

**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street & number 427 East Fifth Street ___ not for publication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	
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 Drs. Joque and Masetta 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? yes no
date 1976 ___ federal ___ state ___ county local
depository for survey records Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission
city, town Chattanooga state Tennessee 37402

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

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 Moseffa 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

Acreeage of nominated property .25

Quadrangle name Chattanooga, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	6	5	4	7	10	10	3	18	7	19	8	11	10
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

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

organization Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission 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 Herkula W. Wynn

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 date 12/6/79
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Ruth G. ... date 11/29/79
 Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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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.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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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**

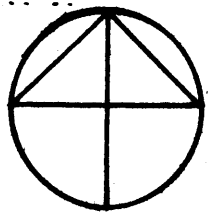
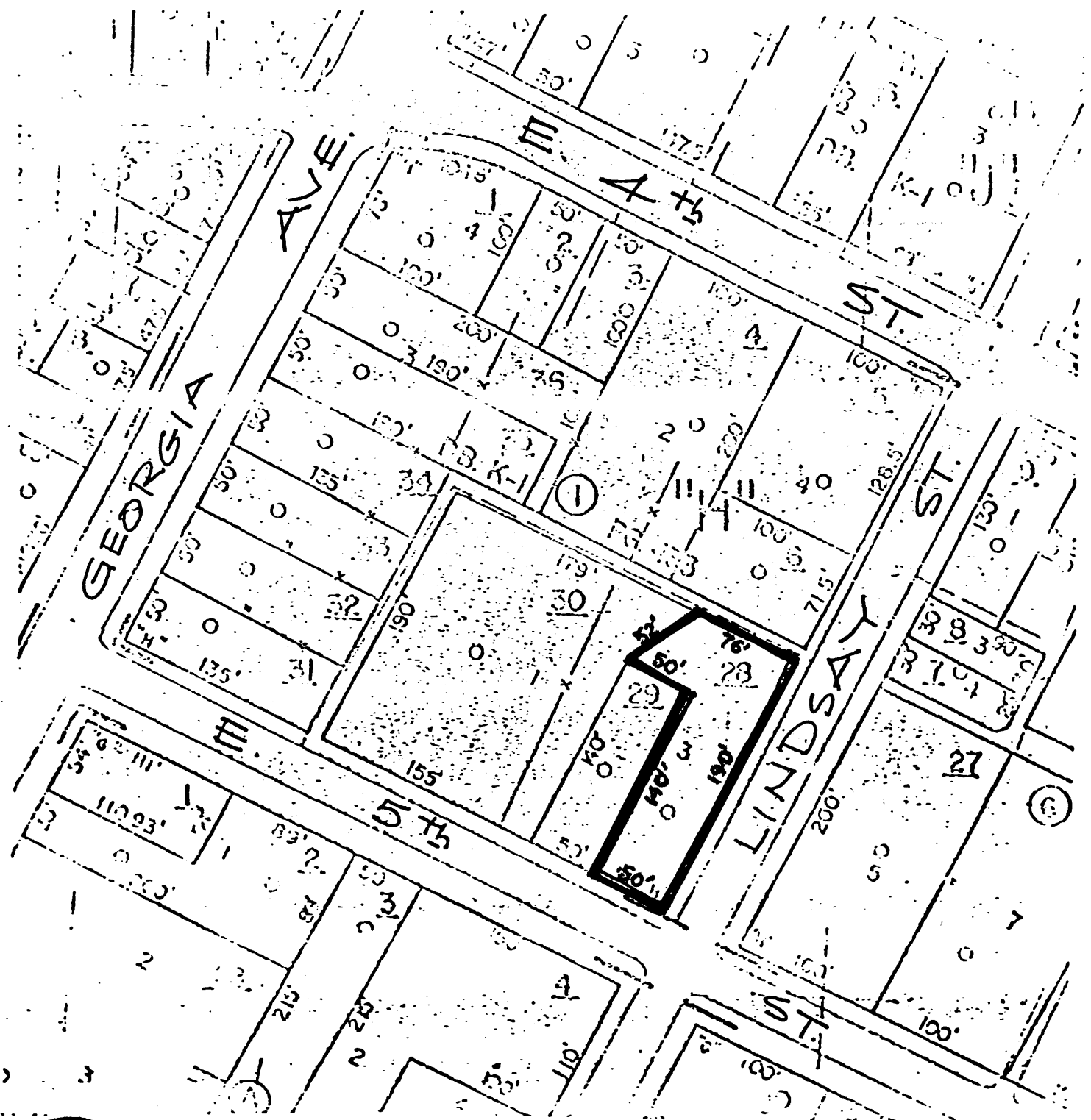
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This is the entire parcel owned by Dr. Joque Soskis and Dr. Moseitta Soskis and on it stand the Gaskill House and all outbuildings.

GASKILL HOUSE



427 E. FIFTH ST.
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

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