

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED JUN 6 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 15 1978

**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

HISTORIC

The Seminary

AND/OR COMMON

Malone House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

6886 Main Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lithonia

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th Elliott H. Levitas

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

DeKalb

CODE

089

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Jennie Malone Edwards

STREET & NUMBER

6886 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Lithonia

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk of Superior Court

STREET & NUMBER

207 DeKalb County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Decatur

STATE

Georgia 30030

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Architectural Survey, DeKalb County

DATE

7-8-77

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Seminary is a massive two-story granite-bearing wall structure with a hip roof. A double veranda with two-story square section twin columns spans the front facade of the house. The house is located within the original boundaries of its lot on Main Street in the small town of Lithonia.

The oldest portion of the building is the 19 inch to 24 inch granite bearing wall mass with hip roof. The first exterior addition made in approximately 1906 was the double veranda. The only other major changes to the exterior were the addition of two bathroom wings to the rear of the building. The first of these is located on axis with the front entrance door (see Plan A) and is a two-story bathroom addition built in c.1918. The second bathroom addition was made in 1962 and is a one-story concrete block structure abutting the rear north corner of the house. Other exterior changes are minor and include the unobtrusive creation of a door from a window in the front facade.

The interior of the house retains the basic layout of the 1906 hotel. The first floor of the house has a 12 foot ceiling height and is divided into two areas by the entrance hall and stair. The area to the left of the entrance hall is divided into three long rooms. These rooms served as the parlor, dining room and kitchen of the former hotel. The rooms to the right of the entrance hall retain the hotel bedroom divisions.

The second floor of the house has a 16 foot ceiling height and has bedrooms arranged off of two intersecting hallways -- one centered hallway running the length of the building and the other directly above the entrance hallway (see Plan B). The later addition of these bedrooms and hallways is evident in the angled layout of the southeast hallway planned to match existing window placement. The hand-painted room numbers remain on the second floor bedroom doors.

The only interior changes are the redecoration of two of the first floor "hotel" bedrooms into a small parlor and a modern kitchen. The c.1906 room divisions remain intact.

The boundaries of the city lot upon which the house is located have not changed since the structure was constructed. An original five hole privy exists in a deteriorated condition on the rear north corner of the lot.

The creation of a new road necessitated the destruction of the house adjacent to the Seminary and a city park was created in the unused portion of land. This park affords a fine unobstructed view of the large granite building.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1895 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Seminary is an important element in the history of Lithonia through its connections with the social, educational and economic history of the small town. The building is also an unusual piece of architecture and the granite with which it was constructed exemplifies the industry on which much of the town's growth was based.

The city of Lithonia derives its name from the Greek words Lithos "rock" and Onia "place". It was due to a large degree to the quarrying of granite that Lithonia became a prosperous town. The materials used in the construction of the Seminary are a fine example of the Lithonia granite from which the city derived not only its name, but also its economic livelihood.

The Seminary was originally constructed in 1895 on land donated by Benjamin Franklin George whose interest in the creation of a school was due in part to his own desire for the proper education of his seven children. The George family is prominent in the history of Lithonia and includes the first mayor of Lithonia, W. Henry George, elected in 1888. When the Seminary was constructed the city had no public school system and schools were operated by individuals and supported by tuition. The Seminary was one of three schools in Lithonia at the time and it remained in operation until c.1906 with the public school system being established in 1905.

In 1906 the ownership of the Seminary passed to John Keay Davidson, Sr. Mr. Davidson had immigrated from Scotland in 1888 and eventually started his own granite quarrying company, the Davidson Granite Company, in Lithonia in 1901. This company grew to become one of the largest producers of diversified stone products in the country and the largest producer of poultry grit in the world.

Mr. Davidson brought skilled stone masons from Scotland to work his quarries and he turned the Seminary into the Auto Rest Hotel to house these men. There was a housing shortage in Lithonia due to the rapid rise of importance of the granite industry and the Auto Rest Hotel helped provide temporary housing until the workers' families joined them in Lithonia. The hand-painted hotel room numbers remain on the bedroom doors on the second floor.

The Auto Rest Hotel continued in operation from c.1906 to c.1917 when Mr. J.H. Malone purchased the building. Mr. Malone added inside plumbing and electricity (a central heating system has never been added) and used the building as a private residence. The Seminary has remained in the Malone family and now houses the daughter of J.H. Malone, Mrs. Jennie M. Edwards.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Almond, Judge Bond. Lithonia the First Hundred Years 1856-1956. Lithonia Public Libra

Brewster, Gaines, and Fran Fossett. Charlies World. Williams Printing Co., Atlanta, Georgia, 1972.

Interview with Mrs. Jennie M. Edwards on November 4, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .54 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Conyers, Georgia

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 76 78 70 3733 3734 550

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From a deed - 10-19-71, Book 1613, p. 664. The property is described as follows:
 "Beginning at a corner of property now or formerly owned by B.F. George on the westerly side of Main Street and running thence northwesterly along the line of said B. F. George

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Betty M. Strack, Architect/ Deni Lamb, Intern, Historic Preservation Section

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Section

DATE

12-27-76

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington St., S.W.

TELEPHONE

404-656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia 30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL x

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth A. Lyon

TITLE

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

5/25/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles A. ...

DATE

11-15-78

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Marcella ...

DATE

11-13-78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

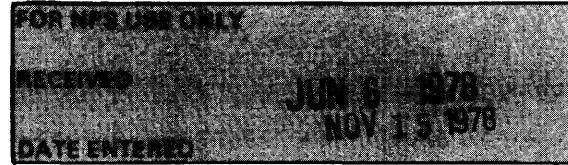
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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The versatility of this well-constructed granite building is evident in its use as a school, a hotel and a private residence. The building is important not only in an architectural sense, but also through its connections with the George and Davidson families who were important to the early development of Lithonia.

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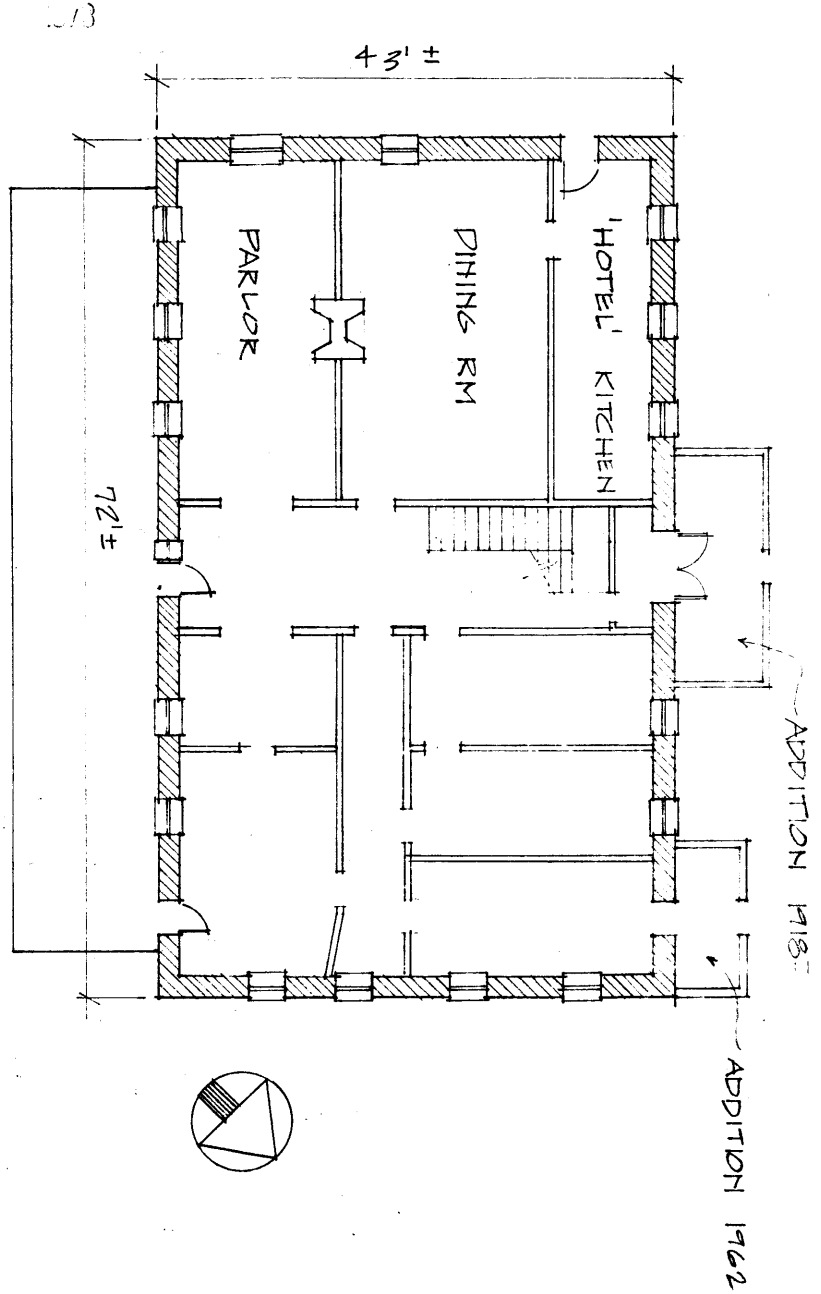
CONTINUATION SHEET Verbal Boundary **ITEM NUMBER** 10 **PAGE** 2
Description

property one hundred fifty-nine (159) feet and nine (9) inches to a corner with the said property now or formerly owned by B.F. George; thence southerly along the line of the property now or formerly owned by B.F. George one hundred forty-five feet and four inches (145'4") to Parkway Drive (formerly Decatur Street); thence southeasterly along the northeasterly side of said Parkway Drive one hundred thirty-five (135) feet to Main Street and thence in a northerly direction along the westerly side of Main Street one hundred thirty-three feet and five inches (133'5") and continuing three-fourths (3/4) of one (1) acre".

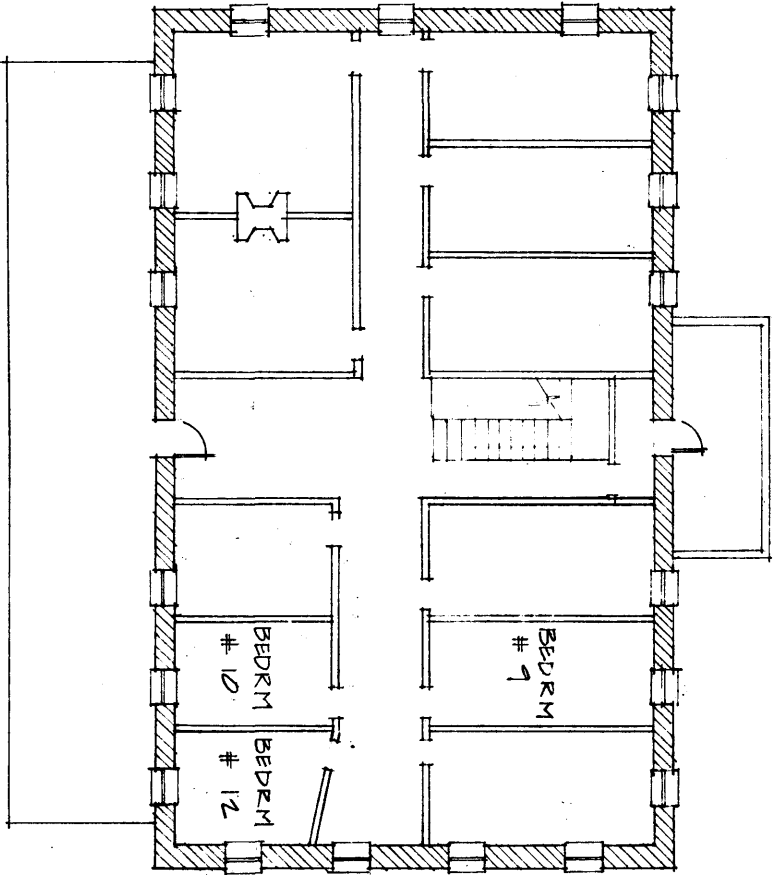
SKETCH MAP

The Seminary, Lithonia, DeKalb County

JUN 6 1978



FIRST FLOOR PLAN - THE SEMINARY
EXISTING PLAN A



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
PLAN B