

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUN 23 1987

NATIONAL
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rabinowitz Building
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 203-205 West 11th Street N/A not for publication
city, town Alma N/A vicinity
state Georgia code GA county Bacon code GA005 zip code 31510

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Elizabeth A. Lyon 6/22/87
Signature of certifying official Elizabeth A. Lyon Date
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) _____

Carol D. Skell 6-26-87
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

commerce/trade/department storegovernment / courthouserecreation and culture/theatrereligion/ religious structureindustry/ manufacturing facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

commerce/ specialty storeother: historical society

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and early 20th century AmericanMovementsCommercial Style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation brickwalls brickroof not documentedother glazed brick facade

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Rabinowitz Building is a two-story, brick commercial building. The flat roofed building was constructed in 1915 by a local builder. It is located on West 11th Street in the small county-seat town of Alma, Bacon County, Georgia. It is within the city limits, on the edge of the business district across from Goldwasser Park.

The multi-colored glazed-brick front facade is the building's most notable feature. The bricks are glazed green and white. The original first floor store entrances have been recreated with display windows, recessed doorways, and transom windows. Paired sash windows appear on the second floor front facade. The front facade is capped by a pressed metal cornice. The three other sides have numerous, regularly spaced windows. The rear facade has two garage-like doors on the first floor in addition to windows on both the first and second floors.

The interior of the first floor is divided into two stores of equal size while the top floor is one unornamented room. There is a stair in the northwest corner of the building. It is the only entrance to the upper floor. On the second floor the original beaded board ceiling (painted white) and original floors exist, as do original window sash and panes, even though covered over, a skylight, and a central row of chamfered wood columns. Wood door frames and transoms remain as evidence of exits which formerly lead to exterior staircases on the western side of the building.

The front facade of the building is flush with the sidewalk. There is no landscaping at the front of the 60' x 80' lot. There are no outbuildings.

Changes to the property include the temporary covering the upper windows with plywood, the bricking-in of other outside exits, the restoration of the first floor store fronts, the addition of the interior stairs in 1956 and a dropped ceiling in the stores on the ground floor.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G N/A

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Commerce
Politics/government

Period of Significance

1915-1924
1915-1920

Significant Dates

1915

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Sullivan, Manning (builder)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Rabinowitz Building is significant in the areas of architecture, commerce, and politics/government.

The Rabinowitz Building is significant in architecture as a good example of a commercial, multi-use building built in a small town laid out with the railroad tracks as its central axis and the store on the town's main street. It is especially important for the use of glazed bricks and ornamented metal cornice to enhance its front facade and make an impression quite distinct from similar, common brick, small-town storefronts. This technique appears to have been a specialty of a local builder, Manning Sullivan.

It is significant in commerce for having been built as a multi-use commercial building by William Rabinowitz (1873 - 1935), a Jewish immigrant. The building is part of a residential/commercial complex that included a garage and his residence which were to the rear of the store (both are now gone). He used half of the first floor for his dry goods store, until he moved to Atlanta in 1924 for health and social reasons, and leased out the rest. It thus served a major commercial need for a small, growing town, not only as a dry goods store, but for its large, second story space. Later uses for all three spaces include a church, theatre, dentist office, furniture store in the 1950s and a garment factory in the 1960s.

The building is significant in politics/government for having had its second floor used as the original county courthouse or courtroom and offices. Bacon County had been carved out of Pierce, Ware and Appling Counties in 1914 and the Rabinowitz building was used as the courthouse from 1915 until the construction of the present courthouse in 1920. This is similar to the use of a pioneer settler's home for the first courthouse in older counties in Georgia.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baker, Bonnie T. "Rabinowitz Building." National Register Information Form, 22 July 1986 (with attachments). On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

"Funeral Service of William Rabinowitz." Atlanta (GA) Journal, 26 September 1935.

Hamburger, Nancy R. Granddaughter of William Rabinowitz, Atlanta GA. Telephone interview by Kenneth H. Thomas Jr., 28 May 1987.

Lockhart, James R. Slide of historic photograph of Rabinowitz Building, December 1986. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

See continuation sheet

- Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
 - previously listed in the National Register
 - previously determined eligible by the National Register
 - designated a National Historic Landmark
 - recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

- Primary location of additional data:
- State historic preservation office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 17 | 360740 | 3490500
 Zone Easting Northing

C _____ | _____ | _____

B _____ | _____ | _____
 Zone Easting Northing

D _____ | _____ | _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is the city lot, 60' by 80', that is all that has been historically associated with the building and all that the owner owns at this location. See attached sketch map.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the property corresponds to the current legal description of the property. The boundary of the nominated property constitutes all the historic acreage associated with the building.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janice Adams, National Register Researcher

organization HPS/DNR date June 11, 1987

street & number 205 Butler Street S.E. Room 1462 telephone (404)656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30339

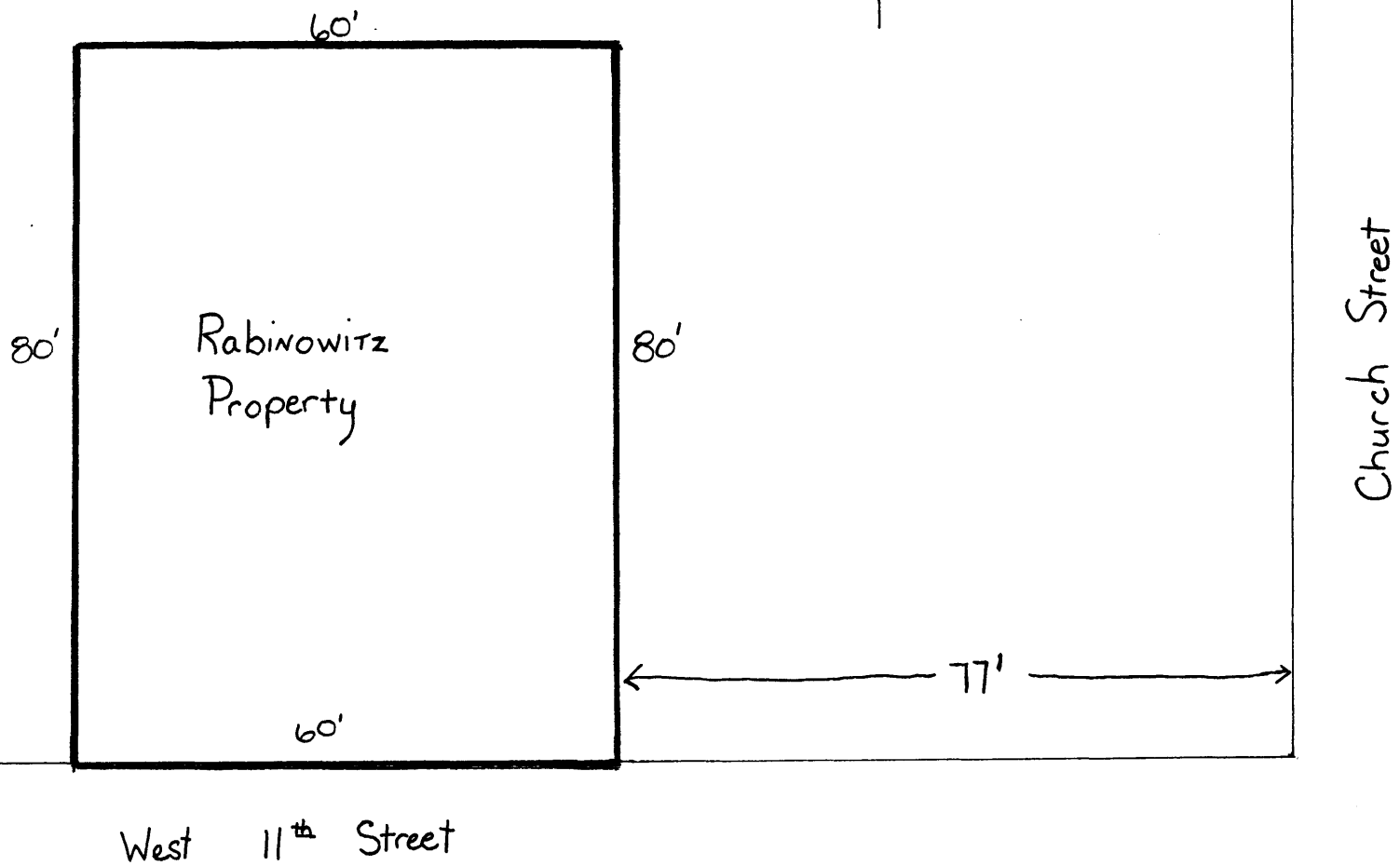
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

National Register Criteria

The upper floor of the Rabinowitz Building served as both the first courtroom and offices for Bacon County officials. One half of the ground floor housed the dry goods store, owned by the Jewish immigrant, William Rabinowitz and the remainder was leased out. Because of its association with the development of Bacon County and because it met a major commercial need for the city of Alma, the Rabinowitz Building meets National Register Criteria A. Because of the architectural qualities of the building, it meets National Register Criteria C.



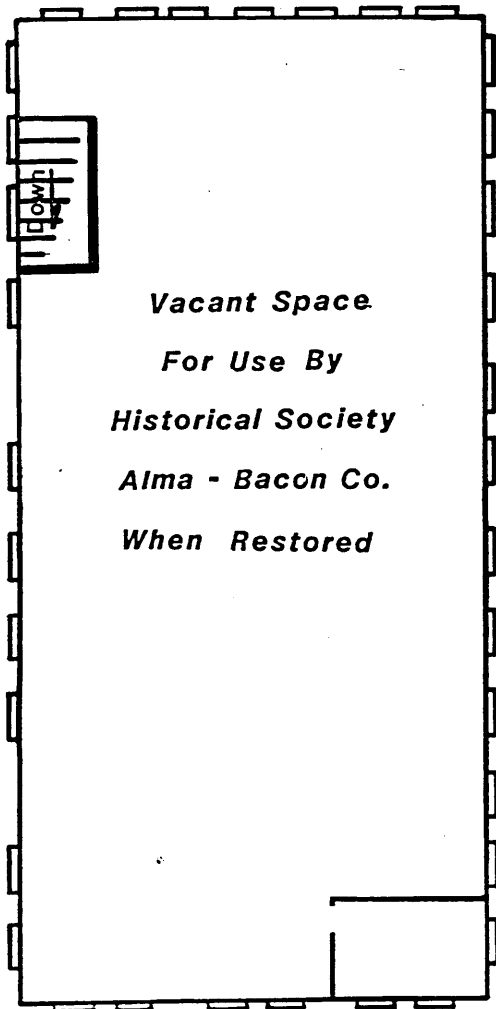
THE RABINOWITZ BUILDING
Alma, Bacon County, Georgia

Scale: 1" = 20'

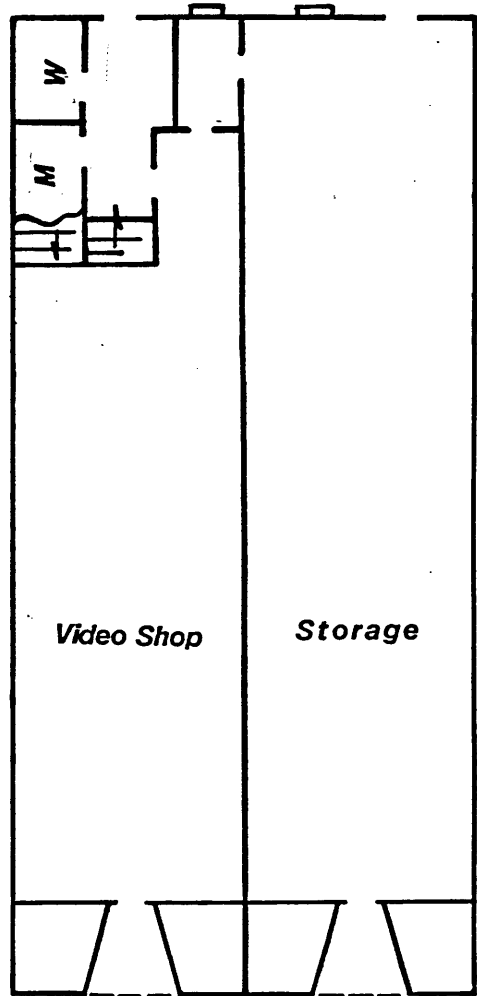
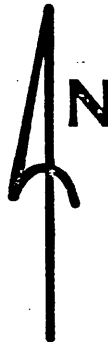
Prepared by: J.E. Adams

Date: June 1987

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



2nd floor



1st floor

FLOOR PLAN
THE RABINOWITZ BUILDING
Alma, Bacon County, Georgia

Scale: no scale

0.0001