United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

Candler Street School historic same and/or common Location Candler Street street & number N/A not for publication Gainesville N/A vicinity of city, town congressional district Georgia 013 Hall 139 state code county code 3. Classification Category **Ownership** Status **Present Use** _ district public occupied agriculture museum X private _ building(s) unoccupied commercial park X structure both work in progress educational private residence _ site **Public Acquisition** Accessible entertainment religious <u>N/A</u>in process _ object X yes: restricted government scientific __ yes: unrestricted being considered industrial _ transportation X other: Vacant no military **Owner of Property** Don Carter name Don Carter Company, 530 Spring Street street & number Gainesville N/A Georgia 30501 vicinity of city, town state **Location of Legal Description** 5. Superior Court courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hall County Courthouse street & number Gainesville Georgia city, town state **Representation in Existing Surveys** 6. **Historic Structures Field Survey:** has this property been determined elegible? ____ yes ____ no Hall County, Georgia title 1975 <u>X</u> state <u>county</u> federal __ local date depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources Georgia Atlanta city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one
excellent good	deteriorated	unaltered
<u> </u>	ruins	\underline{X} altered
fair	unexposed	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Candler Street School is a two-story brick, Georgian Revival styled structure, built in 1911. The building is located in an early twentieth century residential neighborhood northeast of the Green Street National Register Historic District in Gainesville.

The Candler Street School is a compact, symmetrically arranged brick structure with a hipped roof, wide eaves, and projecting front and rear bays. Detailing on the exterior of the school is simple with the more elaborate treatments on the front and rear facades. The overall shape of the structure and the placement of windows and entrances creates a symmetrical design. Windows throughout the structure are rectangular in a variety of proportions: 6/1, 2/2, 4/1, 8/8, and 1/1. All windows are set on granite sills. The central portions of the front and rear facades project and contain the windows with the more narrow proportions. The east and west facades are flat with the central portions surmounted by dormers. Windows beneath these dormers are in narrow proportions and create a design relationship to the front and rear facades. Two projecting brick stringcourses encircle the entire building. One is located above the second story windows and the other is located below the windows on the main floor. The front facade is dominated by the entrance - a one-story portico with a flat roof supported by brick piers. An entablature-like feature is located above these piers. The entrance on the rear facade is more modest - a hipped wooden shelter supported by wooden brackets. The entrance on the west facade is also protected by a wooden shelter which appears to be a later addition. A portion of the east facade was altered when an addition was built in 1947 and later demolished. Two windows were apparently enlarged to accommodate an interior hallway.

The school is built on a central hall plan. The hall divides the four classrooms on the main and second levels into groupings of two classrooms on each side. These groupings are further divided by cloakrooms. The cloakroom on the east side of the main floor was converted into a hallway when the 1947 addition was built. Each floor contains a vestibule at each end of the hallway. The stairway is located in the west side of the vestibule and restrooms are in the east side. Two classrooms have been created in the basement and appear to be later conversions. The main and second floor classrooms are large, with 12 foot ceilings now covered in acoustical tile. Most of the original lighting fixtures have been replaced with hanging flourescent lights. Floors were originally wood, but have now been covered in asphalt tiles. The original plaster remains on most walls. Classrooms contain two blackboards with a chair rail encircling each room.

The school originally contained a steam heating system, apparently housed in the basement. Radiators were located in each classroom; only a few original radiators remain today. The radiator system in the basement is located on the ceiling and may have been a later extension of the original system. Plumbing was added soon after construction. Original cloak or book rooms were adapted for restrooms at each level in the vestibule areas.

The property fronts on Candler Street and is fairly flat, with a slope to the rear. This natural slope was altered with the construction of a retaining wall of stone to the rear of the school. An asphalt parking lot adjoins this stone wall. The landscape is grassed with large hardwood trees scattered in informal arrangements and the building is eneireled by foundation shrubs.

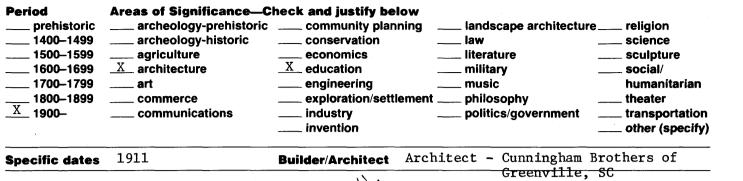
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There are no outbuildings or additional structures located within the nominated property. To the east, a non-historic 1947 addition to the school was recently demolished. There is no known archaeological potential to the site.

Candler Street is a residential neighborhood dominated by the school building. Houses in the area are a mix of late Victorian and Bungalow styles. Candler Street intersects with Green Street, a National Register district.

8. Significance



Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Greenville, SC $\Lambda^{\prime} {}_{\alpha}^{\prime}$ Builder - Loden and Prater of Gainesville, Georgia

The Candler Street School is significant in architecture as a good example of the type of building built to be an early twentieth century elementary school. It is also significant in showing the application of the Georgian Revival style to this type of building. In education the school is important for serving the 3rd Ward of Gainesville as a public elementary school for (67) years, beginning as a neighborhood school built on a city lot similar to those of nearby house lots. It was built before the building boom of the post World War One era and thus represents an earlier effort at school building without the impetus of state funding. Its style is rather simplistic and not as monumental as those built in the 1920's.

Architecturally, Candler Street School is a freely interpreted Georgian Revival styled structure. The building remains fairly intact with few alterations made to the exterior and only cosmetic changes made on the interior. The symmetrical balance on the exterior of the structure was apparently a priority in its design as evidenced by the overall design and especially placement of windows. On the exterior these windows are placed in a symmetrical design, but on the interior this outward arrangement causes the windows on the main floor to meet the ceiling, whereas windows on the second floor are located several feet below the ceiling. It is also significant that the design of the school structure relates to the surrounding neighborhood, especially the large turn-of-the-century residences on Green Street. The style of the structure is an institutional adaption of surrounding residential designs. The style of the structure also relates to the design of Main Street School, now demolished, which was built in 1902 in the southern portion of the community.

The Cunningham Brothers of Greenville, South Carolina were prominent architects in that community. They designed the Candler Street School in 1910 which appears to have been one of their earliest works. This firm was later commissioned to design the Greenville City Auditorium, a structure which still survives. The builder for the school was Prater and Loden of Gainesville, Georgia. Little is known about Loden. The other member of the construction firm, E.L. Prater, had built a number of structures in Toccoa, Georgia around the turn-of-the-century. These structures included a number of residences, three of which are known to still survive and are in the process of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Prater also built the Stephens County Jail in Toccoa, now demolished, and a bank in Taylorsville, Georgia.

In education, the Candler Street School has been a landmark in the Gainesville community since its construction in 1911. In its history, Candler Street School served as a public elementary educational institution for 67 years. It survives today as the only public school structure dating from the early twentieth century in the Gainesville community.

These areas of significance support National Register eligibility under criteria A and C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Draft National Register Information Form prepared in 1981 by Dale Jaeger whose sources included deeds from the Hall County Courthouse; articles from "The Gainesville News", interviews, and historical information supplied by the owner.

10. Geographical Data

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name/title Kenneth H	. Thomas, Jr., Histo	orian		
Historic	Preservation Sectio	on		na an a
organizationGeorgia De	partment of Natural	Resources	date August	16, 1982
street & number 270 W	ashington Street, S.	.₩ .	telephone 404/65	6–2840
city or town Atlanta			state Georgia	•
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Chief of Registration			- 	

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Historical Narrative

Candler Street School was built in 1911, a time when the northern portions of the Gainesville community were developing. Gainesville was chartered in 1821 as the county seat of Hall County which was founded in 1818. The earliest building activity occurred in the vicinity of the central business district. The Atlanta-Charlotte Airline Railroad was established in the 1870's. The depot was located to the south of the central business district so growth occurred in this area. Eventually, this growth developed into industries which made this section of town less desirable for residential neighborhoods. Residential growth began to occur in the areas to the north. Green Street was one of the first such areas. This route, lined with Victorian and Neo-Classical style homes, was easily accessible to the business district by the street car line. Growth soon followed on the side streets of Green Street which included Candler Street. With this growth came the need for a school in this section of the community.

In 1910 the City of Gainesville purchased a lot on Candler Street for the location of the school. The lot was purchased from H.H. Dean and was known as the U.R. Waterman place. The lot measured 95 feet fronting on Candler Street by 250 feet. A house which had apparently been rented by Waterman was demolished in the construction of the school. The structure was designed by the Cumningham Brothers of Greenville, South Carolina and built by Loden and Prater of Gainesville, Georgia. The structure was large for the limited size of the lot. It appears that the building covered almost the entire width of the lot with approximately ten feet remaining on the east and west sides of the building. Playground space was apparently provided to the rear of the structure on adjoining land. The building became an elementary school, a use which continued until it was vacated in June 1978.

In 1937 the City of Gainesville purchased additional property to the east of the building. This additional acreage was used for classroom space which was added to the structure in 1947. Additional city lots were purchased during the 1960's and 1970's. These acquisitions expanded the frontage on Candler Street. Structures which had been located on these lots were demolished with the exception of a modest Bungalow-styled residence located southeast of the school. With subdivision growth in the outlying areas, it appears that the number of elementary school age children decreased in the central city so the school was closed in 1978.

The school building is currently being renovated into offices, pursuant to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

