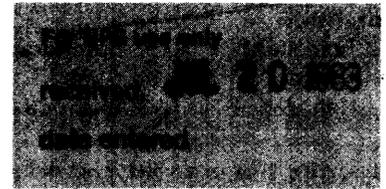


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Parlett House
and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 728 Georgia Avenue N/A — not for publication
city, town Bristol N/A — vicinity of
state Tennessee code 047 county Sullivan code 163

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

4. Owner of Property

name Gerald and Carolyn Welch
street & number 728 Georgia Avenue
city, town Bristol N/A — vicinity of state Tennessee 37621

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bristol, Tennessee Courthouse - Deed Book 211, Page 603
street & number 801 Broad Street
city, town Bristol state Tennessee 37621

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date N/A N/A — federal state county local
depository for survey records N/A
city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good **U S M**
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Constructed in 1892, the Parlett House is a two-and-a-half-story, frame building combining elements from the Shingle and Queen Anne styles. The house is located in Bristol, Tennessee (pop. 24,958) in the extreme northeast portion of the state which borders Virginia. The front elevation of the building is distinguished by a one-story porch and a two-story projecting bay with elliptical bay windows. On the interior the house retains all of its original doors, mantels, wainscoting, and other woodwork. The Parlett House is relatively unaltered and retains an outstanding degree of its exterior and interior architectural integrity.

Facing east the house is located on a slight elevated site with a low limestone wall across the front (east) side of the lot. Four stone steps lead from the sidewalk to a concrete path which extends to the front entrance of the building. There are a few foundation shrubs and small trees on the site.

The major features of the front (east) facade are the one-story porch with slender Doric columns, a two-story projecting bay with elliptical bay windows, and a pyramidal roof with tall limestone chimneys. Wide bands of shingles separate the clapboarded first and second stories, act as a frieze below the second-story cornice, and decorate the east gable and north and south dormers. There are original one-over-one windows on the east, north, and south facades, and later six-over-six windows on the rear (west) facade. A recent one-story porch runs the length of the rear (west) facade.

The interior of the house contains a central hall flanked on the north by the living room and dining room and on the south by a parlor and kitchen separated by a side hall leading from the central hall to a side entrance. The second floor has four original bedrooms, and the attic, or third story, has three recent bedrooms and a library. There is a full basement with limestone walls.

Tall oak wainscoting with simple vertical panels covers the walls of the small front vestibule, the central hall with its half-turn stairs, the side hall and the dining room. The staircase has heavy Eastlake newel posts and banisters as well as a simple stained glass skylight. There are fireplaces in the central hall, living room, dining room, parlor, and the second-story master bedroom. Each mantel is of a different restrained style in oak, usually with colored tiles and a beveled glass mirror. The dining room has a large arched window with a tracery border and interior shutters which pull up from behind the window sill. These louvered and paneled shutters are also found in the first and second-story bay windows.

There are two outbuildings on the lot. A recent clapboarded garage is located at the southwest corner of the property. The rear of the lot also has an original servant's house with sides of wooden shingles and a gable roof.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1892 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed in 1892, the Parlett House is nominated under National Register criteria B and C for its association with the builder of the house, Albert Parlett, Sr. (1865-1950), and for its local architectural significance in Bristol. Beginning in the late nineteenth century, Albert Parlett, Sr. organized and operated the first electric light system and the first telephone system in Bristol and the surrounding area. Along with the tobacco magnate, R.J. Reynolds and his brother A.D. Reynolds, Parlett created the Bristol Land Company in the late 1880's, which developed the prominent Fairmont area of Bristol, the city's first planned residential section. Architecturally the Parlett House is locally significant as a rare surviving example of the eclectic trends of the late nineteenth century combining elements of the Shingle and Queen Anne styles.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1865, Albert Parlett, Sr., came to Bristol as a young man. His first important business venture was the organization of the Bristol Land Company around 1888 in association with R.J. Reynolds, founder of the Winston-Salem tobacco business that bears his name and the latter's brother, Major A.D. Reynolds of Bristol. Under Parlett's direction the land company developed all of the important Fairmont section of Bristol. The property was purchased by the partners, streets were built, water and sewers laid, and other improvements made, including construction of the famous Hotel Fairmont, which has since burned.

Parlett's other important business enterprises at the turn of the century which significantly contributed to the history of Bristol were his organization and operation of the first electric light system and the first telephone system to serve the city. In 1893 Parlett established the Bristol Telephone Company and built a telephone exchange to link Bristol and the surrounding communities. In 1922 Parlett and his son, Albert Parlett, Jr., organized the Inter-Mountain Telephone System, serving Bristol, Kingsport, Johnson City, Greeneville, Marion, and other towns in the region.

The Parlett House was the home of Albert Parlett, Senior, during his significant years in Bristol history between the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and until his death in 1950. According to local tradition, the house was designed by architects from Parlett's home town of Baltimore and is the oldest house in the Fairmont area. The house retains almost all of its original interior and exterior fabric. The skillful design and craftsmanship shown in the asymmetrical facades and roof lines and in the exceptional interior woodwork make the house one of the finest examples remaining in Bristol of late-nineteenth-century architecture.

9. Major Bibliographical References

"Albert Parlett, Sr., Dies at Residence." Bristol Herald Courier, May 11, 1950.

Loving, Robert S. Double Destiny: The Story of Bristol, Tennessee-Virginia.
Bristol ?, Tn.: n.p., 1956.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Bristol, Tn-Va.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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3	9	5	5	4	0
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4	0	4	9	6	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The site is bounded on the east by Georgia Avenue, the south by Cypress Street, and the west and north by adjoining property lines. The nominated property includes only the building's historic lot measuring 100 by 150 feet.

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

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Welch
Lloyd Ostby

organization N/A
Tennessee Historical Commission

date March 1983

street & number 728 Georgia Avenue
701 Broadway

telephone 615-764-4224
615-742-6723

city or town Bristol
Nashville

state Tennessee 37621
Tennessee 37203

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.

Deputy

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Herbert L. Hoyer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission

date 7/7/83

For NPS use only

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

Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

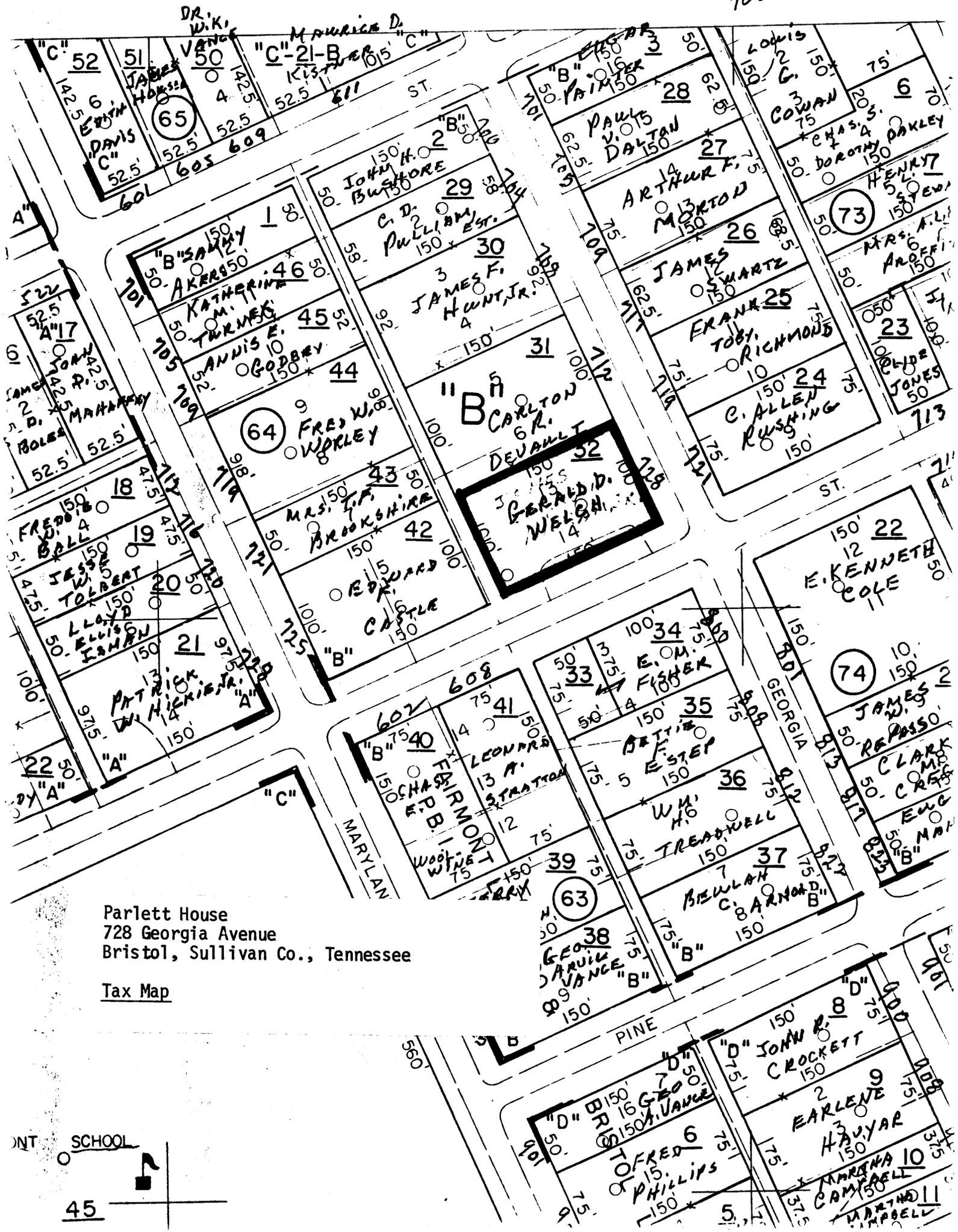
Entered in the
National Register

date 8/18/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Parlett House
 728 Georgia Avenue
 Bristol, Sullivan Co., Tennessee

Tax Map

