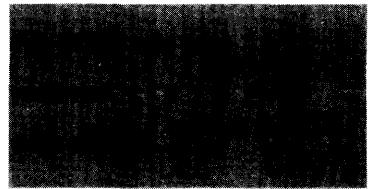


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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      Gaskill House      (Mahoney - Clarke House)  
and/or common      Mahoney-Clarke House

**2. Location**

street & number    427 East Fifth Street      \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication  
city, town      Chattanooga      \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of      congressional district      Third  
state      Tennessee      code    047      county      Hamilton      code    065

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name      Drs. Joque and Mosetta Soskis  
street & number      2204 Myra Street  
city, town      Jacksonville      \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of      state    Florida    32204

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.      Hamilton County Courthouse  
street & number      Georgia Avenue  
city, town      Chattanooga      state    Tennessee    37402

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title    Chattanooga-Hamilton County	Landmarks Survey	has this property been determined eligible? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no		
date    1976	_____ federal	_____ state	_____ county	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local
depository for survey records    Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission				
city, town      Chattanooga	state    Tennessee    37402			

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The residence at 427 East Fifth Street is located near the commercial center of Chattanooga. Largely unaltered, it is situated at the intersection of Lindsay and East Fifth Streets. The house is located on a tree-shaded knoll, which is usually known as Brabson Hill due to the location of the Brabson-Loveman House (National Register, 11 April 1973) at 407 East Fifth Street. The yard, as most of this block, is bordered by a coursed limestone retaining wall.

This two-story brick-faced structure gives a rectangular appearance, even though it is somewhat irregular in shape. This irregular shape partially results from the facade's two-story, three-sided projecting bay. The hip-gabled roof is low pitched and covered with asphalt shingles. Two interior chimneys are located in the southeastern portion of the house. The foundation is brick.

Italianate in design, the house features a large overhanging cornice with brackets. The bracket treatment on the facade and front portion consists of a large bracket being flanked by matching small brackets. The bracket configuration on the remaining portion of the building consists of the more traditional paired brackets. The window treatment is basically identical throughout the building. These tall, narrow one-over-one windows are slightly arched. On the facade and southeast sides, this arch is accented by radiating brick voussoirs featuring a keystone with an incised fleu-de-lis-pattern flanked by end stones having a leaf-like incised pattern.

While predominately Italianate, the house does feature some Eastlake detailing. For example, there is a second story spindled balustrade below a centrally located window which gives the appearance of a gallery. One of the most dominant features of the house is a one-story wrap around porch on the facade and southeast side. This porch features Eastlake detailing that includes a spindled porch frieze, turned porch posts, and decorative brackets. On the rear of the building is a one-story latticework porch.

There is a one story garage and storage building to the rear of the house. The property lines are partially delineated by a cut and coursed limestone retaining wall.

## 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				

Specific dates ca. 1883      Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The building at 427 East Fifth Street, variously known as the Gaskill House or Clarke House, was formerly only one of many fine residences in an exclusive residential section of Chattanooga. During those years, it was the home of some of Chattanooga's civic and commercial leaders. In more recent years, the once numerous residences of this area have been replaced by apartment buildings and commercial offices. Today, the building at 427 East Fifth Street is but one of a few of these scattered residences in this area. Used as law offices in recent years, the tenant has recently died and the building's future is uncertain.

Constructed between 1882 and 1884 while owned by C.D. Clark, the first residents were apparently Clinton and Sallie Lee Gaskill. The Gaskills, as well as subsequent owners, represent the prominent business and social interests of Chattanooga at that time. Gaskill was the son of Colonel Varney A. Gaskill, a prominent Georgia politician who later practiced law and served as an alderman in Chattanooga. Mrs. Gaskill was a descendant of the Gordon family which is credited with settling Chickamauga and spent her childhood at the family mansion there, the Gordon Lee House, a National Register property often considered the finest plantation home in North Georgia. A lawyer, Mr. Gaskill served in various positions including secretary of the Chattanooga Street Railroad Company, president of East Tennessee Manufacturing Company, president and manager of the Chattanooga Transfer Company, president of the Chattanooga Iron Fence and Screw Company, and was one of the organizers of the Third National Bank of Chattanooga.

After Mrs. Gaskill's death, the house was sold in 1895 to W.L. Magill, treasurer and manager of the Carter-Magill Hardware Company. Shortly afterwards the house was sold to a lawyer, Charles Head, who resided there from 1899 to 1908. From 1908 to the early 1970's the house was occupied by the John J. Mahoney family.

Mahoney was one of Chattanooga's outstanding business, financial, and civic leaders. He served as general manager of the Cahill Iron Company, vice-president of the Star Box and Paper Company, chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Trust and Banking Company of Chattanooga, and as director of the Crystal Springs Bleachery, the American Cement Paint Company, and the Tennessee Furniture Corporation. In addition, Mahoney was very active in civic affairs serving on numerous committees during World War I and serving as director of the Pine Breeze Sanitarium. In Chattanooga, he is perhaps best known as a leader of the Chattanooga Library Board of which he was the first secretary and was president for twenty-one years. In the 1930's the house was deeded to his daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Al Clarke who owned the house until the 1970's when it was sold to the current owners, Drs. Joque and Mosetta Soskis.

In addition to serving as the residence of some of Chattanooga's social and commercial leaders, this house represents a transitional link in the architectural evolution of Chattanooga's residential structures. Historically, Chattanooga was a small town with little cultural or architectural development until the 1870's and 1880's. Settlement

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Chattanooga Times, 28 May 1896

City Directories

City Plat Map-1889

East Tennessee Historical and Biographical. Chattanooga: A.D. Smith and Co. 1893

## 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property .25

Quadrangle name Chattanooga, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	1	6	6	5	4	7	0	0	3	8	7	9	8	1	0
Zone	Easting	Northing													
C															
E															
G															

B															
Zone	Easting	Northing													
D															
F															
H															

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property nominated is an irregular-shaped tract which contains approximately .25  
The tract is outlined in red on the attached portion of Hamilton County Assessor's  
Parcel Map No. 135-M-H28 which is drawn at the scale of 100 feet to the inch.

### 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	M.A. Carver, Preservation Planner	Planning Commission	
organization	Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional	date	May 1979
street & number	200 City Hall Annex	telephone	615-757-5216
city or town	Chattanooga	state	Tennessee 37402

## 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 *Herbette Hayes*

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 9/18/79

For HCRS use only

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

*Sally G. Oldham*  
keeper of the National Register

date 12/6/79

Attest: *Ruth Givens*

date 11/29/79

Chair of Registration

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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	DATE ENTERED	DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

prior to the 1870's was largely limited to the west of Georgia Avenue within the 1838 town boundaries. Only in the 1870's and 1880's did Chattanooga begin to develop as an industrial and commercial center. It was during this period that numerous residential structures were built east of Georgia Avenue in what was to become an elite residential section that would extend from the Tennessee River south to roughly the McCallie Avenue area and east to the general vicinity of the University of Chattanooga. Today, fewer than a half-dozen of these early homes remain and are widely scattered in this several block area. These buildings serve as a transition in Chattanooga's architectural development since they represent the residential architecture built between the earlier more functional structures and the full flowering of Victorian architecture in Chattanooga that emerged in the 1890's. As one of these houses, the Gaskill House is an attractive Italianate house featuring large eaves with brackets arranged in groups of two's and three's, incised keystones, and a protruding two-story, three-sided bay. These features are complemented by a wrap-around Eastlake porch.

As the residence of some of Chattanooga's civic and commercial leaders, the home at 427 East Fifth Street is representative of Chattanooga's historical development as a commercial and industrial center. Also, as an attractive and harmonious blending of Italianate and Eastlake features, the house is one of the few remaining structures that reflect the 1880's as a transitional link in Chattanooga's architectural evolution.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED	DEC	6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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"Gordon Lee" Clipping File. Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library.  
Hammer, Philip M., ed. Tennessee A History 1673-1932. Vol. 3 New York: American  
Historical Society, Inc. 1933

History of Tennessee. Nashville: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1887.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED SEP 26 1979

DATE ENTERED

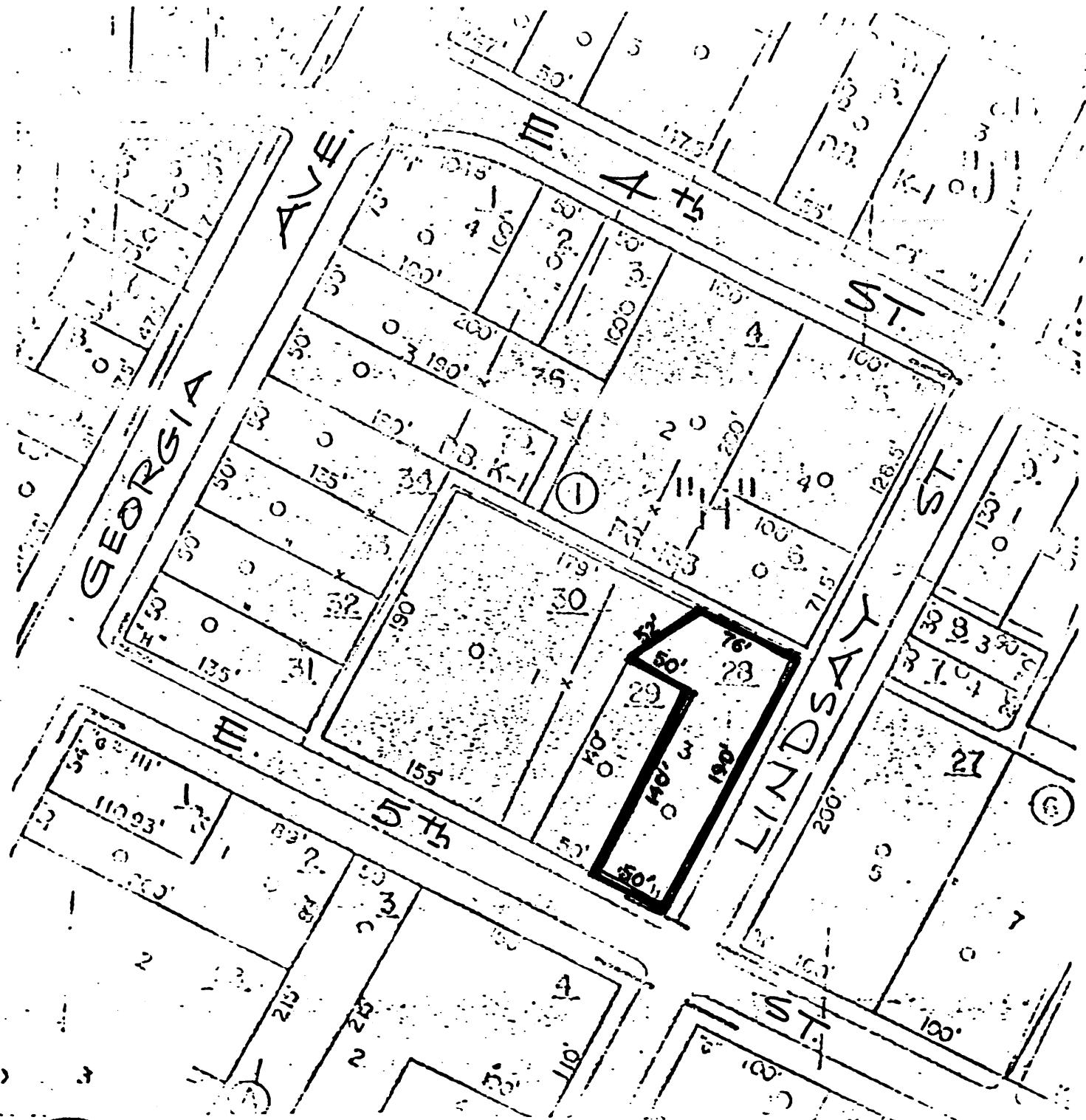
DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

This is the entire parcel owned by Dr. Joque Soskis and Dr. Mosetta Soskis and on it stand the Gaskill House and all outbuildings.

# GASKILL HOUSE



427 E. FIFTH ST.  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

County Assessor's Parcel Map No. 135-M-H28  
Scale 100' = 1'