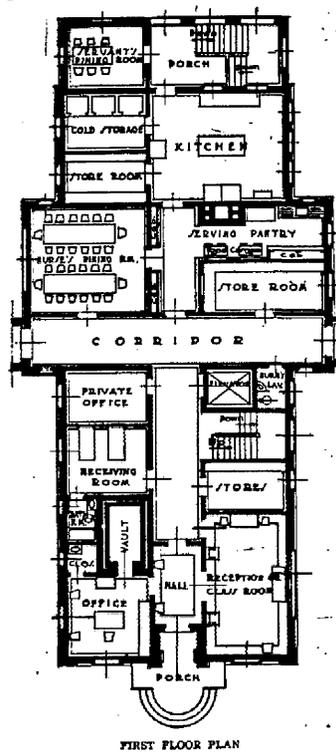
Copied from: "The Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children, Atlanta, Georgia,"
American Architect v. 118, no. 2334
(September 15, 1920), pp. 342-343.



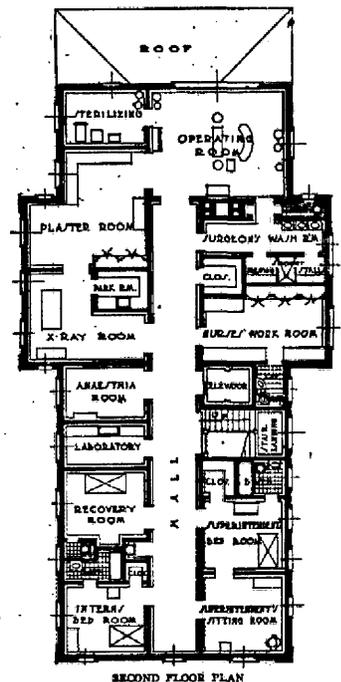
PLOT PLAN



WARD BUILDING



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



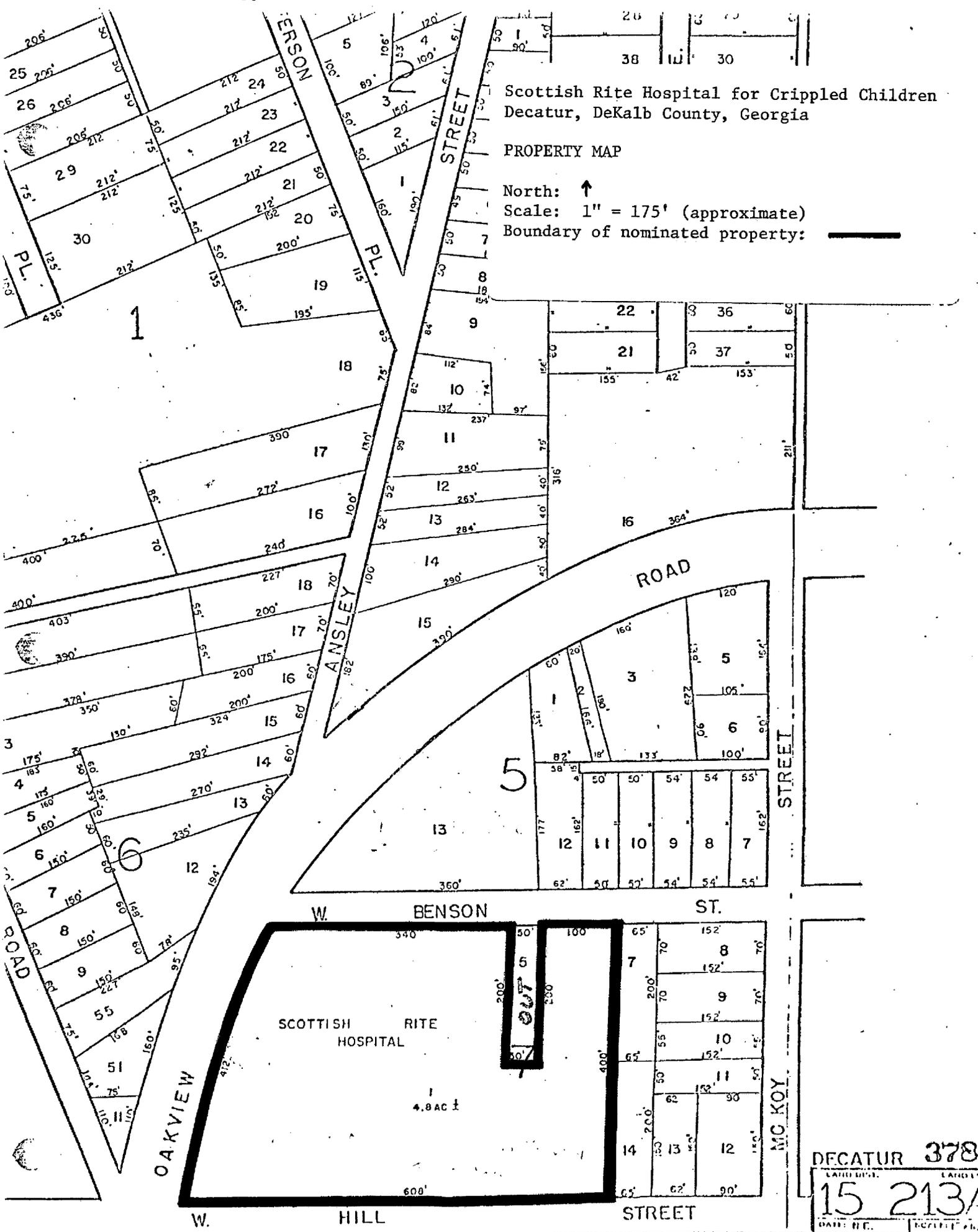
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children
Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia

PROPERTY MAP

North: ↑
Scale: 1" = 175' (approximate)
Boundary of nominated property: ———



DECATUR 378
LAND DIST. LANDS
15 213A
DASH. H.C. COUNTY