RECEIVED 2280
AUG - 1 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

619

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Rock City Gardens

other names/site number Rock City; See Rock City, Inc.

2. Location

street & number 1400 Patton Road [ ] not for publication

city or town Lookout Mountain [ ] vicinity

state Georgia code GA county Walker code 295 zip code 30750

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** x **statewide** x **local**

17 JULY 2014

Signature of certifying official/Title: Dr. David C. Crass/Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO Date

Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

Joe Edson K. Beall 9.17.14

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Rock City Gardens
Name of Property

Walker County, Georgia
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [ ] building(s)
- [x] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
17	6	buildings
1	0	sites
7	8	structures
0	0	objects
25	14	**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE: garden
LANDSCAPE: natural feature
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
DOMESTIC: single dwelling
GOVERNMENT: fire station

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation
LANDSCAPE: garden
LANDSCAPE: natural feature
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:
Tudor Revival
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:
Colonial Revival
OTHER: Rustic Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE; CONCRETE
walls: STONE
CONCRETE
roof: ASPHALT; SLATE
other: METAL
GLASS

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Rock City Gardens is a 42-acre commercial tourist attraction located on the eastern crest of Lookout Mountain in the northwest corner of Georgia, approximately three miles southwest of downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, and 29 miles northwest of Lafayette, the county seat of Walker County. Set within the larger 700-acre Fairyland residential subdivision, the site's natural limestone, sandstone, and shale formations were transformed by owners Frieda and Garnet Carter into an elaborately designed rock garden that opened to the public in 1932. Visitors follow a self-guided tour along the winding, multi-level "Enchanted Trail," through the mountainous setting of caverns, stone stairways, and picturesque views from the Lookout Mountain bluffs, overlooking the surrounding valley and beyond. Natural and designed features identified by imaginative names such as Fat Man's Squeeze, Lover's Leap, and Tortoise Shell Rock are adorned with flowering vegetation and statues of gnomes and fairytale characters to enhance the whimsical qualities of the landscape. Increased attendance prompted additional development after World War II, which included improved tourist amenities (souvenir shops, restaurants, and parking infrastructure) and the opening of new attractions, most notably Fairyland Caverns in 1947 and Mother Goose Village in 1964. Subsequent additions and a few noncontributing resources were built on the site from the 1970s through 2005. These are compatible in design and scale with the contributing resources and the integrity of Rock City Gardens' historic core area remains intact.

Narrative Description

OVERVIEW DESCRIPTION

Rock City Gardens is located at 1400 Patten Road, Lookout Mountain, Georgia, in the Ridge and Valley geographic region that occupies the northwest corner of the state. The district is approximately three miles southwest of downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee and 29 miles northwest of Lafayette, Georgia, the Walker County seat. The 42-acre tourist attraction is situated on the eastern crest of Lookout Mountain, near the north summit. Lookout Mountain is a broad ridge that forms the southernmost segment of the Appalachian Mountains, in an area known as the Cumberland Plateau. The ridge extends 84 miles from Chattanooga, through northwest Georgia, and terminates in northeast Alabama, near the City of Gadsden.

Rock City Gardens derives its name from the property's large concentration of limestone, sandstone, and shale formations that have been distinctively shaped by weathering and erosion. Planted and indigenous trees, shrubs and flowers grow throughout the stone formations. The rocky and wooded landscape was originally cleared and developed in 1928 and opened to the public as a commercial tourist destination in May 1932. Subsequent construction of new service buildings, features, and surface parking infrastructure from 1932 to the present has expanded the boundaries of Rock City Gardens to the north, west, and south.

The informal, organic plan and curvilinear circulation networks of Rock City Gardens are products of the site's mountainous topography, the garden's vernacular design, and phases of incremental growth over the course of 80 years. Set within the larger Fairyland Estates subdivision, Rock City Gardens is bounded to the north, west, and south by single-family residential development. Vehicular access to the site from Red Riding Hood Trail/Georgia State Highway 157 is south along Mockingbird Lane. The name changes to Patten Road near the intersection of Rock City Trail. A curvilinear, two-lane, asphalt-surfaced street, Patten Road bisects the property into two contiguous areas before winding south into the adjoining Fairyland neighborhood where it terminates at the intersection with Woodland Nymph Trail and Chickamauga Trail.

The 14-acre rock garden area is the centerpiece of Rock City Gardens. Occupying the east side of Patten Road and bounded by the eastern slope of Lookout Mountain, this area encompasses the Enchanted Trail and Legacy Lane features. The Enchanted Trail is a 4,100-foot long, multi-level, stone-paved footpath that winds through a wooded landscape consisting of natural and man-made rock chasms and formations, fairytale statuary, and planted vegetation. The overlook area on the eastern bluff of Lookout Mountain demarcates the upper and lower segments of the trail and provides an open vista of the Chattanooga Valley below. Other principal circulation systems throughout the landscape include the Legacy Lane attraction, which was developed in 2005 on an interior service road, and shortcuts for pedestrians and employees located at intervals along the Enchanted Trail.

The garden attractions lie in the center and eastern portion of the district, while visitor services are primarily located at the periphery to the west. Storage and utility buildings are not publically accessible and are located south of the core attractions. Two residential properties within the district, Carter Cliffs and Grandview, are sited to the immediate south and north of the publicly accessible gardens, respectively, on the cliffs overlooking the Chattanooga Valley. Three surface parking lots enclose the north and west borders. The historically associated Fairyland Volunteer Firehouse and Gas Station (currently known as Cornerstone Station) occupies the southwest corner of the intersection of Patten Road with Rock City Trail.

DEVELOPMENT OF ROCK CITY GARDENS – CHANGES OVER TIME

Because of the unusual nature of Rock City Gardens, it is useful to understand how it changed over time as part of the description of what remains today. This brief developmental history is primarily intended to provide a basis for understanding the integrity of the site as it currently appears, as well as the rationale for categorizing contributing and noncontributing resources in the sections that follow.

The development of Rock City Gardens generally consists of five periods. The first period corresponds to the original planning and design of the Enchanted Trail in 1928 to the opening of the attraction in 1932. The second period begins in the 1936 with the construction of the new entrance building and the main plaza, which shifted the trailhead to the south and west near Patten Road. The close of World War II ushered in the next phase of development, including: an expansion of visitor amenities such as new parking lots, souvenir shops, and restaurants; new features along the Enchanted Trail, including Fairyland Caverns and Mother Goose Village; and material improvements to the trail, such as hardscaping, which improved access and the visitor experience. These developments occurred gradually, until the early 1970s. In the 1990s, Rock City Gardens began its next major expansion of attractions. The owners introduced the new Cliff Terrace restaurant and the Prospector's Point souvenir shops adjacent to the overlook area along the Enchanted Trail. The most recent period of development at Rock City Gardens began in 1999 with the acquisition of the historically associated Gas Station/Firehouse and Grandview properties and expansion of the north parking lot. This was followed by the construction of the Legacy Lane attraction and a redesigned entrance plaza in 2005.

1928-1936

Developers Garnet Carter (along with his wife Frieda) and O.B. Andrews purchased the "rock city" site in 1924 as part of the parcel assembly for a planned 700-acre residential and recreational community called Fairyland Estates. Garnet and Frieda Carter's initial plan for the 14-acre rock garden had been for it to become a part of their private estate in the Fairyland development. Mrs. Carter was an accomplished amateur gardener who sought to incorporate the site's gigantic rock outcroppings into a residential setting. In 1928, Frieda Carter marked pathways among the formations using balls of twine. Indigenous flowers, shrubs, and trees were planted along the packed dirt trail to soften the surrounding rocky terrain.

Beginning in 1930, numerous improvements were made to the trail to ready it for use as a tourist attraction. Under the direction of Frieda Carter, Fairyland Superintendent Don Gault and others, including Fairyland

employee Orville York and family friend Annie Pendley, assisted with the installation of the designed landscape. To navigate the site's steep gorges, Gault designed cable and plank suspension bridges constructed with surplus cable from the 1895 construction of the Lookout Mountain Incline Railway. Three suspension bridges, the Swing-A-Long Bridge, Sky Bridge, and Gnomes Overpass, were constructed between 1930 and 1932. Gault also designed and supervised construction of the reinforced concrete and stone Great Stone Bridge and Stone Arch Bridge. Frieda and Garnet placed ceramic gnomes throughout the gardens to complement the rock formation features. A gazebo containing a water fountain was located near the Lover's Leap overlook on the Enchanted Trail. When the gardens opened in 1932, visitors entered the Enchanted Trail at the one-room Gatehouse. The small building served as a ticketing booth, souvenir shop, and an office for Frieda Carter.

1936-1945

As the popularity of Rock City Gardens grew, Garnet Carter embarked on a plan to improve the visitor experience and enhance the attraction's infrastructure. The Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop was completed in 1937. The building contained the "Eat-A-Bite" restaurant, an expanded souvenir shop, restrooms, and offices. A surface parking lot fronted the Trail Entrance Building and included a row of gas pumps for visitor use, underscoring the important role of automobile tourism to the growth of Rock City Gardens.

The garden trailhead was relocated to the rear of the new Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop to provide more immediate access to the attraction. As visitation had increased, the Carters continued to enhance the gardens with the addition of more gnomes throughout the site. A new Cliffside route was opened along the bluffs and material and safety improvements were made to stabilize the trail. Along with these changes to the tourist attraction, construction was completed on the Carter's personal residence, which was known as "Carter Cliffs." A fallow deer park was added as a feature along the Enchanted Trail a few years later in 1940.

1945-1972

A new period of building and modifications at Rock City Gardens were ushered in during the post-World War II years. In 1946, two new parking lots were built on the west side of Patten Road to accommodate the growing number of visitors arriving by automobile. These surface lots replaced the parking lot in front of the Trail Entrance Building. Stonewalls enclosed the parking areas, and a two-room building known as the "Tag House" was erected to provide shelter for employees known as "tag guys" who attached large "See Rock City" banded bumper tags to the tourist's automobiles.

To improve the entrance to the attraction, the former parking lot in front of the Trail Entrance Building was converted into a hardscape plaza and lined with two new visitor service establishments. The Woodland Wonders Souvenir Shop was built on the north side of the plaza. It faced a walk-up coffee shop on the south. Later in the 1950s and 1960s, additions and renovations were completed to the Trail Entrance Building, the coffee shop, and the adjacent plaza, to provide more room for administrative offices, improved restroom facilities, and expanded dining amenities.

Construction of Fairyland Caverns, which opened in 1947, produced the first significant expansion of the Enchanted Trail attraction. Located at the end of the trail, the enclosed chasm featured more elaborate gnome dioramas that were illuminated with black lighting. In 1947, a 140-foot man-made waterfall, known as "High Falls," was built under the Sky Bridge near Lover's Leap. The Studio building, one of the earliest utility buildings in the park, was erected in 1948 on an access road to the south of the attraction. The building was used for the design and manufacture of props for Fairyland Caverns. A carpentry shop was added next to the Studio in 1960 to support the upcoming construction of scenery and statuary for Mother Goose Village.

Following a deadly fire within the adjacent Fairyland subdivision, Garnet Carter helped to finance and constructed a gas station and firehouse on Patten Road across from Rock City Gardens. (Fairyland had developed beginning in 1924, expanded in 1927-1928, and continued to evolve.) Supported by gasoline sales to Rock City Garden, the fire station was completed in 1951 and served both the Fairyland neighborhood and Rock City tourists. A Camera Obscura building, which is no longer extant, was erected in 1960 next to Lover's Leap. The Mother Goose Village opened in 1964 as the last significant expansion to the Enchanted Trail. Connected to the south end of Fairyland Caverns by a tunnel, Mother Goose Village was a large, open-plan building that contained multiple dioramas of various fairy tale stories.

In 1965, a number of other support buildings were erected. These included a collection of three small one-room concession buildings, which were constructed alongside the Enchanted Trail in 1965. A greenhouse, and a maintenance and warehouse building were also built to the south of Mother Goose Village. Gnomes Overpass suspension bridge was replaced circa 1965 by a concrete and stone stationary bridge. During this same period, the north parking lot and boundary wall were built on the east side of Mockingbird Lane to the north of the gardens for the accommodation of busses, campers, and larger vehicles with trailers.
Few changes were made to Rock City Gardens in the 1970s and 1980s. A Fudge Kitchen was built immediately west of the Woodland Wonders building in the main plaza and an additional parking lot was constructed along Patten Road to the north of the gardens. For Rock City Garden's 45th Anniversary in 1977, new scenes were added to Fairyland Caverns.

1991-1999

With the expansion of the Overlook area in 1991, new visitor establishments were placed along the south side of the Enchanted Trail in the center of site. The Camera Obscura building was demolished and replaced with the Flag Court. The Cliff Terrace Restaurant and Gift Shop was located adjacent to the overlook, between the Flag Court and Carter Cliffs. It included a large pavilion and patio dining area that could also function as a performance stage during special events. A one-story restroom building and Prospector's Point, an open plaza and concessions area, were constructed just to the west of Cliff Terrace. The north parking lot was expanded in 1998.

1999-Present

In 1995, Rock City Gardens acquired the former Fairyland Volunteer Firehouse and Gas Station, which was renovated and reopened in 1999 as the Cornerstone Station, featuring a Starbucks and small gift shop. In 1999, the attraction purchased Grandview, the former home of Garnet Carter's uncle, Peyton Carter. The house was reopened in 2005 as the Grandview Lodge, a special events facility. That same year, Rock City Gardens commenced with Phase I of a planned expansion and renovation of the property. A new ticket pavilion was constructed and the main plaza was landscaped and enclosed. As part of the 75th Anniversary of Rock City Gardens in 2007, "Legacy Lane" was opened as a new attraction with the former Carter Cliffs driveway transformed into an interpretative and handicapped accessible trail.

DESCRIPTION OF RESOURCES

Rock City Gardens is primarily a designed historic landscape that includes natural elements along with historic and non-historic buildings and structures. The main resource (the public garden area along the Enchanted Trail) is counted as one contributing site, which includes the grounds, plazas, hardscape, vegetation, and art installations and sculptures. Hundreds of individual landscape elements are not individually identified as contributing or non-contributing. Contributing buildings and structures are those that are significant in size and can be distinguished from the landscape. Bridges, both large and small, along the Enchanted Trail are considered part of the trail. Some art and sculpture will be described, but not included in the resource count because they are either secondary to the landscape and/or they are too small.

The construction dates for all resources within Rock City Gardens range from 1928 through 2005. Within the Rock City Gardens Historic District there are 17 contributing buildings, one contributing site, and seven contributing structures. It should be noted that the single contributing site comprises the majority of the Rock City Gardens attraction, encompassing a large number of elements, such as the Enchanted Trail and all its associated features. The district also contains six non-contributing buildings and eight non-contributing structures. All of the non-contributing resources were constructed outside the period of significance. All the resources within the period of significance retain good integrity, and are therefore contributing. Tables 1 and 2 present a summary of the named resources, indicating construction dates and type.

Table 1. Contributing Resources

Name	Construction Date	Type
Carpentry Shop	1960	Building
Carter Cliffs	1936	Building
Concession Auxiliary 1	1965	Structure
Concession Auxiliary 2	1965	Building
Concession Auxiliary 3	1965	Building
Dynamite Shed	c.1955	Building
Enchanted Trail/Rock City landscape	1928-1932	Site
Firehouse and Gas Station	1951	Building
Gatehouse (Sugar Loaf Shop)	1932	Building
Grandview	1930	Building
Horticulture Shed	c.1965	Structure
Main Plaza	1946	Structure
Maintenance	1960	Building
Maintenance and Warehouse	1965	Building
Mother Goose Village	1964	Building
North Parking Lot	1965	Structure
Pigeon Roost	1940	Building
Restroom Facility - Main Plaza	1950	Building
South Parking Lot	1946	Structure
Studio	1948	Building
Tag House	1946	Building
Trail Entrance Building/Main Gift Shop	1937	Building
Water Fountain Plaza	1937	Structure
West Parking Lot	1946	Structure
Woodland Wonders Shop	1946	Building

Table 2. Non-Contributing Resources

Name	Construction Date	Type
Big Rock Grill	1968	Building
Cliff Terrace (restaurant)	1991	Building
Critter Classroom/Amphitheater	2005	Structure
Flag Court	1991	Structure
Fudge Kitchen	1972	Building
Legacy Lane	2005	Structure
Limited Access Trail	2005	Structure
Opera Box Overview	2009	Structure
Prospector's Point	1991	Structure
Restroom Facility - Cliff Terrace	1991	Building
Rock City Pavilion	2005	Structure
Storage Building	c.1975	Building
Tennis Court	c.1973	Structure
Ticket Pavilion	2005	Building

The following sections provide descriptions for each contributing and non-contributing building, structure, and site.

SETTING

Encompassing approximately 42 acres, Rock City Gardens is a complex historic district that incorporates numerous buildings and structures, plus one site. The rocky landscape and location on the bluffs of Lookout Mountain has drawn visitors to the area since the mid-19th century and serves as the focal point for the visitor experience today. As a commercial tourist attraction, Rock City Gardens has evolved over time to meet the needs of increasing numbers of visitors. Throughout this process, the gardens have maintained a cohesive aesthetic. This section presents an overview of the district's character-defining features of the landscape and built environment, followed by individual descriptions of the resources. These are grouped as they function within the attraction: visitor services, attractions, support buildings, and residential.

The 14-acre core of the Rock City Gardens is distinguished by the limestone and sandstone rock outcroppings. The landscaping in the remaining areas of the attraction was designed to complement this aesthetic. Natural stone is used as a construction material on buildings, structures, terraces, raised planter beds, and pathways throughout the property. Rock walls topped with stone crenellation or iron railings delineate the boundaries of the central paid attraction, as well as the parking lots. Interior sections of the property are also flanked by two-foot high rock walls, which discourage and limit public accessibility to areas off the defined path.

The property is primarily wooded and the designed landscape emphasizes native plantings. The east side of Patten Road features more tree cover, while the north and west sides have been cleared for parking. A number of mature hardwood trees provide shade in the parking lots and stone planters with ornamental flowers are scattered throughout the attraction.

The following plants are mentioned in newspaper clippings and other sources, and are still growing at Rock City Gardens.

Trees Common Name	Scientific Name
American Holly Tree	*Ilex opaca*
Fringe Tree	*Chionanathus virginicus*
Sourwood	*Oxydendrum arboretum*
Flowering White Dogwood	*Cornus florida*
Redbud	*Cercis Canadensis*
Hemlock	*Tsuga Canadensis*
Black Gum Tree	*Nyssa sylvatica*
Chestnut Oak	*Quercus prinus*

Shrubs

Common Name	Scientific Name
Mountain Laurel	*Kalmia latifolia*
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron sp.*
Flame Azalea	*Rhododendron calendulaceum*

Perennials

Common Name	Scientific Name
Trillium	*Trillium catesbael*
Trillium	*Trillium grandiflorum*
Trillium	*Trillium cuneatum*
Trillium	*Trillium crectum*
Fame Flower	*Phemeranthus teretifolius*
Fame Flower	or *Talinum calycinum*
Cross Vine	*Bignonia capreolata*
Columbine	*Aquilegia Canadensis*
Wild Geranium	*Geranium maculatum*
Dwarf Crested Iris	*Iris cristata*
Violets	*Viola sororia*

Moss and Lichen
Coral Moss (looks like gray sponge)
Moss

Despite alterations and renovation of the attraction over time, the district has maintained a cohesive design aesthetic based on the native stone construction. The majority of buildings within the district were constructed for commercial use and do not adhere to any particular style. Composite masonry construction finished with concrete and random-coursed limestone and sandstone rubble is commonly employed for buildings and structures, as well as paving materials throughout. This type of masonry construction unifies almost all the buildings and structures within Rock City Gardens and is a key character-defining feature of the district. Identified architectural styles include Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival; however, most properties erected after World War II feature general, modernistic design elements. Two buildings, the Sugar Loaf Shop and the Mother Goose Village building express more romantic features in keeping with the storybook character of the attraction.

VISITOR SERVICES

Visitor Services are those publically accessible resources that provide the guests of Rock City Gardens with access, assistance, information, and amenities. These include ticketing, parking, food services, shopping, and restroom facilities. These resources enable the attraction to provide a welcoming, safe, and convenient environment.

Gatehouse (Contributing)

Originally known as the Sugar Loaf Shop, the Gatehouse was erected in 1932 as the primary entrance to Rock City Gardens until the shift of the Enchanted Trail entrance and completion of the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop in 1937. Designed by the firm of Crutchfield and Law, in collaboration with Frieda Carter, the Gatehouse is located near the original wrought-iron gate on the south side of north parking lot (photograph 49, map C-3). The one-story, one-room, stone building has a hexagonal plan and is topped with a conical roof that recalls the shape of a gnome hat. The roof is clad with brown asphalt shingles. A white board-and-batten door is present on the southeast side of the building and 24-light, double-hung sash windows are centered on four of the other six sides. Historic photographs show that the building has not been altered since its original construction. The building is also currently used for documentary presentations chronicling the history and ownership of Rock City Gardens and also serves as the origination point for the Legacy Lane attractions.

The Garden Club of America Medal of Distinction plaque that was awarded to Frieda Carter in 1933 was removed from storage and displayed in the Gatehouse in 2003. The bronze plaque commemorates "conservation and unusual development of Rock City in Fairyland."[1] The plaque reads: "This Bronze Medal of Distinction Awarded April 7, 1933 By The Garden Club of America To Frieda Carter For Conservation and Horticultural Achievement." The plaque was prominently featured in early promotional materials for the attraction and subsequently mounted on a metal pole in the at the gardens entrance in the Main Plaza. The plaque was removed to make way for the construction of the Fudge Kitchen in 1972 and placed in storage until 2003.[2]

Trail Entrance Building/Main Gift Shop (Contributing)

Anchoring the east boundary of the main entry plaza is the Colonial Revival-style Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop (photograph 1, map B-2). Designed by Crutchfield and Law architectural firm and completed in 1937, it is a one-story, five-bay building with a linear plan. An attached, five-bay porch with square supports and a full entablature lines the building's façade. Larger wing additions containing offices and the gift shop are present on the north and south ends of the property, respectively. The building has a random-coursed, rubble exterior finish and a side gabled roof with three front-gabled dormers. The roof is covered with natural slate tile laid in a common lap pattern. A white painted wrought iron "ROCK CITY GARDENS" sign is attached to the roof ridge of the building's main section and faces Patten Road to the west. Common window types include 8-over-12, 4-over-6, and 6-over-9 double-hung sash units.

Completion of the Trail Entrance and Main Gift Shop building in 1937 permanently shifted the entrance to the Enchanted Trail to the south from the area near the original Gatehouse. Set back from Patten Road, the new Trail Entrance building featured a number of improved amenities for both visitors and employees of Rock City Gardens. The building fronted a paved parking lot and gasoline pumps were installed at one end of the property (no longer extant). The interior contained room for a drink stand, gift shop, a sit-down restaurant, public restroom facilities, and an employee office.

To serve the growing crowds of automobile tourists, the parking lot in front of the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop was converted in 1946 to a flagstone courtyard plaza connecting the building with the new coffee shop (on the site of the future Big Rock Grill) and souvenir shop (Woodland Wonders). At the same time, the building's original single-bay front porch was remodeled and expanded into the current portico-style entrance. Additional office space was created with the construction of a north wing on the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop in 1954. This was followed by a second addition, ten years later, to the sides and rear of the building. Selmon T. Franklin Architects designed both additions employing stone facing that was

[1] Hollis, *See Rock City,* 132.
[2] Chapin, "Questions About Rock City."

compatible in design and construction with the original building. The north wings are attached to the main building on an elevated grade and are accessed via an aggregate pathway that ascends to an upper plaza from the Main Plaza. An 18-by-18-inch random course sandstone wall lines this path.

Ticket Pavilion (Non-Contributing)

The current Ticket Pavilion is a two-bay, painted stucco and stone masonry building with a double conical roof form and attached canopy clad with green standing-seam metal. The Ticket Pavilion was designed by Franklin Architects and built in 2005 as part of Phase I of the comprehensive renovation of the Main Plaza area. It replaced the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop as the primary ticket booth and visitor entrance gate for Rock City Gardens. The building is sited on an open plaza adjacent to Patten Road and to the immediately north of the Main Plaza.

Water Fountain Plaza (Contributing)

The drinking fountains were installed c.1937 in a small courtyard to the north of the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop. They serve as reminders of racial segregation that was common throughout the Southeastern United States during the early-to-mid-20th century. The larger of the two fountains was originally reserved for white visitors. It is located to the north of the second, smaller fountain, which was designated for "Colored" guests. The north fountain is no longer operational. It has a curved rock wall that serves as a backdrop to a 3.5-foot-tall central pedestal flanked by long, rock benches (photograph 2, map B-2). The smaller, south fountain is set in a small stone patio with a curved rear wall.

In addition to the segregated fountains, Rock City Gardens also once provided a separate restroom facility for African American visitors. The one story building was formerly located in the present area of the North Parking Lot. It was demolished for the construction of the lot c.1965.

Main Plaza (Contributing)

The Main Plaza is a small courtyard framed by the Trail Entrance Building/Main Gift Shop on the east, the Big Rock Grill on the south, and the Woodland Wonders and Fudge Kitchen buildings on the north (photograph 1, map B-2). It is surfaced with a combination of aggregate concrete panels and some limestone ashlar. A rock water fountain and stone masonry wall with a wrought-iron railing shaped in the profile of Lookout Mountain encloses the western end of Main Plaza, separating it from Patten Road. Visitors enter the Main Plaza through the Ticket Pavilion and down a short walkway past the east side of then Fudge Kitchen. Stone steps and a ramp located at the northeast corner of the Main Plaza provide access to the restrooms, offices, and entrance to the Limited Access Trail in the upper plaza area. Maple trees in wood planters line the entrance to the Trail Entrance Building and a few modern wrought-iron patio sets are located near the entrance to the Big Rock Grill.

In 1946, the Main Plaza replaced the former surface parking lot in front of the Trail Entrance Building/Main Gift Shop. Prior to reconfiguration of the entrance area in 2005, visitors entered the Main Plaza by foot from Patten Road. Construction of boundary wall and landscaped rock water feature prohibited direct access to the Main Plaza from Patten Road and shifted the visitor entrance to the newly built Ticket Pavilion and gate. The stone steps and ramp connecting the Main Plaza to the upper plaza area were also built as part of the renovation of Rock City Gardens during the 2005 period.[3] They replaced an earlier stairway that was constructed in 1976.

[3] Davis, "Rock City Unveils Expansion Plans."

Woodland Wonders (Contributing)

The Woodland Wonders building, along with the adjacent Fudge Kitchen, frames the north side of the Main Plaza, opposite the Big Rock Grill. Woodland Wonders is a one-story, composite masonry building with a rectangular plan and Colonial Revival style details. Originally known as the Gift Shop, it was designed by the firm of Selmon T. Franklin Architects and built in 1946. The Woodland Wonders building has concrete and random-coursed rubble masonry exterior. The slate-covered, side-gable roof features two gabled dormers. An attached front porch with squared support posts was added to the building circa 2005 and provides a covered walkway for guests between the Woodland Wonders building and the adjacent Fudge Kitchen.

Big Rock Grill (Non-Contributing)

Sited on the south side of the Main Plaza, the Big Rock Grill functions as a sit-down, short-order restaurant. Originally built in 1946 and greatly expanded and altered in 1968, it is a one-and-a-half-story, composite masonry-constructed building with a random-coursed, rubble masonry exterior. It has a compound plan and asymmetrical façade. The original east corner of the building is executed with Colonial Revival-style elements, while the larger south and west additions exhibit modernistic features. The prominent cross-gabled roof is clad with slate shingles and features two, clapboard front gabled roof dormers with arched fixed windows on the eastern roof slope. A corbelled chimney cap protrudes from the center of the roof ridge. The entrance to the Big Rock Grill is through double doors located in the front gable wing. The doors are set in a prominent multi-light window wall that occupies half of the gable façade and extends from the foundation to the roof ridge. Three, 8-over-12 double hung sash windows line the east side of the facade. The rear, one-story, hipped-roof addition engages the west gable end wall and extends to the south.

The Big Rock Grill was originally built in 1946 as a small, walk-up coffee shop. The building was significantly expanded in 1968 to become a short-order restaurant known as the Saddle Rock Inn. The 1968 addition enclosed a large limestone boulder located to the west of the original coffee shop and provided seating for 100 people.[4] The property was renamed the Big Rock Grill c.1995. The architectural firm of Selmon T. Franklin Architects designed the original, east corner of the building as well as the later south and west additions. The building mostly reflects the 1968 addition, and not the small 1946 section. Because 1968 is after the period of significance, the building is considered non-contributing.

Fudge Kitchen (Non-Contributing)

The Fudge Kitchen is a one-and-a-half-story, two-room commercial souvenir shop that was designed by Selmon T. Franklin Architects and erected in 1972. Located adjacent to the Woodland Wonders building on the north side of the Main Plaza, the composite masonry building has a compound plan with a random-coursed rubble exterior. The steeply pitched, cross-gable roof is clad with slate shingles. The Fudge Kitchen features some modernist design elements but does not adhere to any identified architectural style. It has an asymmetrical façade dominated by a covered entry porch and a fixed 15-light, fixed frame window. A multi-light window wall occupies half of gable end on the building's east side. The entrance porch, added in 2005, connects to the Woodland Wonders Building, providing a covered walkway between the two properties. Although it postdates the district's period of significance, the design of the Fudge Kitchen is compatible with other buildings in the Main Plaza area.

Restroom Facility – Main Plaza (Contributing)

Designed by Selmon T. Franklin Architects and built in 1950, this one-story restroom facility is attached to the rear of the Woodland Wonders building. The modernist restroom facility is built of composite masonry construction with a concrete and random-coursed rubble exterior and a flat roof. A one-story, full-width porch

[4] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 119-120.

supported by squared piers was added in 2005 over the primary entrance on the east façade. An aluminum and glass door at the northwest corner of the building serves as the rear means of egress. A fixed, four-light window and attached, raised stone planter bed are present along the building's west exterior wall. The restroom is primarily accessed from the lower Main Plaza via a rock-walled stone ramp and stairway, which was added in 2005.

Cliff Terrace Restaurant and Gift Shop (Non-Contributing)

Located to the immediate east of the overlook area, the two-story, frame and rubble masonry Cliff Terrace building was begun in 1990 and completed in 1991 as a combined souvenir shop and restaurant. Designed in the Colonial Revival style with a slate roof laid in an overlap pattern similar to nearby Carter Cliffs and other buildings in Rock City Gardens, Cliff Terrace has a wrap-around wood porch, which also functions as a covered dining area. Sandstone-surfaced ramps and walkways lined by wildflower plantings provide access to the adjacent outdoor patio and the Overlook below. A bog garden was installed as a landscape feature to the north of the building in 2009.

Restroom Facility – Cliff Terrace (Non-Contributing)

The functional, one-story restroom building is located on the south side of the Enchanted Trail and to the west of the Cliff Terrace Restaurant and Gift Shop. It was erected in 1991 as part of the series of expansions made to the overlook area. It has a flat roof features stone masonry and wood frame construction that is compatible with other properties in the district. A stone bench and rhododendrons in raised stone planters frame the entrance to the building.

Prospector's Point (Non-Contributing)

Located to the west of the Cliff Terrace building, between the 1991 Restroom and the 2005 Rock City Pavilion is Prospector's Point, a souvenir shopping area that consists of a series of kiosks located in a frame, board-and-batten shed set on the south side of an open stone patio area. Prospector's Point was built in 1991. The structure has a pent roof covered with black asphalt shingles and top-hinged doors double as awnings.

Rock City Pavilion (Non-Contributing)

Built in 2005, the Rock City Pavilion (photograph 24, map C-4) frames the western end of the Prospector's Point area and also serves as the southern terminus for the Legacy Lane trail. It has a concrete and stone masonry foundation. Squared wooden columns spaced at regular intervals at the perimeter of the structure support hipped roof. Drop pendant light fixtures are attached to the roof rafters. Wrought-iron railing provides enclosures at the edges of the structure save for the open entry spaces. The Rock City Pavilion features a large stone hearth with a telescoping chimney and seating for groups of up to 300 people. It is primarily used for special events and large gatherings.

Concession Auxiliary 1 (Contributing)

Auxiliary 1 is one of three small resources built in 1965 as concession stands alongside the Enchanted Trail approaching the Wild Bird Observation Deck. Auxiliary 1 is a three-walled, composite masonry structure, with a random-coursed rubble finish and a flat, concrete slab roof (photograph 12, map D-4, right). Containing a wrought iron bench, it serves as a covered seating area/shelter.

Concession Auxiliary 2 (Contributing)

Auxiliary 2 is one of three small resources built in 1965 as concession stand alongside the Enchanted Trail between Auxiliary 1 and the Wild Bird Observation Deck. Auxiliary 2 is currently a concession stand during the

spring and summer seasons. It is a concrete and rubble, masonry constructed, one-room building with a mortared stone pyramidal roof (photograph 12, map D-4, left).

Concession Auxiliary 3 (Contributing)

Auxiliary 3 is one of three small resources built in 1965 as a concession stand alongside the Enchanted Trail at the northern end of the Wild Bird Observation Deck. It is recessed into the deck and currently functions as a concession stand during the spring and summer seasons. The composite masonry building has a rubble finish and a flat, concrete slab roof.

Tag House (Contributing)

Built in 1946 adjacent to the entrance gate of the west parking lot, the Tag House is a simple, one-story, double-room composite masonry building with a rough-cut rubble finish and a double barrel roof (photograph 43, map B-1). Stone crenellation lines the perimeter of the roof. Double-hung sash windows with 2-over-2 lights are present on the north and south sides of the building. The Tag House originally functioned as a small office and shelter for parking lot staff that were popularly known as the "Tag Guys." These employees were responsible for ensuring that each visitor's automobile at Rock City Gardens departed with a large "See Rock City" bumper sticker. Parking lot staff currently uses the Tag House for storage and rest breaks. A sign instructing visitors to "Lower their visor" if they did not want a bumper sticker on their vehicle was originally mounted in the parking lot between the 1940s and 1960s. Today, this sign is on display in the Legacy Lane attraction.

West Parking Lot – Lot 2 (Contributing)

The West Parking Lot, also referred to as Lot 2, was built on a cleared parcel west of Patten Road in 1946 (photograph 44, map C-1). Rock City Trail, the South Parking Lot wall, and the Fairyland subdivision bound the property to the north, south, and west, respectively. A three-foot-tall concrete and rubble wall topped with stone crenellation encloses the lot on all sides. The primary entrance is from Patten Road at the southern end of the lot. Points of egress are also present at Rock City Trail. Stone posts with flat and gable caps flank the openings. A large, raised stone planter occupies the wall separating the West and South lots. The West Parking Lot consists of three parallel asphalt surface driveways in a north-south alignment separated by concrete and stone constructed tree planters in the center. The western-most driveway was added in 1965 and connects the West and South lots. Angled concrete and stone dividers delineate the crushed gravel parking spaces within the lot and along the east wall on Patten Road. Precast concrete curbs are also present in parking areas along the west driveway. The Tag House building occupies the southeast corner of the West Parking lot near the main entrance. The Fairyland Volunteer Firehouse and Gas Station abuts the northeast corner of the property.

South Parking Lot - Lot 3 (Contributing)

The South Parking Lot, also referred to as Lot 3, was built on a cleared parcel west of Patten Road in 1946 (photograph 48, map A-2). The West Parking Lot, Patten Road, and the Fairyland subdivision bound the property to the north, east, and southwest. Like the West Parking Lot, a three-foot-tall concrete and rubble wall topped with stone crenellation lines the lot on the north and east sides. An interior wall, which originally served as the western boundary of the lot, now separates visitor and employee parking areas on the south side of the lot. The primary entrance is from Patten Road at the northern end of the property. The lot may also be accessed from Patten Road at its western end. The South Parking Lot has a curvilinear plan with two asphalt-paved driveways that intersect as they travel to the east. The third, western-most driveway, which was added in 1965, connects to the West Parking Lot. Tree landscaping is not as extensive as the West Lot and is primarily located in the upper third of the South Parking Lot and along Patten Road. Angled concrete and

stone dividers delineate the crushed gravel parking spaces within the lot and along the east wall on Patten Road. Precast concrete curbs are also present in parking areas along the west driveway.

North Parking Lot – Lot 1 (Contributing)

The large North Parking Lot, also referred to as Lot 1, is located north of the gardens along the east side of Mockingbird Lane. It was originally developed as a one-acre lot circa 1965 and later expanded to the north. A three-foot-tall concrete and rubble wall topped with stone crenellation and planted trees line the east side of the lot along the road. Three entrance/exit driveways are spaced at intervals along the wall and flanked by stone posts with gable caps. The southern section of the lot has a curvilinear shape with three asphalt-paved lanes, while the six lanes in the north section of the lot are arranged in a linear, north-south pattern. Crushed gravel surfaced parking areas separate the drive lanes and are landscaped in the center with medium-height hardwood trees. Parking spaces are indicated by diagonally placed, precast concrete curbs/bumpers.
The North Parking Lot was built in the mid-to-late 1960s to accommodate buses, campers, and larger vehicles with campers. One row of parking was reserved for automobiles. Construction of the parking area resulted in the realignment of Patten Road, which once extended past the original Gatehouse and intersected Mockingbird Lane further to the south at Rock City Trail. The parking lot was constructed on a wooded lot owned by Rock City Gardens that also contained a restroom and pavilion. The pavilion was relocated to Carter Cliffs. An employee parking lot adjacent to Patten Road and a small house fronting Mockingbird Lane were razed for the construction of the additional parking space in 1998.[5]

Fairyland Volunteer Firehouse and Gas Station (Contributing)

Erected in 1951, the Fairyland Volunteer Fire House and Gas Station is located on the west side of Patten Road, opposite the Rock City Gardens entrance, at the intersection with Rock City Trail (photograph 45, map C-1). The building currently houses a souvenir shop and Starbucks coffee shop on the first floor. Administrative offices are located on the second floor.

The Fairyland Volunteer Fire House and Gas Station has a two-story, square plan mass with flanking one-and-a-half-story north and south wings. It is a composite masonry constructed building with a random-course rubble exterior. The central block has a symmetrical facade and a flat, built up roof lined with stone crenels similar to those found along the parking lot walls. Both wings have steeply-pitched side-gable roofs covered with natural slate laid in a common lap pattern. Modern glass and aluminum storefronts enclose the two large central bays on the building's first story. Four, 6-over-6 double hung, sash windows line the upper level of the facade. The north wing features a five-part, aluminum-frame window wall. The south wing has a white paneled wood overhead door. All door and window openings have French arches with rock voussoirs. The second floor windows and north wing storefront window have dark canvas awnings. The former gas pump area in front of the building along Patten Road was converted into an outdoor patio in the early 1990s. The large, stone-faced chimney and fire pit were built on the patio in 2009.

The Fairyland Volunteer Fire House and Gas Station was built in reaction to a 1950 house fire in the Fairyland community that resulted in the deaths of three residents. Garnet Carter assisted with the organization of the Fairyland Protection Association and financed the construction of the combined firehouse and gas station in 1951. He also purchased the volunteer department's 1951 Chevrolet 6400 fire engine, which has been restored and is now on display along Legacy Lane. Sales from the gas pumps and automobile repair shop funded the operation of the fire station. The north wing of the Fairyland Volunteer Fire House and Gas Station previously housed the retail office for the gas station and the repair bays were located in the central section of the building. The second floor served as storage and housing for the Fairyland Volunteer Fire Department. The volunteer Fairyland Protection Association remained operational until the incorporation of the City of Lookout Mountain and the subsequent establishment a municipal department in 1969. The building continued

[5] Chapin, "Questions About Rock City."

to function as a gas and repair station until it was closed in the mid-1980s and the pumps were removed. Following the closure of the gas station the building was renovated and reopened c.1990 with offices on the second floor and a souvenir shop and ice cream parlor on the first floor. The ice cream parlor was converted into a Starbucks coffee store in 2006.[6]

ATTRACTIONS AND LANDSCAPE

While Rock City Gardens provides restaurants and souvenir shops, people visit the attraction to see the rock formations, gardens, and the spectacular views from the bluff of Lookout Mountain. The historic core of the Rock City Garden Historic District contains all of these attractions. While additional attractions built after the defined period of significance are discussed individually as non-contributing resources, the historic gardens are included here along with their many features, as the visitor would experience them, as one site, accessed by the historic Enchanted Trail.

Rock City Gardens/Enchanted Trail (Contributing)

The rock garden site is the historic core and main attraction of Rock City Gardens. The gardens encompass approximately 14 acres of the district. Visitors experience the garden on a self-guided tour of Enchanted Trail. The 4,100-foot circuitous, multi-level pathway winds through the wooded and rocky landscape and along the bluffs of Lookout Mountain. Frieda Carter began planning the course of the trail in 1928, and it was completed by 1932. The Enchanted Trail was originally surfaced with gravel and pine straw and featured picturesque wooden footbridges. It was improved with a mortared stone walkway in 1947 for better stability. Suspension and stone masonry bridges span deep gorges and lower segments of the Enchanted Trail. Despite minor changes in its alignment, primarily in 1937 and again in 1947, the Enchanted Trail retains approximately 90 percent of its original route.[7]

Ceramic garden gnomes are located along the Enchanted Trail throughout the site and are a character-defining feature of the nominated district. Frieda and Garnet Carter first introduced the gnomes as a playful feature to appeal to tourists prior to the opening of Rock City Gardens in 1932. Others were added from the nearby Fairyland Tom Thumb Golf course following its closure in 1942. Historic photographs of Rock City Gardens show that the placement of gnomes has constantly shifted over time. Many have been relocated to other areas within Rock City Gardens and a considerable number of historic gnome figures have been lost due to damage from the elements and vandalism.

Common furnishings located along the Enchanted Trail include: stone, wrought iron, and rustic wood benches and patio sets; two wooden decks dating from 2005; and a stone masonry gazebo, which was installed near Lover's Leap (the overlook area) in 1932. Historic and modern wrought iron signs mounted on black wrought iron poles guide visitors along the Enchanted Trail and identify the various geological features. Script neon signs, which date from the 1940s, are also mounted on a few of the features. More recent additions include wood plank signs painted with environmentally themed quotations by noted American authors.

Promotional materials for Rock City Gardens claim the attraction features over 400 species of native trees, plants, and flowers.[8] Throughout the gardens, green identification stakes identify the installed plantings. Examples include: American holly, black gum, American sweet gum, sour gum, red maple, sourwood, Canadian hemlock, rhododendron, tassel fern, cinnamon fern, Christmas fern, sweet mock orange, astilbe, foamflower, azalea, black-eyed Susan, and Virginia bluebells.

---

[6] Ibid.
[7] Hollis, *Dixie Before Disney*.
[8] Rock City, "About Us."

For ease of discussion, the Enchanted Trail passes through five distinct segments of the gardens: the upper trail segment, the overlook area, the lower trail segment, Fairyland Caverns, and Mother Goose Village. Due to the intricate and complex character of the resource, the following descriptions of the gardens, its significant features, and notable changes over time are examined in order, as a visitor would sequentially experience them. Photographs 3 through 42 also follow this sequential order along the trail, including some of the buildings and auxiliary structures that were described in the previous section.

Upper Trail Segment

Visitors today pass through the Trail Entrance Building and enter the Enchanted Trail down a small flight of paved steps (photographs 3 and 4, map B-2). The trail passes through the bottom of the "Grand Corridor," a three-story, smooth-surfaced limestone chasm lined with planting beds containing rhododendron, ferns, and mature trees including sweetgum, American holly, and red maple (photograph 5, map B-3). At a stone bench seating area, the trail turns sharply to the south, ascends a small set of stone steps, and enters a tight crevice known as the "Needle's Eye" (photograph 6, map B-4). At the end of this passageway, a second, short flight of stairs curves west up to the rock-walled walkway. The path winds through a series of giant outcroppings and vegetation before reaching a clearing and the overlook into "Gnome Valley."

Gnome Valley is a large enclosure located in the southern portion of the gardens (photograph 7, map B-3). Ceramic gnome figures engaged in a variety of activities are scattered throughout the feature. These were relocated from other areas within Rock City Gardens. The structures located within Gnome Valley, including a former deer shelter with segmented arches and former water troughs that have been converted into raised planters, are constructed with mortared rubble masonry. The arched structure has been slightly altered with the additions of small doors, windows, and a windmill to resemble a gnome house. A small pond with an aerating fountain is located in the southern end of the enclosure. The feature's western masonry wall also forms a portion of the Rock City Gardens boundary wall along Patten Road. Evergreen trees screen the view of the street. Gnome Valley was originally built c.1940 as the Deer Park. In April 2011, the fallow deer were relocated to a larger habitat area near the Stone Arch Bridge, and Gnome Valley was converted to its present appearance and function.

Adjacent to Gnome Valley is the prominent "Mushroom Rock" (photograph 8, map B-3). Originally known as "Balanced Rock" when Rock City Gardens opened in 1932, the name of the mushroom-shaped, natural rock formation was changed with the discovery and excavation of the larger "1,000-Ton Balanced Rock" feature in the mid-1930s.[9] From Mushroom Rock, the Enchanted Trail curves abruptly to the north, passing "Villa Aviana," a woven aluminum birdhouse sculpture.

The trail continues through a wooded area of the gardens populated by a variety of native tree and shrub species before approaching the two steps up to the raised "Gnomes Overpass," a series of curving, reinforced concrete and stone masonry arch footbridges that span the Grand Corridor below (photograph 9, map B-3). Initially built in 1932, as a single suspension bridge of surplus cables from the Lookout Mountain Incline Railway, it was replaced circa 1965 with the current masonry construction to provide greater stability and improved access to the gardens for visitors with physical disabilities. The Gnomes Overpass terminates at the "Goblins Underpass," a reinforced concrete and sandstone masonry, arched passageway that crosses under Legacy Lane (photograph 10, map C-3). Original to Rock City Gardens, the structure measures approximately 6 feet tall by 3 feet wide and 25 feet in length.

Emerging from the Goblins Underpass, the walled, raised section of the Enchanted Trail continues winding to the north through a series of large rock formations (photograph 11, map C-4). It makes a dogleg turn to the east near the recently created Wild Bird Observation Deck feature, which consists of an elevated wooden deck

[9] Ramsay and Vaughan, *Tennessee's Dixie Highway: The Cline Postcards*, 75.

lined with bench railings, two rustic wood patio sets, two seasonal concession stands (photograph 12, map D-4), and a rest shelter.

Just beyond the deck, a cast-iron sign points to a "Short Way Out" shortcut off the trail leading to the Fairyland Caverns and Legacy Lane. Further to the east, the trail splits at the "Shelter Rock" feature. Visitors are offered the choice to linger at Shelter Rock, or continue east along the "Swing-A-Long Bridge" to the north or the "Great Stone Bridge" to the immediate south. One of the original features of the Enchanted Trail, Shelter Rock is a natural indentation of a rock formation that was developed into an enhanced feature and decorated with musical gnome statues prior to the opening of Rock City Gardens in 1932. The crevice below the rock overhang was finished in 1950 with a concrete and stone floor to make the feature more accessible to the public.

The Swing-A-Long Bridge is a 180-foot long suspension bridge (photographs 13, 14, and 16, map C-4). Created from surplus cables of the Incline Railway, it runs parallel to the Great Stone Bridge, a large, double-arched, reinforced concrete and stone footbridge located to the immediate south (photograph 15, map C-5, and photograph 25, map C-4). Both structures were erected in 1930-1931 to span the large gorge that runs through the northeast corner of the gardens.

East of the two large bridges, the two divergent paths of the Enchanted Trail unite en route to the overlook area. The trail passes the Opera Box Overview to the main overlook area (described in the following sections).

Overlook Area

Crossing over High Falls across the 10-foot long, arching reinforced concrete and stone Sky Bridge (photograph 19, map C-5), visitors enter the open, stone-surfaced plaza area of the Lover's Leap and the Seven States Overlook. This area delineates the upper and lower segments of the Enchanted Trail. A three-foot-tall concrete and stone rubble wall encloses the protruding outcropping of Lover's Leap and the Overlook area to its immediate south. From this section of the trail, visitors may view the panoramic vista of the surrounding Chattanooga Valley to the east (photograph 21, map C-5) as well as the eastern bluffs of Lookout Mountain further to the north (photograph 17, map C-5). A two-by-two-foot, semi-circular sandstone stone sign declaring "See Seven States" is mounted on the Overlook wall. Painted directional arrows point to the approximate locations on the horizons where each of the states is purportedly located (photograph 20, map C-5). For a fee, visitors may use the coin-operated binoculars mounted on steel posts and bases that line the overlook area (photograph 18, map C-5).

A suspension bridge originally spanned the chasm to Lover's Leap when Rock City Gardens opened in 1932. It was replaced with the current stone bridge c.1938 and the See Seven States Overlook was also built that same year. Early photographs and postcards of Rock City Gardens indicate that the rock wall lining the bluffs was added around this same period, sometime between 1938 and 1940. A small one-story stone restroom building and concession stand was also built in the overlook area during this period. The man-made High Falls water feature was built under the Sky Bridge in 1947 (photograph 29, map D-5, and photograph 33, map C-5). The over 100-foot falls are produced from recycled water, which allows for full flow during dry seasons. A Camera Obscura building was erected in to the immediate south of the See Seven States Overlook in 1960 (no longer extant).

Traveling to the west of the Overlook along the trail, visitors pass the stone gazebo, which was built in 1932. Originally, the structure contained a fountain. Today, it provides a covered outdoor seating area. Located to the south of the historic overlook features on the Enchanted Trail and connected by a shared stone patio area, are a number of non-contributing resources that were built in 1991, including the Flag Court, Cliff Terrace Restaurant, a restroom facility, and the Prospector's Point area (all described in other sections of this nomination). The Camera Obscura building and 1940 restroom and concession stand were both demolished to make room for the construction of the newer facilities. The Overlook area terminates at the western end of

Prospector's Point near the Rock City Pavilion. The lower segment of the Enchanted Trail commences to the north.

Opera Box Overview (Non-Contributing)

Built in 2009, the Opera Box Overview is a circular patio structure raised approximately 10 feet above the adjacent Enchanted Trail near Lover's Leap on the overlook area. It provides an elevated view of the surrounding Chattanooga Valley area. Constructed of reinforced concrete and sandstone ashlar, the Opera Box Overview is accessible via a wraparound ramp. The artificial outdoor climbing wall was installed in 2009 adjacent to the elevated Opera Box Overview. It is approximately 25 feet in height. For a fee, children are allowed to climb the attraction during the spring, summer, and early fall seasons.

Flag Court Overlook (Non-Contributing)

The Flag Court was installed in 1991 just below the adjacent Seven States Overlook, on the site of the former Camera Obscura building. It is accessed via a shallow, stone stairway. A curving, three-foot-tall cobble wall bounds the 1,200-square-foot sandstone-surfaced courtyard (photograph 22, map C-5). The Flag Court contains the flags of the seven states purported to be visible from the overlook flying atop 25-foot metal poles. Information about each state is inscribed on the granite, rectangular base of each flagpole and includes the official state bird, capitol city, dates of admission to the Union, and other items of interest.

Lower Trail Segment

The lower segment of the Enchanted Trail starts past the formation feature known as "Tortoise Shell Rock," and before descending a long flight of sandstone steps into "Fat Man's Squeeze" (photograph 26, map C-4). The sheer limestone chasm measures approximately 60-feet in height with the walls closing to 12 inches wide at several points along the path (photographs 27 and 28, map C-4). Historically referred to as "Fat Man's Misery" in the *1889 Illustrated Guide to Chattanooga and Lookout Mountain* and other 19th-century guidebooks, Fat Man's Squeeze was improved with the stone steps and renamed circa 1930. The Enchanted Trail continues its descent almost two-and-a-half stories down Fat Man's Squeeze into an underground cave. The cave walls twist beneath the giant rock formation creating the passageway beneath. This area contains a 24-inch tall ceramic gnome holding a lighted lantern that was originally part of a collection imported from Germany and located in the Tom Thumb Miniature Golf Course at Fairyland Club.

Emerging from Fat Man's Squeeze, the trail winds around the top of the gorge past a 15x15-foot, wooden deck elevated four steps above the stone path. The deck was originally constructed in 2005 to provide guests with a rest spot along the trail and now also serves as a viewing area overlooking the Fallow Deer Habitat. The expanded habitat, populated with fallow deer from the Amicalola Deer Park, was established near the Fat Man's Squeeze feature in March 2011.[10] Continuing east, the Enchanted Trail approaches the "Stone Arch Bridge." Built in 1931, the reinforced concrete and stone masonry structure is approximate 40 feet in length and derives its name from the three Gothic-style arches supporting the span.

From the Stone Arch Bridge, the Enchanted Trail continues east, ascending stone steps through a small tunnel and opens to the Cliffside route. Built as a new feature along the Enchanted Trail circa 1938, the Cliffside route consists of a blasted-out shelf and overhang that winds to the southeast along the lower wall of the bluff overlooking the Chattanooga Valley. After passing through the "Rainbow Hall" (photograph 30, map C-5), a covered passage with a series of red, yellow, green, and blue solid stained glass windows set into the eastern stone wall, the trail arrives at the "Observation Point." This is a projecting reinforced concrete platform with iron railings that provides views of the surrounding valley to the east and the High Falls and

[10] Jolley, "Rock City Gardens Begins New Partnership With Amicalola Deer Park."

Lover's Leap areas to the south (photographs 31 and 32, map C-5). The current Observation Point structure was built in 1972. It replaced an earlier concrete and rubble masonry platform built in 1938.

The Enchanted Trail turns west into the gardens through a man-made passage to arrive at the "1,000 Ton Balanced Rock" formation, which is a giant boulder balanced on a pair of upended flat stones (photograph 35, map D-4). Discovered on the grounds and excavated in the mid-1930s, it is one of the few features within Rock City Gardens to retain its c.1940-era cursive sign. A large stone bench and metal railing have been placed on the stone flooring below the rock canopy allowing visitors to use the 1,000 Ton Balanced Rock as a covered rest area.

The entry to "Cave of the Winds" and "Hall of the Mountain King" is defined by three massive smooth-surfaced rock formations that create a tunnel passage beneath the overhangs. Natural "room" openings, formed by the soaring rock walls of the cave are present throughout the feature. Landscaped fixtures and decorations, including a fountain, benches, and a diorama with a moonshine still operated by gnomes have been installed in these areas to create visual interest (photograph 34, map C-4).

The Enchanted Trail exits the Hall of the Mountain King through a Gothic arch into a small courtyard rest area. It continues to the west, up a series of shallow stairs through the "Magic Valley," a wooded corridor bounded by limestone walls en route to the Fairyland Caverns. The trail passes "Galoochee, the Stone Witch" on the north, a rock formation that looks like a crag-nosed witch in profile and is augmented with a ceramic pipe. The Stone Witch was a popular sight during the early years of Rock City Gardens; however, the visual impact of the feature has been lessened since the late 1940s with the re-routing of the Enchanted Trail for the construction of the Fairyland Caverns. A former segment of the trail that provides a better view of the Stone Witch was temporarily re-opened for the 80th Anniversary of Rock City Gardens in 2012.

Fairyland Caverns

Just past the "Short Way Out" stairs near the Stone Witch, the Enchanted Trail turns to the south and the entrance of the Fairyland Caverns. Initially conceived as a miniature rail line that was to transport guests through the a series of fairytale dioramas arranged in grottoes, Fairyland Caverns was built in 1946 by Don Gault as an extension of the Enchanted Trail. It enters a widened chasm with a reinforced concrete roof (with the appearance of a cave). For this nomination, Fairyland Caverns is counted as part of the contributing landscape (site), rather than as a separate resource, because it is a continuation of the pathway of the Enchanted Trail. The feature opened in 1947 but continued to be developed until 1949.[11] Recessed into the rock face on the east a few feet before the entrance stands a two-story, Alpine or Bavarian-style painted structure with board-and-batten siding (photograph 36, map C-3). The structure was built in 1946 as the second story of a concession stand. The façade was modified in the mid-1960s with the removal of the original windows. Today, it serves as an auxiliary storage and maintenance shed for Fairyland Caverns.

Above the cavern entrance is an attached wrought-iron sign featuring Little Red Riding Hood and a wolf atop large, cutout lettering "Fairyland" (photograph 37, map C-3). The sign originally marked the entrance to the Fairyland development and was transferred to Rock City Gardens for use in the Fairyland Caverns feature in 1947. Entering the caverns, the path travels through a wrought-iron gated arch to the "Diamond Corridor" a 10-foot wide passage encrusted with smooth-surfaced-rocks in varying sizes and accented with quartz crystals, pyrite, and painted coral attached to the walls and concrete ceiling with metal wiring. Visitors are greeted by band of gnome statues that are hung on the walls and suspended from the ceiling. Ultraviolet "black" lights illuminate Fairyland Caverns and make the fluorescent painted figures and walls glow in the dark. The gnomes are placed throughout the feature in various settings (photograph 39, map C-3). Many were transferred from the Fairyland Club's Tom Thumb Golf course following its closure in 1948. Continuing along, the passage opens into a descending flight of sandstone-surfaced stairs from the Diamond Corridor into the

[11] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 70.

depths of the caverns, which consist of a twisting pathway (photograph 38, map C-3) lined by a series of lighted dioramas depicting families and fairytales recessed into the rock walls (photographs 40 and 41, map C-3). Atlanta artists Charles and Jessie Sanders created the majority of fairytale dioramas in Fairyland Caverns and the subsequent Mother Goose Village. The figures were cast in Hydrocol (a gypsum-like polymer) from clay molds and painted with fluorescent paints. Some of the early dioramas were replaced over time with newer scenes that were created to take their place. In 1977, artist Kenny Saylor created new dioramas for Fairyland Caverns, including the Gnomes' Gold Mine and Baa Baa Black Sheep, which were executed to closely match Sanders' style.[12]

Mother Goose Village (Contributing)

The interior passageway of Fairyland Caverns continues winding to the south into Mother Goose Village, which opened in 1964. The central diorama of Mother Goose Village is housed in a rectangular, two-story, open plan building with concrete and stone rubble walls and no windows (photograph 46, map B-3). Mother Goose Village is counted as a contributing building, separate from the site, because of its size and divergence from the path. The building has a gambrel roof supported by steel framing and covered with asphalt and copper shingles. The east and west gambrel ends are clad with cedar shake shingles. Selmon T. Franklin Architects designed the building. Visitors walk around a large, 40x15-foot central platform to view the intricate, fluorescent scenes of various Grimm Brothers fairytales and Mother Goose nursery rhymes illuminated by ultraviolet light. Designed and built by Jessie Sanders, the stationary Hydrocol figures are positioned around a hillside below a 12-foot-tall castle that is located at the east end of the platform (photograph 42, map B-3). Backlighted, 8x8-inch, pedestal-mounted signs identify the popular fairytale scenes, which include Wee Willie Winkie; the Cow That Jumped Over the Moon; Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary; Puss n' Boots; and Little Jack Horner. As visitors exit the building, they pass the final diorama depicting, Rub-A-Dub-Dub, Three Men in a Tub, with the figures rocking back and forth on the water. This is the only animatronic scene represented within Fairyland Caverns and Mother Goose Village.

The Enchanted Trail concludes at the east side of the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop. Nearby, a turning water wheel is set in a water fountain set by a wood bench (photograph 3, map B-2), in the background). The water wheel is the remnant of an early feature at Rock City Gardens. It was once accompanied by a small log gristmill that was not replaced after it burned in 1999.

Legacy Lane (Non-Contributing)

Developed in 2005 along the former driveway to Carter Cliffs, Legacy Lane features a series of interpretive signs and associated artifacts placed alongside the edge of the corridor. The asphalt-surfaced path is 12 feet wide with rounded bumper-style boundaries. It extends south into the gardens from the original Gatehouse to the Rock City Pavilion and spans the Enchanted Trail at two points. The Critter Classroom, three art installations, a replica Tom Thumb Golf green, and associated artifacts of the attraction, including the 1951 Fairyland Volunteer Chevrolet Fire Truck, are located at the north end of the trail. Red-painted metal signs chronicling the history of Rock City Gardens by decade are mounted adjacent to the path and distributed along the length of Legacy Lane to the south. In addition to its interpretive role, the path provides access to the interior of the gardens for those with physical disabilities and also functions as a vehicle service drive. It provides a more direct route to the overlook area.

Limited Access Trail (Non-Contributing)

The Limited Access Trail runs in an east-west direction connecting the upper plaza area adjacent to the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop to Legacy Lane. It is an asphalt-paved trail that was originally used as a

[12] Ibid., 132.

service corridor within the attraction. The Limited Access Trail was opened along with Legacy Lane in 2005 to allow visitors with physical disabilities to access the interior of the gardens.

Critter Classroom/Amphitheater (Non-Contributing)

The seasonal open-air amphitheater was developed as part of the attraction's expansion and renovation in 2005. The Critter Classroom is located to the immediate west of Legacy Lane, near the original Gatehouse building. The amphitheater has metal bleachers arranged in a theater-style configuration around a flat-surfaced limestone outcropping, which serves as the stage. A canvas tent covers the seating area and a small, moveable wood shed with fiberglass roof is set behind the outcropping. The venue is used for special events and seasonal Birds of Prey performances.

Art Installations

There are several art installations of various sizes that are not included in the resource count, but considered part of the overall landscape. Artist Jules Moigniez sculpted the six-foot-tall, "Monumental Eagle" cast bronze statue for the F & R Bronze Company. The sculpture was purchased and installed on a rock outcropping to the east of the Opera Box Overview in the summer of 2007. Stacked stones cover the base. "Perched Raptor" is the steel sculpture by artist Isaac Duncan III that was installed near the Gatehouse at the north end of Legacy Lane in May 2009. It is constructed of recycled metal and set in a concrete foundation. "Perched Raptor" was the first permanent sculpture commissioned for the attraction through a partnership between Rock City Gardens and local artists.[13] "Iron Age" is a large chiseled stone set upright on an iron pedestal. Sculptor Roger Halligan created the piece, and it was installed in April 2009 next to a small water feature just north of the Critter Classroom. Originally intended for temporary display, it has since become a permanent installation at Rock City Gardens. In 2008 artist John Henry designed and built the abstract, 1,000-pound aluminum sculpture called "Prometheus." The artwork was installed in July 2009 near the entrance of Rock City Gardens on the small lawn at the southeast corner of Red Riding Hood Trail and Mockingbird Lane.[14] Local artist John McLeod created the abstract, organic piece called "Elder Flame" over the spring and early summer of 2010 from wood and stone collected on the Rock City Gardens site. The sculpture is located at the south end of Legacy Lane, near the Rock City Pavilion.[15] Installed in July 2011 and located to the north of the main offices at the entrance of the Limited Access Trail, "Invitation" was the fifth permanent work commissioned as part of the Rock City Gardens art initiative since 2009. Designed by Michael Brandt, the trellis structure was built off-site from recycled steel and wood logs from a red oak tree that had fallen on the Rock City Gardens property.[16] Installed in the spring of 2012 and located opposite of Mushroom Rock, on the east side of the Enchanted Trail, "Villa Aviana" (House of Birds) is 14-foot-tall aluminum birdhouse sculpture. Designed and built by artist Jack Denton, the piece features woven representations of native vegetation and was commissioned by Rock City Gardens to commemorate the attraction's 80th anniversary.[17]

SUPPORT BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Pigeon Roost (Contributing)

Built circa 1940, the building is a small one-story, one room composite masonry building with a random-course rubble exterior (photograph 7, right). It has a rectangular plan and a flat, reinforced concrete roof topped with stones. Two covered window openings are present on the building's south side. It originally served as a bird

[13] Jolley, "Sculptor Isaac Duncan To Install Permanent Art at Rock City Gardens."
[14] Jolley, "Internationally Known Sculptor Installs Art at Rock City Gardens."
[15] Jolley, "Art Initiative At Rock City Continues."
[16] Jolley, "Trellis Piece 'Invitation' Installed at Rock City Gardens."
[17] Pierce, "'Villa Aviana'."

pen for pigeons in the former Deer Park (now Gnome Valley), but is now used as a utility shed.[18] The Pigeon Roost is located on the northern edge of the Gnome Valley feature. Although visible from Patten Road and the Enchanted Trail, it is not accessible to the public.

Studio (Contributing)

Built in 1948, the studio is a one-and-a-half story, red brick veneer building with a small east wing (photograph 51, map A-4). The side-gable roofs of the main building and the wing are covered with asphalt shingles. It is located on a private service driveway between Patten Road and Carter Cliffs and faces a paved clearing to the north. The studio was originally used for creation of the figures and props for Fairyland Caverns in the 1940s followed by the Mother Goose Village during the early 1960s. It continues to serve as a studio for maintenance and repair of exhibit components located throughout Rock City Gardens.

Dynamite Shed (Contributing)

This small, one room, frame building was erected c.1955 to house dynamite used for construction and demolition purposes.[19] The dynamite shed is located to the south of the gardens and east of the service driveway between Patten Road and Carter Cliffs. It is not accessible to the public.

Carpentry Shop (Contributing)

The one-story, functional brick building has a flat roof and was erected c.1960. It is located adjacent to the studio building and accessed along a private service driveway connecting Patten Road and Carter Cliffs. It is not visible from the gardens or the public-right-of way. The carpentry shop was first used to build scenery and props as part of the construction of the Mother Goose Village attraction. It was also used for production of the miniature barn birdhouses, a staple of Rock City Gardens' automobile marketing campaigns during the post-World War II era. It continues to function as a carpentry shop.

Horticulture Shed (Contributing)

The one-story, frame structure has two open bays, and was built c.1965 as a storage shed for landscaping materials. It has a shed roof supported by wood king posts and covered with asphalt shingles. The horticulture shed is located to the north of the carpentry shop and studio building on the west side of the service drive between Patten Road and Carter Cliffs. It continues to function is its original capacity.

Maintenance and Warehouse Building (Contributing)

The maintenance and warehouse facility is a low, one-story building with a long, rectangular plan (photograph 47, map A-2; with photograph taken from map B-3)). Built in 1965 of composite masonry construction, it has random-coursed rubble exterior and a flat, built up roof. A metal entrance door and a garage bay door, accessed by a long, concrete ramp, are present building's east facade. A 2-over-2 sash window and two, small fixed units are located on the building's north wall. The building is located on the west side of Patten Road in the southeast corner of the south parking lot.

Storage Building (Non-Contributing)

The one-story, concrete masonry and seam metal storage shed is located opposite the studio and carpentry shop on the service driveway from Patten Road. It is three bays wide and one bay deep. According to Rock City Gardens President Bill Chapin, the building was installed on the site c.1975.

---

[18] Chapin, "Questions About Rock City."
[19] Ibid.

Maintenance Building (Contributing)

Located east of Mother Goose Village, this one-story rectangular building was constructed in 1960 of composite masonry construction with a random-coursed rubble exterior.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Grandview (Contributing)

Located to the northeast of Rock City Gardens on a sloping lot overlooking the Chattanooga Valley, Grandview is a Tudor Revival-style, frame and stone masonry house (photograph 50, map E-4). It was designed by architect William Hatfield Sears and completed in 1930. Originally built as the residence for Peyton L. Carter, uncle of Garnet Carter, Grandview was purchased by Rock City Gardens in 1999 and renovated in 2005 for use as a wedding as a special events facility. It has an irregular, compound plan. One-and-a-half-story, side-gable wings flank the central, two-story massing of the house. The south wing originally functioned as a three-car garage for Peyton Carter but was later enclosed c.1940 for additional living space. The first story façade and the building's three chimneys are clad with Lookout Mountain stone masonry. Half timbering with stucco infill is present on the second story façade and at the wing gable ends. The steeply pitched, complex roof is covered with cedar shake shingles. Windows consist of multi-light double casement units arranged individually and in pairs.

To the south of the house is a rock-walled terraced garden original to the house. The upper terrace's lawn has a stepping stone path. The path leads to a lower level that contains wood-framed raised beds for spring and summer ornamental plants. The property is screened from the Patten Road by a small stand of mature hardwood and softwood trees. A semi-circular, asphalt driveway frames the front landscaped lawn and provides vehicular access to Grandview from the road.

Grandview has experienced a few external changes over time; however, these have been made in a sympathetic fashion and are generally compatible with the character of the house and garden. The conversion of the three-bay garage to living space was completed prior to the 1999 purchase. The rear terrace is original to the house while the black iron framed access walkway was added in 2005 when the property was converted to its current use as an event center. A swimming pool was filled in to create a lower level terrace in 2005 to accommodate large groups of people for events at the site. Garden statuary mounted on limestone pedestals were added in 2005.

The residence has largely remained under the ownership of the Carter and Chapin families since its construction in 1930 and is an example of the historical association of Rock City Gardens with the surrounding Fairyland Estate community. Peyton Carter, a Chattanooga businessman, and his wife, Elizabeth, lived in the residence until 1964, when it became the home of Ralston and Dorris Chapin Wells, the niece of Garnet Carter. Edward Young Chapin IV purchased the property in 1975. He lived there until 1988, when it was sold to a couple from California. Rock City Gardens purchased Grandview in June 1999. Garnet Carter Chapin, AIA, a grand nephew of Garnet Carter and Andy Smith, AIA, the principal owner of the William Hatfield Sears' successor firm, conducted the rehabilitation of the building.[20]

Carter Cliffs (Contributing)

Designed by Halbert Grant Law with collaboration by Frieda Carter and completed in 1936, Carter Cliffs is a one-and-a-half story Colonial Revival-style house with an irregular compound plan (photographs 23 and 52, map B-5; with photos taken from maps C-5 and B-4). The house is located to the south of the gardens

[20] "Rock City's Grandview Home Named Best of the Best in Chattanooga Contest."

overlooking the Chattanooga Valley. It is built of composite masonry construction with a stone rubble exterior and has a cross-gabled roof covered in natural slate. The central mass of Carter Cliffs is five bays wide and two bays deep. The house is connected to the one-story garage with a side gable roof via a one-story, wooden breezeway with square porch supports and segmental arches. A one-story bedroom addition was built on the southeast corner of the house to accommodate Frieda Carter following her stroke in 1949.[21] Both the house and garage roofs have front gabled roof dormers with six-light single hung sash windows beneath arched fanlights. The main façade, or west side of the house, has a full width porch with bell-shaped roof and Doric columns. A front-gable, two-story porch with a balustrade and large Palladian window provides a view into the surrounding Chattanooga Valley on the rear, or east side of Carter Cliffs. A gable-end chimney is present on the north end of the main building. A one-story enclosed sunroom with shallow pitched hipped roof with natural slate engages the northeast corner of the house. Common window units include 6-over-6 and 16-over-16 double hung sash windows and 10-light casement windows.

Carter Cliffs is accessed from Patten Road along a wooded, curving driveway that encloses a large, grass lawn. To the south of the house are an attached garage, a private asphalt tennis court built in 1973 (non-contributing), and a covered barbecue pit pavilion. Built in 1935, the pavilion was moved from its original location in the area of the North Parking Lot c.1965 to its present location near the tennis court. Mature hardwood tree growth that once screened the property from adjacent Rock City Gardens was removed as part of the construction of the Cliff Terrace restaurant in 1991.

Carter Cliffs was originally owned and occupied by Frieda and Garnet Carter until Frieda's death in 1964. E.Y. Chapin, Garnet's nephew and the former president of Rock City Gardens, purchased and moved into the house in 1967. Carter Cliffs presently serves as the private residence of Carter family descendants.[22]

INTEGRITY OF ROCK CITY GARDENS

Rock City Gardens Historic District possesses a high degree of integrity in all seven aspects. The property retains its rocky and wooded setting atop Lookout Mountain, between the cliffs overlooking Chattanooga Valley and the surrounding Fairyland Estates residential neighborhood. Although some alterations have been completed over the years to accommodate an increase in visitation and improved accessibility, the changes have been designed to be compatible with the original design and layout first established in the late 1920s and early 1930s. The core attraction, main buildings, and supporting facilities have all remained in their original locations throughout the 80-year history of the property. Save for early changes made to the entrance facility and trailhead, the Enchanted Trail retains approximately 90 percent of its original alignment. The few changes of the route have occurred in an incremental fashion within the period of significance and are now historic in their own right. The consistent use of random-course, rubble exteriors of local stone for almost all buildings and structures provides a coherent architectural character for Rock City Gardens and is a character-defining feature of the nominated district. The historic design, stone materials, and workmanship of the contributing properties have remained largely intact. New construction within the district has been sympathetic in its design and placement, allowing non-contributing buildings and structures to compliment those in excess of 50 years of age. This has preserved the feeling and association of Rock City Gardens as a mid-20th-century tourism attraction and maintained the original vision of its founders, Frieda and Garnet Carter.

[21] Chapin, "Questions About Rock City."
[22] Ibid.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [x] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [x] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] B removed from its original location.
- [ ] C a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] D a cemetery.
- [ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] F a commemorative property.
- [ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1928-1965

Significant Dates

1928- Frieda Carter begins Enchanted Trail
1932- Rock City Gardens opens to the public
1936- barn roof advertising campaign begins
1947- Fairyland Caverns opens
1964- Mother Goose Village opens

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Carter, Frieda (landscape designer)
Carter, Garnett (designer)
Sears, William Hatfield (architect)
Gault, Don (designer)
Law, Halbert Grant "Hobby" (architect)
Sanders, Jessie (designer)
Sanders, Charles (designer)
Selmon T. Franklin Architects (architectural firm)

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance includes the district's four most active decades of historic development starting from the original design and construction of the gardens and the Enchanted Trail in 1928, to its opening as a tourist destination in 1932, and concluding with the 1965 expansion of the property and passage of the Highway Beautification Act that same year, which effectively marked the end of Rock City Garden's iconic roadside advertising program. Almost no major buildings or structures were added after 1965, until a 1991 expansion.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Not applicable.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Initially developed by Frieda Utermoehlen Carter (1880-1964) and her husband, Garnet Carter (1883-1954), Rock City Gardens was opened to the public on May 21, 1932. The setting consists of unusual geological landforms atop Lookout Mountain, which have drawn curious onlookers since the mid-19th century. The Carters transformed the site into an elaborately designed rock garden with pathways, bridges, vegetation, overlooks, and visitor facilities. Rock City Gardens is significant under Criterion A at the statewide level in the areas of entertainment/recreation and commerce as a notable popular tourist attraction. Seeking to capitalize on the growing trend of automobile tourism in the United States during the mid-20th century, Garnet Carter embarked on an extensive and innovative roadside advertising campaign between the 1930s and 1960s that included slogans painted on the rooftops of over 800 barns along roads and highways enticing the traveling public to "See Rock City." In the area of landscape architecture under Criterion C, Rock City Gardens is significant at the statewide level as a unique example of a vernacular design-enhanced landscape. Created by Frieda Carter as an informal rock garden and walking trail, the property integrates the dramatic stone formations and topography of Lookout Mountain with stone hardscape features, native woodland vegetation, scenic vistas, and fanciful statuary. In 1933, the Garden Club of America recognized Frieda Carter for her landscape work with the Horticultural Bronze Medal of Distinction. In the area of architecture under Criterion C, Rock City Gardens is locally significant for its collection of architect-designed commercial and residential buildings. Chattanooga-based architect William Hatfield Sears (1875-1951) designed the 1928 Tudor Revival-style Grandview estate that was built for Peyton Carter, Garnet Carter's uncle. Sears practiced in Georgia and Tennessee and was also the architect for the nearby Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club (1924), which was listed in the National Register in 1990. Architect Halbert Grant Law (1909-1981), of the Chattanooga firm Crutchfield and Law, is credited with the design of many of the other notable buildings at Rock City. These buildings generally share uncoursed, local sandstone ashlar construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

CRITERION A – ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Rock City Gardens meets National Register Criterion A at the state level of significance in the area of entertainment/recreation as an outstanding example of a 20th-century commercial tourism site. Rock City Gardens was at the forefront of a number of different trends in tourism, including: marketing nature as a

commercial attraction; capitalizing on the popularity of the automobile as a means of entertainment, as well as transportation; and pioneering the development of attractions aimed at children in addition to adults. Rock City Gardens is also notable for preserving the original vision of its founders, in part by remaining in the same family's possession during its 80 years of operation.

In the 19th century, sites of natural beauty and scenic curiosities were valued for their healthful environments and perceived restorative effects. Many of these places became commercialized as tourist resorts for the wealthy, such as Niagara Falls in New York and Hot Springs in Arkansas, and were generally only accessible by train. The automobile, however, would have a democratizing effect on travel by making these sites accessible to the growing American middle class. Natural landscapes and distinctive regional locales, along with historic sites and cities were key attractions during the emergence of automobile tourism in the early 20th century as Americans increasingly took to the road for leisure and recreation.[23]

The establishment of the National Park System coincided with the advent of the motor age and the emergence of a back-to-nature ethos among urban Americans. Individuals concerned for the parks' welfare under this policy began to tout the idea that exploiting natural resources for commodities was not the only way to realize revenue from the parks; tourism would bring in money and was more compatible with the parks' mission to preserve the scenic wonders for future generations to enjoy. President Theodore Roosevelt responded and the National Park Service was created in 1916. Almost immediately, all the parks were opened to the automobile as the primary means of access to the visiting public. Park Service Director Stephen Mather lobbied for the development of a "Park to Park" scenic highway network linking all the western parks. While the parks at this time were primarily a western institution, by 1926 Shenandoah and Great Smokey Mountains National Parks lay along the Appalachians and by the 1930s Depression-era work programs had constructed the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive. Automobile ownership expanded and motorists streamed up and down these and other routes in their automobiles, visiting parks, historic sites and bridges.[24] The Dixie Highway road network connected tourists from the Upper Midwest to the sunny beaches of south Florida in a network of roads linking towns and sites, opening the Southeast to other parts of the country and opening new avenues of economic growth. Along the routes to primary destinations, local entrepreneurs sought to take advantage of their own natural attractions to capture recreational dollars.

In the Appalachian Mountains region, from the Shenandoah to North Georgia, entrepreneurs used the scenic curiosities of their rocky landscape as focal points for their natural attractions. This included sites such as Natural Bridge and Luray Caverns in Virginia, Mammoth Cave in Kentucky, and Chimney Rock in North Carolina.[25] With the opening of Rock City Gardens in 1932, Garnet and Frieda Carter's attraction would precede other later entrepreneurs in the area (who would open such attractions as Ruby Falls and Lost Sea) in capitalizing on the area's unique geological features. Rock City became a premier site first locally, and then regionally, until finally the phrases "See Seven States" and "See Rock City" were known throughout the eastern half of the United States.

After the first several successful years of operation, the Carters began to cater even more directly to the automobile tourists with the construction of new amenities. A parking lot was built in front of a new Trail Entrance building in 1937 and included a row of gas pumps for the convenience of visitors. The Trail Entrance Building contained a gift shop and restaurant, encouraging tourists to spend more time and money at Rock City Gardens rather than other service establishments located off Lookout Mountain. After World War II, parking infrastructure was significantly expanded, as were other visitor service amenities such as restaurants and gift/souvenir shops. In addition during this period, visitors' automobiles became rolling advertisements for

[23] Jakle, *The Tourist: Travel in Twentieth-Century North America*, 53-54.
[24] Mackintosh, "The National Park Service: A Brief History."
[25] Hollis, *Dixie Before Disney*, 137-141.

Rock City Gardens when employees in the parking lots began attaching banded bumper tags while guests visited the gardens.

In addition to capitalizing on its natural resources and catering to automobiles, Rock City Gardens was at the forefront of another trend in tourism during the 1940s and 1950s, which included the development of fantasy attractions that were later marketed to children. The ceramic gnomes that inhabited the gardens were an original design feature of the gardens. Frieda had introduced the gnomes and other fairytale characters as a nostalgic tribute to her German heritage. In the baby boom years following World War II, Rock City Gardens was a tourist attraction already well placed to take advantage of a new trend in tourism, families travelling with children. In 1946, Fairyland Caverns joined the gnomes followed by the introduction of Rock the Elf mascot in the 1950s and Mother Goose Village, which opened in 1964. According to author Tim Hollis in his book *Disney Before Dixie*, "Fairyland Caverns' charming appeal to both young and old, sent shock waves through the tourist industry. Soon it seemed that anyone with a knack for sculpture and a place to display their artistry began creating fairytale scenes."[26] A number of imitators appeared throughout the southeast during the late 1950s and 1960s, including Pigeon Forge in Tennessee and Fairyland at Lowry Park in Tampa.

CRITERION A – COMMERCE

Rock City Gardens meets National Register Criterion A at the state level of significance in the area of commerce for its association with an innovative roadside advertising campaign instituted along U.S. highways throughout the Southeast and Midwest from the 1930s through the 1960s. Garnet Carter, like a small number of other southern tourism entrepreneurs, was at the forefront of using the landscape along the highways to promote their enterprises. By the 1920s, advertising signage had shifted from an emphasis on being attached to buildings on Main Street to billboards and adapted roadside architecture lining the highways. The earliest national campaign was launched by the Burma Shave Company in 1925. Burma Shave would place typically six small signs in a row, drawing the attention of passing motorists to look for the punch line on the final sign. Wall Drug, near Mount Rushmore in South Dakota employed a similar technique in 1931, placing large signs along the roadside and offering "Free Ice Water" to thirsty travelers. Rock City barns and billboards were an early example of this new national roadside advertising model. Other famous southern enterprises would follow this trend in the 1940s and 1950s including, Stuckey's Pecan Shoppes in the Georgia and Florida and South of the Border in the Carolinas. These signs would become iconic parts of the highway landscape and slogans such as "See Rock City," "See Ruby Falls," and "Stuckey's Ten Miles" and would become part of a regional travel vocabulary.

The Rock City barns, in particular, were well known throughout the Southeast. A quote from a Rock City Gardens ad campaign read, "A barn is not a barn without a Rock City sign." As quoted from painter Clark Byers' 2004 obituary in the *New York Times*, Allen Tullos, an American studies professor at Emory University, described Mr. Byers's work as "classic testimonial advertising that builds its truth on such trustworthy everyday objects such as barns and birdhouses. These are familiar objects that you could not distrust at any time. It's like a testimonial from your neighbor."[27] Their popularity endures today as they are valued as folk art in addition to as an advertising medium. Several of the remaining 125 barns have been recently repainted and others are frequently photographed.

Rock City Gardens success as a tourist destination was cemented when it was featured on the cover of Life Magazine in April of 1960. The cover was a special foldout panoramic photograph of visitors enjoying the view from Lover's Leap. For most of its 80 years of operation, visitation at Rock City Gardens has remained strong, consistently averaging a half million people per year. As an 80-year-old tourist attraction, Rock City Gardens

[26] Ibid., 90.
[27] Bowers, "Clark Byers, 89, Painter of Ads On Barn Roofs Across the East."

seems to be an anomaly within the industry. It has changed very little over the decades and had successfully preserved the original vision for the site set forth by Frieda and Garnet Cater in the 1930s. Very few sites have endured so long, withstanding changing fads in the industry. Much of the credit for this may be due to the family ownership of the attraction, under the leadership Carter/Chapin family.

Rock City Gardens was the principal lifetime work of owners Frieda Untermoehlen Carter (1880-1964) and her husband, Garnet Carter (1883-1954). From its beginnings as a recreational and residential real estate venture, Garnet and Frieda Carter transformed the "Rock City" site at the top of Lookout Mountain into a successful tourist attraction that has lasted more than 80 years. The community on Lookout Mountain, as well as Chattanooga business community, has benefitted from its association with the Carters. In addition to subdividing the land for the original Fairyland subdivision and contributing to its thematic design, the Carters created the first patented and franchised miniature golf course and built the Rock City Gardens attraction. Seeing the potential to spur tourism at his own attraction and expand his recreational holdings, Garnet Carter refurbished and reopened the Lookout Mountain Incline Railway in 1937. He was also instrumental in founding and enabling the support of the Fairyland Volunteer Fire Department. Regionally, Garnet Carter's aggressive and high profile advertising campaign put Lookout Mountain and Chattanooga on the map as a tourist destination.

CRITERION C – LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Rock City Gardens is significant in the area of landscape architecture at the statewide level. Originally planned by Frieda Carter as an extensive rock garden and walking trail on the Carter's personal estate, the property is an example of a designed landscape site that has enhanced the distinctive stone formations and rugged topography of Lookout Mountain to accommodate commercial mass tourism. It is also a singular personal expression that defies traditional categorization. The property integrates and adapts the natural rock outcroppings with concrete and stone masonry hardscape features, native woodland vegetation, scenic vistas, and fanciful, garden statuary. Rock City Gardens has a personalized, vernacular design informed by the Romantic tradition of the English landscape gardening school, which emphasized dramatic, imaginative layouts and adornments, integrated scenic views, as well as curved lines, and less formal arrangements of plantings.[28] These design tenets are expressed in the curvilinear and twisting character of the Enchanted Trail and the interplay of the stone formations, vistas and more than 400 species of trees, shrubbery, and flowers. Although it was Frieda Carter's vision to create a garden from the natural rock formations, the challenges of building accessible pathways and bridges for visitors to cross the rocky landscape necessitated as much engineering skill as it did design skill. Don Gault (1895-1971) was brought onto the project in 1930 to supervise the construction and design of the various bridges and walkways, which spanned the gorges and more difficult terrain throughout the property. Gault's design and construction has stood the test of time, as these bridges remain in place in the gardens with few changes necessary over the decades. In 1933, the Garden Club of America recognized Frieda Carter for her landscape work with the Horticultural Bronze Medal of Distinction.

When Rock City Gardens was opened to the public in 1932, the attraction included a variety of native and exotic tree and plant species. Vegetation was planted along the Enchanted Trail and the mountain slopes to enhance the woodland features of the property. Among the identified softwood and hardwood tree types were pine, hemlock, sweetgum, maple, birch, wild crabtrees, oak, hickory, dogwoods, serviceberry, elderberry and American holly. Flowers and shrubs consisted of wild baby's breath, spiderwort, latris, butterfly weed, trillium, partridge berry, galax, cherry laurel and azaleas. Freida Carter also reintroduced a number of rhododendrons that had been previously removed from the property. Other notable plantings found throughout Rock City

[28] Newton, *Design On the Land; the Development of Landscape Architecture*, 207-209.

included white Leucothoes and coral moss (*Diamphora cymosa*), which grew on many of the rock outcroppings.

Almost 20 years later, Garnet and Frieda Carter played host to the Garden Club of America as part of the organization's annual meeting in 1949. Additional plant materials identified at Rock City Gardens at this time included *Iris cristata*, *Arbutus hepatica*, lupine, flax, violets, wild ginger, mountain laurel, fringe-tree, and catchfly (Garden Club of America 1949:10). During the winter of 1959-60, an ice storm damaged many of the mature trees at Rock City prompting management to implement a tree-planting program at Rock City in January 1961. Approximately 500 hemlock trees were planted throughout the site to replace the destroyed trees. Rock City Gardens President E.Y. Chapin III claimed that the undertaking was "the first tree planting operation of its size on Lookout Mountain."

CRITERION C – ARCHITECTURE

In the area of architecture, Rock City Gardens is locally significant for its excellent collection of architect-designed commercial and residential buildings on the property. The buildings of Rock City Gardens Historic District are the product of two prominent architectural firms, Crutchfield & Law and Selmon T. Franklin Architects, and the architect William Hatfield Sears all realizing the vision of the Carters for the property.

Chattanooga-based architect William Hatfield Sears (1875-1951) designed the Tudor Revival-style Grandview estate that was built for Peyton Carter, Garnet Carter's uncle, and completed in 1930. Sears practiced throughout Georgia and Tennessee and was also the architect for the nearby Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club (completed in 1925), which was listed in the National Register in 1990. Born in Prebie, New York in 1875, Sears was educated at Colgate Academy before receiving his undergraduate degree in architecture from Columbia University in 1904. He was employed at a number of New York firms for two years before relocating to Atlanta in 1906 to join the firm of George C. Thompson. In 1907, Sears moved again, this time to Chattanooga, where he worked for noted architect Reuben H. Hunt. From 1908-1913, he partnered with Harry L. Huntington before establishing his own practice in Chattanooga in 1913. In addition to his designs for the Fairyland Club and Grandview, Sears produced a variety of commercial, residential, and institutional commissions, primarily throughout the Chattanooga and northwest Georgia regions. Principal works include: the Highland Park Baptist Church; residences for R.J. Riddle, D.H. Wood, and George Patten; the Peerless Hosiery Mills; and more than 20 public schools throughout Chattanooga and Hamilton County. Sears was a member of the AIA, Tennessee Chapter from 1921-1942, and again from 1946 until his death in 1951. He was also an active member of the Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers and the Tennessee State Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners.[29]

Architect Halbert Grant "Hobby" Law (1909-1981), of the Chattanooga firm Crutchfield and Law, is credited with the design of some of the other early buildings at Rock City with creative input provided by Frieda Carter. These buildings generally share an uncoursed, composite masonry construction with local stone rubble exteriors and include the original Gatehouse, the Colonial Revival-style Trail Entrance and Main Gift Shop Building, and the Carter Cliffs residence. The son of a Tennessee politician, William Crutchfield, Jr. (1889-1956) received his degree in architecture from the University of Illinois and established his architectural practice in Chattanooga in 1916.[30] A native of Tracy City, Tennessee Hobby Law was awarded a B.S. degree in architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1930 and began working for Crutchfield shortly thereafter. The two men formed a professional partnership in 1933. Crutchfield and Law specialized in classical revival styles of architecture and worked on a number of commercial, institutional, and residential

[29] Herndon, "Architects in Tennessee Until 1930," 161.
[30] Bowker, *American Architects Directory*, 119.

commissions, including the design of many houses in the Fairyland Estates subdivision, where Law resided. Among their other principal works were the Catoosa County Courthouse (1939) in Ringgold, Georgia, the Chattanooga Public Library (1940), and the Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church (1942).[31] After serving in the Navy during World War II, Law returned to the partnership until 1949. He left the profession to manage the Newton Chevrolet dealership in Chattanooga, which was owned by his father-in-law. Crutchfield continued practicing architecture until his death in 1956. Law remained at the dealership until he died on December 31, 1981.[32]

The Chattanooga firm of Selmon T. Franklin Architects executed a number of new buildings and additions to existing properties at Rock City Gardens in the decades after World War II, including: the Woodland Wonders Building, the Big Rock Grill, the redesign of the Main Plaza, and Mother Goose Village. These buildings match the rubble stone masonry exteriors of earlier properties on the site and incorporate more of a general modernist aesthetic, but still compliment the original design of earlier buildings. Selmon T. Franklin, Sr. (1904-1978), received his architecture degree at the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1926. He worked as a designer and draftsman under R.H. Hunt from 1929 through 1932 before partnering with William A. Martin in 1932. Franklin established his own firm Chattanooga in 1933.[33] Selmon T. Franklin, Jr. (1929-) joined his father's firm in 1954 after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in architecture from Georgia Tech in 1951. Principal works by Selmon T. Franklin Architects during the 1950s and 1960s consisted of a number of modernist and contemporary-style designs including the Tri-County Hospital (1953) in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia; the Brainerd High School (1961) in Chattanooga; and the Valleybrook Clubhouse (1963) in nearby Hixon, Tennessee.[34] Selmon T. Franklin, Jr. served as the president of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1979.[35] More recently, Franklin Architects conducted many of the renovations at Rock City Gardens in 2005. The firm is now under the direction of Robert Franklin, Selmon T. Franklin, Jr.'s son.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

EARLY HISTORY

Prior to Euro-American settlement of northwest Georgia, tribes of the Creek and Cherokee nations inhabited the northern and eastern slopes of Lookout Mountain that included the present-day location of Rock City Gardens. Reverend Daniel S. Butrick, a Christian missionary to the local Cherokee population, provided the earliest written account of the mountain's peculiar rock landscape in 1823. Writing in his journals, Butrick likened the natural arrangement of chasms and towering rock formations he found at the mountain's summit to the buildings and street plan of a town:

[31] "Crutchfield & Law Architects," E1.
[32] "Halbert 'Hobby' Law Dies; Headed Newton Chevrolet," N1.
[33] Bowker, *American Architects Directory*, 180.
[34] Koyl, *American Architects Directory*, 225; Shearer, "John Shearer: Modernism Architecture."
[35] The American Institute of Architects Tennessee, "Presidents of AIA Tennessee."

> *I ascended Lookout Mountain to visit a citadel of rocks. This is just the top of the mountain, and is composed of rocks as high as houses of one, two or three stories. It is so situated as to afford streets and lanes, and to form many convenient shelters from the heat, wind, and rain.*[36]

The Georgia General Assembly created Walker County in 1833 from former Cherokee lands distributed to white farmers as part of the 1832 Land Lottery. Lookout Mountain remained largely unsettled however, due to inaccessibility and rocky composition of the soil, which was considered poor for farming. Increased development of Lookout Mountain began in 1852 with the completion of the Whiteside Pike road. Privately financed by Chattanooga businessman James A. Whiteside, the toll road provided the first overland route from the Chattanooga Valley to the north summit. The road allowed curious local sightseers easier access to the mountain's unique network of caverns and rock formations, which had become popularly known as the "Rock City" by this period. It also facilitated the development of Whiteside's Lookout Mountain Hotel on the mountain's eastern brow in 1858. The three-story hotel served as a mountaintop retreat for wealthy patrons during the hot summer months.[37]

Although Lookout Mountain played a prominent strategic role during the Chattanooga Campaign in November 1863, the immediate vicinity of Rock City was spared fighting with the tall rock outcroppings largely serving as scouting observatories for both the Confederate and Union armies.[38] In the decades after the Civil War, the site became a popular spot for picnics and hiking among Chattanooga residents as visitors marveled at the curious landscape of Rock City. National journals and published tour guides provided colorful descriptions of natural, geologic features identified by such names as "the Grand Corridor," "Fat Man's Misery," and "Pedestal Rock."[39] The introduction of railroad service to the summit with the construction of a narrow gauge railroad line in 1889 and the Lookout Mountain Incline Railway in 1895 spurred additional growth near the mountain's north point; however, most areas of Lookout Mountain remained relatively undeveloped.[40]

FAIRYLAND ESTATES DEVELOPMENT

Looking to capitalize on the speculative real estate boom of the early 1920s, local business partners Garnet Carter and Oliver B. Andrews purchased the Rock City property in 1924 as part of their planned residential and recreational development on Lookout Mountain. John Garnet Carter was born in Sweetwater, Tennessee in 1883 and raised in Lookout Mountain and the Chattanooga area. A largely self-taught businessman and traveling salesman, Carter met Frieda Utermoehlen, the artistically inclined daughter of a German violinist, in 1902. The two married in 1905 and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio before returning to Chattanooga in 1910.[41]

As part of the first phase of their development, Andrews and Carter subdivided 300 acres to the immediate north of the Rock City area. Individual lots were sold to prospective buyers for $2,750 and distributed through a lottery system.[42] With a penchant for promotion and to honor his wife's affinity with the European folklore of her youth, Garnet Carter named the proposed subdivision Fairyland Estates. To emphasize the storybook theme, platted streets were named after the Brothers Grimm fairytales and characters.

---

[36] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 7-8.
[37] Hull, *Lookout Mountain*.
[38] McGuffey, *Standard History of Chattanooga, Tennessee: With Full Outline of the Early Settlement, Pioneer Life, Indian History, and General and Particular History of the City to the Close of the Year 1910*.
[39] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 10.
[40] Hull, *Lookout Mountain*.
[41] Hollis, *See Rock City*.
[42] Ibid.

Prominent landscape architect Warren Henry Manning (1860-1938) of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a former member of Frederick Law Olmsted's design firm, was commissioned to provide conservation-sensitive site plans for first phase of construction, which included a private inn and 18-hole golf course. Work began in December 1924 on the exclusive Fairyland Inn (later renamed the Fairyland Club) and continued until May 1925. The two-story, Tudor Revival style building was designed by the noted Chattanooga architect William Hatfield Sears (1875-1951) and featured wood frame and locally-sourced stone construction with half-timbering and stucco cladding. The Fairyland Club was completed in May 1925 and enlarged the following year to include a ballroom and terrace overlooking the Chickamauga Bluff. Two years later, the old Whiteside Pike was paved and reopened as Ochs Highway/Tennessee SR 58.[43]

In 1926, Andrews sold his share of the partnership, leaving Garnet Carter as the sole owner and developer of Fairyland. While expansion of the clubhouse and sale of housing lots in the subdivision proceeded well, construction of the Fairyland Golf Course was delayed considerably due to the site's challenging terrain. As a temporary measure, Garnet Carter installed a practice putting green on the west grounds of the Fairyland Club in 1927. Frieda Carter designed a series of holes around the natural rock formations, trees, logs, and other features creating hazards to test the skills of the players. Ceramic elves and gnomes were imported from Germany and placed throughout the course as decorative pieces. While miniature golf was not a new game, the Fairyland version proved to be an instant success with the public. Taking note of its popularity, Garnet Carter patented the concept as "Tom Thumb Golf" in 1928. He created mass-produced golf design kits and franchised the game throughout the United States.[44]

Frieda Carter also played a large role designing some of the Fairyland expansions in 1927-1928, which included a Bavarian-themed gift and snack shop and construction of 10 vacation cottages collectively known as "Mother Goose Village." The two-story, stucco buildings were clustered to the west of the north wing of the clubhouse and featured Tudor Revival style architectural elements. As with the streets of the Fairyland neighborhood, the cottages bore the names of storybook characters such as: King Cole, Miss Muffett, Bo Peep, and Pumpkin Eater.[45]

EARLY PLANNING AND DESIGN OF ROCK CITY GARDENS

While the Fairyland property was platted for speculative development, the Carters reserved the Rock City site and an adjacent parcel to the south as part of their own private estate. The couple moved from nearby Missionary Ridge into the Fairyland community in 1928, living in a log house located on Wood Nymph Trail. Captivated by the potential of a developing a rock garden that incorporated the caverns and dramatic stone outcroppings located on their land, Frieda began using balls of twine to create winding pathways throughout the property surfaced with pine needles and gravel across. She planted native flowers, trees, and shrubs along the trail to soften the rocky landscape and create a more naturalistic appearance.

In 1930, construction was completed on Grandview, sited on the bluffs of Lookout Mountain to the immediate north of Rock City. Also designed by William Hatfield Sears, the two-story Tudor Revival residence was the home of Peyton Carter, a Chattanooga salesman and uncle of Garnet Carter. Meanwhile, the stock market collapse in October 1929 and the onset of the Great Depression effectively brought residential development in the remainder of the Fairyland subdivision to a halt. Unpaid memberships forced the closure of the Fairyland Club in 1930. That same year, Garnet Carter sold the national product rights for Tom Thumb Golf for $200,000. This money, which was invested in U.S. Steel stock, was lost shortly thereafter during the

---

[43] Thomas, "Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," 10-11.
[44] Liebs, *Main Street to Miracle Mile*, 140-141.
[45] Thomas, "Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," 11.

Depression. Seeking a new venture, Carter turned his attention toward his wife's gardening work and began exploring the potential for developing Rock City as a commercial tourist attraction.[46]

With the assistance of Fairyland superintendent Don Gault and employee Orville York, the Carters began working in 1930 to make their informal rock garden more accessible and inviting to the general public. Gault, a Tennessee native, was a mechanic/machinist by trade at a Chattanooga Box Company prior to his employment at Fairyland and Rock City Gardens.[47] Over the next two years, the trail's original dirt pathways were widened and improved in areas with the installation of stone stairways, stacked stonewalls, and benches. Natural rock formations were enhanced with the installation of concrete and stone masonry flooring. Gault also designed and supervised the construction of three suspension bridges (the Gnomes Overpass, the Swing-A-Long Bridge, and the Sky Bridge) to span the more difficult chasms along the trail. New shortcuts and tunnels were created throughout the grounds by blasting through rock. The Carters' commissioned architect Halbert Grant "Hobby" Law, of the local firm Crutchfield and Law, to design the Gatehouse building, which was completed in 1932. Originally known as the Sugar Loaf Shop, the small, one-room building served as the first ticket office for Rock City Gardens and also functioned as a small office for Frieda. Rock City Gardens officially opened as a commercial tourism attraction on May 21, 1932 with an admission charge of 50 cents.[48]

AUTOMOBILE TOURISM AND ADVERTISING

Garnet's vision of Rock City Gardens as a tourist destination hinged on the growing popularity of the automobile among the American public in the early 20th century. With the introduction of mass-production for the Ford Model T in 1908, the high purchase costs of automobiles began to decline, making car ownership affordable for many American families during the early decades of the 20th century. The conditions of surface roads in the United States during this period remained poor however, particularly in the rural Southeast.

An outgrowth of the Good Roads Movement and championed by advocates such as Indiana businessman Carl G. Fisher, work began in 1915 on the development the Dixie Highway, a connected network of improved local roads, which would connect the upper Midwest to with the emerging resort areas in Miami, Florida by way of the southeastern United States. Between 1915 and 1925, the Dixie Highway Association, an organization of individuals, business organizations, and local and state governments, supervised construction of three divisional routes through Georgia. These included the Western Division, which passed the northern base of Lookout Mountain into Georgia, through the nearby Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park and continued en route to Atlanta and Florida. Following the dissolution of the Dixie Highway Association in 1926, segments of the Dixie Highway were absorbed into the U.S. numbered highway system, including the former Western Division route through Tennessee and Northwest Georgia, which became U.S. Highway 41.[49]

Automobile tourism blossomed during the 1920s and 1930s as Americans took advantage of the improved driving conditions provided by the federal highway system. In 1910, there were only 458,377 registered motor vehicles in the United States. That number exploded over the next decades, to over 8 million by 1920 and 23 million by 1930.[50] Travelers seeking a respite from their journeys would often stop at attractions, diners, and overnight motor courts located along the road.

---

[46] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 26-27.
[47] U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Fourteenth Census of the United States*.
[48] Ramsay and Vaughan, *Tennessee's Dixie Highway: The Cline Postcards*, 68.
[49] Durbin, "Heading South Without Getting Sidetracked: The DIxie Highway in Georgia," 35-38.
[50] Federal Highway Administration, "State Motor Vehicle Registrations, By Years, 1900-1995."

Visitation to Rock City lagged due the physical isolation of Rock City Gardens from nearby U.S. Highway 41. Garnet Carter embarked on a coordinated and novel advertising campaign in 1936 to attract the traveling public driving between the upper Midwest and Florida. Carter hired a young painter, Clark Byers of the Southern Ad Company, to paint advertising slogans for Rock City on barn roofs prominently located along busy highways. In exchange for their permission, property owners were guaranteed free maintenance for their properties. Byers painted the first barn on U.S. Highway 41 near Kimball, Tennessee. By 1956, approximately 900 barns in 18 states located along federal highways and roads between Texas and Michigan. The barn roofs were emblazoned with painted white lettering enticing the traveling public to "See Rock City" and other similar slogans.[51]

EVOLUTION OF THE ROCK CITY GARDENS ATTRACTION

In 1936, Carter Cliffs was built as the private residence for Garnet and Frieda Carter. While living in a cabin on the property during the development and opening of Rock City Gardens, the Carters had proceeded with their plans to build their residence on property adjacent to the Rock City. Around the same time as Carter Cliffs was finished, Garnet and Frieda set out to make a number of improvements to Rock City. The Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop, which contained a restaurant, an expanded souvenir shop, restrooms, and offices, was completed in 1937.[52] To accommodate increased automobile traffic, a surface parking lot complete with gas pumps was added in front of the Trail Entrance Building. To provide better access to the attraction, the garden trailhead was relocated to the rear of the new Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop. The Enchanted Trail was enlarged with opening of a new Cliffside route in 1938 and a Deer Park was added in 1940.

Travel restrictions, fuel shortages, and rationing placed a damper on attendance during World War II. However, the post-war years would usher in larger period of building and modification at Rock City Gardens.[53] The size of the property was expanded with the construction of parking lots to the west of the attraction in 1946. The former lot in front of the Main Entrance Building was converted into a stone service plaza and a new souvenir store and coffee shop were erected. That same year, Garnet Carter announced plans for several construction projects including High Falls, a radio station, and a miniature railroad system that would transport guests around Rock City Gardens. The radio station and construction of the miniature rail line were soon scrapped. Instead, the planned rail line was transformed into Fairyland Caverns, an enclosed extension of the Enchanted Trail containing more elaborate gnome dioramas.

Fairyland Caverns was opened in 1947 and marketed heavily to families traveling with young children. Built in a widened chasm and enclosed with a concrete roof, the new feature created an "underground" adventure consisting of fluorescent painted storybook characters and playful gnomes that had been moved to Rock City Gardens from the Tom Thumb Golf Course in Fairyland following its closure in 1942. Atlanta artists Charles and Jessie Sanders were hired by Garnet and Frieda to create elaborate fairytale dioramas. Charles Sanders designed the props for each scene and his wife created the figures of Hydrocol, a durable gypsum-type substance, cast from clay molds.[54]

By 1950, Rock City Gardens was recording an annual visitation rate of over 400,000 people as Americans increasingly took to the roads for family vacations. A U.S. Department of Commerce survey in 1949 estimated that approximately 62 percent of all Americans took annual vacation trips, spending nearly $7 billion on travel.

---

[51] Belluck, "Legend of Rock City Is Fading in Mists of Time."
[52] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 42.
[53] Ibid., 55.
[54] Ibid., 70.

Relative affluence tended to influence the propensity towards travel. According to a 1954 survey, a majority of traveling families typically made more than $10,000 per year.[55]

The 1950s would also bring transitions in ownership to Rock City Gardens. In 1951, Garnet Carter handed over the day-to-day management of Rock City to his nephew Edward Y. "Ed" Chapin III. Chapin was a 1943 cum laude graduate of Princeton University and a veteran of World War II. A member of one of Chattanooga's prominent banking families, Chapin began working with his uncle in 1948, following a brief post-war career in insurance sales. In 1948, Chapin incorporated the business as Rock City Gardens, Inc. and began implementing standardized recordkeeping techniques to the attraction's management, including the installation of turnstiles to accurately count attendance. With Garnet Carter's death on July 21, 1954, management and ownership of Rock City Gardens passed to Ed Chapin.[56]

Under Ed Chapin's leadership, Rock City continued to adapt and grow during the 1950s and early 1960s. The attraction's roadside advertising program was considerably expanded. Byer's iconic barns were complimented by large painted Rock City birdhouses strategically placed in tourist service facilities such as motels and gas stations. In 1951, Dick Borden, the son-in-law of Rock City employee Don Gault, established Rock City's advertising company, the National Service Agency, and embarked upon a blanket promotional campaign that placed Rock City branded doormats, ashtrays, postcards, and brochures in hotels, motels, and restaurants along highways throughout the Southeast and Midwest.[57] Rock City also advertised in African-American media outlets, including Jet Magazine, to expand its brand among the black community. During the post-war years, the attraction proved especially popular as a site for large group visits among African-American churches in Georgia and Tennessee.[58]

At the attraction itself, the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop was enlarged with construction of new office space. The former coffee shop was expanded into Saddle Rock Inn restaurant, which featured sit-down dining. Most notable was the development of Mother Goose Village, which began in the late 1950s under the direction of Frieda Carter, despite her failing health. Elaborating upon the design and success of Fairyland Caverns, Mother Goose Village was an extensive diorama of various fairytale and storybook figures created by Jessie Sanders. Frieda Carter, the visionary behind the design of Rock City Gardens died on July 20, 1964, shortly after the opening of Mother Goose Village, which was the last major feature added to the Enchanted Trail.

Despite the introduction of new features and increase in attendance to over 600,000 visitors, the late 1960s and 1970s would prove to be difficult decades for Rock City Gardens and the tourism industry in general. The creation of the new Interstate Highway System under the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 threatened to siphon travelers form the U.S. numbered highways where family-owned roadside attractions, lodging, and restaurants had developed over the previous decades. Meanwhile, growing public disapproval of the profusion of advertising along the nation's roadways culminated in with congressional passage of the Highway Beautification Act in 1965. The legislation barred signage outside of commercial zones along federal interstates and highways signaling the end to Rock City Garden's popular roadside advertising campaign. Completion of Interstate 24 and Interstate 75 by the early 1970s bypassed Chattanooga and replaced U.S Highway 41, further diminishing the advertising impact of Rock City's remaining barns and billboards. In response to the growing calls for the reduction of commercial signage along the nation's highways, company president Ed Chapin announced that in 1974 Rock City would discontinue all forms of outdoor advertising, save for directional signs. Once the attraction's "bread and butter," the approximately 900 barn signs in 18

[55] Jakle, *The Tourist: Travel in Twentieth-Century North America*, 185-186.
[56] Chapin, Rock City Gardens History; Chapin, Rock City Gardens History, Part II.
[57] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 79.
[58] Chapin, "Questions About Rock City."

states dropped to just 148 signs in only 12 states by 1978.[59] National fuel shortages compounded the problems at Rock City Gardens and the attraction suffered a drop-off of 100,000 visitors in 1979.[60]

E.Y. Chapin III maintained and fostered the family-ownership of Rock City Gardens through this period. In 1970, his eldest son, E.Y. "Chape" Chapin IV, became operation officer of the business. His younger son, William H. "Bill" Chapin joined the company in the marketing department a few years later in the mid-1970s. Bill Chapin took over the management of the marketing department in 1982 following the retirement of Dick Borden. The senior Chapin remained as President of Rock City Gardens until his retirement in 1985 when Rock City Gardens, Inc. was sold to Bill Chapin as part of a leveraged buyout.[61]

Save for the construction of the Fudge Kitchen in 1972, very little development occurred at Rock City Gardens during the 1970s and 1980s. Beginning in 1990, Bill Chapin began planning for a series of improvements to coincide with the attraction's 60th anniversary in 1992. Work started in 1991 with the renovation of the overlook area that placed visitor amenities in the center of the attraction and included the Flag Court, Cliff Terrace Restaurant, and Prospector's Point souvenir shops. The lobby and entrance area of the Trail Entrance Building and Main Gift Shop were remodeled in 1992. Over the following years, Rock City Gardens was expanded to include the former Fairyland Volunteer Firehouse and Gas Station and Grandview. In 2005, Rock City Gardens completed a series of improvements to visitor services and operations. These included the construction of a new ticketing facility; renovation of the Main Plaza; the creation of the Legacy Lane attraction for physically challenged visitors; and construction of the Rock City Pavilion.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

"500 Hemlocks Put in Rock City Area." *Chattanooga Times-Free Press.* January 12, 1961.

Belluck, Pam. "Legend of Rock City Is Fading in Mists of Time." *New York Times.* January 2, 1997.

Bowers, Paige. "Clark Byers, 89, Painter of Ads On Barn Roofs Across the East." *New York Times.* February 21, 2004. http://www.nytimes.com/2004/02/21/us/clark-byers-89-painter-of-ads-on-barn-roofs-across-the-east.html.

Bowker, R.R., ed. *American Architects Directory.* First Edition. New York NY: American Institute of Architects, R.R. Bowker, 1956.

Chapin, Bill. "Questions About Rock City," January 5, 2013.
———. Rock City Gardens History, November 15, 2008.
———. Rock City Gardens History, Part II, February 17, 2009.

"Crutchfield & Law Architects." *Chattanooga News Free Press.* May 18, 1975.

Davis, Candace. "Rock City Unveils Expansion Plans." *The Chattanoogan.com*, June 15, 2005. http://www.chattanoogan.com/2005/6/15/68285/Rock-City-Unveils-Expansion-Plans.aspx.

[59] The Associated Press, "'See Rock City' Signs Fall by the Wayside," 22.
[60] Hollis, *See Rock City*, 135.
[61] Flessner, "Mountain Attraction Keeps Family Ownership," A2.

Durbin, Jeffrey. "Heading South Without Getting Sidetracked: The Dixie Highway in Georgia." In *Looking Beyond the Highway: Dixie Roads and Culture*, edited by Claudette Stager and Martha Carver. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 2006.

Federal Highway Administration. "State Motor Vehicle Registrations, By Years, 1900-1995." Federal Highway Administration, April 1997. http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ohim/summary95/mv200.pdf.

Flessner, Dave. "Mountain Attraction Keeps Family Ownership." *Chattanooga Times Free Press*. May 5, 2007. timesfreepress.com.

Garden Club of America. "The Garden Club of America Annual Meeting, April 27-30." Lookout Mountain and Nashville, Tennesse. 1949

"Halbert 'Hobby' Law Dies; Headed Newton Chevrolet." *Chattanooga News Times Press*. December 31, 1981.

Herndon, Joseph L. "Architects in Tennessee Until 1930." Columbia University, 1975.

Hollis, Tim. *Dixie Before Disney: 100 Years of Roadside Fun*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1999.
———. *See Rock City: The History of Rock City Gardens*. Charleston, SC: History Press, 2009.

Hull, William F. *Lookout Mountain*. Images of America. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2009.

Jakle, John A. *The Tourist: Travel in Twentieth-Century North America*. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1985.

Jolley, Meagan. Press Release. "Art Initiative At Rock City Continues." Press Release, July 8, 2010. http://seerockcity.com/docs/Rock-City-John-McLeod-Installation-July-2010.pdf.
———. Press Release. "Internationally Known Sculptor Installs Art at Rock City Gardens." Press Release, July 21, 2009. http://seerockcity.com/docs/Rock-City-John-Henry-sculpture-Prometheus-July-2009.pdf.
———. "Rock City Gardens Begins New Partnership With Amicalola Deer Park." *The Chattanoogan.com*, March 11, 2011. http://www.chattanoogan.com/2011/3/11/196522/Rock-City-Gardens-Begins-New.aspx.
———. Press Release. "Sculptor Isaac Duncan to Install Permanent Art at Rock City Gardens." Press Release, May 13, 2009. http://seerockcity.com/docs/Rock-City-Isaac-Duncan-permanent-installation-May-2009.pdf.
———. Press Release. "Trellis Piece 'Invitation' Installed at Rock City Gardens." Press Release, 2011. http://www.seerockcity.com/docs/Rock-City-Michael-Brandt-Invitation-Summer-2011.pdf.

Koyl, George S., ed. *American Architects Directory*. Second. New York, NY: American Institute of Architects, R.R. Bowker, 1962.

Liebs, Chester H. *Main Street to Miracle Mile*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995.

Mackintosh, Barry. "The National Park Service: A Brief History," 1999. http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/hisnps/NPShistory/briefhistory.htm.

McGuffey, Charles D. *Standard History of Chattanooga, Tennessee: With Full Outline of the Early Settlement, Pioneer Life, Indian History, and General and Particular History of the City to the Close of the Year 1910*. Chattanooga, TN: Crew and Dorey, 1911.

Newton, Norman T. *Design On the Land; the Development of Landscape Architecture*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1971.

Pierce, Susan. "'Villa Aviana'." *Timesfreepress.com*, June 3, 2012. http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2012/jun/03/villa-aviana/.

Rainwater, Hattie C., ed. *Garden History of Georgia, 1733-1933.* Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Garden Club, 1933.

Ramsay, Lisa R., and Tammy L. Vaughan. *Tennessee's Dixie Highway: The Cline Postcards*. Postcard History Series. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

Rock City. "About Us." *See Rock City*, 2009. http://seerockcity.com/pages/About-Rock-City-Gardens/.

"Rock City's Grandview Home Named Best of the Best in Chattanooga Contest." *CatWalkChatt.com*, October 7, 2010. http://www.catwalkchatt.com/view/full_story/9813724/article-Rock-Citys-Grandview-home-named-Best-of-the-Best-in-Chattanooga-contest.

Shearer, John. "John Shearer: Modernism Architecture." *The Chattanoogan.com*, July 19, 2011. http://www.chattanoogan.com/2011/7/19/205375/John-Shearer-Modernism-Architecture.aspx.

The American Institute of Architects Tennessee. "Presidents of AIA Tennessee." *AIA Tennessee*, 2013. http://www.aiatn.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=7.

The Associated Press. "'See Rock City' Signs Fall by the Wayside." *Miami News*. September 26, 1978.

Thomas, Kenneth H. Jr. "Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," April 17, 1990. Georgia Historic Preservation Division.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. *Fourteenth Census of the United States*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1920. Ancestry.com [database on-line].

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____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 #_____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #_____

Primary location of additional data:

_X_State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
_x_Other
Name of repository: Rock City Gardens, Lookout Mtn., GA

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 229448

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 42 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. **Latitude: 34.979025** **Longitude: -85.351211**
2. **Latitude: 34.980230** **Longitude: -85.345343**
3. **Latitude: 34.969970** **Longitude: -85.345091**
4. **Latitude: 34.971228** **Longitude: -85.351823**

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is indicated with a heavy black line on the attached tax map, which is drawn to scale. The district boundary contains approximately 42 acres and generally corresponds to all or most of the following Walker County Tax Assessor's parcels: 0044_001, 4008_003, 4008_004, 4013_001, and 4013_002. On the southern portion of the western boundary, parcel 4013_001 is bisected by the boundary wall of the parking lot, as indicated on the map. At this location, the boundary continues along the parking lot wall, curving in an irregular, southeast-easterly direction to Patten Road. (This is the only location where part of the boundary does not correspond to a tax parcel boundary.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all of the historic resources of Rock City Gardens on five contiguous tax parcels, encompassing the core trail area, as well as the historically associated resources on the periphery of the site, including the former gas station and firehouse; the Grandview and Carter Cliffs estates; three parking lots; and several service buildings. The boundary was also drawn to contain the heavily wooded, 14-acre, cliff-side parcel that lines the eastern edge of Rock City Gardens and constitutes part of the viewshed from sections of the Enchanted Trail and the vehicular approach from Highway 157.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patrick Sullivan and Julie Coco, historians

organization New South Associates date Jan. 2013 (revised July 2014 by HPD)

street & number 6150 Ponce de Leon Avenue telephone (770) 498-4155

city or town Stone Mountain state GA zip code 30083

e-mail psullivan@newsouthassoc.com

name/title Denise P. Messick, historian

organization Historic Preservation Division, GA Dept. of Natural Resources date July 2014

street & number 254 Washington Street, Ground Level telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30334

e-mail denise.messick@dnr.state.ga.us

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Rock City Gardens

City or Vicinity: Lookout Mountain

County: Walker State: Georgia

Photographer: Charlie Miller, Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

Date Photographed: November 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 52. Entry plaza and Gift Shop. Photographer facing east. (Map B-2)

2 of 52. Water fountain plaza. Photographer facing west. (Map B-2)

3 of 52. Water feature at beginning of Enchanted Trail. Photographer facing southeast. (Map B-2)

4 of 52. Grand Corridor at beginning of Enchanted Trail. Photographer facing east. (Map B-2)

5 of 52. Grand Corridor with Gnome's Overpass in background. Photographer facing east. (Map B-3)

6 of 52. Needle's Eye passageway. Photographer facing south. (Map B-4)

7 of 52. Rock features and Pigeon Roost (on right). Photographer facing west. (Map B-3)

8 of 52. Mushroom Rock along Enchanted Trail. Photographer facing south. (Map B-3)

9 of 52. Enchanted Trail near Gnome's Overpass. Photographer facing southwest. (Map B-3)

10 of 52. Enchanted Trail near Goblin's Underpass. Photographer facing northwest. (Map C-3)

11 of 52. Stairs and rock walls on Enchanted Trail. Photographer facing southwest. (Map C-4)

12 of 52. Small auxiliary concession buildings. Photographer facing north. (Map D-4)

13 of 52. View of Swing-A-Long Bridge from Great Stone Bridge. Photographer facing north/northeast. (Map C-4)

14 of 52. View of Swing-A-Long Bridge from Great Stone Bridge. Photographer facing north. (Map C-5)

15 of 52. Pathway on Great Stone Bridge. Photographer facing west. (Map C-5)

16 of 52. Surface and railings of Swing-A-Long Bridge. Photographer facing northwest. (Map C-5)

17 of 52. Cliffside view from Seven States Overlook. Photographer facing north/northwest. (Map C-5)

18 of 52. Plaza and observation telescopes at Seven States Overlook. Photographer facing north. (Map C-5)

19 of 52. Sky Bridge over High Falls. Photographer facing north. (Map C-5)

20 of 52. "See Seven States" viewpoint sign. Photographer facing east. (Map C-5)

21 of 52. View of valley and beyond from Seven States Overlook. Photographer facing east. (Map C-5)

22 of 52. Flag Court cliff-side overlook area. Photographer facing northeast. (Map C-5)

23 of 52. Carter Cliffs house from overlook area. Photographer facing southwest. (Map B-5, with photograph taken from Map C-5)

24 of 52. Pavilion. Photographer facing southwest. (Map C-4)

25 of 52. Great Stone Bridge. Photographer facing north/northeast. (Map C-4)

26 of 52. Entry to Fat Man's Squeeze. Photographer facing north. (Map C-4)

27 of 52. Fat Man's Squeeze. Photographer facing north. (Map C-4)

28 of 52. Fat Man's Squeeze. Photographer facing south. (Map C-4)

29 of 52. Cliffside pathway with view of Seven States Overlook. Photographer facing (Map D-5)

30 of 52. Rainbow Hall. Photographer facing south. (Map C-5)

31 of 52. Cantilevered observation point. Photographer facing east. (Map C-5)

32 of 52. Cantilevered observation point. Photographer facing northeast. (Map C-5)

33 of 52. High Falls from cantilevered observation point. Photographer facing southeast. (Map C-5)

34 of 52. Moonshine Still diorama. Photographer facing south. (Map C-5)

35 of 52. Balanced Rock. Photographer facing west/northwest. (Map D-4)

36 of 52. Entry to Fairyland Caverns. Photographer facing south. (Map C-3)

37 of 52. Sign over Fairyland Caverns entry. Photographer facing south. (Map C-3)

38 of 52. Fairyland Caverns walkway. Photographer facing south. (Map C-3)

39 of 52. Gnome figure in Fairyland Caverns. Underground (indeterminate direction). (Map C-3)

40 of 52. Hansel and Gretel scene in Fairyland Caverns. Underground (indeterminate direction). (Map C-3)

41 of 52. Snow White scene in Fairyland Caverns. Underground (indeterminate direction). (Map C-3)

42 of 52. Entrance to Mother Goose Village. Photographer facing east. (Map B-3)

43 of 52. Tag house and west parking lot. Photographer facing northwest. (Map B-1)

44 of 52. West parking lot. Photographer facing west. (Map C-1)

45 of 52. Former gas station/firehouse (now restaurant/gift shop). Photographer facing west. (Map C-1)

46 of 52. Exterior of Mother Goose Village. Photographer facing northwest. (Map B-3)

47 of 52. Warehouse/maintenance. Photographer facing west/southwest. (Map A-2; with photograph taken from Map B-3)

48 of 52. South parking lot. Photographer facing west/southwest. (Map A-2)

49 of 52. Original gatehouse. Photographer facing northeast. (Map C-3)

50 of 52. Grandview building. Photographer facing northeast. (Map E-4)

51 of 52. Studio building. Photographer facing southwest. (Map A-4)

52 of 52. Carter Cliffs from front lawn. Photographer facing east. (Map B-5, with photograph taken from Map B-4)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES
PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

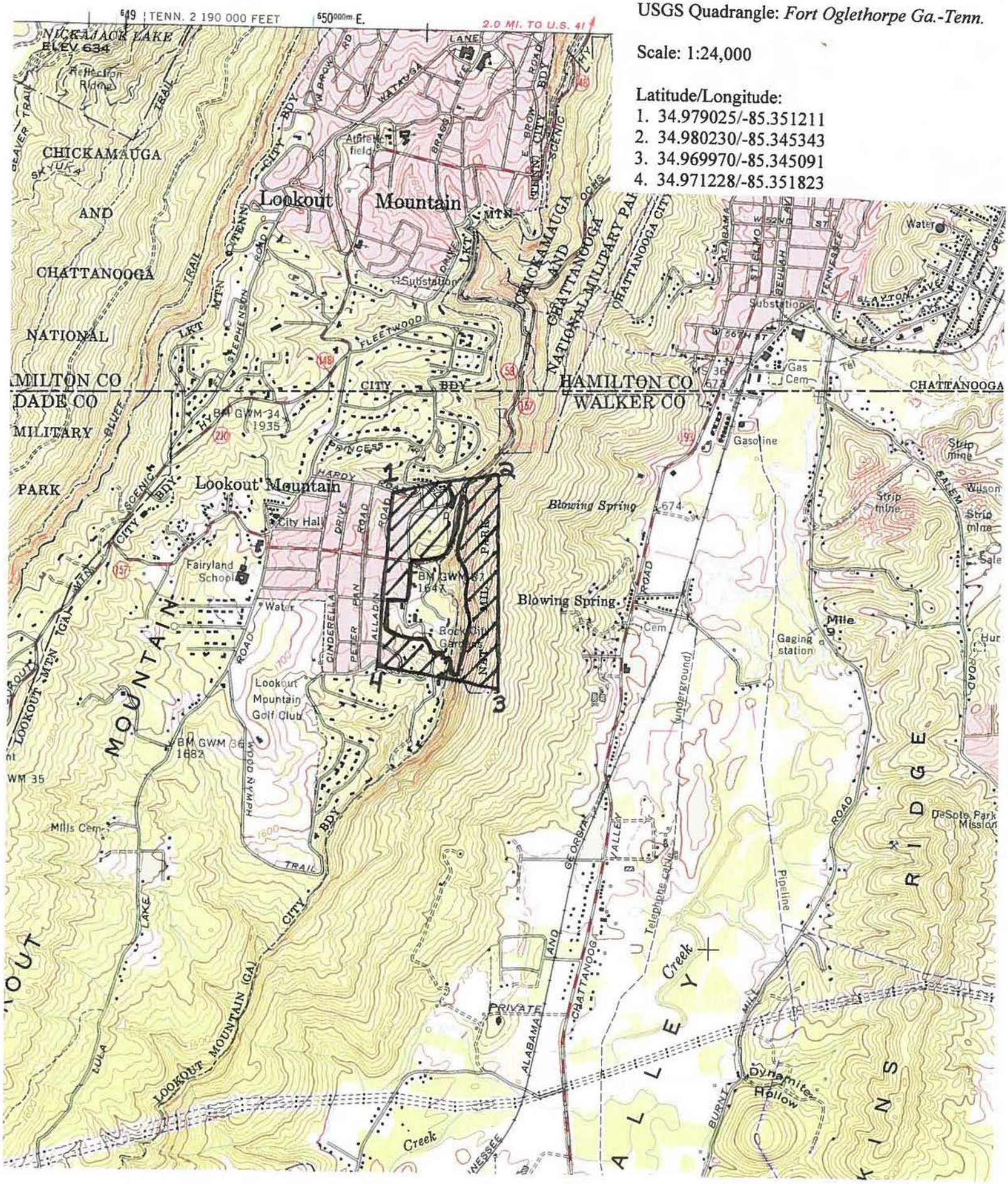
ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

NORTH: ↑

USGS Quadrangle: *Fort Oglethorpe Ga.-Tenn.*

Scale: 1:24,000

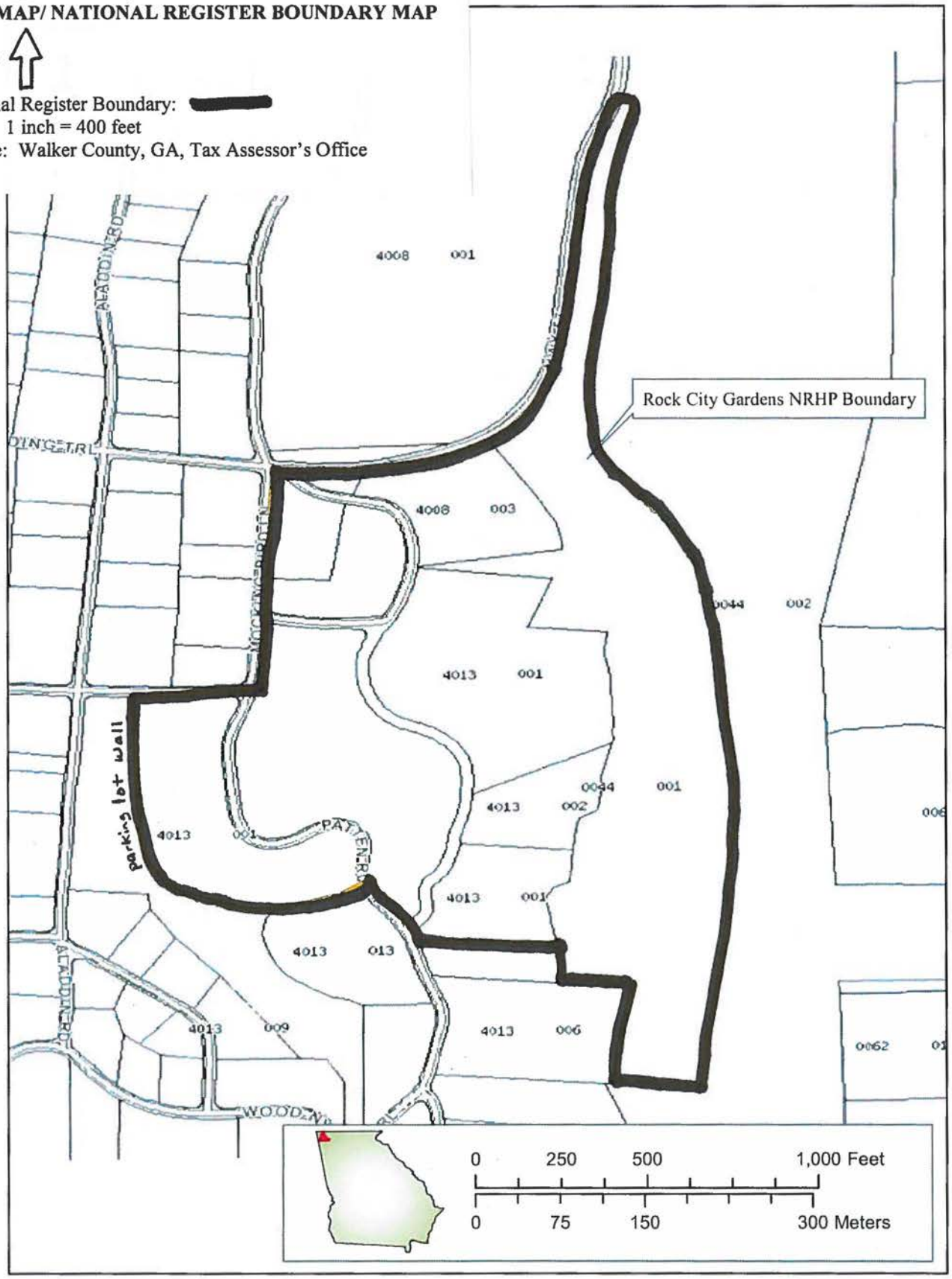
Latitude/Longitude:
1. 34.979025/-85.351211
2. 34.980230/-85.345343
3. 34.969970/-85.345091
4. 34.971228/-85.351823



ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA
TAX MAP/ NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY MAP

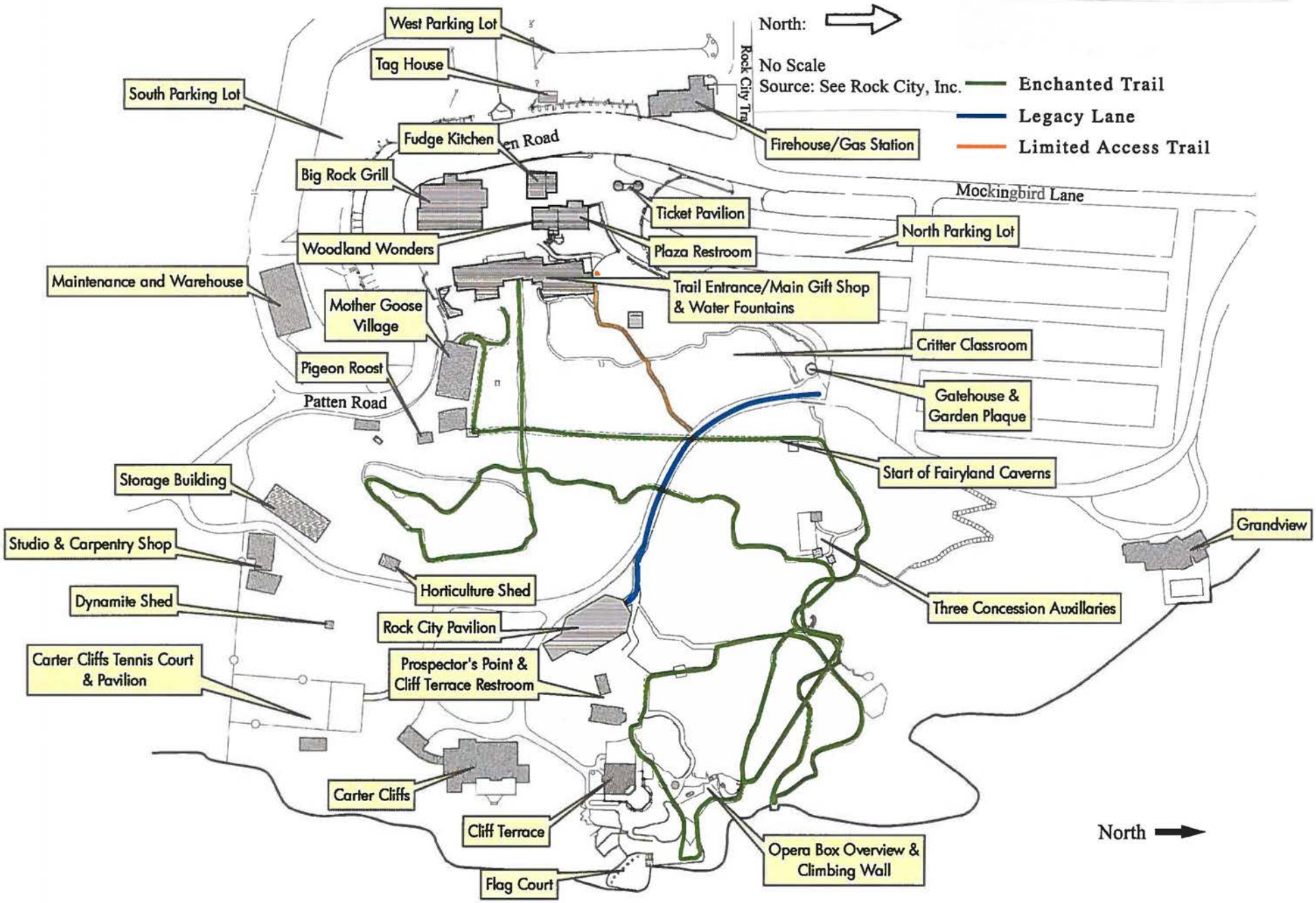
North:

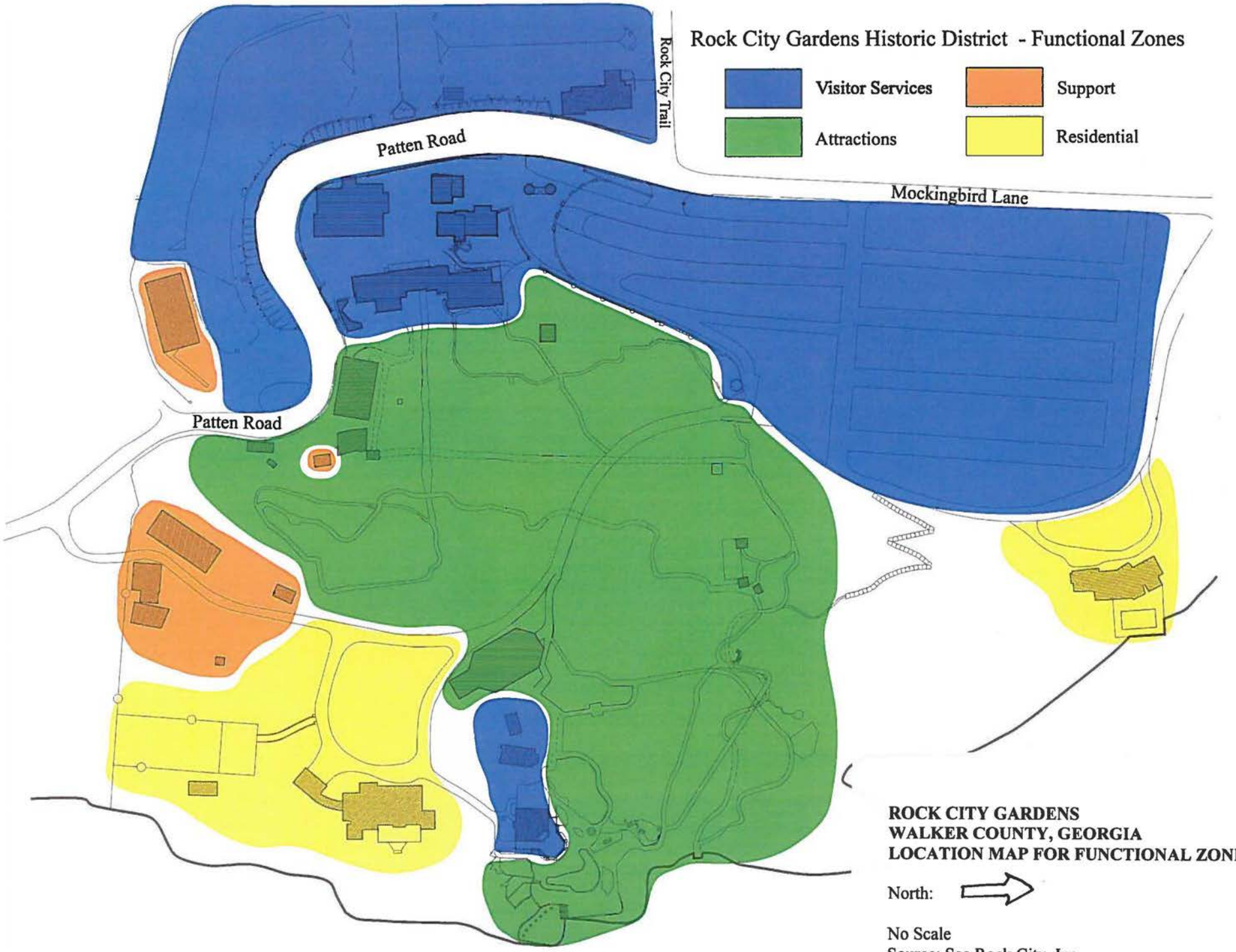
National Register Boundary:
Scale: 1 inch = 400 feet
Source: Walker County, GA, Tax Assessor's Office



Source: Walker County Georgia Tax Assessors Office

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA
LOCATION MAP FOR MAJOR BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES





ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA
LOCATION MAP FOR FUNCTIONAL ZONE

North:

No Scale
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

franklin | architects

142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2009 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions		
No.	Issue	Date

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

OVERVIEW SHEET/COMPOSITE PLAN FOR RESOURCE MAPS AND PHOTO KEY
(See detailed maps A-1 to E-4 for photo key)

North:

Enchanted Trail:
(Arrows show direction of travel for photos 1-42.)

Scale 1 inch = 50 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.
(See tax map for complete boundary and parcel IDs)

H:\Rock City As-Built Saint_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:36:28 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 : Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
A-1

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:37:34 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

in association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2010 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
A-2

NOT Issued for Construction

47 (taken from B-3)

H:\Rock City As-Built Stat_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:38:20 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2010 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions		
No.	Issue	Date

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
A-3

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Sites\Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:38:56 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

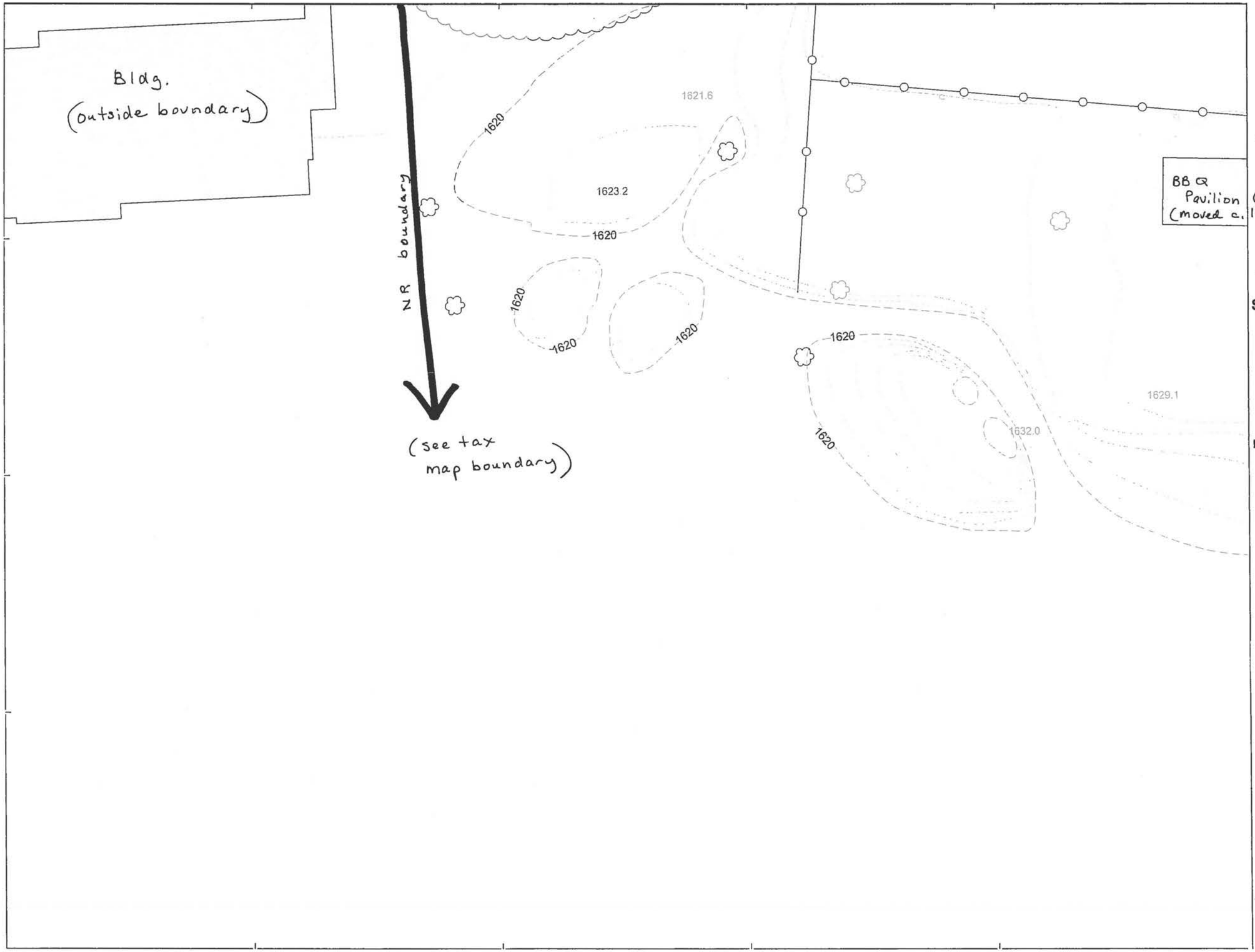
Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet

A-4

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:35:50 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216
In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
A-5

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:40:29 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

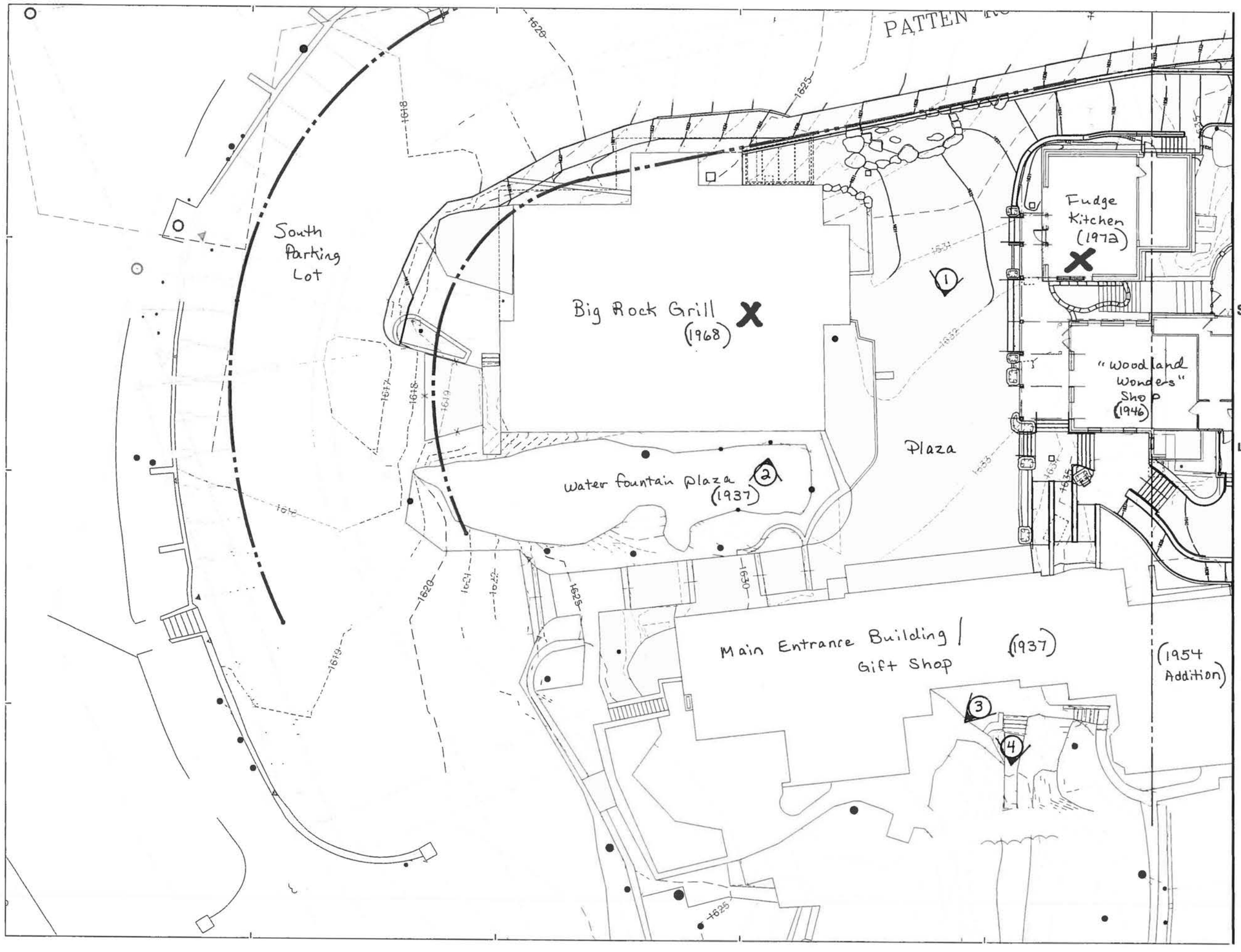
Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet

B-1

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:41:11 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2010 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

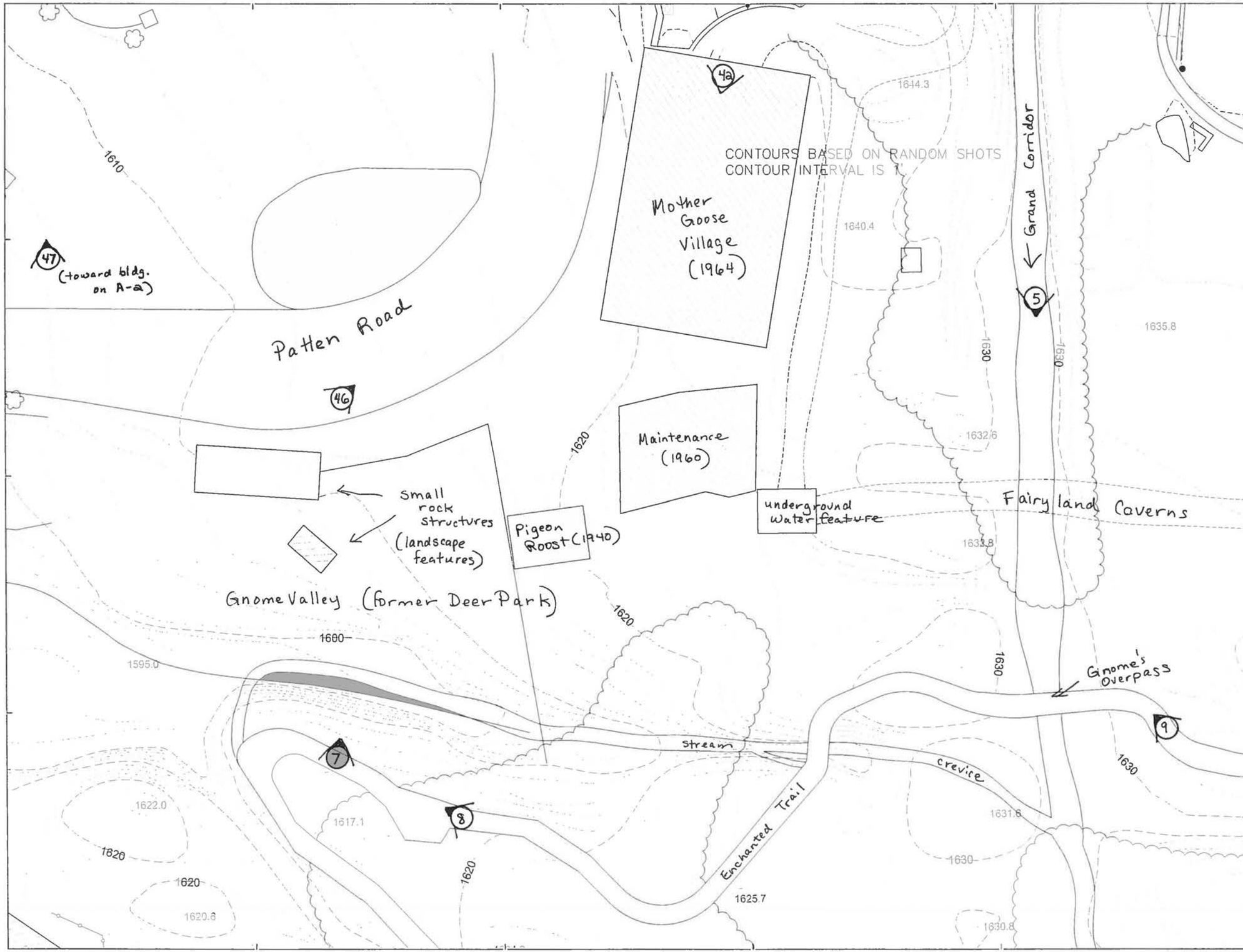
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
B-2

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg 9/2/2009 7:41:57 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2009 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
B-3

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:42:40 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2010 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
B-4

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Start_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:43:16 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2009 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

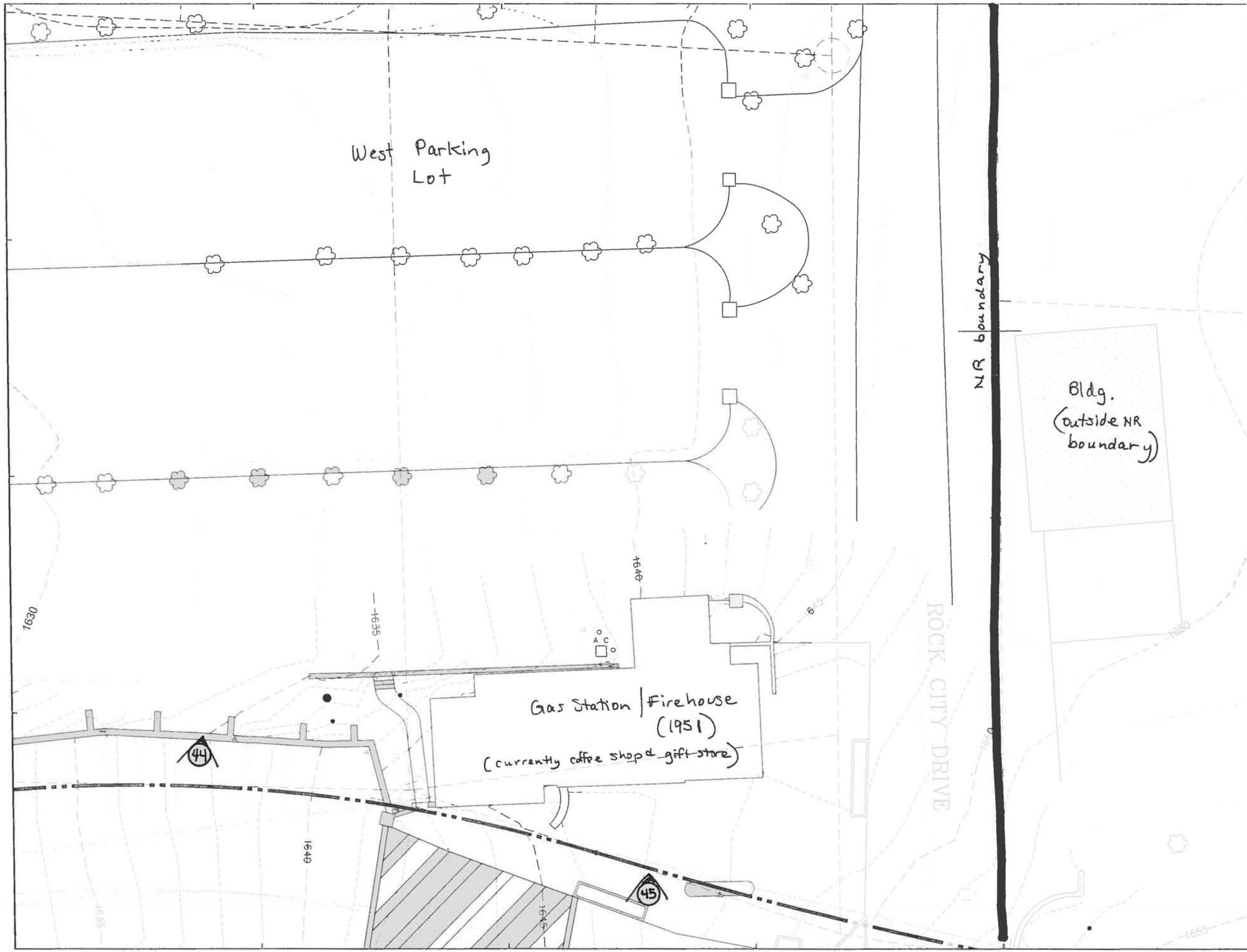
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
B-5

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:43:53 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2020 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

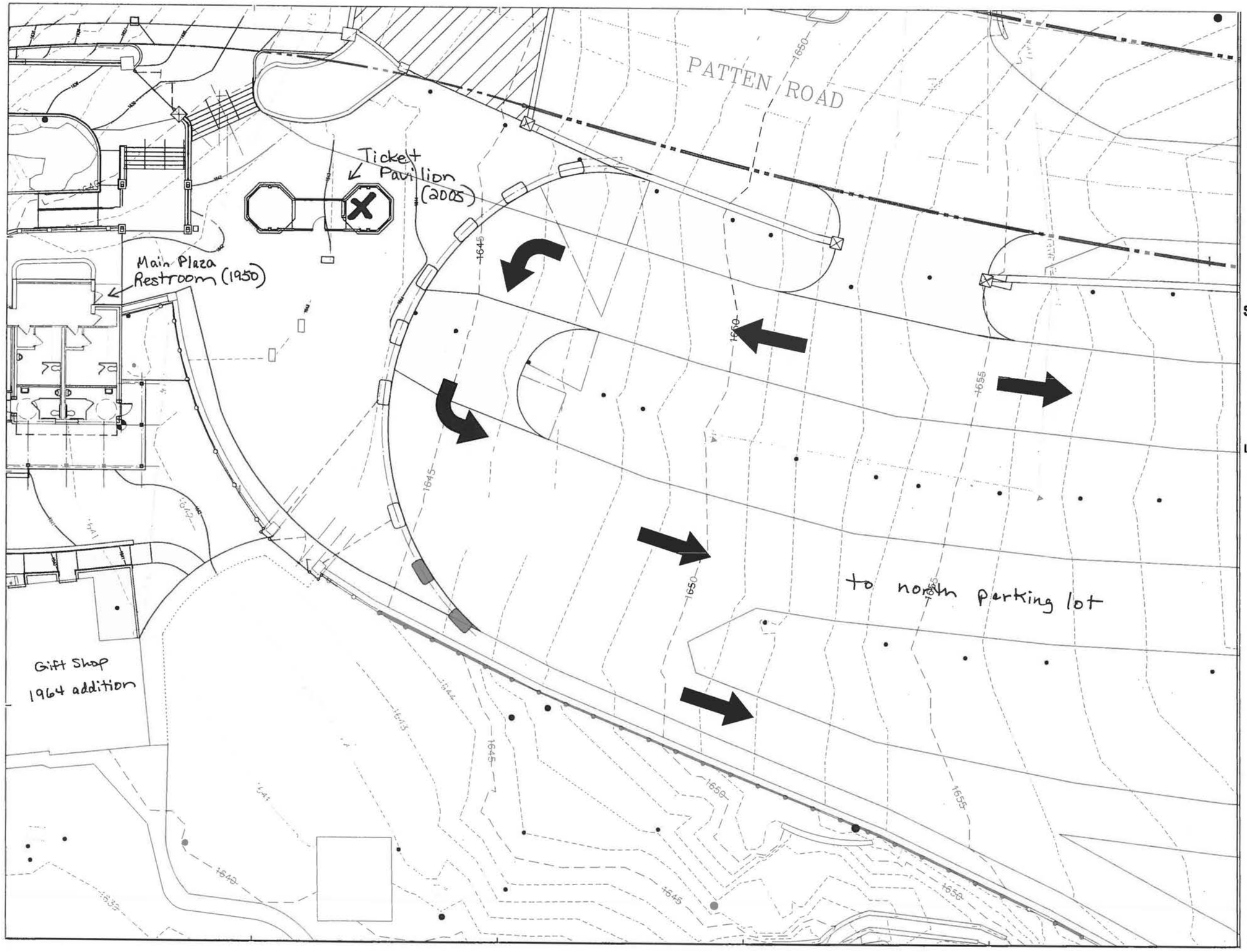
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
C-1

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:41:30 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2009 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

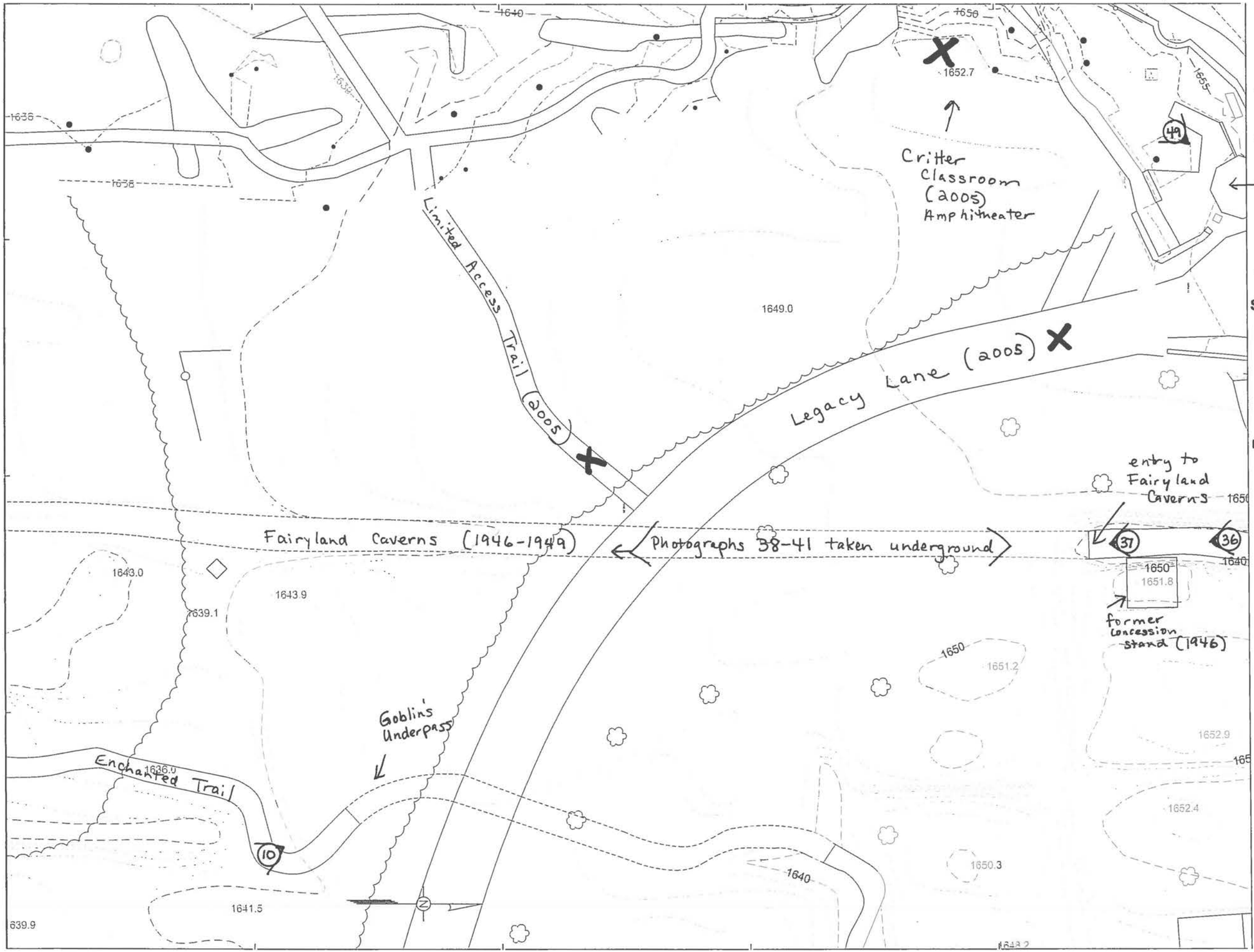
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
C-2

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:46:26 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects

142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

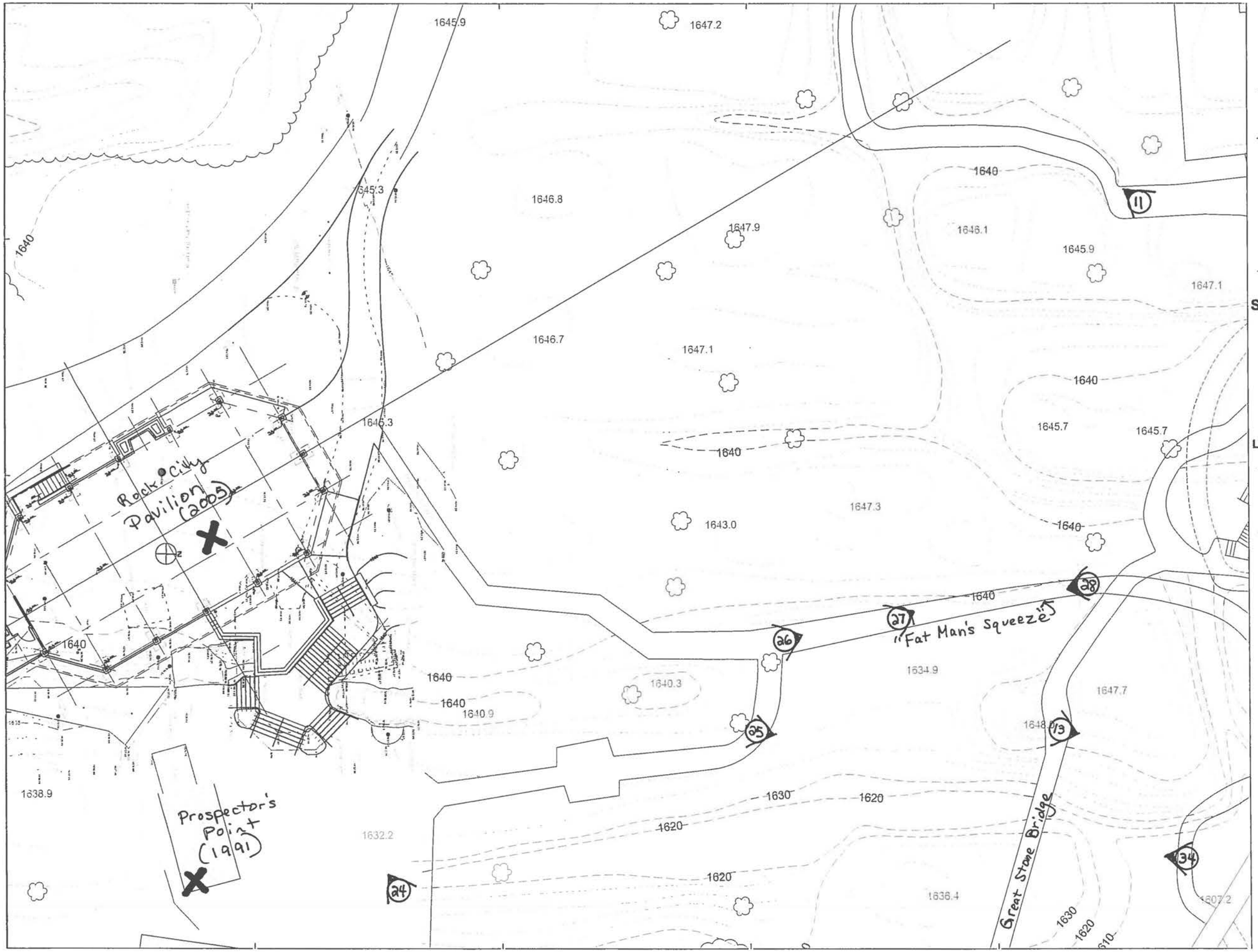
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
C-3

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:47:07 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects

142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2003 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

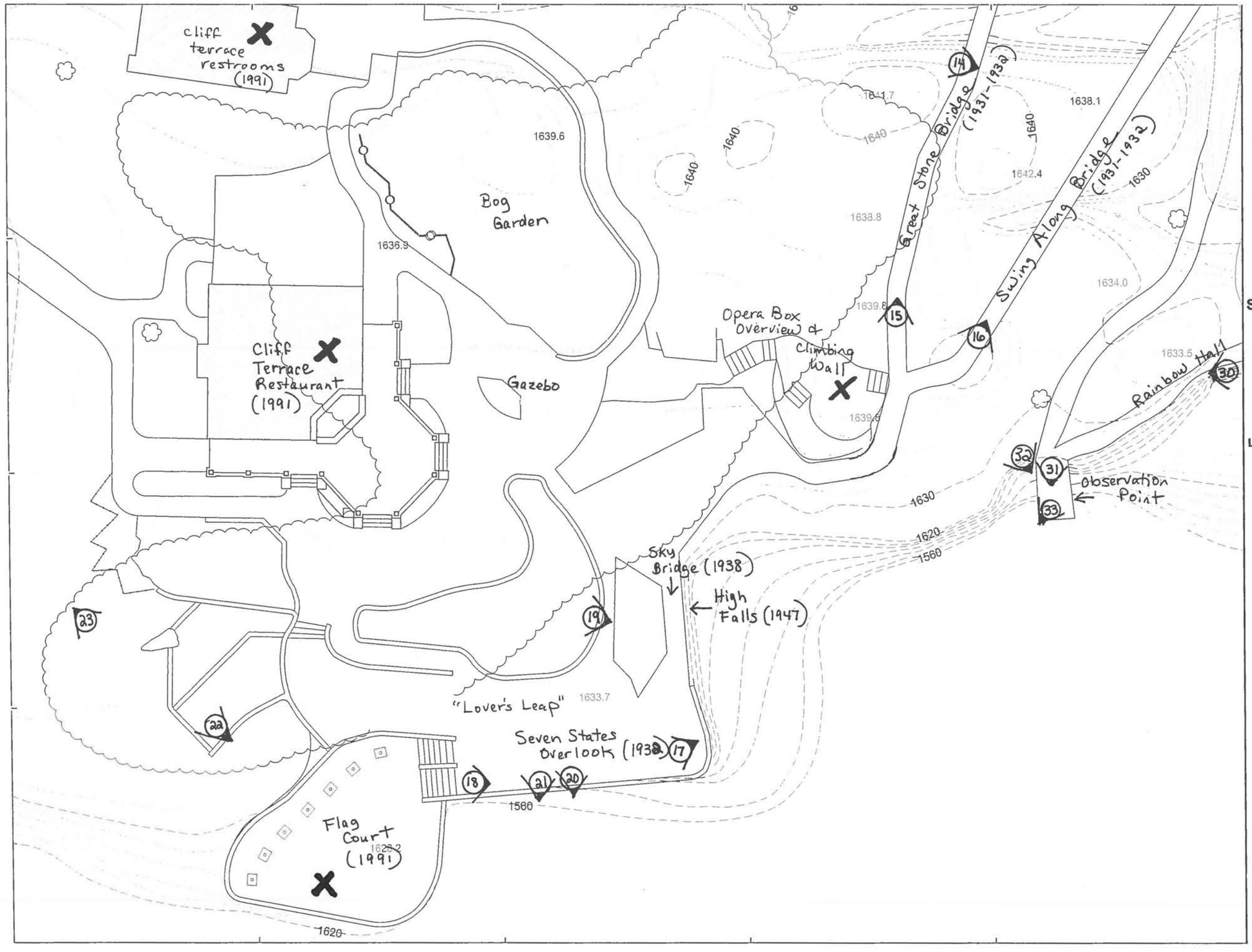
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
C-4

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 5/2/2009 7:47:48 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects

142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

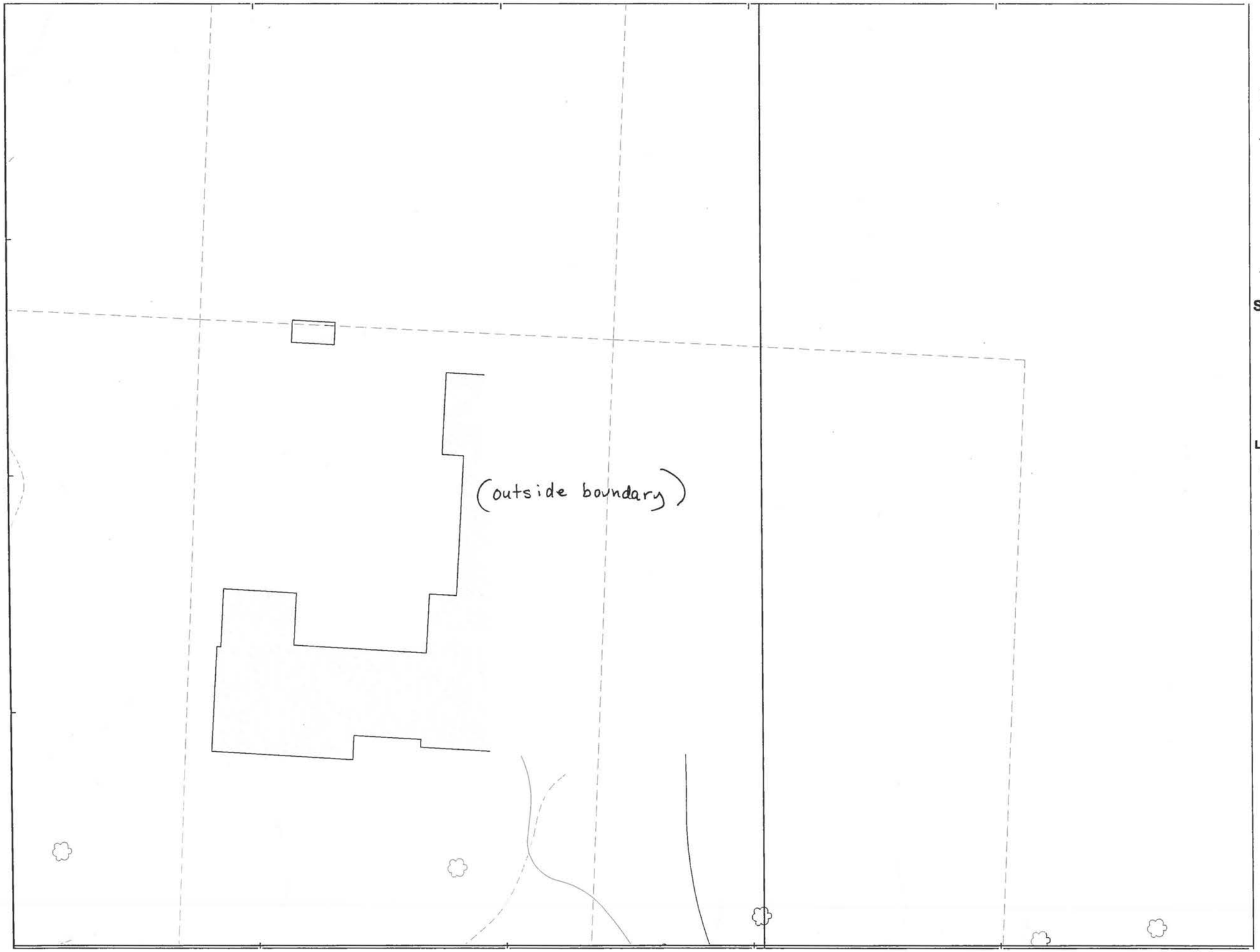
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
C-5

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Start_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:48:25 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

Revisions

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
D-1

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:50:53 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
D-2

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:51:37 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2020 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

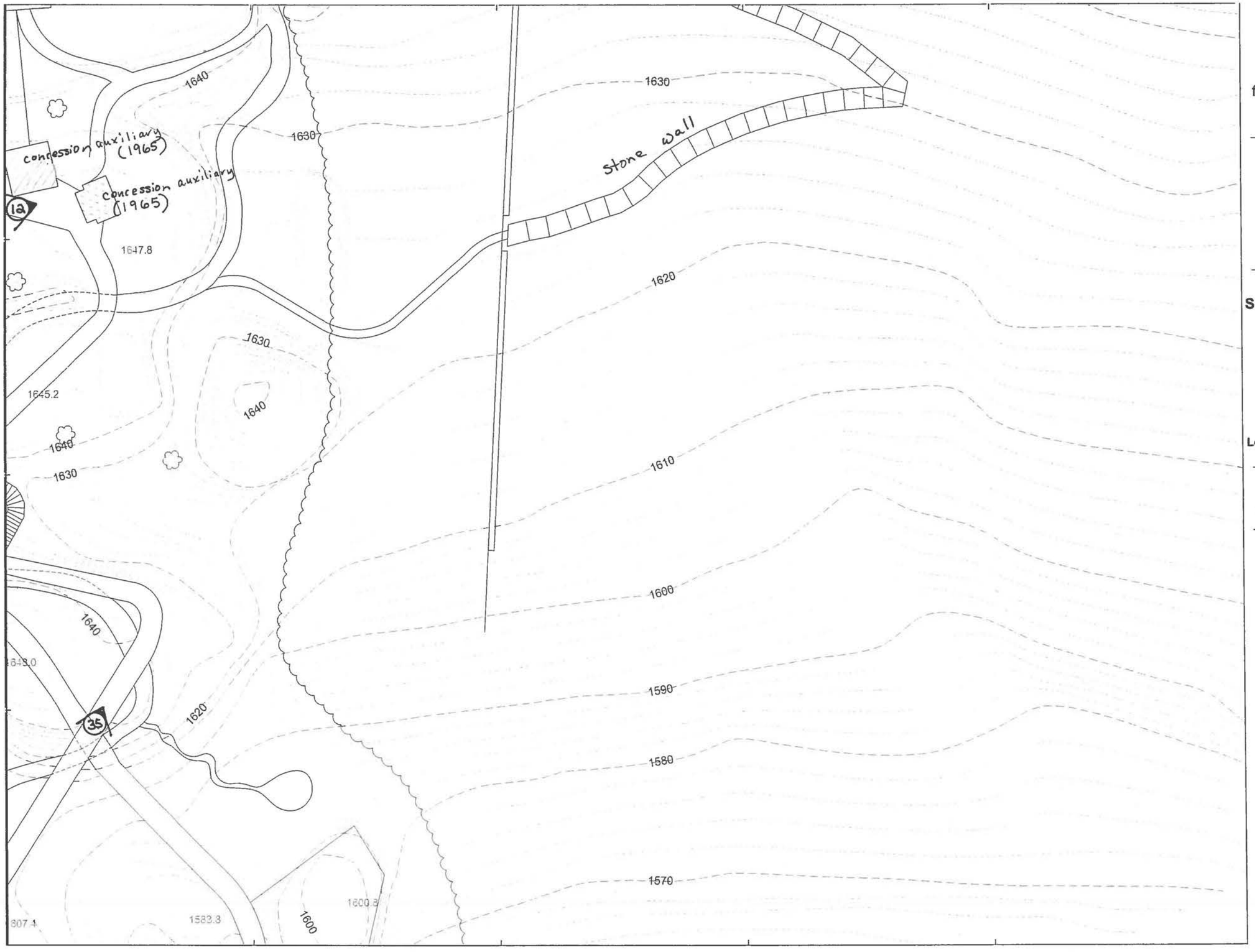
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
D-3

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/27/2009 7:52:52 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

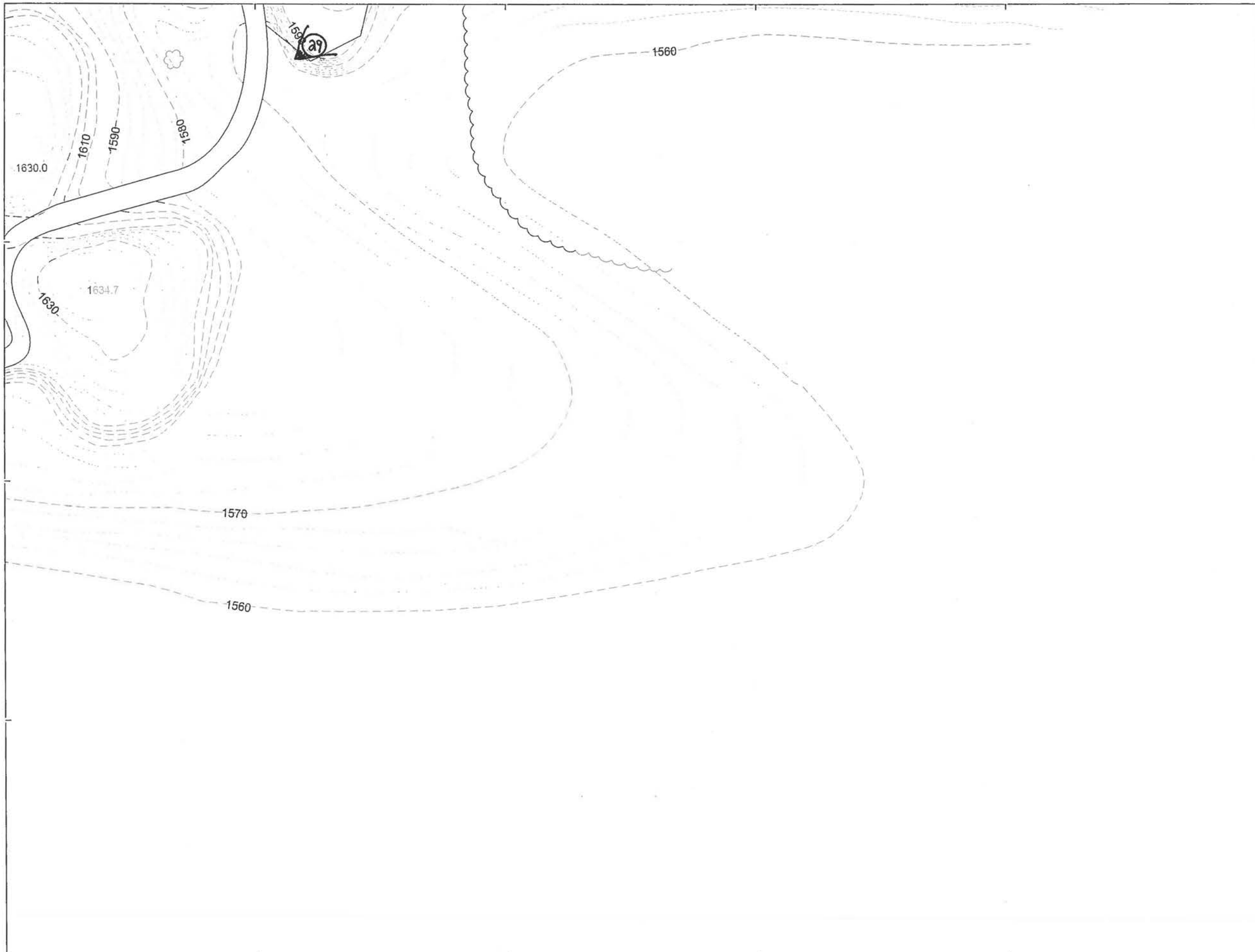
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
D-4

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:53:24 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the exress written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

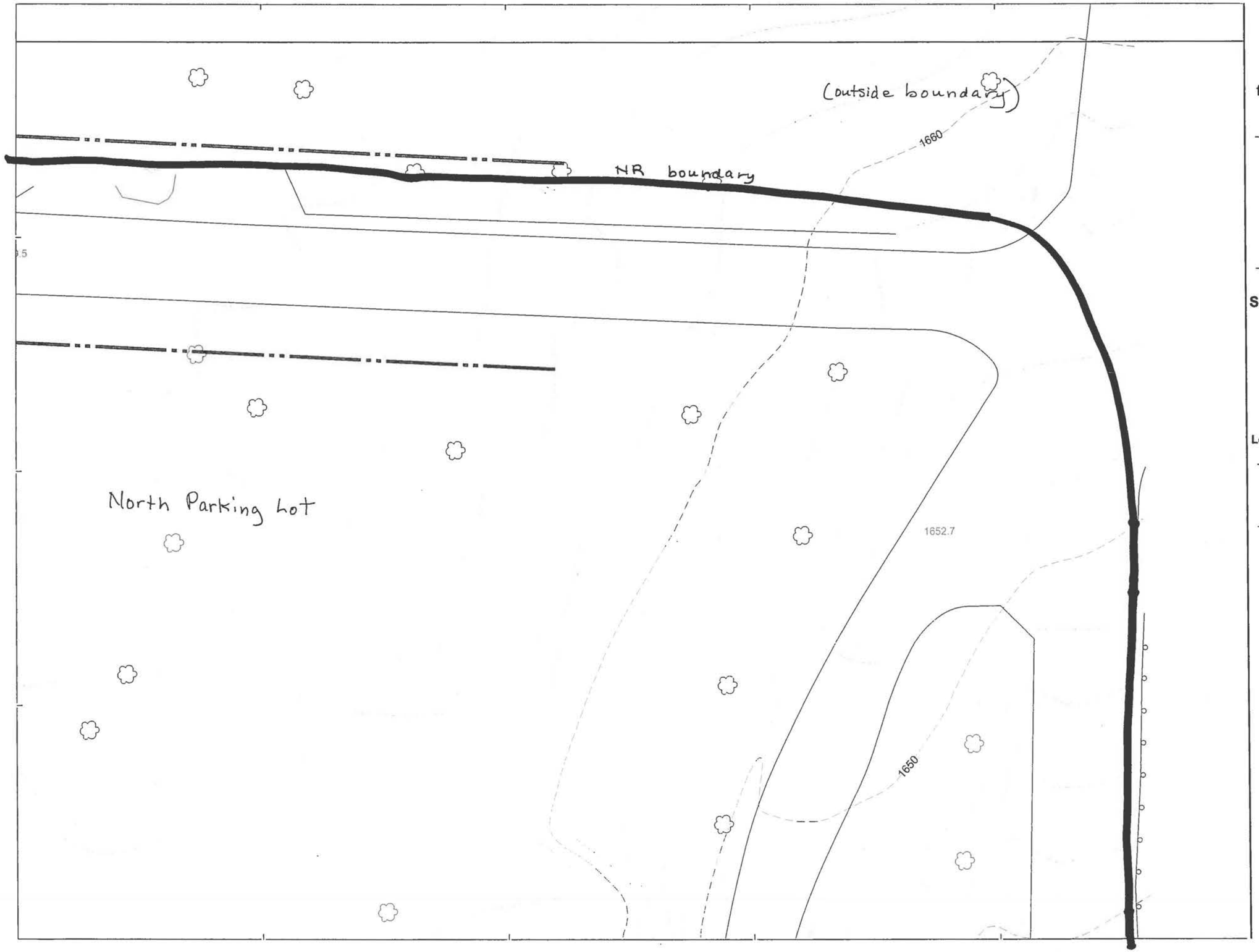
Noncontributing:

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
D-5

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:54:16 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2009 / Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View: #

Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
E-2

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:55:07 AM, PDF995

franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2008 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

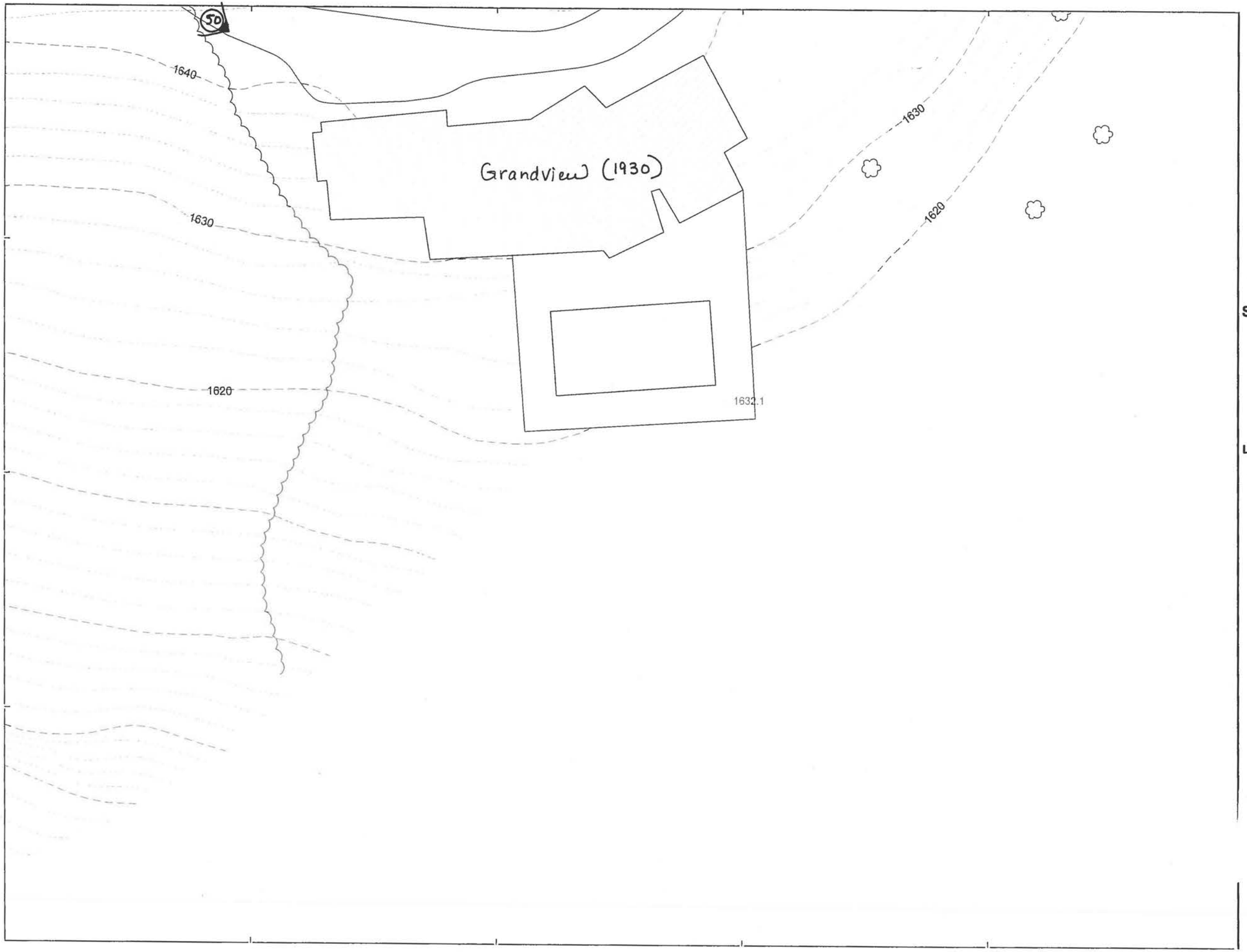
Noncontributing: X

Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

Sheet
E-3

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/2/2009 7:55:47 AM, PDF995



franklin | architects
142 N Market Street P.O. Box 4048
Chattanooga . TN . 37405
v: 423.266.1207 f: 423.266.1216

In association with:

SEE ROCK CITY, INC.

1400 Patten Road
Lookout Mountain, Georgia

This drawing is the property of Franklin Associates Architects Inc. Any use, reuse, reproduction, display or sale of this drawing without the express written consent of the Architect is strictly prohibited.

Copyright © 2010 | Franklin Associates Architects Inc.

ROCK CITY GARDENS
WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SITE PLAN/PHOTOGRAPH KEY

North:

Photo and Direction of View:

Noncontributing: X

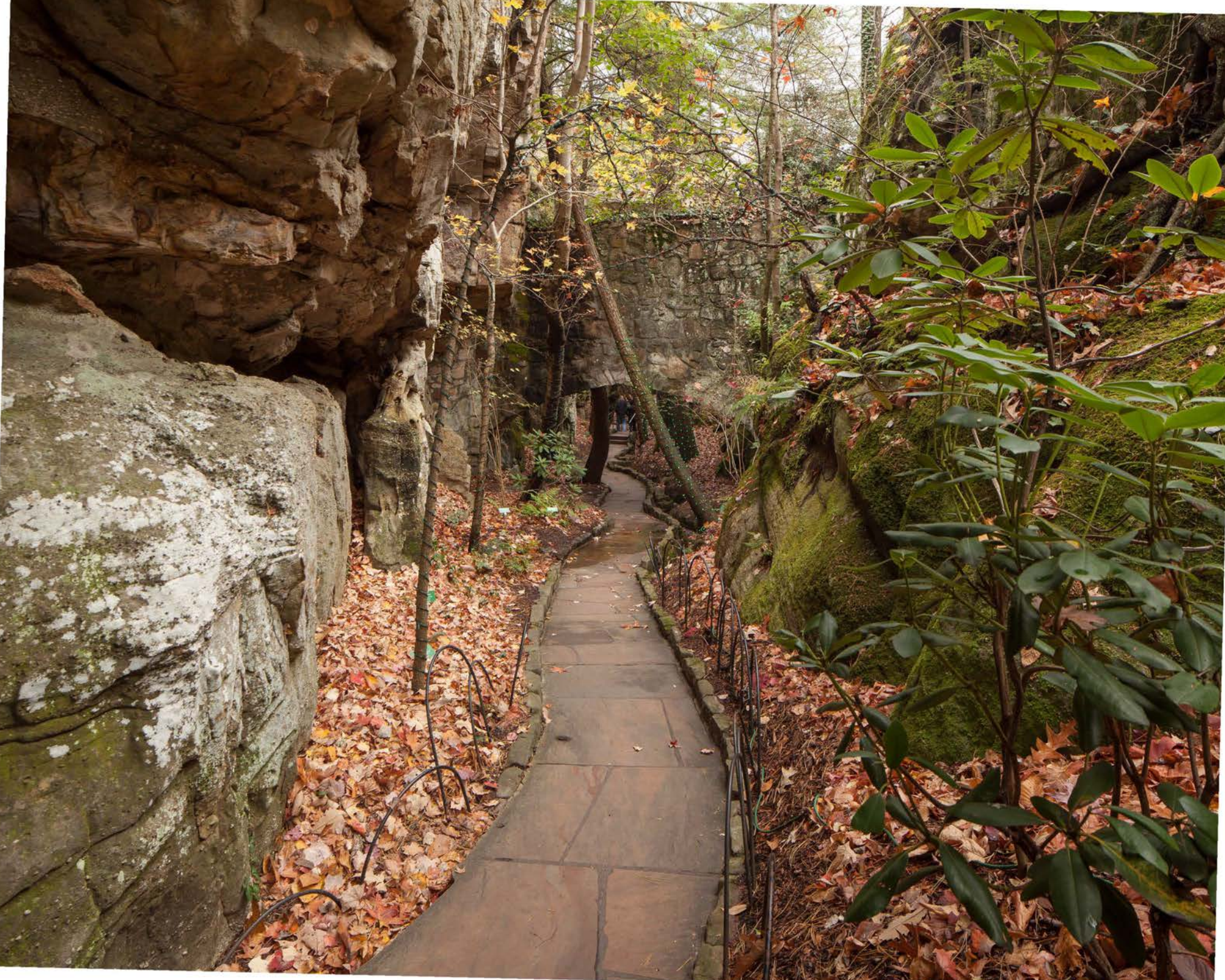
Scale 1 inch = 10 feet
Source: See Rock City, Inc.

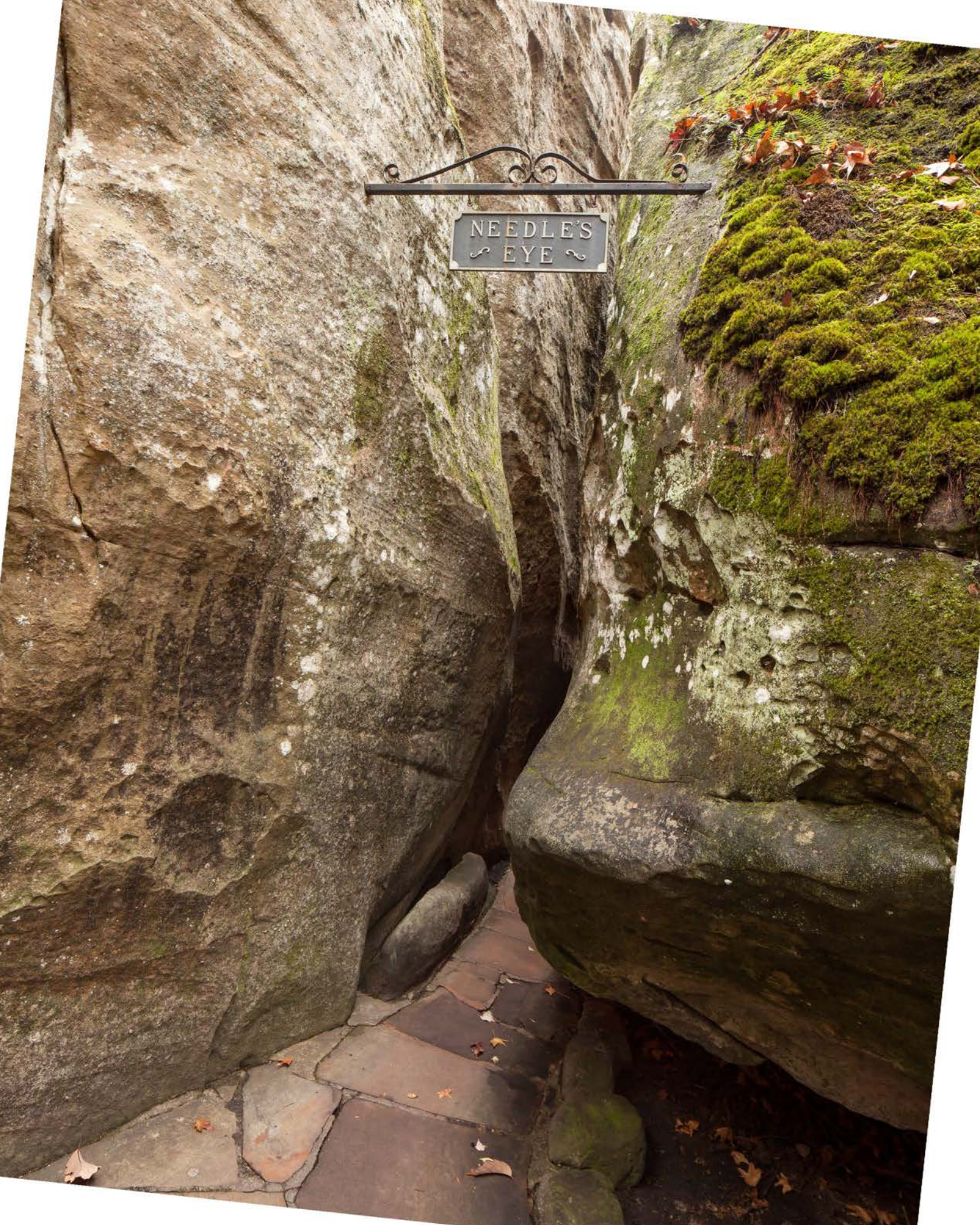
Sheet
E-4

NOT Issued for Construction

H:\Rock City As-Built Site_Rock_City_Plan.dwg, 9/12/2009 7:56:22 AM, PDF995

ENTRANCE
SEE YOURSELF IN A ROCK CITY WONDER!



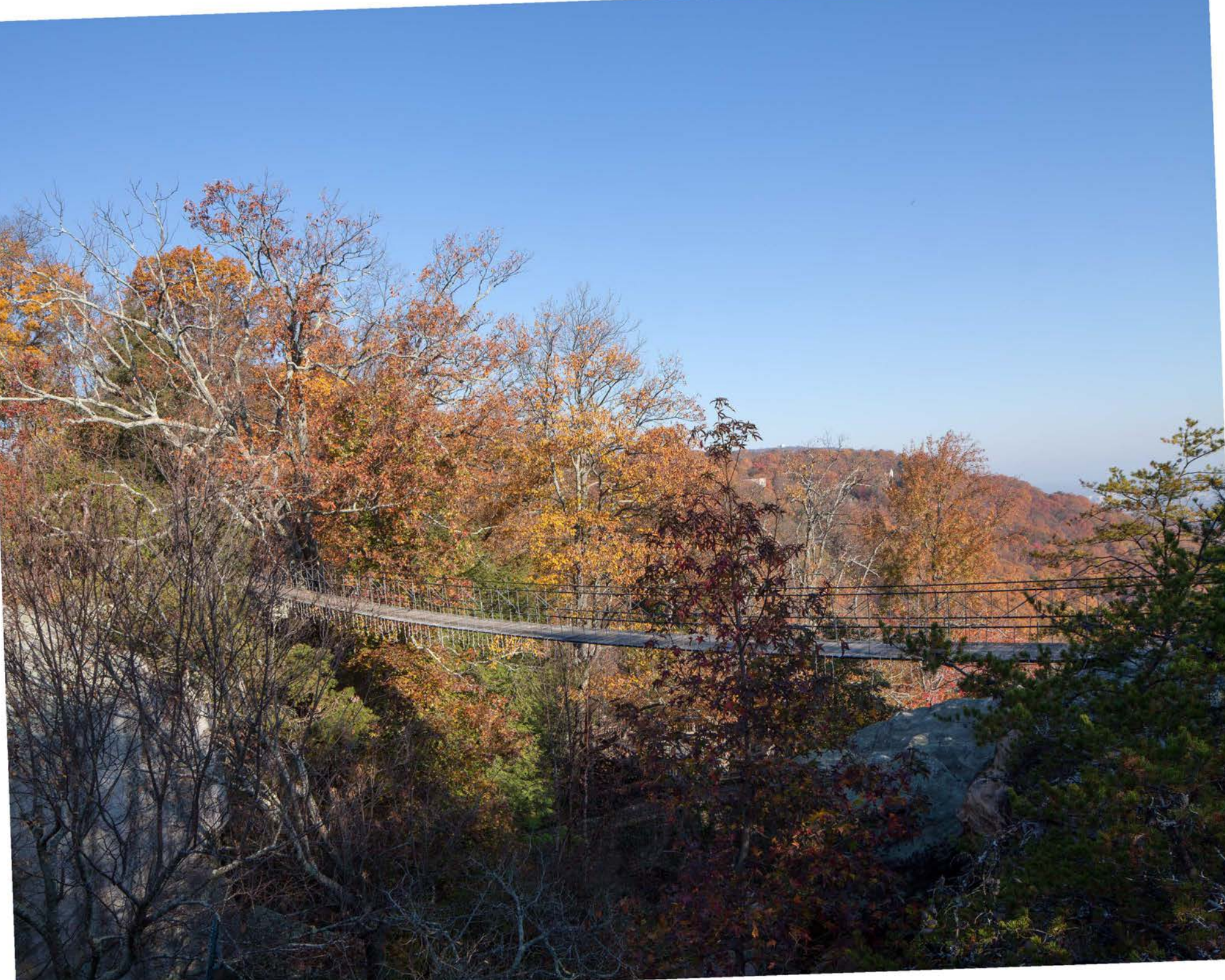

NEEDLE'S
EYE

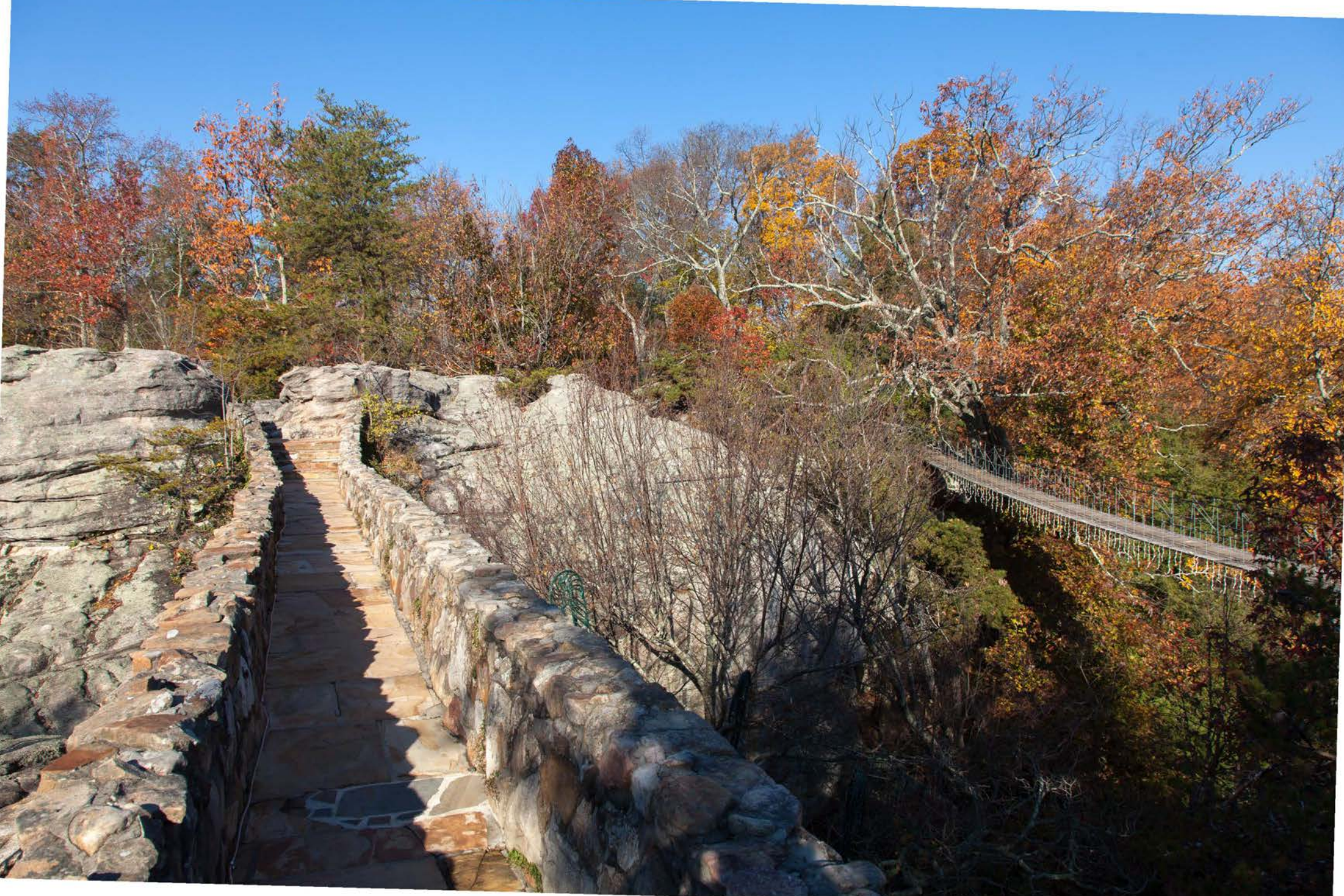
ROCK
CITY

MUSHROOM
ROCK

GOBLINS
UNDERPASS

Coca-Cola
ROCK YOUR THIRST
ROCK CITY
Guide Map
PLEASE USE HAND RAIL
THIS WAY NEXT

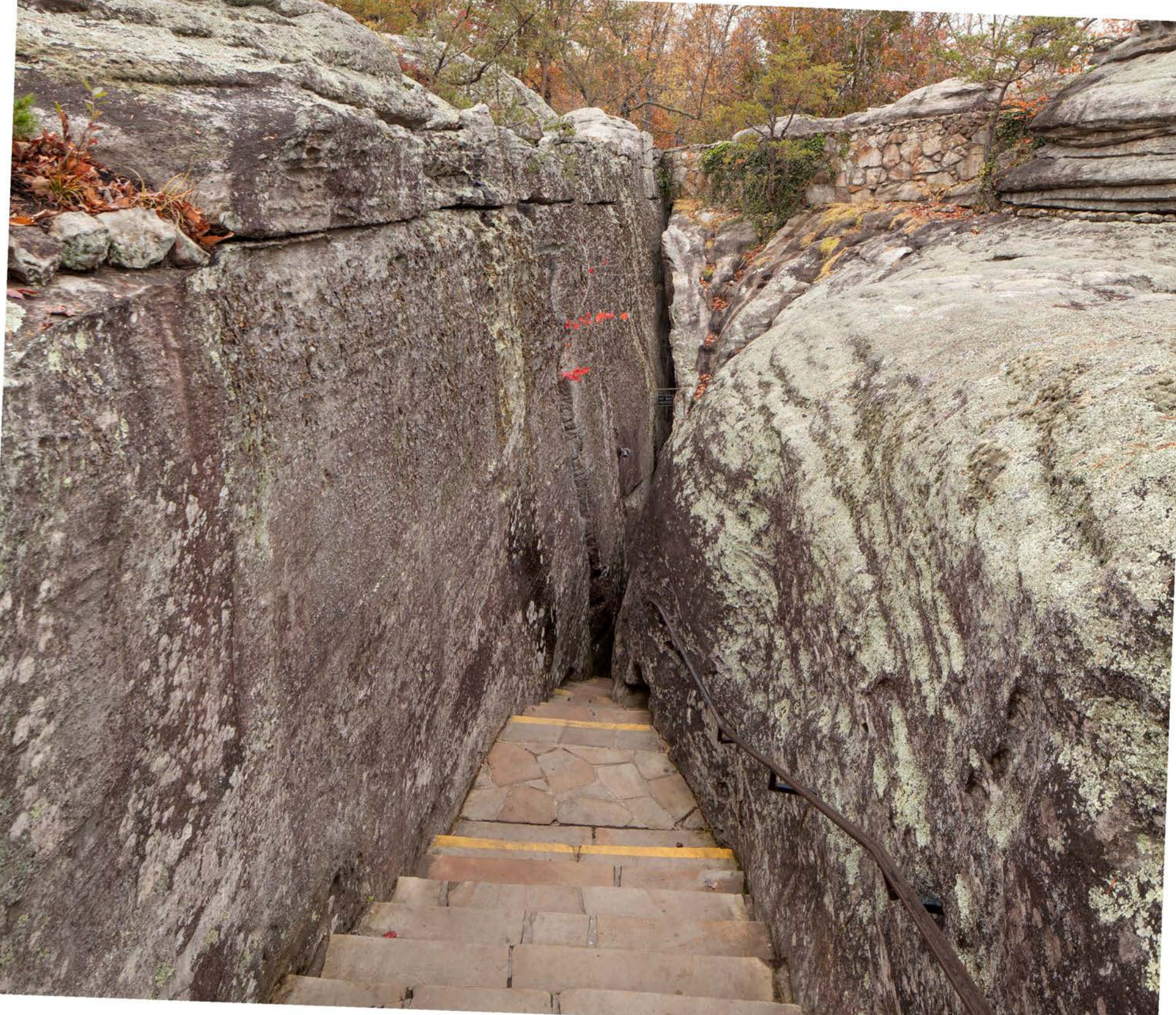




SKY
BRIDGE

Smoky Mtn.
N.C. 50 MI.
S.C. 80 MI.
GEORGIA
KY.-VA. 120 MI.
Mt. Pinnacle
TENN. ½ MI.
ALA. 25 MI.
See Seven States

SEE
ROCK
CITY
ROCK
CITY
SEE
ROCK
CITY



LOVER'S
LEAP

Moonshine
Still

BALANCED
ROCK
BALANCED
ROCK
ROCK CITY
BALANCED

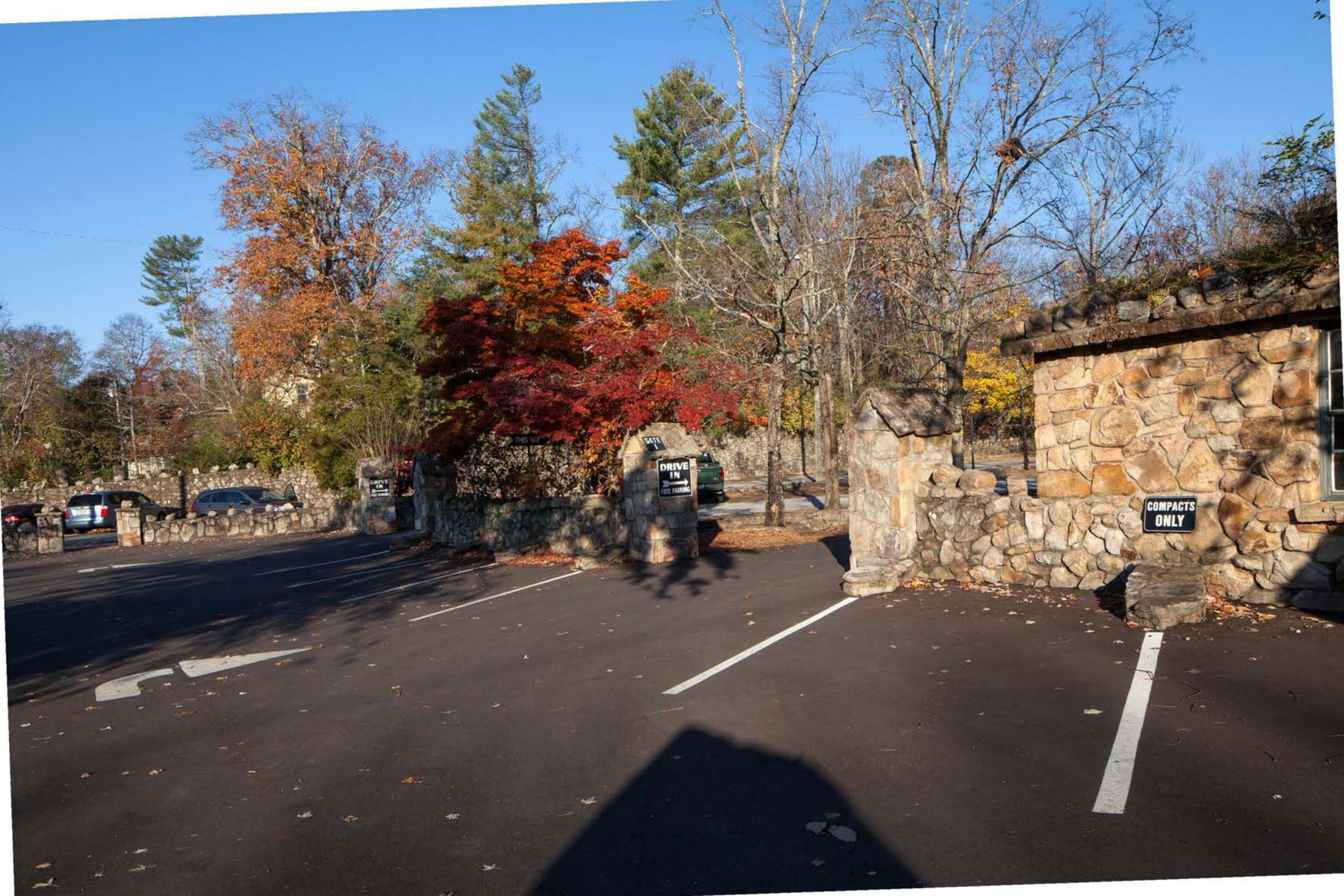
FAIRYLAND
CAVERNS
FAIRYLAND
CAVERNS

FAIRYLAND
CAVERNS

HANSEL

Snow White

WELCOME TO
Mother Goose Village


GATE
DRIVE IN
FREE PARKING
COMPACTS ONLY

STARBUCKS COFFEE

SLOW

ROCK CITY GARDENS
FAIRYLAND

7
8

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Rock City Gardens

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Walker

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/17/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000619

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 9.17.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA_____

REVIEWER_____ DISCIPLINE_____

TELEPHONE_____ DATE_____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

RECEIVED 2280
AUG - 1 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

July 18, 2014

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Rock City Gardens, Walker County, Georgia** to the National Register of Historic Places.

__X__ Disk of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps as a pdf

__X__ Disk with digital photo images

__X__ Physical signature page

____ Original USGS topographic map(s)

____ Sketch map(s)/attachment(s)

____ Correspondence

____ Other:

COMMENTS:

____ Please insure that this nomination is reviewed

____ This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67

____ The enclosed owner objection(s) do ____ do not ____ constitute a majority of property owners.

____ Special considerations:

Sincerely,

Lynn Speno
National Register Specialist

Enclosures