

PH0003115

6th Congressional District  
John J. Flynt, Jr.

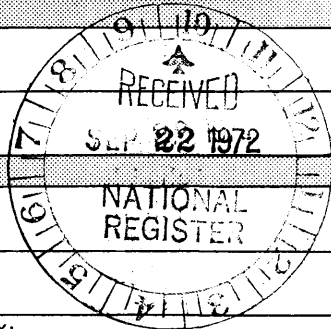
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Spalding	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 20 1973



#### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Hawkes Library

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Hawkes Free Children's Library

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
210 South Sixth Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Griffin

STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13      COUNTY: Spalding      CODE: 255

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

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

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Board of Trustees, Hawkes Free Children's Library

STREET AND NUMBER:  
210 South Sixth Street

CITY OR TOWN: Griffin      STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Spalding County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
East Solomon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Griffin      STATE: Georgia      CODE: 13

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Spalding

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hawkes Free Children's Library Building, designed in 1915 by Atlanta architect Neel Reid, is a rectangular brick structure detailed discreetly in white wood and limestone. This two-story building is an example of the early work of Reid which was generally inspired by America's colonial Georgian past. A sharply projecting modillion cornice emphasizes the building's rectangular shape underneath a brick parapet containing a stone plaque which identifies the building. The recessed entrance to the library is approached through a one-story porch of slender composite columns supporting a panelled entablature. A wrought iron railing above the porch defines its stepped-back profile. Arched brick openings in the first story enclose the white frames of the triple sash windows and wooden-mullioned fan lights. Above, the second-story windows are rectangular and provide a counter-rhythm of evenly spaced openings.

Inside, the panelled walls of the entrance and reading room, a marble fireplace and mahogany doors produce a period atmosphere at one end of the building, while a generously proportioned stairway ascends in a U-shaped plan at the other. Upstairs, space originally built as an auditorium, has been adapted to stacks and a reading room. Older details of panelling and moldings are still evident.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

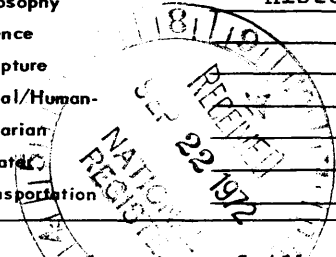
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1915-1916

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                                  |                                               |                                              |                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry             | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             |                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           |                                                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape            | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture         | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature           | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military             |                                              |                                                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                |                                              |                                                                    |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hawkes Free Children's Library perpetuates the name of Albert King Hawkes, who envisioned a plan for building children's libraries and theaters in Georgia towns. The building, in addition to housing Griffin's first free library, is an example of the early work of an important Atlanta architectural firm, Hentz, Reid and Adler.

Neel Reid, the principal designer in the firm Hentz, Reid and Adler, was born in Jacksonville, Alabama in 1885, but his family moved to Macon, Georgia in 1903. Educated at Columbia University and the Ecole des Beaux Arts, Reid began architectural practice with Hal Hentz in Atlanta in 1909. By 1915 the firm had provided designs for a number of residences in the new, Olmsted designed residential area of Atlanta known as Druid Hills, as well as notable business buildings downtown. For many of these early designs, Reid and his partners used colonial revival modes. In fact, they sometimes used Georgia's colonial buildings as sources for design motifs. The portico and arched windows of the Hawkes Library, for example, bear a striking resemblance to similar features of the now demolished Bank of the State of Georgia which was built in Savannah c. 1816. Reid was one of the most significant of Atlanta's early twentieth-century architects and was beginning to attract some national notice just before his untimely death in 1926.

The library's donor, Albert King Hawkes, was a notable figure in his profession. Born in Massachusetts in 1848, Hawkes had spent some time in the optical business in Austin, Texas before moving to Atlanta in 1886 to begin what became a successful wholesale and retail optical business. He was a pioneer in his profession who wrote several books on optical subjects and sold his products throughout the country. In 1913, Hawkes initiated the first of several discussions with Mayor Henry J. Smith and other leading citizens of Griffin through which he offered to endow a free moving picture house and library for children. His offer was tentatively accepted by the City Council on January 13, 1914 and the Griffin Library Association chartered in May of the same year. Construction began in 1915 by the Newton Coal and Lumber Company of Griffin on the high school grounds at the corner of East Taylor and Sixth Streets, a site which had belonged to the city since 1882. The building's plan, which included the second floor moving picture auditorium as well as reading rooms and librarian's offices, reflects its donor's belief in the education of children by books and moving pictures. Space was also provided, at the suggestion of the City of Griffin, for an adult department. On November 28, 1916, the building was officially opened to the public.

For Hawkes, who had previously donated small libraries to Grantville,

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Howard, Margaret, "A Study of the History and Development of the Flint River Regional Library," unpublished Masters paper, Emory University, May, 1962. Typescript of information provided by the staff of Hawkes Library.  
 Personal Inspection and report, Helen Powell and Jem Roberts, Emory University. Personal Inspection, June, 1972, Elizabeth A. Lyon.  
 Critique of original National Register draft, June 1972, William R. Mitchell, Jr., on file at Georgia Historical Commission.

**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 ' "		33° 14 47 "	84° 15 40 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

NO UTM  
CX

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3/4 acre**

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, Consultant to Griffin Historical & Preservation Society**

ORGANIZATION: **Emory University, Institute of Liberal Arts**      DATE: **June 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1380 South Oxford Rd., N.E.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Atlanta**      STATE: **Georgia**      CODE: **13**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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:

National  State  Local

Name *Mary Gregory Jurtt*  
 Title State Liaison Officer

Date September 15, 1972

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

*Robert M. Utley*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 3/20/73

ATTEST: *[Signature]*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3-14-73

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Spalding	
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(Number all entries)

**8. Significance**

Roswell and other towns in Georgia, the Griffin library was his first large experiment in providing both literary and visual facilities. He had planned to establish others if Griffin was successful, but he died before he could accomplish this. The library which he funded began its career with 717 books, of which all but 200 had been given by citizens of the area. It has now grown to serve eight counties as the Flint River Regional Library headquartered in the building which Hawkes endowed.

Hawkes Free Children's Library has been an important force in the growth of library service in this region of Georgia. Originally the home of an interesting educational idea, this building continues to provide an appropriate focus for one aspect of its original function. Further, the building is an extant example of the early work of an important Georgia architect. Situated as it is on the school grounds, its rectangular brick shape relates well to the older Sam Bailey School across the campus, yet, its architectural detail provides a contrast in architectural forms. The building is sited gracefully on a corner of the campus but it faces a busy intersection in downtown Griffin and thus adds a note of elegance to the urban scene.

