

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received JUN 18 1984
date entered JUL 19 1984

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Robert Schwartz and Company Building

and/or common Heritage Building

2. Location

street & number 736-738 Cherry Street N/A not for publication

city, town Chattanooga N/A vicinity of

state Tennessee code 047 county Hamilton code 065

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Heritage Investment Properties

street & number 732 Cherry Street

city, town Chattanooga N/A vicinity of state Tennessee 37402

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hamilton County Courthouse

street & number Georgia Avenue

city, town Chattanooga state Tennessee 37402

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on the corner of Cherry Street and East Eighth Street in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, the Robert Schwartz and Company Building (1920) is a three-story, commercial structure clad in off-white glazed architectural terra cotta with Gothic detailing. Surrounded by late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century brick commercial buildings, the style, materials and detailing of this building make it a prominent structure in downtown Chattanooga. The structure retains its architectural integrity to a high degree.

The Robert Schwartz and Company Building is three stories in height and utilizes elements usually found in high-rise construction of this period, including the off-white glazed terra cotta facades and the Chicago windows on the upper two stories. A steel column and beam structure supports the building with a concrete slab in the basement. The flat roof structure is supported with a wood structure.

The south and west facades display off-white architectural terra cotta with Gothic detailing in the spandrel panels, in the decorative pilasters which define each bay and end in an elaborate finial above the cornice, and in the arched window and door surrounds.

The fenestration consists of Chicago-type windows which occupy the full width of the bay and consist of a large fixed sash flanked by narrower double-hung, one-over-one light sash windows and is surmounted by transom lights over each sash. The third-story sashes conform to the broad terra cotta Tudor arch surrounds.

Of the three first floor storefronts, only one retains its original configuration, with its recessed entry. The others have been altered within the last thirty years. The clerestory area of all three storefronts has been covered in stucco which hides the original multi-paned lights with decorative tracery. A street level entrance exists at the southeast corner of the south facade which allows access to the upper floors via a staircase and an abandoned elevator. The doorway consists of a double-leaf wood and glass door with a segmental arched surround. Three windows which do not correspond to the floor area of the rest of the building occur within a narrow pointed arch surround.

The interior of the Schwartz building retains its original wood flooring on the upper levels, and its ceiling height, and original room arrangements. The concrete flooring on the first level has a terrazzo finish.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1920 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Robert Schwartz and Company Building is being nominated under National Register criterion C for its architectural significance to downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee. This building exhibits one of the finest uses of glazed architectural terra cotta in a low rise commercial building in this city.

The Robert Schwartz and Company Building represents an unusual use of architectural detailing usually reserved for high-rise structures of this time period. These details include the buildings wide structural bays which allow the use of Chicago windows in the upper stories, and the use of glazed architectural terra cotta as the cladding material of the entire surface of the two major facades. Other structures in Chattanooga of this scale who employ these materials include the Tivoli Theater Building (1921, NR 1973) and the Newton Chevrolet Building (1920, NR 1973).

Robert Schwartz and Company, a ladies ready-to-wear clothing shop was the first occupant of the building. In 1932 the locally based Edmondson School of Business occupied the building and used the upper floors for classrooms. They remained at this location until 1942. Since that time various businesses have occupied the three storefronts, not staying for more than a couple of years in each case. The upper floors remained vacant. The current tenants include a Christian Science Reading Room and George's Hamburgers. The owner intends to remove the current occupants and begin renovation of the property into professional office space.

Despite the alterations to the storefronts the Robert Schwartz and Company Building retains its architectural significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Chattanooga of Old, Vols. 1-8, Chattanooga Public Library

Chattanooga-Hamilton County Landmarks Survey and Preservation Plan 1977.

Paine, A.B. "Map of Chattanooga - 1871"

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Chattanooga, Tennessee

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	6	5	4	3	1	0	3	8	7	9	4	0	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

E

Zone			Easting					Northing						

F

Zone			Easting					Northing						

G

Zone			Easting					Northing						

H

Zone			Easting					Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property is bounded on the south by East Eighth Street, on the west by Cherry Street, and on the north and east by adjoining property lines. This includes all the property historically associated with the Schwartz Building.

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

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robin Krawitz, Architectural Historian
W. Vance Travis, Jr.,
organization Tennessee Historical Commission date May 10, 1984
Vance Travis Architects, AIA date April 5, 1984
street & number 701 Broadway telephone (615) 742-6722
602 James Blvd telephone (615) 886-5070
city or town Nashville state Tennessee 37203
Signal Mountain state Tennessee 37377

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hoyer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 6/6/84

For NPS use only

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

for Alvina Byers Entered in the National Register date 7/19/84
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

