

73001776

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Tennessee	
COUNTY:	Hamilton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
MAR 14 1973		

1. NAME

COMMON:  
The Old Library Building (Rep. Lamar Baker)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

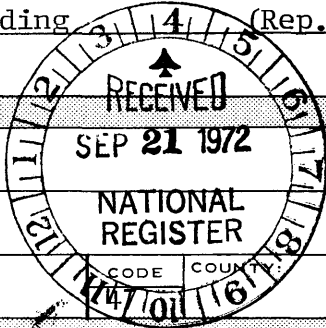
2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
200 East 8th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chattanooga

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE COUNTY CODE  
Hamilton 065



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 (Specify) <u>Offices</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Gordon Street, Sr.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
North American Royalties, Inc. 200 East 8th Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chattanooga

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE  
065

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Hamilton County Register's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:  
Chattanooga

STATE:  
Tennessee

CODE  
47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Tennessee

COUNTY: Hamilton

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 14 1973

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Old Library Building is located on a sloping lot on the southeast corner of Eighth Street and Georgia Avenue in downtown Chattanooga. It is directly across the street from the Times or Dome Building, another of the city's major landmarks.

The exterior of the library building has changed little since it was built in the early twentieth century. It is a compact structure consisting of a raised basement of rough stone and two upper floors built of marble in the Neo-Classical style. The main entrance is surmounted by an arched window flanked by columns in the Ionic order. The frieze is plain; the cornice carved with a modified egg and dart design.

When the present owner purchased the building in the late 1960's, he also acquired the property to the south on Georgia Avenue. The non-descript structure which butted against the library was replaced by a parking area designed to be in harmony with the library building. The line defining the base of the first floor of the library was extended to create the roof line of the parking lot. Simple vertical ironwork encloses the parking area.

The interior of the library building was altered to accommodate the office space necessary for the present occupants. Early photographs in the files of the Chattanooga Public Library show that originally the main reading room was two stories high in the central portion of the building. A second floor balcony overlooked this room. A double staircase flanking the entrance foyer gave access to the upper story. The staircase as well as other architectural components, such as the columns, were retained in the renovation of the building. The interior now consists of centrally located reception areas on both floors with offices for computer operations on the first floor and executive offices on the second.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

Opened July 17, 1905

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>Preservation</u>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>by private</u>                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>individual</u>                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

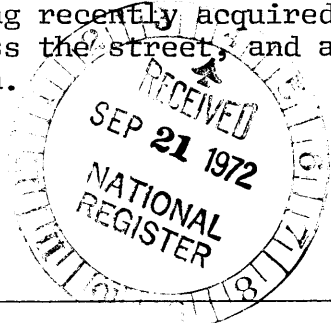
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, the Old Library Building is one of the finer early structures remaining in downtown Chattanooga. It is a building having strong nostalgic associations for many citizens, a feeling which is not only shared by the present owner but one which prompted his individual efforts to preserve the building.

As was true throughout the country at the turn of the century, Carnegie money initiated the building of a public library in Chattanooga. The first library in the city was established in 1867. There was no building designed specifically for library use until Carnegie offered \$50,000 if the city provided a suitable lot and promised an annual appropriation of ten percent of the amount of the gift.

The city met the requirements and in 1903 construction began. Atlanta architect W. T. Dowling was employed to design the library but was soon discharged and replaced by Chattanooga architects, Hunt and Bearden. On April 15, 1904, the cornerstone was laid, and the formal opening took place on July 17, 1905. The library cost a total of \$65,000, including \$15,000 for the lot purchased from the Catholic Church, \$33,000 for the building itself, and \$17,000 for furnishings.

In 1940, the library was moved to a building adjoining the campus of the University of Chattanooga, now the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. As years passed the future of the old building was not good until the late 1960's when it was purchased and renovated by the present occupant. This private individual preservation effort has received acclaim both locally and nationally. Hopefully, it will have an influence on Chattanooga, a city which is going through a period of transition. The owner of the library building recently acquired the Times or Dome Building, directly across the street, and another major landmark in downtown Chattanooga.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Chattanooga Public Library Clipping File on Library Building  
 Information provided by office of present owner of building.  
 Architectural Digest, July-August, 1971.

H13  
 16 / 3879350  
 654380

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		35 ° 02' 48 "	85 ° 18 ' 27"	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Ellen Beasley**

ORGANIZATION: **Tennessee Historical Commission**      DATE: **9-15-72**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**403 7th Avenue, North**

CITY OR TOWN: **Nashville**      STATE: **Tennessee**      CODE: **47**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/>    State <input type="checkbox"/>    Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Michael J. Smith</u></p> <p>Title <u>Executive Director</u> <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u></p> <p>Date <u>9-15-72</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert H. Utley</u>                  Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>3/14/73</u></p> <p>ATTEST:  <u>[Signature]</u>                  Keeper, The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>3.8.73</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

73001776

NOV 20 1979

County Hamilton

Inventory # I-10-752

Temp. Field # 1

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INVENTORY

*Old Library Building*

Historic Name Carnegie Public Library Common Name Headquarters North American Royalties

Owner North American Royalties Address 200 East 8th Street

Property Location 200 East Eighth Street

Chattanooga, TN 37402

Map: Quad Name Chattanooga No. 105-SE Edition 1969

Historical Data: Date of Construction 1904 Source \_\_\_\_\_

Although the city has had a library since 1867, this was the first building specifically designed for library use; built with \$50,000 grant offered by Andrew Carnegie.

Informant \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Present Use Offices Original Use Library

Original Location Yes Moved? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Site Bldg. XX Structure \_\_\_\_\_ Object \_\_\_\_\_ Part of District Thematic

Areas of Significance Architecture

Eligible for NR? Yes Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Property endangered? NO By what? \_\_\_\_\_

Photos: B&W: Roll # \_\_\_\_\_ Frame # \_\_\_\_\_ Date taken \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_

Color: Roll # \_\_\_\_\_ Frame # \_\_\_\_\_ Date taken \_\_\_\_\_ By \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Negative \_\_\_\_\_ Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by: Martha Carver Date Recorded: February, 1979

Address: Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission

County Hamilton

Inventory # I-10-752

Temp. Field # 1

Architectural Data: Construction: Frame  Log  Brick  Stone

No. of stories 3 Roof type flat Material \_\_\_\_\_ Original?

Wall covering: weatherboard  B&B  Vertical board  None

Tongue and Grooved \_\_\_\_\_ Sawn \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

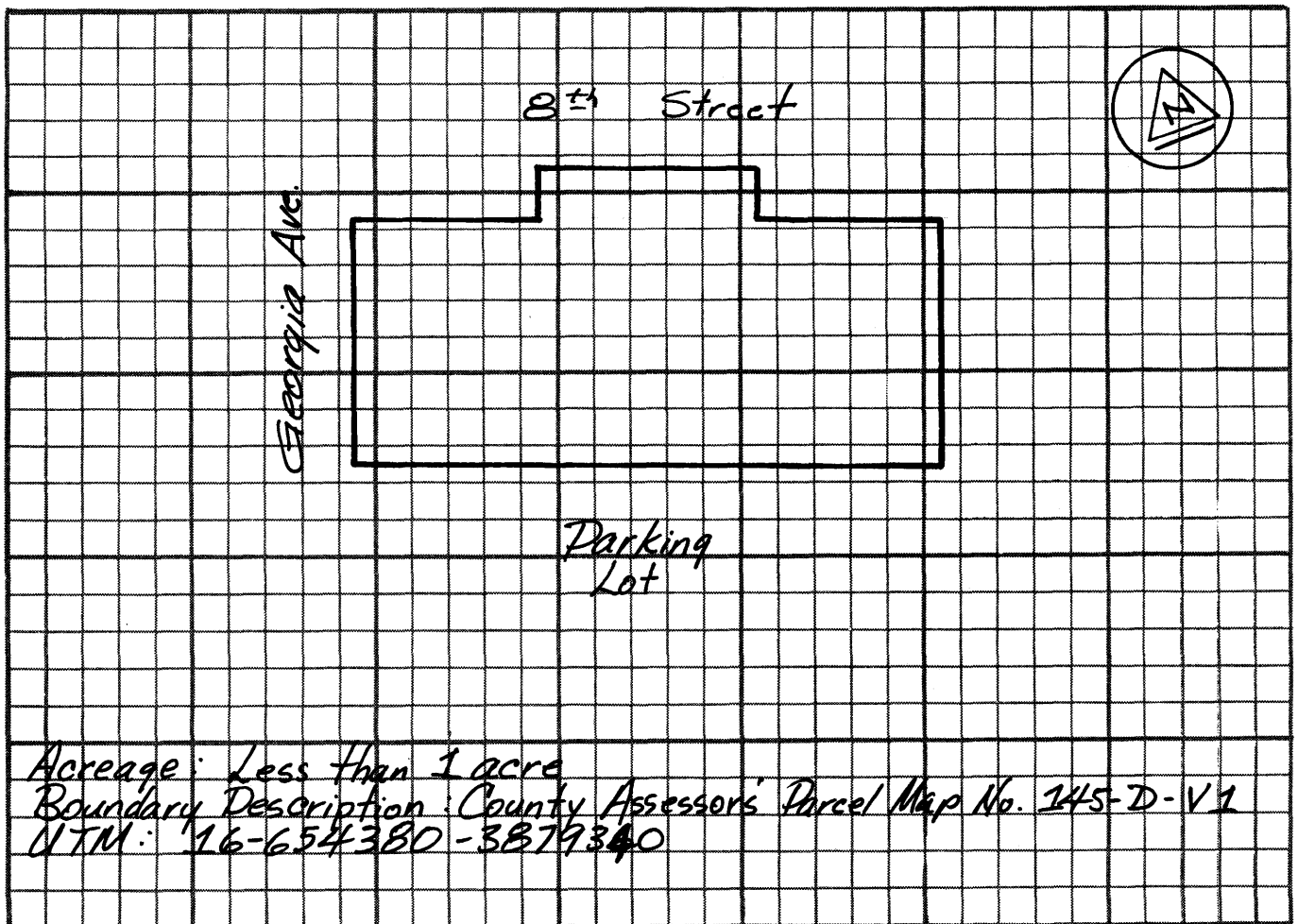
Chimney: No. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Material \_\_\_\_\_

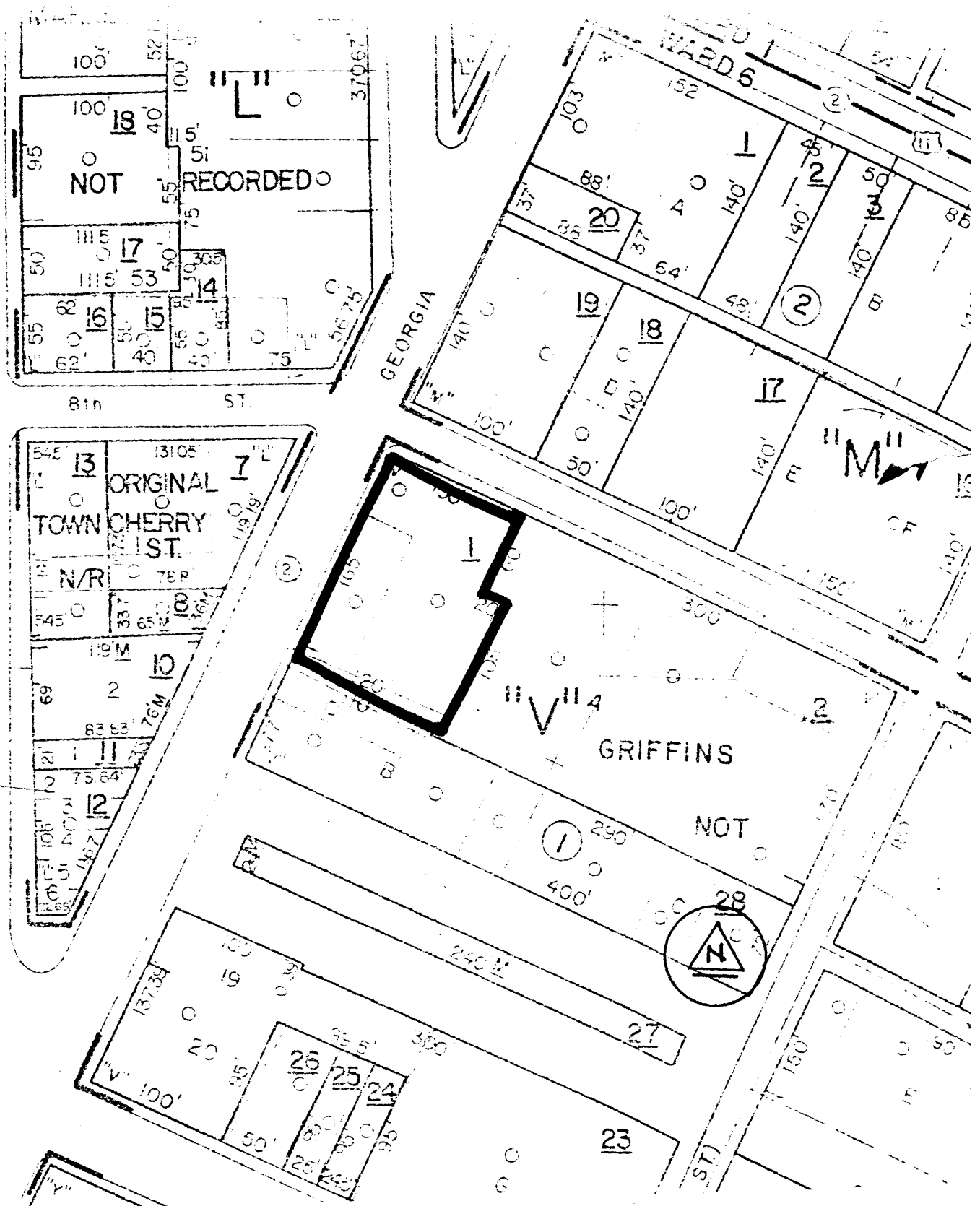
Foundation: Pier  Stone  Brick  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Basic Plan Rectangular

Architectural Notes Neo-Classical: arched entranceway flanked by unfluted coupled Ionic columns, plain frieze, cornice has modified egg and dart design, remaining three wall surfaces are unadorned.

Sketch Plan Below (include North, door and window locations, etc.):





Carnegie 145-D-V-1 1" = 100'

NOV 20 1979

#1