HISTORIC NAME: / Clarkesville Garage PROPERTY NAME: Church Motor Company STREET ADDRESS: 304 N. Washington Street CITY: Clarkesville IDENTIFICATION Estate of Mrs. C.E. Church MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 316 PRESENT OWNER: STATE: Georgia **ZIP CODE:** 30523 CITY: Clarkesville Structure only ACREAGE: CURRENT USE: Vacant Z17 E268440 N3832990 U.T.M. REFERENCE: U.S.G.S. OUADRANGLE Clarkesville V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: CL-15-26 (structure only - West Corner of Lot) ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: One-story brick structure, rectangular plan, low pitched roof; wood and metal framed windows, overhead garage doors; canopy across front, with pressed metal shingles, supported by brick and webbed steel posts (some now sided with wood); on corner lot fronting on major north-south thoroughfare through town, one block south of town square; fair condition. Cornelius Church Grocery Store ORIGINAL OWNER: ORIGINAL USE: City Lot Cornelius Church HISTORIC ACREAGE: ARCHITECT/BUILDER: 1924-Addition at DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1910 (conversion Rear Added; 1930-Front Awning. to gas station) HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT): Cornelius Church purchased this property in the early 1900's and drastically renovated a structure serving as a dry goods store that stood on the site. Apparently only two walls remained on the interior from the earlier structure in the conversion to a garage. The garage was opened in 1910 as the Clarkesville Garage. In 1915, the garage offered gasoline, shipped from Cornelia by wagon in 50 gallon drums since the Tallulah Falls Railroad Company refused to carry Underground tanks were installed around 1920, a first in Clarkesville, and the station carried Crown (Standard), Texaco, and Gulf gasoline. In 1924 the station(CONTD)

N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Commerce, Trans-LEVEL: Local portation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL): Architecturally, this structure is significant as an early example of gas station architecture, a distinctive type of early 20th century building. This particular building belongs to an early phase of gas station design that reflected the independent and entreprenurial nature of the early 20th century service station. It preceded the standardized "modern" designs of the 1920's and 1930's. Characteristic features include large service bays, business office, and canopy over the pump island. This gas station is the oldest in Clarkesville and the only early 20th century gas station to have survived locally. In terms of commerce, the building is significant for housing a major new early 20th century (CONTD)

FORM PREPARED BY: A) Dale Jaeger, Planner ORGANIZATION: A) Georgia Mtns APDC

B) Historic Preser. Sec. DNR Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian ADDRESS: A) P.O. Box 1720, Gainesville, GATELEPHONE NUMBER: A) 404/536-3431

404/656-2840 B) 270 Washington St. Atlanta B)

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: None

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Mr. Marlor Church



PHOTOGRAPHER: James R. Lockhart

DATE: November, 1980

#6 of 35 ROLL NO. -- FRAME NO. ---NEGATIVES FILED: Georgia Department of Natural Resources

DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: North

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

For sketch plan, SEE Inventory Form #11, Cornelius Church Residence.

N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Commerce, Trans- LEVEL: Local portation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND MISTORICAL): Architecturally, this structure is significant as an early example of gas station architecture, a distinctive type of early 20th century building. This particular building belongs to an early phase of gas station design that reflected the independent and entreprenurial nature of the early 20th century service station. It preceded the standardized "modern" designs of the 1920's and 1930's. Characteristic features include large service bays, business office, and canopy over the pump island. This gas station is the oldest in Clarkesvill and the only early 20th century gas station to have survived locally. In terms of commerce, the building is significant for housing a major new early 20th century(CONTD)

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B) 270 Washington St. Atlanta

B) 404/656-2840

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: None

SOURCES OF IMPORMATION: Mr. Marlor Church

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CLARKESVILLE, HABERSHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

Property Clar	kesville	Garage
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## CONTINUATION

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

began selling Fords and was renamed Church Motor Company. Parts were shipped from Atlanta and the cars assembled on the site until 1927. In 1924 and again in 1930 the garage was enlarged. During the mid 1930's, Chevrolets were sold. The station continued to serve as gas station and garage until 1970 and today is vacant.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

business in Clarkesville. Gasoline and oil, replacement parts, repair service, and automobiles themselves were all made available through this building. The service station was the first of its kind in Clarkesville, and it was owned and operated by Cornelius Church, a local businessman, developer, and builder, whose house and store are nearby. In terms of transportation, the building is significant for reflecting the introduction of the automobile into this part of the state. Widespread use of the automobile was encouraged by the establishment of this full-service gas station. Shortly after this gas station opened, the local trolley (which ran down the street in front of this property) was discontinued.