

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		district
		site
		structure
		object
1	0	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT / NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete

roof: Asphalt

other:

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

The Owen Building, located at 1321 Lady Street, in Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina, is a 1949 mid-century modern skyscraper in the capital city's downtown business district. Frank Owen, who had made his personal fortune in structural steel, chose to invest in Columbia by building the city's first postwar skyscraper. After engaging the South Carolina architectural firm of Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, Owen attracted Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph (SBT&T) to lease the stylistically and technologically modern office building. Due to a lack of significant changes, the Owen building retains its original sleek, repetitive façade and has a high degree of architectural integrity.

Narrative Description

The Owen Building is an eight-story, flat-roofed light pink concrete skyscraper, part of which was built around an existing two-story brick and/or concrete building dating from 1945. The building's main, south-facing façade on Lady Street is divided into three vertical sections delineated by recessed vertical grooves. The entrance doors are set off by a white concrete surround. The double glass and aluminum doors that were the focus of the original main entrance were accented by a decorative aluminum grille that extended overhead. The detail of the grill included interlocking rectangles in an emphasis of the building's verticality. Though Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair's original plans called for a central "OWEN" nameplate in the grill, it is unclear from historic photographs as to whether or not this detail was included in the final design. A large plate glass window was located to the left of the entrance. Two plate glass windows divided by a single door which echoed elements of the main entrance were located to its right.¹ A cornice with a stylized triglyph and metope ornamented frieze surrounds the cap of the building.

All four elevations of the Owen Building retain their original casement windows. On the façade, the center section of the main entry features seven floors of nine-paned casement windows, flanked by 20-paned windows on both sides. The east and west elevations are divided into ten bays with rectangular concrete pilasters. The central eight segments of these elevations feature eight-paned casement windows, while the final north and south segments feature four-paned windows. The building's rear, or north, elevation has a tripartite division of recessed vertical grooves similar to that of the façade. The windows on this elevation are smaller, with double eight-paned windows flanking single eight-paned windows in the center.

The 1961 annex, also designed by Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, is a four-story brick building. The annex's façade has a cast-stone and brick exterior and an offset, recessed glass entry. On the far left (southeast corner) of the annex's façade, a double column of single-pane windows and metal panels follow the stairwell up all four floors. While these features give the annex a more late twentieth-century modern appearance, the casement windows used in the annex are comparable to those used in the Owen Building. This lends some architectural continuity where the two buildings join on the north side of the Owen Building.

After the Seibels Bruce insurance company purchased the Owen Building and annex in 1980, it altered the earlier building's façade. The original main entrance was replaced with a newer set of doors. At this time, the aluminum grille was removed and the semicircular window above the main entrance was added. The original plate glass windows to the right and left of the façade were replaced. The right now features a large four-by-seven square pane plate glass window while the left features a plate glass window with four vertical rectangular panes. Seibels Bruce also updated the interior space, but did not make dramatic changes. The building retains the modern, relatively undecorated interior and repetitive corridors that originally defined the space. The original mail chute is still intact, and many of the original doors are still in place or in storage. Only

¹ Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, "Owen Building, Columbia, South Carolina," architectural plans, 2 August 1947.

one of the building's original windows has been removed, though it is unclear when this change occurred. The window opening, located on the second floor of the west façade, is currently covered with a board.

The Owen Building's shape, windows, and significant structural elements retain their integrity and general appearance from the building's 1949 completion. Likewise, the 1961 annex retains its architectural integrity and connection with the Owen Building.

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)

- 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.
- 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)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1947 - 1961

Significant Dates

1949
1961

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair (Architects)
General Construction Company of Columbia

Period of Significance (justification)

Construction of the Owen Building began in 1947. The period of significance covers the 1949 completion of the Owen Building, and construction of the Annex in 1961.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

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

The Owen Building, completed in 1949, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion C for Architecture as an increasingly rare example of mid-century modern architecture in downtown Columbia, South Carolina. Designed by the prominent South Carolina architectural firm Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, the building's sleek, repetitive façade emphasizes its materials: concrete, glass, and steel. Technologically modern, the office building is believed to have been the largest building in Columbia to be built using the innovative time and cost saving tilt-up construction method.

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

Architecture

On July 25, 1947, in an article in *The State* newspaper, Frank Owen, the owner of the Owen Steel Company, announced his intention to build a new skyscraper in Columbia. While the building would not be the city's tallest, at only eight stories, it would be the first skyscraper to be built in Columbia after World War II. By the end of July, Owen had secured the prominent tenant, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph (SBT&T), and the South Carolina architectural firm, Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, that would make his aspirations a reality.²

The firm of Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair was well-known in South Carolina for its many public, commercial, and private building commissions during the early twentieth century. By the 1940s, Robert Lafaye, George Lafaye Jr., and Herndon M. Fair had demonstrated a preference for and skill in designing modern buildings. In their design for the Owen Building, they created a sleek, repetitive façade that celebrated the concrete, glass, and steel that made up the building's skeleton. Through these simple, clean lines, the firm, in effect, made a statement about the future of architecture in Columbia. The firm's designers eschewed the ornate skyscrapers that decorated Columbia's skyline for a new kind of beauty marked by innovation, form, and simplicity. Similarly, they expressed the desire, not unusual in the profession, to move away from South Carolina's traditional architectural preferences toward an architecture of the future.³

By committing to rent the Owen Building while it was still being designed, SBT&T had the rare opportunity to impact the office building's design. It is unclear how much input Southern Bell had on the mid-century modern façade. The Owen's Building's fireproof design, in that it was primarily made of concrete and steel, was likely desired by both Frank Owen and SBT&T. The floors, roof and frame were of concrete on metal lath with plaster, while interior floors were covered in asphalt tile. Southern Bell worked with Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair to create an innovative and functional interior design that suited the communications company. To accommodate SBT&T's unique needs, the firm designed a set of under-floor telephone ducts to be constructed under the first floor of the building. As this was Southern Bell's first office in the state, it is likely that this feature was the first of its kind in Columbia, if not South Carolina. This feature continued to make the building appealing to potential tenants decades after its construction. Seibels Bruce's Policy Management Services Division (later PMSC) ran wiring through the ducts; as such, it made the wiring easily accessible while still hidden away.⁴

The General Construction Company of Columbia was chosen as the general contractor for the Owen Building. W.F. Douglas acted as the engineer and E.S. Rabon was the superintendent for the project. Established by Robert E. Fulmer and Charles A. Tomlinson, the General Construction Company first appeared in the

² *The State*, 2 November 1986, from the vertical file, "Columbia Businesses," Richland County Public Library; Mary Sherrer interview with Betty Owen Sturkey, 6 March 2012; *The State*, 25 July 1947.

³ Andrew W. Chandler, "Lafaye and Lafaye," *The South Carolina Encyclopedia* (Columbia: University of South Carolina, 2006), 527; *The State*, 25 July 1947 and 26 July 1947.

⁴ Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair, "Office Building for Owen Building Corp., Columbia, So. Car." 9 July 1948, architectural plans; Mary Sherrer interview with Betty Owen Sturkey, 6 March 2012; *The State* 25 July 1947.

Columbia city directories in 1939 with an office at 1521 Main Street. The partnership between the General Construction Company of Columbia and Lafaye and Lafaye must have been an effective one. Soon after the Owen Building was completed, the two firms worked together on the Seibels, Bruce Building on Lady Street.⁵

By the late 1940s, the General Construction Company of Columbia had established a reputation of being forward-thinking and efficient. In part, this was due to the Company's success with and promotion of the tilt-up or tilt-slab sandwich construction method. Though tilt-up construction was in use in the United States during the early 1900s, it was not frequently used until the 1940s. The repetitive, straightforward construction method was noted for saving time and reducing labor costs and was an effective solution during the national postwar building boom.⁶

The efficient tilt-up method allowed for the simultaneous creation of multiple concrete panels. Instead of pouring concrete for the walls in place, workers created wall sections by pouring concrete into wooden frames laid on temporary slabs. Openings for windows were filled with sand. To provide additional strength, insulation and lightness, "open faced sandwich panels" were used in the Owen Building. These panels were made up of two inches of concrete and six inches of vermiculite concrete. After the Owen Building's steel framing, designed by architect-engineer R.S. Johnson and built using Owen Steel beams, was completed, the cast panels were lifted or tilted into place with a crane.⁷

The *Engineering News Record*, a nationally-distributed construction trade journal, profiled the Owen Building in an article in its May 19, 1949 issue. It explained that the builders had cut nearly \$100,000 in construction costs by using reinforced concrete columns, precast concrete panels, and the tilt-up construction method. By using these methods, the General Construction Company only required three skilled cement finishers and fewer skilled carpenters than a typical job would require. As a result, the total estimated construction cost of the skyscraper was an astonishing \$8.10 per square foot.⁸

The tilt-up method may have also provided the most effective way to solve an interesting challenge provided by the Lady Street lot: a pre-existing building. Frank Owen wanted to continue to rent the building during construction, and hoped that the two-story building could be incorporated into the final skyscraper. A clever building design and the use of the tilt-up method enabled this small feat. The building's tenants, the Commercial Credit Union and Southern Bell, were listed in the City Directory at this location throughout the period of construction (1947-1949). The *Engineering News* confirmed their success, proclaiming that the Owen Building "was built over and to the rear of an existing 28-ft. by 160-ft. long, two-story building, without interfering with the tenants." Once completed, the Owen Building was the same length as the previous building, 160 feet. Its four rows of concrete columns created a slightly irregular three-bay façade. They measure 25 feet 1 inch, 16 feet 4 inches, and 28 feet 10 inches. This irregularity is almost certainly due to the incorporation of the previous building, which was 28 feet 10 inches in width.⁹

Tilt-up construction was most commonly used for large, utilitarian buildings, such as warehouses and industrial buildings. However, the General Construction Company also used the innovative method for public facilities such as the Maxcy Gregg Park pool bathhouse (ca. 1949-1950) and the Pacific Community Building (ca.

⁵ Columbia City Directory, 1939, Richland County Public Library; Lafaye, Fair, Lafaye & Associates, *Representative Work for Lafaye, Fair, Lafaye & Associates, Architects, Columbia, South Carolina* (n.p.: Lafaye and Lafaye, 1958), 63.

⁶ "Tilt-up Construction and Other Types of Work Done by General Construction Company, Columbia, South Carolina" (n.p.: General Construction Company, n.d.); "Tilt-up Construction: An Old Idea, With New Innovations," <http://www.tiltup.com/commercial-construction-articles/general-contractor-concrete/>, accessed 17 August 2012.

⁷ "Precast Wall Sections Cut Cost of Office Building," *Engineering News Record*, 19 May 1949, vol. 142, no. 20, p. 22; F. Thomas Collins, "Precast Concrete Sandwich Panels for Tilt-Up Construction," *Journal of the American Concrete Institute*, October 1954, pp. 149-151.

⁸ "Precast Wall Sections Cut Cost of Office Building," *Engineering News Record*, 19 May 1949, vol. 142, no. 20, p. 22.

⁹ Columbia City Directory, 1945-1947, Richland County Public Library; "Precast Wall Sections Cut Cost of Office Building," *Engineering News Record*, 19 May 1949, vol. 142, no. 20, p. 22.

1945-1946). Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair's repetitive, modern design and Frank Owen's desire for a fireproof building made the Owen Building very well-suited to the application of tilt-up construction. Probably the largest and certainly the most prominent building in Columbia to be constructed with the tilt-up method, the Owen Building was the star in the General Construction Company's tilt-up construction promotional pamphlet.¹⁰

By the late 1950s, Southern Bell needed more space to house its computers. Frank Owen had Lafaye, Fair and Lafaye draw up plans for a suitable addition in 1959. Completed in 1961, it was known as the SBT&T Annex. Though the building had a different address, 1307 Marion Street, the annex was connected to the Owen Building and abutted it at its far northeast side. Most of the annex's features lend it a more late twentieth-century appearance, but the placement and choice of casement windows establish a sense of continuity between the original building and the addition. Southern Bell continued to use the annex until 1980.¹¹

Developmental History/Additional Historic Context Information (if appropriate)

By the turn of the twentieth century, Lady Street had begun transitioning from a residential to a commercial street. As Columbia's growing population began moving to new suburban neighborhoods on the edges of the cities, the two- and three-story houses in this older residential area were increasingly used as rentals and boarding houses. By the 1920s, many of these houses were being torn down for the construction of new commercial buildings. In the Columbia City Directory for 1940, the 1300 block included Southern Silice Mining & Manufacturing Company (1303), Knox Motor Service (1305), Standard Parts (1307-1309), two houses with rented rooms at 1311 and 1317, and the Free Bros Laundry (1329). In 1945, the brick and concrete Commercial Credit Union building was built at 1325. This two-story building would be later be incorporated into the Owen Building.¹²

Frank D. Owen, a Columbia businessman, started the Owen Steel Company on Blanding Street in 1936. His timing was fortuitous, and the company, which manufactured structural steel beams and girders, prospered as a result of World War II and the postwar building boom. By 1947, Owen had decided to invest in Columbia and to ensure a steady stream of rental income for his family by building an office building. After forming the Owen Building Corporation, Owen purchased a lot on Lady Street and began seeking out an architect and potential tenants.¹³

By the time the Owen Building Corporation formally announced its plans to build in a front-page article in *The State* newspaper on July 25, 1947, it had both. Estimated at \$800,000, construction was to begin within a few weeks and be completed by January 1, 1948. Southern Bell had signed a 15-year lease for \$100,000 per year to occupy four and a half floors, just over half of the building. Owen planned to offer the remainder of the space to other tenants.¹⁴

¹⁰ "Tilt-up Construction and Other Types of Work Done by General Construction Company, Columbia, South Carolina" (n.p.: General Construction Company, n.d.).

¹¹ Lafaye, Fair & Lafaye, "Alterations and Addition to Owen Building, Columbia, South Carolina," 10 July 1959, architectural plans; Columbia City Directory, 1959-1980, Richland County Public Library.

¹² *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, Columbia, 1910, 1918 and 1949, (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Thomas Cooper Library, Digital Collections Dept., 2005); John Hammond Moore, *Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740-1990* (Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1993), 277; Columbia City Directories, 1920-1945, Richland County Public Library.

¹³ *The State*, 2 November 1986, from the vertical file, "Columbia Businesses," Richland County Public Library; Mary Sherrer interview with Betty Owen Sturkey, 6 March 2012; *The State*, 25 July 1947.

¹⁴ *The State*, 2 November 1986, from the vertical file, "Columbia Businesses," Richland County Public Library; Mary Sherrer interview with Betty Owen Sturkey, 6 March 2012; *The State*, 25 July 1947.

Several editorials published in *The State* argued that the construction of the Owen Building was yet another sign of Columbia's growing economy and positive business climate. At eight stories, the Owen Building would be far from the tallest building in Columbia. However, editorials *The State* and the *Columbia Record* proudly called it a skyscraper, and commented upon the growth of the city's skyline. The Owen Building was part of a record-breaking year of construction for Columbia. The value of building permits granted in August 1947 totaled over one million dollars, the highest number filed in eight years. The Owen Building strongly contributed to the monthly statistic, as it accounted for about half the value. Over the entire year, over five million dollars was spent on construction in the city. This was more than had ever been spent in any previous year, the closest being \$4,300,000 in 1939.¹⁵

The Owen Building exemplified postwar growth in Columbia not only due to its modern architecture, but also because SBT&T, its most prominent tenant, was at the forefront of expanding technological development within South Carolina. After World War II, the demand for telephone service in South Carolina increased dramatically. Instead of relying on offices in Atlanta and Charlotte, Southern Bell decided that a new office in Columbia was necessary in order to best serve this developing market. The new office would handle a significant portion of SBT&T's accounting. In the summer of 1948, *The State* reported that the Greater Columbia area would have between 32,000 and 33,000 telephones by the end of the year. The editors proudly stated, "In many ways we gather evidence of Columbia's growth. These telephone figures certainly are those of quite a city."¹⁶

Southern Bell was the Owen Building's major tenant from its opening in 1949 through 1968. As the company leased part of the existing two-story building at 1327 Lady Street for its district engineering and plant office from 1945-1948, its occupancy at the site is actually longer. From 1949 to 1953, SBT&T leased just over half of the building's floors. Single offices on the second through fourth floors included such varied tenants as insurance companies, lawyers, accountants, the Commercial Credit Union, and Peter's Concessions in the basement. Then, from 1953 to 1968, SBT&T leased the entire Owen Building, excepting the concessions and the Owen Corporation offices. Southern Bell's offices included business, accounting, and engineering services. In 1969, SBT&T left the Owen Building for a larger and more modern office building on 1616 Hampton Street.¹⁷

In 1961, Southern Bell expanded its offices at the Owen Building with the completion of a perpendicular annex extension on the rear east side of the building. Known as the SBT&T annex, it was built to house the company's computers. SBT&T occupied this annex until 1979, even after the company had moved the rest of its operations to Hampton Street. The annex was vacant until 1991, when the Associated Press Wire Service became a tenant.¹⁸

The Owen family sold the building and annex to the Seibels Bruce insurance company in 1977. The Seibels Bruce company made some minor changes to the building's façade and renamed it the Bruce building. After SBT&T left in 1968, the Owen Building had been leased to a number of different tenants, including the South Carolina Bar Association, the State Public Service Commission, and the State Department of Social Services. After it purchased the building, Seibels Bruce allotted an office on the second floor for its Policy Management Services Division, later known as PMSC. PMSC created management software for insurance companies, and

¹⁵ *The State*, 26 July 1947; *The State*, 7 September 1947; *The State*, 2 January 1948; *The State*, 12 December 1948; *The State*, 24 September 1949.

¹⁶ *Columbia Record*, 25 July 1947; *The State*, 23 August 1948; Peter Davis, ed., *Legacy and Promise: The Story of Southern Bell* (n.p. Southern Bell, 1984?), 25-27.

¹⁷ Columbia City Directories, 1945-1969, Richland County Public Library; "Pre-Cast Wall Sections Cut Cost of Office Building," *Engineering News Record*, 19 May 1949, vol. 142, no. 2, p. 22.

¹⁸ Columbia City Directories, 1945-1969, Richland County Public Library; *The State*, 14 May 1990.

eventually became the major tenant of the building. By 1986, PMSC had expanded into a 7,000-employee company separate from Seibels Bruce and moved to a new office space.¹⁹

The Owen Building's two major tenants, Southern Bell and PMSC, both were at the forefront of the technologies of their eras. The building's modern look, and ideal location near Main Street, had proved attractive to both companies. Frank Owen's initial investment in Columbia paid off, as his office building kept jobs and traffic in downtown Columbia at a time when many businesses were expanding into the suburbs.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other

Name of repository: **S.C. Dept. of Archives & History**

Sources

Primary Sources

Columbia City Directories. 1920-1980. Richland County Public Library.

Collins, F. Thomas. "Precast Concrete Sandwich Panels for Tilt-Up Construction." *Journal of the American Concrete Institute*, October 1954.

Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair. "Owen Building, Columbia, South Carolina." 2 August 1947. architectural plans.

Lafaye, Lafaye, and Fair. "Office Building for Owen Building Corp., Columbia, So. Car." 9 July 1948. architectural plans.

Lafaye, Fair & Lafaye. "Alterations and Addition to Owen Building, Columbia, South Carolina." 10 July 1959. architectural plans.

Lafaye, Fair, Lafaye & Associates. *Representative Work for Lafaye, Fair, Lafaye & Associates, Architects, Columbia, South Carolina*. n.p.: Lafaye and Lafaye?, 1958.

Mary Sherrer interview with Betty Owen Sturkey. 6 March 2012.

"Precast Wall Sections Cut Cost of Office Building." *Engineering News Record*, 19 May 1949. vol. 142. no. 20.

"Tilt-up Construction and Other Types of Work Done by General Construction Company, Columbia, South Carolina." n.p.: General Construction Company, n.d.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Columbia. 1910, 1918 and 1949. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Thomas Cooper Library, Digital Collections Dept., 2005.

Newspaper Articles

The State, 25 July 1947.

Columbia Record, 25 July 1947.

The State, 26 July 1947.

The State, 7 September 1947.

The State, 2 January 1948.

The State, 23 August 1948.

The State, 12 December 1948.

The State, 24 September 1949.

Columbia Record, 4 January 1980.

The State, 2 November 1986, from the vertical file, "Columbia Businesses," Richland County Public Library.

The State, 14 May 1990.

¹⁹ *Columbia Record*, 4 January 1980; Columbia City Directories, 1945-1969, Richland County Public Library; *The State*, 14 May 1990.

Secondary Sources

Chandler, Andrew W. "Lafaye and Lafaye." *The South Carolina Encyclopedia*. Columbia: University of South Carolina, 2006.
Davis, Peter, ed. *Legacy and Promise: The Story of Southern Bell*. n.p. Southern Bell, 1984?
Moore, John Hammond. *Columbia and Richland County: A South Carolina Community, 1740-1990*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1993.
"Tilt-up Construction: An Old Idea, With New Innovations." <http://www.tiltup.com/commercial-construction-articles/general-contractor-concrete/> accessed 17 August 2012.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>497100</u>	<u>3762547</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line marked "Owen Building" on the accompanying portion of a Richland County GIS map, drawn at a scale of 1" = 90'.

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary is restricted to the parcel historically associated with the office building and annex.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Betsworth
organization Historic Columbia Foundation date April 29, 2013
street & number 1601 Richland Street telephone (812) 568-3280
city or town Columbia state SC zip code 29210
e-mail Jennifer.Betsworth@gmail.com

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)

• **Owner Information**

Tom Prioresci (US Development)
1530 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201
803-748-0460

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white 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: Owen Building
City or Vicinity: 1321 Lady Street, Columbia
County: Richland
State: South Carolina
Photographer: Mary Sherrer
Date Photographed: February 8, 2012

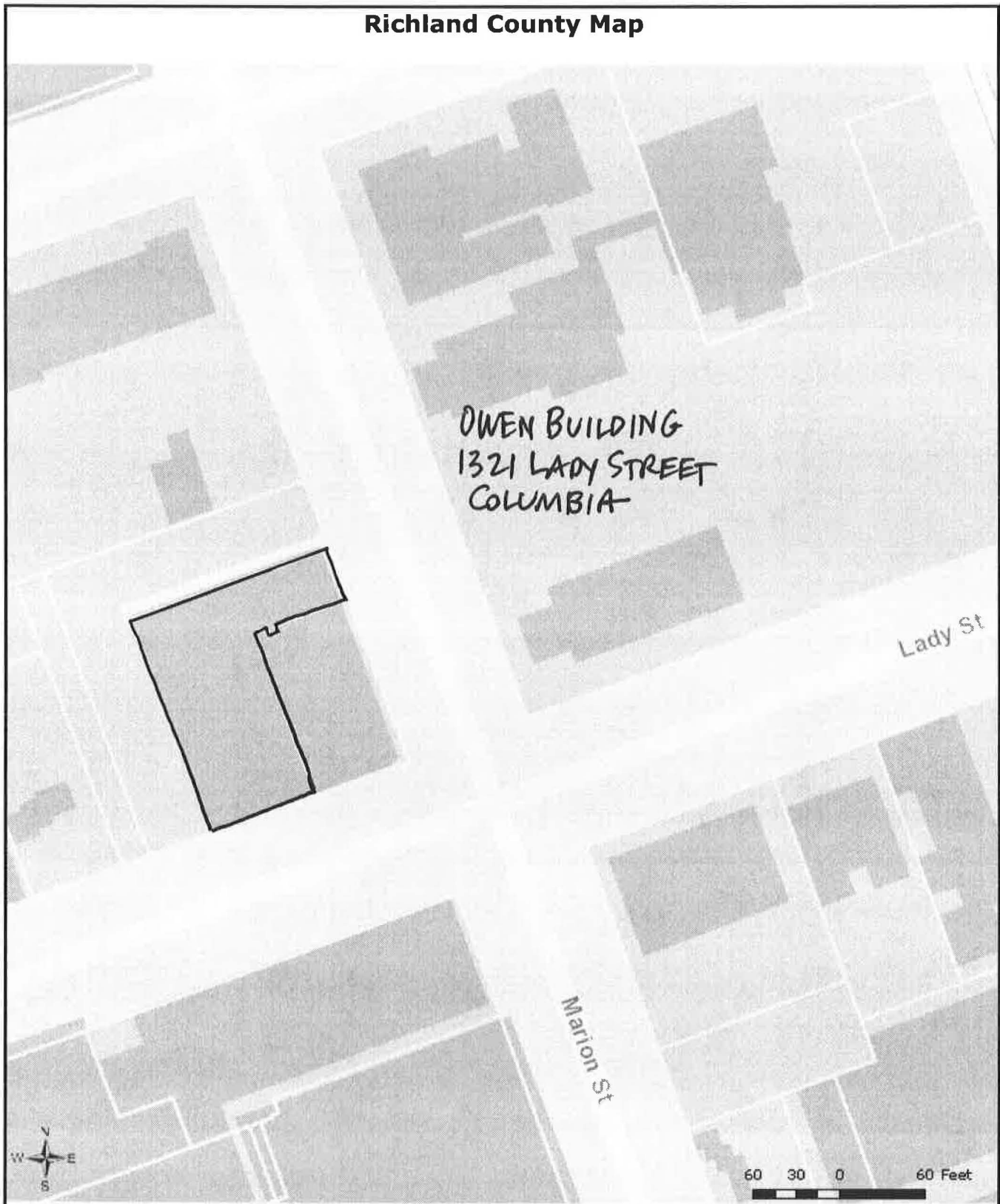
Description of Photograph(s) and Number:

- 1 of 15. South (front) elevation, camera facing north.
- 2 of 15. East elevation, camera facing west.
- 3 of 15. Southeast corner of Owen Building and Annex east elevation, camera facing northwest.
- 4 of 15. North elevation, camera facing south.
- 5 of 15. North elevation and annex, camera facing southwest.
- 6 of 15. North and west elevations, camera facing southeast.
- 7 of 15. South and west elevations, camera facing north.
- 8 of 15. Entry on south elevation, camera facing north.
- 9 of 15. Right (east) façade window, camera facing east.
- 10 of 15. Left (west) façade window, camera facing west.
- 11 of 15. Casement window on south (front elevation), camera facing north.
- 12 of 15. Annex east façade, camera facing west.
- 13 of 15. Annex entry, camera facing west.
- 14 of 15. Mail chute inside entry way, Owen Building lobby.
- 15 of 15. Second floor, Interior, Owen Building.

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.

Richland County Map



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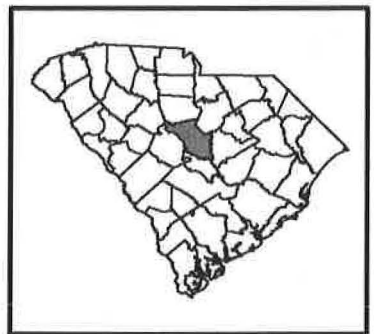
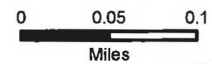
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Figure 1. Owen Building, Richland County, Columbia, South Carolina
 34.00388, -81.031601

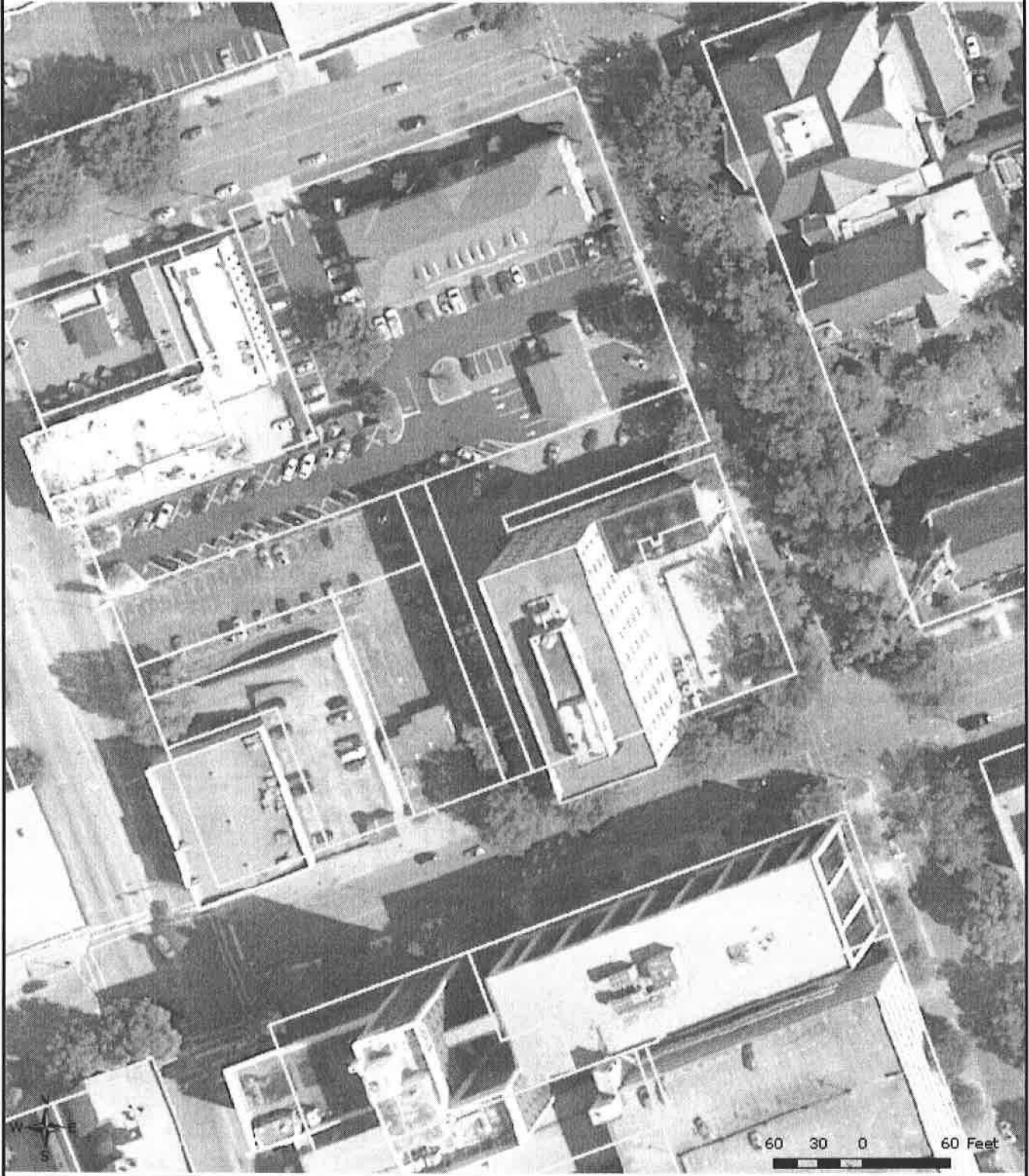
Base Map: Bing Maps Aerial Imagery (2010).



● Owen Building

Richland County Map

OWEN BUILDING, 1321 LADY STREET, COLUMBIA



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100,000 SF OFFICE BUILDING
Kirby Ellis
803.779.8600
AVAILABLE
BILLY WAY





AP Associated Press
Columbia Bureau



AP Associated Press
COURTESY BARNHART









100,000 SF OFFICE BUILDING
Grubb Ellis
803.779.8600


AVAILABLE

BILLY WAY




Carolina
Properties
Building


121
Lyle
Street

100,0

803
E

1,000 SF OFFICE BUILDING
Grubb & Ellis | Wilson Kibler
803.779.8600
AVAILABLE
BILLY WAY
An affiliate of Grubb & Ellis
Independently Owned and Operated

1321
Lady
Street







100,000 SF OFFICE BUILDING

Grubb & Ellis | Wilson Kibler

803.779.8600

AVAILABLE

*An affiliate of Grubb & Ellis
Independently Owned and Operated*

PULL AWAY







LETTERS

U.S. MAIL

COLLECTION TIMES
MAY 15 1964
MAY 16 1964
MAY 17 1964
MAY 18 1964
MAY 19 1964
MAY 20 1964
MAY 21 1964
MAY 22 1964
MAY 23 1964
MAY 24 1964
MAY 25 1964
MAY 26 1964
MAY 27 1964
MAY 28 1964
MAY 29 1964
MAY 30 1964
MAY 31 1964

MAIL BOX



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Owen Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: SOUTH CAROLINA, Richland

DATE RECEIVED: 5/03/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/30/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/14/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/19/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000398

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 6-24-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

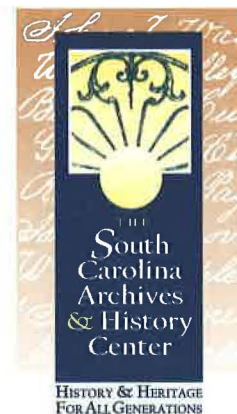
RECOM./CRITERIA _____

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.



Monday, 29 April 2013

Ms. Carol Shull
Interim Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye (I) Street, NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Here is the National Register nomination for the Owen Building, in Columbia, Richland County, South Carolina, recently approved by the South Carolina State Board of Review.

We are submitting this nomination for listing in the Register.

If I may be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below, call me at (803) 896-6182, fax me at (803) 896-6167, or e-mail me at power@scdah.state.sc.us.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

J. Tracy Power, Ph.D.
Historian and National Register Co-Coordinator
State Historic Preservation Office