

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park 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 The Tyree Building

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 679 Durant Place, NE

N/A not for publication

city, town Atlanta

N/A vicinity of

congressional district

5th

state Georgia

code 013

county Fulton

code 121

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence s
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A 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 Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town

vicinity of

state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Fulton County Courthouse

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town

state

## 7. Description

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

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

The Tyree is a two story brick structure originally built as an apartment building. It is faced with a buff colored glazed brick on the Durant Place facade and a rough red brick on the other three facades. The building is long and low, sitting on a four foot high terrace above the sidewalk along Durant Place. Other horizontal elements in the facade include banks of windows with panels beneath and wide bracketed eaves supporting a tile, false roof. Above this roof is a parapet of brick disguising a slightly sloped roof.

The horizontal profile is relieved by three entrances and stair towers that serve four apartments each, two per floor. These stair towers protrude from the facade of the Tyree about ten feet. Verticality is emphasized by oversized windows at the landings on the stairs. Above each generous doorway is a bracketed overhang.

The interior of the Tyree includes eight two-bedroom and four one-bedroom units. All the units exhibit nine and one half foot ceilings, modest crown mouldings, and hardwood floors with a double strip of teak inlay around the edges of the principal living rooms. All windows in the Tyree are double hung sash windows.

One enters directly into the living room of the two bedroom units. The living rooms are large. Glass double french doors separate the living rooms from the dining rooms as well as the dining rooms from the former sleeping porches, now used as dens. The butler's pantries open off the dining rooms leading to the kitchens. There are back doors leading to the fire escapes in the kitchens, which have been substantially remodeled to be brought up to date. Long halls lead, to the two bedrooms and bathrooms to the rear. The first bedroom is small; the other is quite large, owing to the enclosure of the back porches, probably in the 1950's. The enclosed porches allowed a substantial increase in the amount of closet and storage space. The two bedroom units that are situated on the ends of the building have a slightly different floor plan than those with the sleeping porches. They exhibit the same basic characteristics as the other units except for the long hallway.

The one bedroom units are entered through a solarium that corresponds to the sleeping porches of the two bedroom units. From there, via French doors, one enters the living room (about 11' by 17'), and hence to the butler's pantry and kitchen and to the 32 foot long hall leading to the bath and bedroom.

The Tyree is situated on a city street with a minimum of grounds in front with modest landscaping and a fence on the street side. There are no outbuildings. There are several other apartment buildings on the street and some private homes. It is only a block from a major thoroughfare.

The major changes to the property have occurred in the conversion from apartments to condominiums and consist primarily of the remodeling of the kitchens. As mentioned, the back porches were enclosed in the 1950's.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in April, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that 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 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 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1915-1916 **Builder/Architect** Haralson Bleckley

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Tyree, built in 1915-1916, is historically significant in terms of architecture. The Tyree is significant in architecture as a major surviving work of the important Atlanta architect Haralson Bleckley and as a good example of an early 20th century garden apartment building characteristic of Atlanta's development at this time. This area of significance supports property eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

Haralson Bleckley (1870-1933) is best known for his utopian scheme known as the Bleckley Plan for redeveloping Atlanta's railroad gulch. It was first presented in 1910. He was a skilled craftsman, trained in the Beaux Arts tradition in Paris, whose surviving works are few but of high quality. The Crescent, in Valdosta, Georgia, perhaps Georgia's finest Neo-Classical house, was one of his designs in conjunction with his then-partner, Harry N. Tyler. He designed many of Atlanta's public schools, theaters, hotels, churches (including Atlanta's first domed church), and the original Brookhaven Country Club. He also had major commissions in Athens, Georgia with both the University of Georgia and the State Normal School as well as with downtown businesses. The Tyree is one of the few surviving apartment buildings he is known to have designed in Atlanta. Just before he designed this building he had been president of the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1912. During the same year he planned the Tyree, he designed a proposed art gallery for the city on behalf of the Atlanta Art Association that was never built.

The Tyree is significant also as one of the earliest garden apartments in Atlanta. It characterizes Atlanta's residential development in the early 20th century. During this time Atlanta was becoming a regional headquarters for many corporations and thus was attracting many new workers who needed places to live. The garden apartments which arose throughout the city at this time met this need for middle-class housing. The Tyree was designed to be a functional apartment building with few details but good sound construction. It is this good construction and intown location that caused the Tyree to survive into the present era to be converted into condominiums for yet a new wave of corporate employees.

On May 4, 1982, the Preservation Services Division of the National Park Service Southeast Regional Office issued a preliminary certification of significance for this structure. Rehabilitation work already carried out is currently under review by this same office to determine compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Attached Sheet)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Northwest Atlanta, GA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	6	7	4	3	0	6	10	3	17	3	19	9	10	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 nominated property is that parcel marked on Fulton County, Georgia Tax Map 14-48-10 as Square 22—originally a solely owned parcel but now jointly owned by 12 condominium owners. It is all the land that was ever associated with the building while an apartment.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

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

organization Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources date May 17, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Elizabeth A. Lyon*  
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 5/24/82

For NPS use only

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

*Delores Byers*

date 7/15/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For HCERS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Bibliography

Item number

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2

Draft biographical sketch on Haralson Bleckley by Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. (copy at Historical Preservation Section)

Files of the Atlanta Historical Society including city building permits, city directories, and The City Builder for 1909 and 1932.

Draft nomination by Spencer Tunnell, II.

TAX MAP

THE TYREE  
Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Scale: 1" = 80'

Source: Tax Map 14-48-10, Joint City-County Board of Tax Assessors, Fulton County, Georgia.

Date: c. 1981

Key: The nominated property is marked by a heavy black line.

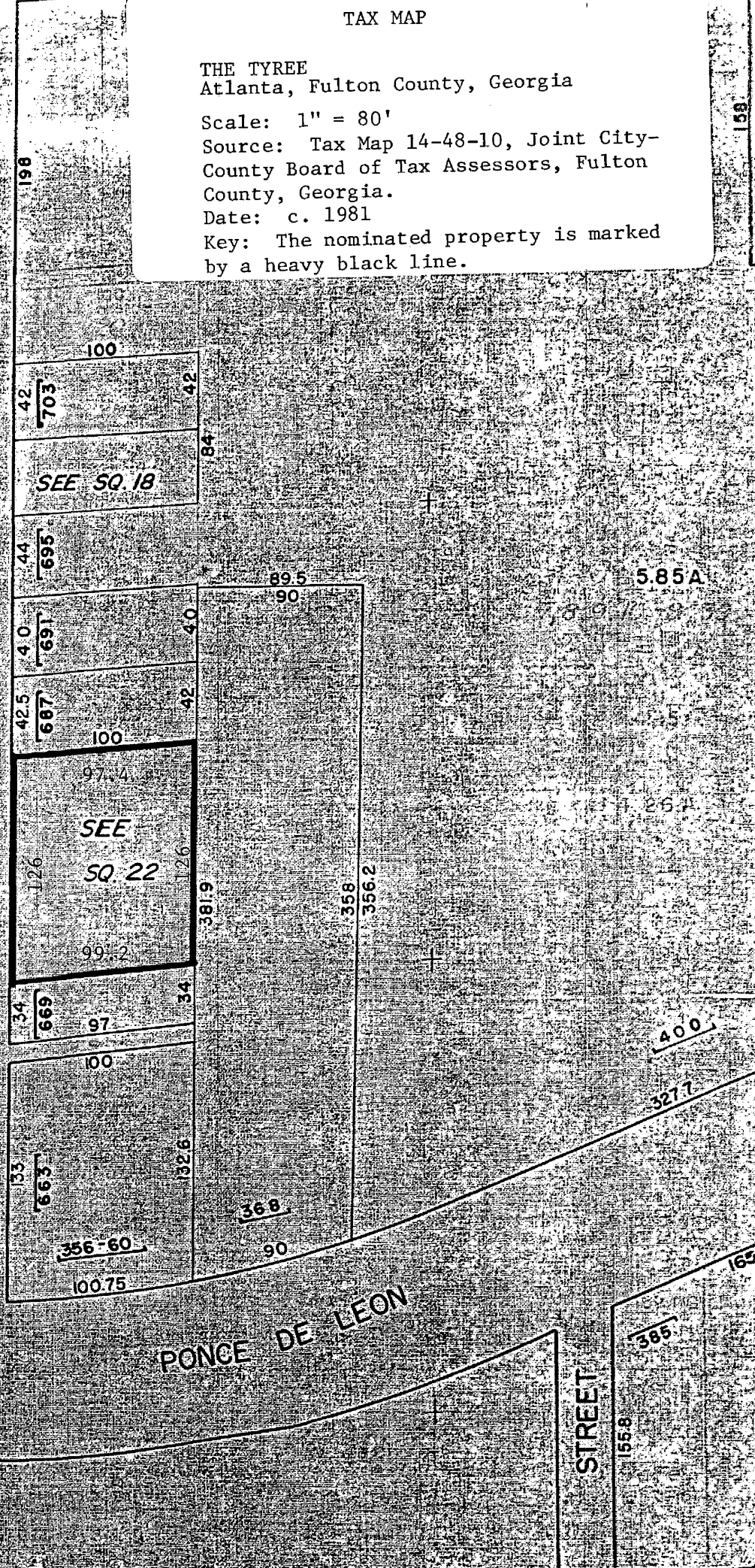


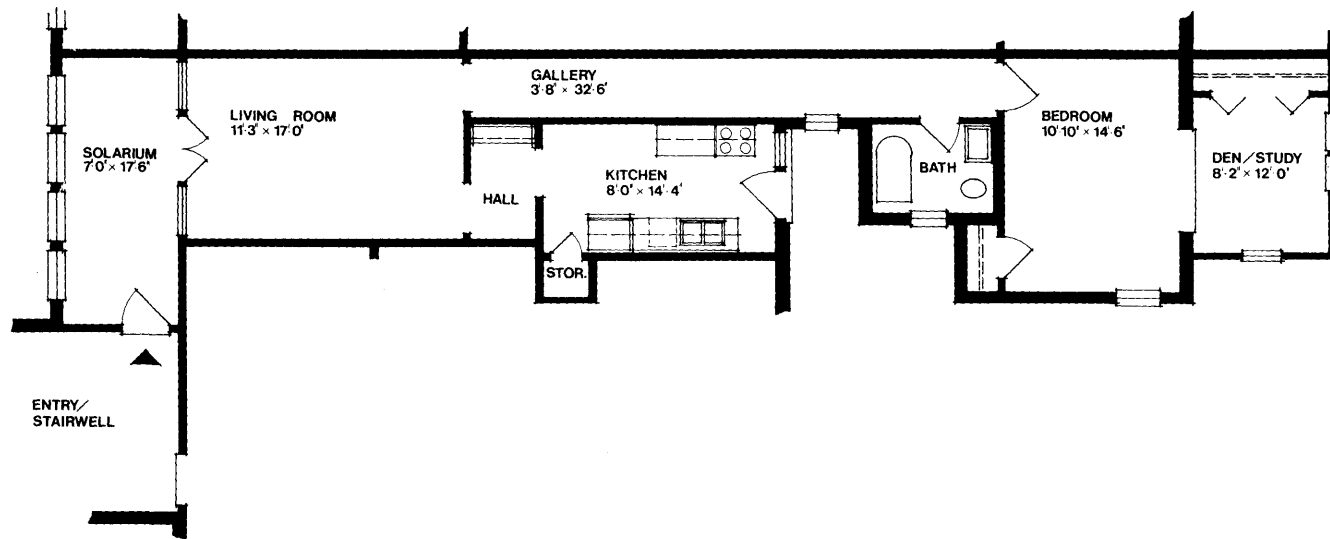
PLACE

SQ 9

N

DURANT

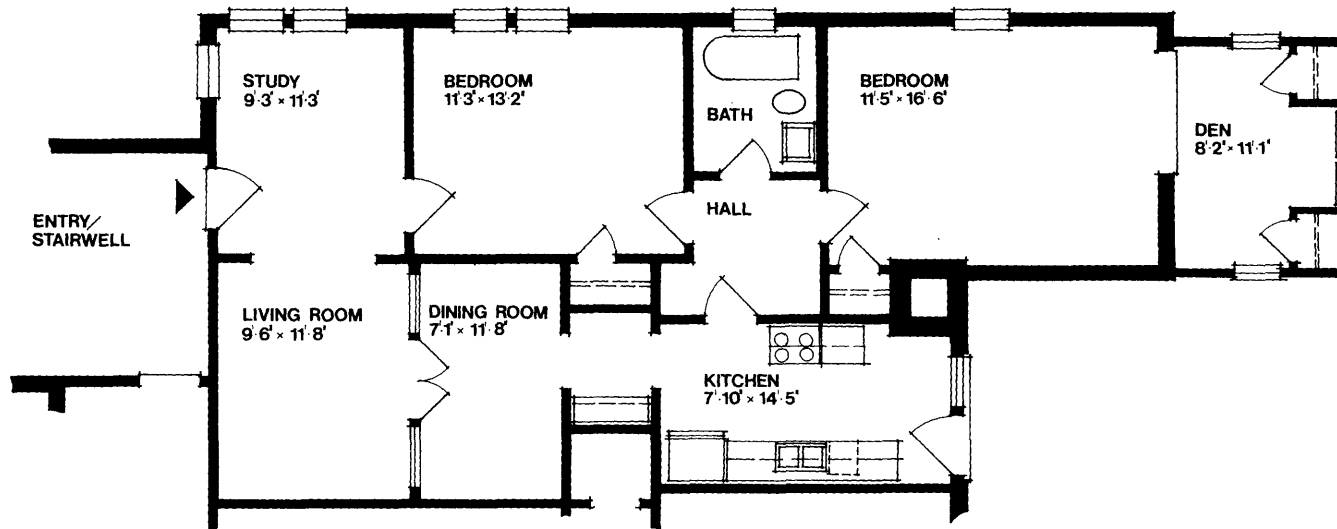




ONE BEDROOM UNIT (1,040 SF)

SKETCH MAP  
THE TYREE  
Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Scale: approx. 1"=10'  
Source: Real Estate Promotional brochure  
Date: 1980  
Key: The floor plan is that of a one bedroom unit.



TWO BEDROOM, END UNIT

(1,130 SF)

SKETCH MAP

THE TYREE

Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

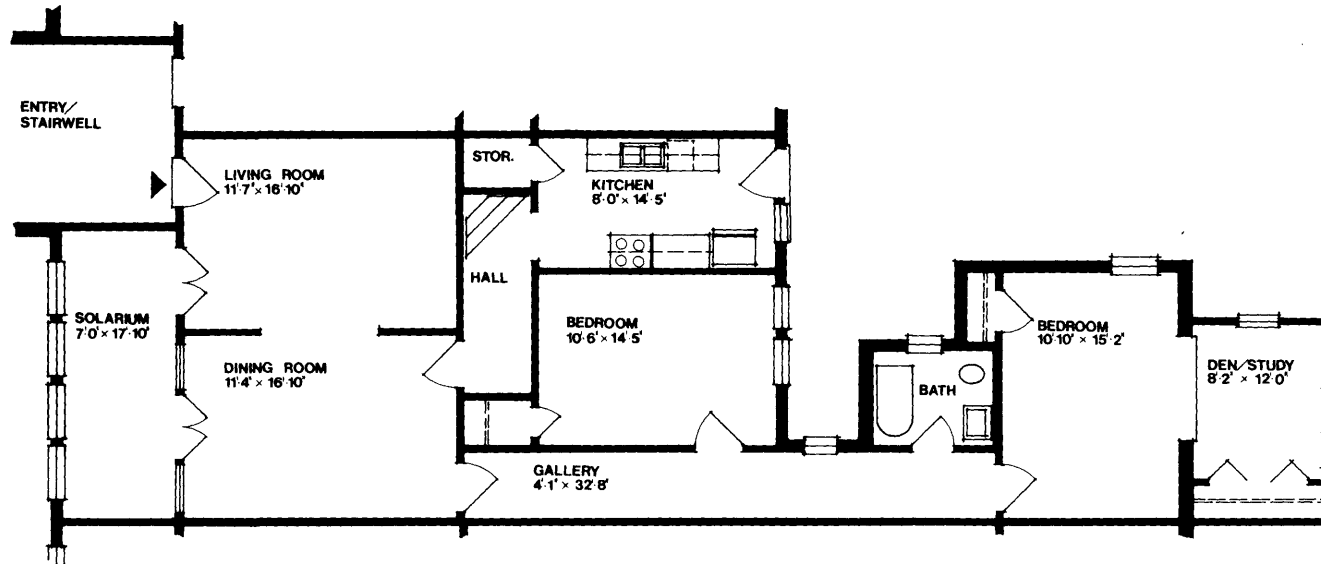
Scale: approx. 1"=10'

Source: Real Estate Promotional brochure

Date: 1980

Key: The floor plan is that of a two bedroom, end unit.





TWO BEDROOM, INTERIOR UNIT

(1,460 SF)

SKETCH MAP  
 THE TYREE  
 Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia

Scale: approx. 1"=10'  
 Source: Real Estate Promotional brochure  
 Date: 1980  
 Key: The floor plan is that of a two bedroom, interior unit.