DN	в	No.	1	024-	-00	1	8
	~			<b>~</b>			-

RECEIVED 2280

1 2 2005

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

#### 1. Name of Property

# historic name Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District other names/site number N/A

#### 2. Location

street & number		Centered on Georgia Highway 53 between Georgia Highway 5 and Long Swamp Creek.			
city, town county state	Tate Pickens Georgia		zip code	30177	

#### () not for publication

#### 3. Classification

**Ownership of Property:** 

- (X) private() public-local
- () public-state
- () public-federal

## **Category of Property:**

- () building(s)
- (X) district
- () site
- () structure
- () object

Number of Resources within Property:	Contributing	<b>Noncontributing</b>	
buildings	106	56	
sites	7	0	
structures	15	0	
objects	0	0	
total	128	56	

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 2 Name of previous listing: Tate House listed 5/17/74; Tate Gymnasium listed 12/12/02. Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

# 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

W. Ray Luce Historic Preservation Division Director Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

( ) entered in the National Register

- ( ) determined eligible for the National Register
- () determined not eligible for the National Register
- () removed from the National Register
- () other, explain:
- () see continuation sheet

Viva 6/10/05



Date

511·Q

Date

# 6. Function or Use

# **Historic Functions:**

Domestic: single dwelling Commerce: department store, specialty store, restaurant Government: post office Education: school Religion: religious facility Funerary: cemetery Recreation and Culture: sports facility Industry/Processing/Extraction: extractive facility, manufacturing facility Health Care: clinic Transportation: rail-related, road-related

## **Current Functions:**

Domestic: single dwelling Education: school Religion: religious facility Funerary: cemetery Industry/Processing/Extraction: extractive facility, manufacturing facility Health Care: clinic Transportation: rail-related, road-related

## 7. Description

## Architectural Classification:

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals: Late Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, Classical Revival Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements: Bungalow/Craftsman Other: pyramidal cottage, central-hall house, saddlebag, shotgun house

## Materials:

foundation Brick, Stone: marble

- walls Wood: weatherboard
- roof Asphalt
- other Concrete, Metal

## Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Tate Historic District is a Georgia Marble Company town located in Pickens County in the mountains of northwest Georgia. The town is organized along Georgia Highway 53 with the village on high ground at the west end of the district and the marble quarry located to the east in the Long Swamp Creek valley. The irregular town plan, which follows the dramatic terrain of alternating ridges

Section 7-Description

and valleys, is threaded by the Georgia Marble Company Railroad, a spur line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad that snakes its way through the district to the marble quarry before crossing Long Swamp Creek and ending at the marble works at Marble Hill, a community three miles east of the historic district. Houses in the village are plain, one-story dwellings in form of shotgun houses, pyramidal cottages, and Craftsman-style bungalows. Two Gothic Revival-style Methodist churches, one for whites and the other for blacks, were completed in 1887. Marble is used in the city's segregated cemeteries. Tate High School (1928) is built entirely of white marble as is the foundation of the wood-frame Tate Gymnasium (1923). The Neoclassical Revival-style Tate House (1923), which overlooks the quarry operations, is built of varying shades of Etowah pink marble. The Georgia Marble Company plant includes three major quarries, two large-scale finishing plants, a power plant, offices, and other lesser buildings. The small commercial area at the west end of the historic district.

# The Georgia Marble Company

The Georgia Marble Company is located along Long Swamp Creek in the southeast corner of the historic district. The quarries are located south of the building complex, which is bisected by the **Georgia Marble Railroad line**, a spur line of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line (photos 20-22). Two long finishing sheds occupy the center of the building complex with smaller buildings arrayed around them. **Finishing shed no. 1**, completed in 1904, is the largest building in the complex (photos 9-10, 19, background). It is framed with steel and clad in sheet metal. Its long, open interior features central clerestory and is filled with machines that cut and polish marble. The massive **gantry crane** carries marble blocks from the yard into the shed (photos 8-11). **Finishing shed no. 2** is located adjacent to the large finishing shed. Built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, it is framed with wood and covered with a gable roof. The two-story brick **power plant** was constructed in 1904 (photo 7). It features a crenellated parapet and a towering brick smokestack with the initials "TGM Co" laid in white brick. The **marble grinding shop**, built in 1925, is a barn-like structure clad in board-and-batten siding and covered with monitor roof (photo 6, left). Next to the marble grinding building is an **equipment shed** that was built in the 1950s (photo 6, right). The gable-front equipment shed is covered with corrugated sheet metal.

The **main office** was built in 1884 in the Mission Revival style (photos 4-5). It is clad in white marble with a projecting central bay and shallow-pitched hip roof. An ornately carved eagle, rejected by a customer decades earlier, was placed atop the entrance stoop. Before World War II, additions were built to the rear and sides. The **design studio**, which was built 1927-1928, is located adjacent to the office (photo 3). The small, wood-frame building features an enclosed porch and a gable-front roof. The **post office and drug store** is also located adjacent to the office (photo 5, right). Built in the 1920s, it is a marble-clad structure with entrances on the west and south sides. Recently, a metal roof was added to protect the interior of the building from rain. The expansive lawn between the building complex and Georgia Highway 53 was used a baseball field (no longer extant) and open storage for quarried marble blocks.

Section 7--Description

The Georgia Marble Company quarries appear as they did before World War II because the process of quarrying marble changed little from the late 19th century, when most of the work was done by hand, to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century when equipment powered by electricity and compressed air came into common use (photos 12-19). The stepped vertical walls of the guarries underscore the process of channeling to break loose marble blocks from the quarry floor. The quarries, which form rectangular pits cut into the valley floor of Long Swamp Creek, yield 30 kinds of marble, including the prized Etowah pink marble (photos 12-13). The largest guarry is a long rectangular pit that runs parallel to Long Swamp Creek. Stepped vertical walls on three sides indicate the uniform removal of marble blocks. The open south side allows front-end loaders to pick up the guarried blocks and drive them out of the guarry to the nearby finishing sheds. Until about 1970, steel derricks hoisted the blocks of marble from the quarry floor (photos 11-12, 14-15). Six of 19 derricks remain anchored in place with guy wires. The perimeter of the guarry is lined with an unpaved road and railroad line that switchbacks from the rim of the guarry to the guarry floor. Quarried blocks, which average 12-20 tons, line the edges of the road. The Tate mule barn, built c.1890 on Georgia Highway 53 opposite the Tate House, sheltered mules that were used to move guarried marble from the guarries to the finishing sheds (photo 2). The open field north of the barn served as **pasture** for the mules.

The Georgia Marble Company building complex and quarries represent the process of removing marble blocks for the quarry and producing finished marble pieces. The quarrying process begins with the channel machine, which provides the vertical cut by sawing back and forth on steel rails. The sharpened steel rods cut two inches per minute. The gadder machine provides the undercut. Workmen drive wedges by hand into the gadder holes to breaks loose the blocks of marble from the quarry floor. Front-end loaders take the loose blocks to the finishing sheds.

In the finishing sheds, the large blocks of marble are sawn to rough dimensions by gangsaws powered by compressed air. A typical gangsaw has approximately 100 saws, which make simultaneous cuts in the marble. In 1950, the gangsaws were in operation 24 hours a day, six days a week. The flat steel blades are cooled during the sawing process by constantly flowing water.

After the gangsaws, monumental and mausoleum stock is sent to the rubbing beds, where the marble is rubbed square to exact dimensions. The rubbing-bed plates are 12 feet in diameter and revolve at 35 revolutions per minute. Steel shot or sand is run onto the beds during the rubbing operation. There are 28 rubbing beds in constant operation, each operated by at least one man.

A carborundum machine uses carborundum wheels revolving at a speed of 1,200 revolutions per minute to create moldings and bevels. A stone face may be cut 3/4 of an inch in a few minutes. Seventy-five-horsepower motors power the 17 carborundum machines. The largest carborundum machine was housed in the Nelson plant. It was 48 feet in length and was used to produce the columns for the renovation of the east front of the United States Capitol.

There are 15 turning lathes in operation. The largest lathe turns stone that measures over six feet in diameter and up to 20 feet in length. Small turning lathes are used to turn and finish vases, balusters, columns and other smaller items. Marble less than six-inches thick is cut and jointed on

Section 7-Description

one of the eight small stone saws. Thirteen small polishing machines are used for polishing wainscots and the interiors of mausoleums. After a series of grits, the final polish is placed on the polishing stone with putty powder and acids.

The carborundum and sandblasting machines are used to shape memorials, with the final work done by a stone carver. Carvers use models and molds, which are made of plaster. Points on the plaster models are established by use of a pointing machine, which transfers the points to the working marble. Letters and ornament are applied by sandblasting after a template has been applied to the marble.

The completed marble piece is braced and boxed to insure safe delivery. One of three diesel cranes with a 25-ton capacity loads the marble onto a flatbed truck for shipping. In the decades after World War II, marble was shipped from the quarries and finishing sheds on flatbed rail cars pulled by Diesel electric locomotives. The 100-ton, 600-horsepower locomotives were capable of pulling heavily loaded cars from the Long Swamp Creek valley uphill to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad siding approximately one-and one-half miles to the west. A smaller 65-ton locomotive with 400 horsepower was used to move marble on flat cars from the quarries to the mill.

#### The Tate Community

Between 1884 and 1900, the Georgia Marble Company built houses for employees in the vicinity of the mill and quarries. Upper and Lower Whippoorwill and Smoky Hollow were thriving communities within the village. By 1885, the rejuvenation of the marble industry spurred by the railroad was evident and the need for employee housing exceeded the supply. By 1900, the marble company demolished some of the earliest houses, a hotel, and two boarding houses that were built too close to the mill.

Col. Sam Tate, who became President of the Georgia Marble Company in 1905, laid out most of the Tate community between 1905 and 1930. He subdivided the land and provided carpenters from the marble company to build houses for the mill workers.

Luther Cartwright served as superintendent of the carpenters for many years. By 1920, the number of employees increased and additional houses were built further west of the marble mills. The onset of the Great Depression and the death of Col. Sam Tate in 1938 ended the construction of company-built houses in Tate.

Houses in Tate were built in steeply walled valleys and on high rolling land near the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line. Unlike most mill villages in Georgia, Tate is distinguished by undeveloped open space between houses and by the trees and vegetation throughout the district (photos 36, 51-52). The irregular plan of streets includes the residential streets of Railroad Street and Newtown, Rabbit Town, Station, and Smoky Hollow roads. Pea Ridge is the area opposite Tate High School that includes several streets lined with pyramidal cottages (photos 34-35). A few clusters of bungalows and pyramidal cottages are located north and east of the marble works (photo 23).

Section 7-Description

Houses in the village are plain, one-story pyramidal cottages, center-hall houses, saddlebag houses, shotgun houses, and Craftsman-style bungalows that were built from about 1900 to 1930. The most common house type is the pyramidal cottage, which is defined as a one-story house with four principal rooms and covered with a pyramidal, or steeply pitched hip roof (photos 34, 36, 45-47, 50). These are located throughout the district. Center-hall, saddlebag (photo 49), and shotgun (photo 52) houses are less common. Craftsman-style bungalows are another common house type (photos 38, 43-44, 53-54, 56-57). These houses are one-story or one-and-one-half stories with an irregular floor plan. Some bungalows are covered with side-gable roofs and others have front-facing gables. Porches are integral to this house type and are often supported by battered posts set on brick piers. Brackets support the overhanging eaves.

The Smoky Hollow community, located in a valley south of the Tate Methodist Church, was first settled by white marble workers. When the whites left to occupy new houses to the west, black workers moved to Smoky Hollow. Once a thriving African-American community of about 30 houses, the only African-American resources that survive are one saddlebag house (photo 27), the Methodist Episcopal Church South (photo 26), the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church (photo 28) and Smoky Hollow Road, the main street through the community. The area was named for the smoke produced at the marble mill that filled valley.

A significant number of resources in Tate are community landmarks because they are important architectural, historical, or visual landmarks. Among these is the classical revival-style **Tate House** was designed by the Cleveland architectural firm Walker and Walker for Col. Sam Tate in 1922 and completed the next year (photo 1). Built of Etowah pink marble, the house is located a few hundred yards west of the quarry that produced the distinctive stone. A three-part façade features two-story central entrance portico. The four white monolithic columns are 22-feet tall. The entablature, door and window surrounds, belt courses, and other details are carved in white marble. The Georgia plan is organized around the central hall with the walnut-paneled library on the west side and the dining room and kitchen to the east. The interior includes mural wallpaper in the hall, parquet marble floors, and ornately carved marble mantels. Col. Sam installed formal gardens around the house in honor of his sister, Florence, on her return from a European trip. Georgia Marble Company designer J. B. Hill designed the marble balustrades and fountains. The Tate House was listed in the National Register in 1974.

In December 1927, the Tate school was destroyed by fire. Within two weeks, the site had been cleared of debris and excavations had begun for construction of the current **Tate High School** building (photos 29-32). J. B. Hill, the principal designer for the Georgia Marble Company, designed the new school. Col. Sam Tate specified that a room for Masonic Lodge no. 485 should be incorporated into the design. The Masonic Lodge was used the room from 1928 through December 1999. Another specification was the installation of a projection room so the local community could watch movies. Col. Sam sometimes ran trains for children in Marble Hill and Nelson so they could attend movies in Tate. The school was dedicated in December 1928. On November 29, 1928, *The Pickens County Progress* described the new school:

Section 7-Description

[It] contains 10,000 cubic feet of marble in its walls, has floors of the highest grade maple, and wood work in light oak. . . . In the basement are three rooms, a kindergarten, first grade, and a play room 50 x 94 feet. On the first floor are six classrooms to be used by the second through seventh grades, two studios, one for music and the other for the expression department, an office for the superintendent, and a library. The auditorium is also on this floor. . . . Seating capacity is 750 with a projection room large enough for two projectors. The four high school rooms are on the second floor, along with two domestic science rooms. Also on the floor is the large hall to be used by the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Woodmen of the World. . . . It is designed as a community house as well as a school building. It is said by experts to be the finest public school in America, which has been built by Col. Sam Tate and the Georgia Marble Company, completely at their own expense. It has not cost the taxpayers a dime. The marble company's own crew erected the building, and their construction foreman, Mr. Luther Cartwright is receiving a great many compliments on the high quality of the workmanship.

Tate High School is a three-part Classical Revival-style building constructed of Mezzotint marble veneer (gray streaked with black). The central pavilion includes the main entrance framed by Corinthian columns that support an entablature that is inscribed "Tate High School." Like many urban schools built in Georgia during the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Tate school is two stories with a double-loaded corridor. The interior walls are plastered above the oak wainscoting and maple floors were laid throughout the building. Blackboards in each classroom were made of 7/8-inch Cherokee bluish-white marble covered with several coats of black enamel paint. In 1950, indoor restrooms for students were added. In 1957, high school classes were transferred to a Pickens County high school, leaving only elementary education in the Tate High School building. Since 1980, a lunchroom was built on the east side of main building and a physical education building, library, and classroom building was built on the west side. Both one-story wings were constructed of Cherokee split-face marble, which is produced by breaking brick-width pieces of marble to produce a rock-faced appearance.

The wood-frame **Tate Gymnasium** is located northwest of the Tate High School (photo 33). Built in 1923 by the Georgia Marble Company, the gymnasium features a basilica plan with a basketball court in the center and bleachers occupying both side aisles. Wood posts and beams support the clerestory roof. The stage and dressing rooms are located at the west end of the building and a balcony above the main entrance overlooks the court from the east end. The Craftsman-style exterior includes wood shingle siding and brackets that support the roof. The Marble Valley Friends, which purchased the Tate Gymnasium from the Pickens County Board of Education in 1998, have restored the gymnasium for use as a community building. The Tate Gymnasium received a Georgia Heritage Grant and was listed in the National Register in 2002.

The **Tate Clinic** was built on Railroad Street in 1949 by the Georgia Marble Company, which was concerned about the lack of medical facilities for the company's 600 to 700 employees who lived in Tate and surrounding area (photo 41). In 1949, the Tate Community Association formed in an effort to locate a doctor and raise money for the clinic, which was estimated to cost between \$25,000 and

Section 7-Description

\$30,000. The community association held fundraisers and the company donated the proceeds from its Coca-Cola machines. In addition, the Georgia Marble Company provided matching funds and building plans by J.B. Hill. The low, one-story building is covered with a shallow-pitched hip roof and appears similar to ranch houses built during the post World War II era. The exterior is clad in gray "splitface" brick made of marble aggregate, an experimental product. The interior includes a lobby, examining rooms, operating room, laboratory, doctor's offices, and a kitchen.

In 1950, doctors Frank and Katherine Lovett were the first physicians to practice at the Tate Clinic. They lived in the clinic for the year they practiced in Tate. Several doctors from the Canton area helped keep the clinic open until Dr. T. C. Boswell was hired in 1952. He and his family lived in the clinic until he obtained a house in Tate. He was later joined by Pickens County native Dr. D. T. Darnell. Both doctors practiced medicine at the Tate Clinic until they retired in 2000. Two years later, Dr. Kirk Stubbs, a family practitioner, was hired and continues to serve the community at the Tate Clinic.

The **Tate Depot** is located on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line adjacent to the small Tate commercial area (photo 67). Built after 1900, the current depot is the second depot built on the site. Its heavy-timber frame supports a steeply pitched hip roof covered with terra-cotta tiles. Large brackets support the overhanging eaves. The interior includes men's and women's waiting rooms, an office, and a freight warehouse.

The **Tate Methodist Church** is located on Georgia Highway 53 in the center of the historic district (photo 25). The Gothic Revival-style church, which was built in 1887, was the Tate family church. Stephen C. Tate contributed land and money for the construction of the church, which features an entrance tower and a steeply pitched roof. The interior is lit by glazed tympanum and eight lancet windows.

Beginning in 1905, Col. Sam taught adult Sunday school class. In 1928, a classroom wing was added to the rear of the building. In 1948, marble tile was installed in the entrance vestibule and a kitchen was built in the 1928 addition.

After the Tate Methodist Church was completed in 1887, Stephen C. Tate directed the construction of the **Methodist Episcopal Church South** for African Americans (photo 26). The church is among the last buildings associated with the Smoky Hollow community. The wood-frame church is covered with a steeply pitched gable roof, which is surmounted by a louvered belfry. The interior is lit by eight double-hung sash windows. Col. Sam Tate was a staunch Methodist and he provided support for the church. As the number of black employees at the marble company declined following Col. Sam Tate's death, the congregation dwindled. The church sat idle for roughly 20 years before it was purchased by the Miracle Pentecostal Fellowship Church. In 1998, the Marble Valley Friends replaced the roof and rewired the church. For many years, members of this church and Mt. Calvary Baptist Church held Sunday school on alternate Sundays and members attended both church services.

Section 7-Description

**Mt. Calvary Baptist Church** is located at intersection of Smoky Hollow and Head Start roads at the south end of the historic district (photo 28). Stephen C. Tate donated the property for the church, some of whose members served as cooks and grounds keepers for the Tate family. In 1903-1904, Col. Sam donated funds for the church to be rebuilt following a devastating fire. The frame Gothic Revival-style church is clad in weatherboard and includes a belfry above the entrance. Symmetrical wings added in 1926 create a cruciform plan. The Georgia Marble Company donated the pulpit. Between 1942 and 1959, the church was remodeled with the installation of new pulpit furniture, hardwood floors, new pews, and a kitchen. In 1960, bathrooms and a dining room were added. Mt. Calvary Baptist Church is one of the few surviving buildings from the Smoky Hollow community.

The four principal cemeteries in Tate are located at the west end of the historic district. The **Old** Tate Cemetery served as the village cemetery before Pickens County was established in 1853 (photos 68-69). The tree-shaded cemetery is composed of rows of headstones and several larger monuments. Located adjacent to the Old Tate Cemetery, the Tate Family Cemetery is the burial place for the Tate and Griffeth families (photos 70-71). The small family cemetery is surrounded by a stone wall and includes some of the largest and elaborate memorials produced in Tate. The African-American Cemetery is located on the west side of Georgia Highway 53, opposite Cool Springs Baptist Church (photos 60-61). It is distinguished by its plain marble headstones and several burial plots that are lined with marble blocks. The Cool Springs Baptist Church Cemetery is a sprawling cemetery with white and black sections (photos 63-64). Headstone designs range from plain markers to large obelisks. Some family plots are lined with iron fences or marble blocks. Cool Springs cemetery is associated with Cool Springs Baptist Church, which was built in 1924, but was dramatically altered in 1987 with an addition that obscures the front façade (photo 62). Tavernowner James Daniel is buried in an unmarked cemetery located east of Georgia Highway 53 in the northeast corner of the district. As late as the 1950s, the cemetery was marked with headstones. which have since been removed.

Section 7-Description

# Inventory of Contributing and Noncontributing Resources

#### Georgia Marble Company

Finishing shed no. 1	(one contributing building)
Finishing shed no. 2	(one contributing building)
Power plant	(one contributing building)
Marble grinding shop	(one contributing building)
Equipment shed	(one contributing building)
Main office	(one contributing building)
Design studio	(one contributing building)
Post office and drug store	(one contributing building)
Tate mule barn	(one contributing building)
System of marble quarries	(one contributing structure)
Marble finishing machinery	(one contributing structure)
Derricks	(six contributing structures)
Gantry crane	(one contributing structure)
Road system	(one contributing structure)
Railroad spur	(one contributing structure)
Tate mule pasture	(one contributing site)

## **Tate Community**

**Tate House** (Listed May 17, 1974) Houses and other buildings (91 contributing buildings) Tate High School (one contributing building) Tate Gymnasium (Listed December 12, 2002) **Tate Clinic** (one contributing building) Tate Depot (one contributing building) Tate Methodist Church (one contributing building) Methodist Episcopal Church South (one contributing building) Mt. Calvary Baptist Church(one contributing building) Old Tate Cemetery (one contributing site) Tate Family Cemetery (one contributing site) African-American Cemetery (one contributing site) Cool Springs Baptist Church Cemetery (one contributing site) Unmarked cemetery (one contributing site) Louisville and Nashville Railroad (one contributing structure) Georgia Marble Railroad (one contributing structure) Plan of streets (one contributing structure) Bridge over Long Swamp Creek (one contributing structure)

Houses and other buildings (55 noncontributing buildings)

photos 9-10, 19 no photo photo 7 photo 6 photo 6 photos 4-5 photo 3 photo 5 photo 2 photos 12-19 no photo photos 11-12, 14-15 photos 8-11 no photo no photo

no photo

photo 1 photos 34-59 photos 29-32 photo 33 photo 41 photo 67 photos 25 photos 26 photos 28 photos 68-69 photos 70-71 photos 60-61 photos 63-64 photos 24-26 photo 55 photos 20-21 photos 27, 48, 52 no photo

photos 58, 62

Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District, Pickens County, Georgia

#### 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

() nationally (X) statewide () locally

**Applicable National Register Criteria:** 

(X) A (X) B (X) C () D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): (X) N/A

()A ()B ()C ()D ()E ()F ()G

# Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Art Architecture Engineering Community Planning and Development Industry

## **Period of Significance:**

1840-1961

## Significant Dates:

1840—Henry T. Fitzsimmons first quarried marble along Long Swamp Creek.

- 1850—Samuel Tate began quarrying marble on his land along Long Swamp Creek.
- 1904—Georgia Marble Company invested in a new power plant and a new mill.
- 1905-Col. Sam Tate became president of the Georgia Marble Company.
- 1927-J.B. Hill hired as head of the Georgia Marble Company design studio.
- 1938-Col. Sam Tate died.
- 1961—Georgia Marble Company produced twenty colossal Corinthian columns for the renovation of the east front United States Capitol.

# Significant Person(s):

Tate, Col. Sam

Section 8-Statement of Significance

#### **Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

# Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Georgia Marble Company Hill, J. B. (memorial designer) Walker and Walker (architecture firm)

# Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The community of Tate is unique in the state because it developed as a result of the marble industry in Georgia, which began along Long Swamp Creek in Pickens County. The quarries in Tate, which form the southern end of a marble vein that stretches northeast to Murphy, North Carolina, produce some of the highest quality marble in the nation. The Tate quarries produce over 30 varieties of marble, including the prized Etowah pink marble. The community of Tate developed as a result of the marble industry and the work of Col. Sam Tate, who built many of the worker houses and community landmark buildings, such as the Methodist churches and the Tate High School. The irregular boundary of the historic district reflects the plan of streets and neighborhoods, which follow narrow valleys and the areas of higher elevation to the west near the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line.

The Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District is significant in the area of <u>art</u> because of its association with J. B. Hill, who led the Georgia Marble Company design studio from 1927 to 1962 and was a leader in the field of funerary monuments. He published numerous books and articles on the subject and taught monument design at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

In 1927, Col. Sam hired J. B. Hill as the principal designer for the Georgia Marble Company. He held that position until 1962. A native of Canton, Hill was educated as an apprentice in Frank Coggins' marble finishing office in Canton while completing high school. Coggins paid Hill's tuition for a correspondence course in classical design. By 1927, at age 24, Hill had 11 years of experience in memorial design. His first monument had been Coggins' parents memorial in Riverside Cemetery in Canton, which he designed as a high-school student.

In his 35 years as a designer at the Georgia Marble Company, Hill met with prospective customers of monument dealers nationwide, customized designs, completed the design, and worked with talented

Section 8--Statement of Significance

artisans in the finishing department of the Tate marble plant. He managed public relations for the company and served as its photographer. He edited the monthly *Memorial Salesman* for over 25 years and he wrote five books on memorial design. He also wrote *The Story of Georgia Marble*. Hill also wrote the script and collaborated on the film, "Producing Georgia's Buried Treasure." He was a regularly featured speaker on design at the annual Monument Builders of America conventions for nearly 30 years. He also taught memorial design at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

As the Georgia Marble Company purchased other marble works in the area around Tate, Hill's design studio and finishing department increased production. Hill also worked with the carvers and sculptors at the Nelson plant. One of his first designs after joining the company was the Oglethorpe Memorial, which is located in Pickens County. A few months later, he designed the marble Tate High School according to Col. Sam Tate's specifications. Hill worked on over 90 percent of the memorial designs produced by the finishing department from 1927 to 1962. Among Hill's favorite designs were the John Phillip Sousa Memorial for the Congressional Cemetery in Washington, D.C., and the mausoleum for for Col. Sam Tate and Luke E. Tate in the Tate Family Cemetery. Photographs of his designs continue to be featured in company publications.

The Tate Historic District is significant in the area of <u>architecture</u> because the mill worker houses and community landmark buildings represent architectural styles and types common in mill villages throughout Georgia. Most of the houses in the historic district were built by Col. Sam Tate for marble workers in the first three decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These are mostly small, plain, one-story frame house types that are found throughout Georgia. The most common in Tate are the pyramidal cottage, saddlebag house, central-hall house, and shotgun house. The historic district includes a significant number of Craftsman-style bungalows built in the 1920s and 1930s. These wood-frame houses usually include full-width front porches, low-pitched roofs with overhanging eaves supported by brackets, and battered porch posts. Marble is used throughout Tate for a variety of purposes including house foundations and walls, retaining walls, steps, porch posts, and as crushed-gravel drives.

The historic district is significant for its community landmark buildings, many of which were either built by the Tate family or the Georgia Marble Company. Col. Sam Tate built the Neoclassical Revival-style Tate House of Etowah pink marble in 1923 as a showplace for the Georgia Marble Company. It is an excellent example of Neoclassical Revival style and, due to its marble construction, virtually unique in Georgia. In 1887, the marble company provided funds and labor for the construction of two Gothic Revival-style churches, one for whites that the Tate family attended, and one for black that was located in Smoky Hollow. In 1903-1904, Col. Sam Tate provided funds for a third Gothic Revival-style Church, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, which was built at the south end of the Smoky Hollow community. It is an excellent example of a Gothic Revival-style church with a front entrance tower and steeply pitched roof. Col. Sam provided funds and labor for the Gymnasium in 1923 and the white-marble Tate High School in 1928. Other community landmark building include the Tate Depot, an excellent example of the small-town combination

Section 8-Statement of Significance

passenger-and-freight depot, and the Tate Clinic.

The historic district is significant in the areas of <u>engineering</u> and <u>industry</u> because the quarries and finishing plant represent the principal site of the marble industry in Georgia. Its extant historic quarries, buildings, and equipment represent the industry of marble quarrying and finishing in Georgia from the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The district includes the system of quarries, derricks, roads, and the rail spurs that mined and transported the blocks of marble. The layout and arrangement of the plant, which includes the finishing sheds, power plant, office, design studio, and the historic finishing machinery, conveys the significance of the marble industry in Georgia.

Finishing shed no. 1 was designed with highly engineered structural-steel framing, including posts, columns, beams, and trusses, for long roof spans that could support cranes and provide vast expanses of open floor space. These unobstructed interior spaces were necessary for the large finishing equipment and carving operations. Clerestory roofs and monitor windows provided light and air to the manufacturing floor. The main office and the post office and drugstore were built of white marble because it was a plentiful building material and also to promote the company's products.

Tate marble was used in the Georgia State Capitol and in the five state office buildings on Capitol Hill. Between 1958 and 1961, the Georgia Marble Company provided 20 colossal Corinthian columns for the renovation of the east front of the United States capitol. This represents one of the company's largest and most prestigious commissions. During Col. Sam Tate's management of the company, the Georgia Marble Company produced marble for memorials and architectural projects nationwide, some of which are listed below.

Municipal Building	Washington, D.C.	1905
Pan American Building	Washington, D.C.	1912
Lincoln Memorial	Washington, D.C.	1915
U.S. Supreme Court	Washington, D.C.	1921
New York Stock Exchange Annex	New York	1922
Corcoran Art Gallery	Washington, D.C.	1926
Buckingham Fountain	Chicago	1927
Judicial Square Fountain	Washington, D.C.	1927
Agriculture Building	Washington, D.C.	1928
Bok Tower	Lake Wales, Fla.	1929
House Office Building	Washington, D.C.	1931
Field Museum	Chicago	1935
John Phillip Sousa Memorial	Washington, D.C.	1935
Federal Reserve Bank	Washington, D.C.	1936
U. S. Patent Office	Washington, D.C.	1936

Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District, Pickens County, Georgia

Section 8-Statement of Significance

Alamo Cenotaph

San Antonio

1938

The memorials and mausoleums produced by the Georgia Marble Company include the Ringling Mausoleum in Sarasota, Florida, Kennedy Mausoleum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Oak Ridge Abbey in Chicago, Coulter Mausoleum in Richmond, Peter McGuire Memorial in Camden, New Jersey, Father Tabb Memorial (Chaplain of Confederacy) in Richmond, Woodruff Memorial in Atlanta, George Wallace Memorial in Montgomery, Massengill Memorial in Bristol, Tennessee, Cecil B. DeMille and Douglas Fairbanks memorials in Hollywood; and the Daniel Chester French Memorial in Washington, D.C. Tate marble was also used to build the seated figure of Lincoln located inside the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The historic district is significant in the area of <u>community planning and development</u> because community of Tate is characteristic of mill villages in north Georgia in which the placement of roads, houses, and community landmark buildings reflect the dramatic topography of the Georgia mountains. Col. Sam Tate, President of the Georgia Marble Company from 1905 to 1938, understood that mill communities were important components of mill operations. He built of most of the houses and community landmark buildings and exerted control over many aspects of the mill workers' lives.

In 1884, town lots were laid out in Tate, but most of the community was developed in the boom years from 1905 to 1932. Col. Sam Tate oversaw the planning of the community of Tate, which prospered from the success of the marble operation and the patronage the Tate family. The road system developed along ridges and valleys, rather than a gridiron plan, which was common in the lower-relief landscapes of the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain. Col. Sam chose the sites for worker houses, boarding houses, the Tate schools, and the Tate Hotel. Houses too close to the quarries were replaced with new houses in residential areas on higher elevations west of the marble works. Hillsides usually remained wooded. The company and the community raised funds to build a seven-bed health clinic, which was completed in 1948.

The historic district is significant because of its association with <u>Col. Sam Tate</u>, who served as President of the Georgia Marble Company from 1905 to 1938 and was a patriarch to the community of Tate. He built many of the community's houses and community landmark buildings and was involved in improving the lives of his workers and their families.

Col. Sam Tate was born in Cass County, Georgia on June 13 1860, the third child of Stephen C. and Eliza Buffington Tate. He moved with his family to Tate as a young child. According to his younger brother Luke, who wrote *The History of Pickens County*, Col. Sam was educated in public schools and at North Georgia Agricultural College in Dahlonega. He then worked in the mercantile business with J. M. McAfee in Canton. In 1883, he returned to Tate where he and his brothers ran the company store until 1905. In that year he became President and General Manager of the Georgia Marble Company. His strong leadership revived the ailing company. Between 1905 and 1932, the

Section 8-Statement of Significance

company increased orders, production, employees, housing, and all other facets of the business. During the Great Depression, Col. Sam kept his workforce occupied with quarrying and finishing marble that he donated to Emory University in Atlanta, Wesleyan College in Macon, and other public institutions.

His management style ingratiated Col. Sam with his employees. He saw himself as a friend and confidante to his workers and as a trusted leader. In Col. Sam's own words, published in 1925, he stated: "discontents develop in so many industries because the men have no access to their employer. It is the easiest thing in the world to develop a dislike for a man you never get to know. Don't magnify your task and don't minimize your ability. If men would magnify their ability more than their task, we would have more successful men." He hosted Easter egg hunts and picnics for the community and required that residents abstain from drinking alcohol, smoking, fighting, gambling, and, for a time, drinking Coca-Cola.

Col. Sam built three schools for white students and two schools for African-American students. In 1928, he built the marble Tate High School with labor supplied by the marble company. He hired college-educated teachers for both the black Training School and Tate High School. He provided two boarding houses for single teachers. Col. Sam showed movies in the Tate High School, sometimes sending the company train for children in Nelson and Marble Hill. He organized plays and musical presentations at both black and white churches and schools. Col. Sam also sent numerous Tate High School graduates to college.

Col. Sam served on the board of directors for Emory University in Atlanta, Wesleyan College in Macon, and the 7<sup>th</sup> District A&M School. He served on the board of directors for the First National Bank of Atlanta, served as vice president of the Bank of Canton, and for a year served as Chairman of the State Highway Board of Georgia. Col. Sam is described in the 1937 publication *Eminent Georgians* as: "one of the outstanding pioneers of agreeable industrial relations in America, as a great citizen and philanthropist, and as a magnificent and loveable gentleman."

# **National Register Criteria**

A, B, and C

# **Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

Criteria Consideration G is not applicable because the primary significance of the historic district predates 1955 and the great majority—virtually all—of the historic buildings in the district are more than fifty years of age.

Section 8-Statement of Significance

# Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1840 when Henry T. Fitzsimmons first quarried marble along Long Swamp Creek and ends in 1961 when the Georgia Marble Company produced twenty colossal Corinthian columns for the renovation of the east front of the United States Capitol, its largest and most prestigious contract.

# Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

Contributing resources in the historic district are those constructed between 1840 and 1961 that are significant for the themes of art, architecture, engineering, industry, and community planning and development and which retain historic integrity. This includes resources associated with the marble industry and houses and community landmark buildings in Tate. The noncontributing resources were built after 1961 or have lost sufficient historic integrity so that they no longer convey their historic significance.

For a detailed list of contributing and noncontributing resources see Inventory of Contributing and Noncontributing Resources in Section 7.

## Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

For nearly a century beginning with the formation of the Georgia Marble Company in 1845, generations of the Tate family controlled the marble industry in Georgia and the lives of the hundreds of employees who worked in the Tate quarries and mills. Col. Sam Tate, who built many of the churches, schools and houses in the community, led the company from 1905 until his death in 1938. The Tate plant, the largest of the company's four Georgia plants, produced marble for monuments, mausoleums, and buildings, including Daniel Chester French's seated Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial, columns for the expansion of the east front of the United States Capitol, the National Gallery of Art, and later the Air and Space Museum.

Native Americans first quarried Tate marble. Marble effigy figures have been found in north Georgia that that date from 1400 to 1450 A. D. In 1785, 22,000 members of the Cherokee nation occupied north Georgia, western North Carolina, and eastern Tennessee. The construction of the Old Federal Road (now Georgia Highway 53) across north Georgia from 1802 to 1805 brought white settlers to the Cherokee nation. This became the main road that joined Augusta with towns in north Georgia and Tennessee. Taverns were established along the Old Federal Road. In the Tate area, the

Section 8--Statement of Significance

James Daniel Tavern was located on the east side of Long Swamp Creek. Ambrose Harnage's Tavern was on the west side of Long Swamp Creek near the current site of the Tate House. (Neither tavern survives). Both James Daniel and Ambrose Harnage married to Cherokee women. Intact segments of the Old Federal Road survive as segments of Double Branches, Newtown, and Fortner roads and in front of the Tate House.

Between 1832 and 1837, the Cherokee were removed from north Georgia following numerous treaties, the discovery of gold near Dahlonega, and the influx of white settlers into Cherokee territory. In 1832, the land was divided into gold lottery lots of 40 and 160 acres. Most of the area around the marble deposits was divided into 160-acre lots that were cultivated by farmers. The area around the "marble works" was included in the newly formed Cherokee County in 1832 (now Pickens County). Court for Cherokee County was first convened in the Ambrose Harnage Tavern and the area was named Harnageville. The next year, the county seat was moved to Canton. The fertile Long Swamp Creek valley attracted farmers who cultivated the lowlands until about 1900.

Henry T. Fitzsimmons, an Irish immigrant born in 1802, arrived in the Long Swamp Creek valley in the mid-1830s. While traveling in the area of the marble deposits, it is believed that he stumbled across outcroppings of marble. His experience with stone in Ireland or New England led him to recognize the potential for establishing a marble quarrying and finishing plant. By 1838, he purchased several lots of land in the vicinity and moved his family to the "marble works" area of Cherokee County. By 1840, he and several employees were running a marble works operation along Long Swamp Creek.

Before his death in 1844, Fitzsimmons produced several prominent monuments in the Old Tate Cemetery. He quarried and carved a sizable monument on the grounds of the original Gwinnett County Courthouse. He also produced 138 marble mileposts for the Western and Atlantic Railroad that mark the line from Atlanta to Chattanooga.

During the years that followed the 1832 land lottery, Samuel Tate (1797-1866), a farmer, and other members of his family began purchasing land-lottery tracts in north Georgia. Between 1834 and 1866, he amassed thousands of acres of land. In 1845, Tate agreed to allow James Ferrel, James C. Holmes, and Gideon Roberts, all of Alabama, to build a dam on Long Swamp Creek and erect a mill to saw marble. Tate continued farming and received five-percent annual interest on the marble quarried from his land.

In 1850, Samuel Tate was a partner in Tate and Atkinson and Company, which opened a quarry in the vicinity of the current Georgia Marble Company. The 1850 Cherokee County, Georgia census listed Tate's principal occupation as farming and by 1880, the company was defunct. In 1884, wealthy northern businessmen invested in the Tate marble works. O. F. Bane, who had served with the Union army in the area of Tate, his brother-in-law, Henry C. Clement of Chicago, Frank H. Siddall, a wealthy Philadelphia soap-company millionaire, and J. A. Dewar of Kansas City, Missouri

Section 8---Statement of Significance

understood the potential of the area's marble deposits. They employed geologists to evaluate the quality and quantity of marble. With their findings, the coming of the Marietta and North Georgia Railroad, and their available capital, the Georgia Marble Company was chartered on May 11 1884. Henry C. Clement was the company's first president. The company was capitalized at \$1,000,000, which was increased to \$1,500,000. A share of stock was valued at \$100. The first carload of stone shipped by the company went to Atlanta to be used in the Kimball House hotel. J. A. Dewar opened the Blue Ridge Marble Company in Nelson for finishing marble.

William Tate, son of Samuel Tate, said in 1888, "our father Samuel realized the value of the quarries. He bought the outlying properties as fast as he could. His prediction was that the marble would not make my brother [Stephen C. Tate] and me wealthy, but it surely would make our children rich." Col. Sam Tate was the son of Stephen C. Tate. Stephen C. and William Tate became stockholders in The Georgia Marble Company several years later and served on the board of directors. The company arranged a 25-year lease on the marble quarries with an option for an extension. The Tate brothers operated a general store in the area and the company arranged to pay employees in scrip, which could only be redeemed at the Tates' store.

H. C. Clement was associated with the Banes of the wholesale clothing business in Chicago. Frank
H. Siddall was Vice President, Levi Bane, Secretary, and J. A. Dewer served as General Manager.
O. F. Bane replaced Levi Bane in 1885 as Secretary. There was limited quarrying during the first year because most efforts were devoted procuring machinery, construction, and raising additional capital. Many procedures were copied from the Vermont Marble operation, with some supervisory personnel being imported from Vermont.

Among the first actions of the new company was expansion of the office and mill facilities. On July 20, 1888, *The Constitution* (Atlanta) featured an article, "Millions in Marble," in which Frank A. Siddall noted that each narrow-gauge car can carry 18,000 pounds and that it will require over one-million cars to carry one foot of marble off the surface of what the company owns in the valley. Secretary Bane stated that "with our machinery here completed, we can cut and saw 300-cubic feet of marble daily. We will enlarge our machinery and increase within the next year or two to have ten to twelve engineers and 300 men at work in this valley."

The Mountain Boys, November 1, 1884, reported that, "the Georgia Marble Co. are erecting several new buildings at their works. Their railroad is near half graded and the laying of the iron will be commenced in about fifteen days. This speaks well for the firm and shows that they mean business." The main office building at the Georgia Marble Company and the earliest "indoor" mill were constructed at this time. The office is still in use.

Most records of the Georgia Marble Company do not exist for the years between 1884 and 1900. However, there are numerous references to developments in the local Pickens County newspapers. *The Herald*, published through August 19, 1899, and later the *Pickens County Progress* beginning

Section 8--Statement of Significance

after August 19, 1899. Not all issues remain and there is a void in 1890s and from 1910 to 1919. Major events recorded in these articles follow:

February 2, 1888, *The Herald*: The Marietta and North Georgia Railroad has completed the main line from Marietta to Murphy with branches to the American Marble Company sand bank near Woodstock, to the Southern Marble and Georgia Marble Company in Pickens County.

March 20, 1888, *The Herald*: For years we did not know the wealth that was permitted to slumber in the earth. Now with the railroad to the company and to the quarries, the best marble in the world is being transported in large quantities. The development of this great industry is in its infancy. New companies are being organized and quarries opened. Property is being leased and sold at prices that would have been considered enormous a few years since.

July 12, 1888, *The Herald*: The Marietta and North Georgia Railroad will be made standard gauge from Marietta to Jasper sometime in the next months.

March 21, 1889, *The Herald*: The Marietta and North Georgia Railroad is about to take a start - a broad gauge to Tate Station.

August 30, 1889, *The Herald*: A Marble Palace—There is a wonderful cave near James P. Harrison's marble mill on Long Swamp. The base of the mountain is a solid block of marble, except the opening that constitutes the cave. . . . A young son of Mr. Champion who lives near the cave, told us that the cave didn't extend far under the mountain "not over two or three-hundred yards" which we thought a considerable distance to go under a solid mountain of marble.

November 29, 1889, *The Herald*: The Blue Ridge Marble Company now have a full force of men employed in the mill and shops. New men continue to arrive nearly every day. This looks as if they were doing a prosperous business and we think they are.

May 30, 1890, *The Herald*: There has been a new marble cut into here this week at the pink or Etowah quarry. So far as I have been able to ascertain, there is not another quarry of marble in existence like this. The first piece is new dressed. It has a commingling of pink and mauve green and pure white, in beautiful waves, spots and clouds of endless variety. It has to be seen to be appreciated.

June 6, 1890, *The Herald:* The Sunday School will picnic next Saturday just over in the fork of the creek between Col. Wm. Tate's and the Kennesaw quarry. The children doubtless will have a nice time. Everybody is invited to attend and bring a basket well filled with chicken and pickles. . . . The Blue Ridge Marble Company is doing a large and rapidly increasing business. Their mill is far behind their orders and consequently, they have bought something like 25-car loads of cut stock from the Georgia Marble Company within the last 15 days. . . . Mr. Alexander Davidson of the firm of

Section 8-Statement of Significance

Davidson & Son, which has offices at Chicago, Watertown, and New York and quarries at Govenson, N.Y. was here last Tuesday. He has an order for 25,000 cubic feet of white marble, which will weight about 4,375,999 pounds and will make about 125 good car loads.

July 4, 1890, *The Herald*: The Georgia Marble Company sold last Friday to Mr. E. H. Bradbury of St. Louis a monument that will require six car loads of marble. Mr. Brady of the American Marble Company at Marietta bought five car loads of building stones from the Georgia Marble Company last week.

July 18, 1890, *The Herald*: Georgia marble is finding ready sale in New York and Chicago. A firm in Chicago has just ordered 14 car loads from the Georgia Marble Company.

During the 1880s and 1890s, the board of directors met infrequently. Most lived elsewhere, except the Dewars. It was during this time that numerous marble finishing plants were established to utilize the marble from Tate. Among the names of those developing these firms were Harrison, McGrath, Keeler, Anderson, Sickles, Norcross, Roberts, Brady, and Dewar. The first reference to any of the Tate family was at the stockholder's meeting in 1888 when Stephen C. Tate, who had 377 shares, voted by proxy. In the next year's meeting, Stephen C. Tate and William Tate voted by proxy. By 1890, both men were serving on the Board of Directors. At the stockholder's meeting in 1900, Stephen C. Tate made the motion to seek a buyer for the assets of the corporation because a larger amount of capital was needed to fully exploit the marble deposits. They had always been under pressure to raise additional funds for employee housing, equipment, and the need to open new quarries. Net income by the company in 1900 was \$14,244.84. Real estate and leases were valued at \$1,576,289.80. Machinery and fixtures were valued at \$246,164.94. With all other assets, the total value of the company was \$2,181,996.57. The largest expense items were: maintenance \$14,477.71, labor \$47,180.94, salaries \$12,700, freight \$11,904.62 and royalty \$7,591.58. Total expenses were \$131,126.14.

In the 1900, U.S. Census of Townsend District (Tate) 105 white families and 26 African-American families lived in Tate. The company employed 94 white men and 16 African-American men in the marble industry. Five men were employed by the railroad and seven were listed as teamsters, who probably worked for the marble industry. Stephen C. Tate and his brother, William, were both listed as farmers. On August 2 1901, the *Pickens County Progress* reported that "the marble works in Marble Hill are running on full time and every man has got work, loafers are unknown, and prosperity is staring our people in the face."

In 1901, Sam Tate (later called Col. Sam) and his brother, S. L. Tate, purchased numerous building supplies for employee housing. They held the store contract at the time and were likely making purchases for the Georgia Marble Company. Stephen C. Tate died in 1901 following an illness of several months. His April 12, 1901 obituary stated: "monuments which he erected that stand to his credit are all about us, among them most notably the Georgia Marble interest." Leadership of the

#### NPS Form 10-900-a United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Tate family passed to Col. Sam, Stephen's oldest son who was born in 1860 and was a graduate of North Georgia College.

In 1904, the Georgia Marble Company invested in a new power plant and a new mill, which nearly doubled the production of sawed stone. The new mill housed new equipment and was served by a massive gantry crane.

In 1905, William Tate won the store contract that had been held by Col. Sam and his siblings. Suddenly without employment but showing business potential, Col Sam was approached by President Henry C. Clement about assuming the leadership of the Georgia Marble Company. In order for this to happen, Col. Sam had to raise considerable funds to purchase controlling stock in the company. Previously he had helped R. T. Jones of Canton raise funds for the Canton Textile Mill and the Bank of Canton. He now turned to Jones and two Tate cousins for financial assistance. He was able to acquire 6,791 shares of stock and Col. Sam became President and General Manager of the Georgia Marble Company. Immediately, Col. Sam sought to add equipment, change procedures, clear quarries, and have the S. C. Tate Estate construct additional houses for mill workers.

In 1905, the company reported a profit of \$59,007.90 with \$2,339,535.65 in total assets. Labor remained high at \$56,490.13 and royalties increased to \$14,712.12. Maintenance costs were \$32,712.58. Increased marble sales were \$222,581.31. After Col. Sam's first year as president, the company reported a profit of \$120,320.97, more than double that of the previous year.

In 1909, the original 25-year lease expired and was renegotiated. William Tate's executors saw this as an opportunity to dispose of their holdings by sale. The Georgia Marble Company paid \$324,000 to become joint owners of the marble quarry with the Stephen C. Tate estate. (The Tate heirs continue to own a stake in the marble quarry.) At this time the company was dependent on the sales of the local finishing plants, which determined the sales of the Georgia Marble Company.

In the 1910 U.S. Census of Townsend District (Tate), there were 195 households in the district. The census listed 149 white men and 33 African Americans employed in the marble industry. There were 33 white farmers and 3 black farmers. The railroad employed 12 white men. The town included one doctor, one gardener, four store proprietors, and other miscellaneous service occupations. Many marble company employees lived outside of Tate and were not counted as part of the Townsend District.

Col. Sam sought to expand Georgia Marble Company operations through the purchase of nearby marble operations. In 1917, Col. Sam acquired the company stock of George B. Sickles' company. Similarly, Col. Sam and his brother-in-law, Alex Anderson purchased the Blue Ridge Marble Company from Dewar's widow and son in 1917. It continued as an independent operation in Nelson under the direction of Anderson. Additional marble finishing companies purchased by the Georgia Marble Company included the Southern Marble Company and Amicalola Marble Company, both

Section 8--Statement of Significance

purchased in 1916, and the Kennesaw Marble Company, which was acquired the following year. The only remaining independent finishing marble operation was the Georgia Marble Company Finishing Works in Canton, which was controlled by Col. Sam's close friend, R.T. Jones. The Georgia Marble Company purchased the Canton finishing works 1941. During the decade of the 1920s, the Georgia Marble Company acquired marble interests in other states.

As sales of monuments increased, the Georgia Marble Company sought to hire additional employees who could "finish" the memorials from the large quarry blocks.

Marble carving and finishing required highly skilled workmen. Tate workers were motivated to learn the trade and over the years the Georgia Marble Company turned out delicately carved memorials, mausoleums, columns, slabs, and architectural elements. As a result, rough blocks accounted for \$118,520.96 in sales and monuments totaled \$1,107,095.57 in sales.

By 1915, Col. Sam had become more involved in the daily activities in Tate. He built new schools for white and black students, contributed to churches and other local charities, and supported Methodist institutions throughout the state. He was opposed to tobacco, drinking, and fighting and would not tolerate such habits in his employees. Many employees became second-generation marble workers, apprenticed by their fathers and uncles. African Americans were recruited in Lumpkin County and other south Georgia counties for work in the quarries and other outdoor jobs. When there was racial conflict in nearby Forsyth County, Col. Sam personally stood up for the safety of his black employees. He built houses for employees until the Great Depression. A firm believer in education, he hired teachers for both the black and white schools in Tate and provided a "company house" where the single teachers could live. Col. Sam built schools in Tate and paid teacher salaries. No public money was spent on education in Tate until after Col. Sam's death.

The commercial area of Tate is centered on the intersection of Georgia highways 5 and 53 and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad line. Georgia Marble Company workers redeemed company scrip for merchandise at a company store. Col. Sam Tate and his uncle, William Tate, managed the store until 1905. The two-story frame building, which sold groceries, meat, dry goods, and animal feed, burned in 1936. The company store operated in the Tate Gym before an independent drug store was built downtown. The drugstore burned in 1940. By 1950, a new drugstore, a Piggly Wiggly grocery store, and a post office were built in the commercial area. The Western Union Building, built in the early 1920s, later served as the Tate Barber Shop before it was destroyed by fire.

In 1920-1921, the Georgia Marble Company built a hotel on Georgia Highway 53, opposite the Tate Depot. Between 1930 and 1940, the hotel was converted to a hospital that was run by doctors D. Harrison Garrison and Gaylord Robinson. In 1944, the hospital was converted back to a store under the proprietorship of H. L. Litchfield, formerly vice president of the Georgia Marble Company, until it burned about 1950. The company also owned the three-story company house for single female teachers adjacent to Tate High School. The company house was destroyed by fire in 1921.

Section 8-Statement of Significance

The Tate family was instrumental in the improvement of highways through Tate. Georgia Highway 5 is located on the west end of town and joins north Georgia with Marietta and Atlanta to the south. The Georgia Marble Company provided six inches of crushed marble for the roadbed. The newspaper reported that, "when the state's finances are in better shape, asphalt will be added." On June 21, 1923, the *Pickens County Progress* reported that the road was completed from Jasper to the Cherokee County line and that "Sam Tate, Walter Tate, Alexander Anderson, and H. L. Litchfield paid the county's part for the road. Sam Tate paid \$10,000 and the others paid the balance between them." In 1924, Col. Sam paid to have the road from Jasper to Nelson paved with asphalt.

In 1927, work began on improvements to Georgia Highway 53 through Tate as part of a roadway across north Georgia. Col. Sam Tate agreed to pay for four miles of the Dawsonville Road grading. On March 21, 1929, the *Pickens County Progress* reported that crushed marble formed the roadbed from Tate to Gainesville. In 1929, Col. Sam Tate was named Chairman of the Georgia State Highway Board, though he resigned the next year due to his poor health. Since 1950, there have been no major improvements to the roads in Tate.

The 1920 U.S. Census of Townsend District (Tate) reported that there were 166 white families and 41 black families in the district. This included 180 white and 36 black marble workers. There was one hotel proprietor and one white boarding-house keeper. Most black workers were employed as laborers, probably in the quarries, but the census also records a black mill worker, blacksmith, truck driver, and stonemason. Col. Sam had a personal chauffeur who lived near his home and several other black employees in his home.

January 27, 1921, *Pickens County Progress*: Among those entertaining Vice President-elect Calvin Coolidge on his visit to Atlanta this week was Col. Sam Tate of Tate, who is entertaining him at the Druid Hills Golf Club Thursday afternoon. . . . A new hotel is being built in Tate and the new building will be an honor to our village. Col. Sam obviously had friends in "high places."

March 10, 1921, *Pickens County Progress*: Georgia Marble Company secures \$600,000 building contract for Regional Bank Building in Cleveland, Ohio.

Beginning in 1921, there were almost weekly accounts in the local newspaper of social and educational events being held at the Tate High School, Tate Methodist Church, and Cool Springs Baptist Church. In 1922, the "Training School" for the black children of Tate was established. Many of these programs were sponsored by Col. Sam and the Georgia Marble Company. Col. Sam employed both a music teacher and eloquence teacher at Tate High School and funded frequent concerts and performances.

June 15, 1922, *Pickens County Progress*: Lincoln Monument of Georgia Marble. The great statue of Abraham Lincoln was unveiled in the Lincoln Memorial at Washington D.C. on May 30. The sculptor was Daniel Chester French and the carvers Picerilli Bros. of New York. The marble was furnished by

Section 8---Statement of Significance

the Georgia Marble Company of Tate, Georgia.

August 10, 1922, *Pickens County Progress*: The Magnitude of Tate—The Georgia Marble Company's quarries and finishing plants are working some 600 -1000 men, lifting hundreds of blocks and thousands of tons monthly, going to all parts of the nation. Mr. Sam Tate not only heads one of the nation's largest industries, but is a man interested and helpful to man. Very few know of his liberal benefactions, his interest in the rural boy, and the hundreds he has piloted and made possible to be educated. Mr. H. L. Litchfield, the vice president, is the personification of geniality, interested in men and those in trouble. Mr. Walter Tate, general manager, with all of his responsibilities in handling millions of construction material, cares for his men like a father does his child. The secretary-treasurer, Mr. G. M. Atherton, is always interested and tied to his detail chair, but no less loved. There is that pleasant superintendent, Horace Long, everywhere with keen interest and kindness for every feature of comfort to men and a delight to those who seek to visit and know more about Tate - for Tate means the Georgia Marble Company. The men, those who cut, saw, lift, haul, and ship the marble; the railroad crews, the shop men, blacksmiths, mechanics and helpers, all imbued with geniality, courtesy, good fellowship and kindness, making a strong actor in the delights of an organized business and pleasantry for those who visit Tate.

October 26, 1922, *Pickens County Progress*: It has been announced that the B. M. Cowart marble lands located in Marble Hill have been leased to the Georgia Marble Finishing Works of Canton, for a term of 25 years. The marble is reported to be of a high grade.

January 18, 1923, *Pickens County Progress*: We are glad to know that the Georgia Marble Company are installing electric lights in the most important buildings of Tate. They have also placed two lights near the depot. This will be a convenience to those who meet the night train.

March 8, 1923, *Pickens County Progress*: Mr. W. S. Lincoln for ten years the superintendent of the Southern Marble Co. of Marble Hill, has been secured as superintendent of the Southern Marble Quarrying Corporation. It was while Mr. Lincoln was in charge of the old Southern that they got out the famous Field Museum in Chicago and a number of other noted public buildings.

February 28, 1924, *Pickens County Progress*: According to a report of the state geologist made public last week, the value of marble quarried in Georgia last year was \$1,867,228. The report does not state what percentage of this value was added by manufacturing or finishing plants, but it was all quarried in Pickens county and most of it finished here. Pickens is now producing several thousand cubic feet of stone annually and it is being shipped to almost every state in the union. The quarries at Tate and Marble Hill are pouring a stream of money into the county which grows bigger and bigger with each passing year.

June 11, 1925, *Pickens County Progress*: Georgia Marble Company to Manufacture Concrete Building Blocks—The company has ordered machinery to manufacture concrete building blocks from Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District, Pickens County, Georgia 26

Section 8-Statement of Significance

crushed marble. By using marble, they can create a pure white block or any other color of marble. They will have a stucco effect and be very beautiful. The company continues to pour wealth into Pickens County. If it continues, it will make Tate, Jasper, and Nelson good-sized towns.

October 21, 1926, *Pickens County Progress*: Nat'l Marble Dealers Inspect Tate Plant—This group which met in Atlanta this week wound up their annual session by a sight seeing trip to Tate where as the guests of the Georgia Marble Company, they enjoyed an old-fashioned barbecue last Friday. It was the first barbecue meat some of the northern visitors had ever eaten and to them it was a rare treat. The visitors were visibly impressed with the extent of Pickens County's marble resources. They also greatly admired Col. Sam Tate's new marble house, which has just been completed and is considered one of the prettiest homes in the south.

January 20, 1927, *Pickens County Progress*: Marble Company Secures \$500,000 Contract awarded the contract for the half-million dollar Harding Memorial to be erected in the late President's hometown, Marion, Ohio. The carving will be done in the Nelson plant. The designer of the memorial does not hesitate to say that Georgia marble is equal to the finest Italian marble. The wonderful new capitol building in Puerto Rico, now nearing completion, has been constructed entirely of Georgia marble.

February 17, 1927, *Pickens County Progress*: Man Killed by Crane at Marble Hill—Leonard Pendley died of injuries when the "boom" of the Georgia Marble Company's traveling crane fell on him.

July 28, 1927, *Pickens County Progress*: Stephens Monument Nearing Completion— The life-size statue of Alexander H. Stephens to be placed in the National Hall of Fame will be completed in about six weeks. It was designed by Gutzon Borglum and is being carved in his studio in San Antonio, Texas. Col. Sam Tate furnished the marble at actual cost and the sculptor donated his services.

November 10, 1927, *Pickens County Progress*: Georgia Marble for Chicago Aquarium—The marble used in the new \$3,000,000 Shedd aquarium to be constructed at Grant Park, Chicago, will be of white Georgia marble. The marble for the aquarium, which is the gift of John J. Shedd, former president of Marshall Field & Company, will be cut and finished at the Tate plant of the Georgia Marble Company and shipped ready to go into the building. Three million dollars represents the total value of the building and not the price of the marble.

In 1927, Col. Sam recruited J. B. Hill, memorial designer for Frank Coggins' Marble Company of Canton and later Elberton, Georgia. Hill had a natural talent and soon learned every aspect of the memorial department. Prior to his employment, Col. Sam had been engaging design services of New York and other large city firms. From 1927 to 1962, J. B. Hill was the principal memorial designer for the Georgia Marble Company.

The 1930 U.S. Census of Townsend District 1129 (Tate) lists 312 households. The Georgia MarbleGeorgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District, Pickens County, Georgia27

Section 8-Statement of Significance

Company was listed as the employer of 221 white and 116 black employees. This summary does not include numerous employees of the the Georgia Marble Company who lived outside the district, some as far as Canton. Among the residents of Tate were public school personnel, Louisville and Nashville Railroad employees, farmers, one physician, one druggist, one horticulturist, postal employees, domestic workers, and one clergy. The horticulturist was employed by the Tate family to manage the apple orchard and large farm operation. There were five boarding houses and one hotel. The black boarding house was run by Lula Anderson and housed teachers. Two boarding houses served road construction crews and the other two boarding houses served teachers and marble workers.

December 23, 1930, *Pickens County Progress*: \$800,000 contract for the new House Office Building in Washington D.C. will include walls, floors and wainscoting of Georgia marble. Recently, the company has supplied marble for the Puerto Rican Capitol, New York Stock Exchange, Cleveland Resource Bank, and the Cleveland Public Library.

January 8, 1931, *Pickens County Progress*: Georgia Marble is being taken on an exhibit to Mexico City with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

June 30, 1932, Pickens County Progress: Col. Tate has donated marble for the Atlanta Post Office.

August 14, 1932, *Pickens County Progress*: Marble is being donated for the Joel Chandler Harris "Wren's Nest."

September 14, 1932, *Pickens County Progress*: Eight blocks of pink marble, each valued at \$5000, are being used in a New York Court House.

The Georgia Marble Company enjoyed success through 1932, but because of the depression, recorded losses of \$225,000 the following year. The Kennesaw Marble Company closed in 1934. Men in the mills and quarries worked only part time. Col. Sam agonized over the economic needs of his employees. In early 1933, he donated \$30,000 to Wesleyan College in Macon and marble for classrooms and dormitories at Emory University and Emory Hospital to provide employment for his work force. During the 1930s, the "widow's shop," was formed to sew uniforms for Emory University, Emory Hospital, Tate School, and other Methodist institutions.

By September 1934, Col. Sam had pledged 10,000 shares of his stock for a loan to keep the marble works in operation. The banks' interests were protected by the establishment of an executive vice president. Mr. E. W. Gottenstrater was elected to this position and served from September to November. He brought Rowland Bryce to the Tate office to serve as comptroller. Officers of the company were Col. Sam Tate, president, Gottenstrater, executive vice president, vice presidents: Alex Anderson, A. V. Cortelyou, Harry H. Miles (New York office), Herbert L. Miles (Atlanta office), H. L. Litchfield, and Walter E. Tate, who was also general manager. Again in 1936, the bank requested

Section 8--Statement of Significance

that the office of executive vice president be filled with a person of their choice, W. C. Cram. An observer reported that within a few weeks, Col. Sam had maneuvered the bank and it was "eating out of his hand."

Illness struck Col. Sam in 1936 and soon afterward, he was elevated to Chairman of the Board. His brother-in-law, I. P. Morton, whom Col. Sam had set up in the marble business in Missouri, took over as president. The company was dealt a serious blow with the death of Walter E. Tate in December, 1937. Col. Sam died of cancer in October 1938. Following Col. Sam's death, the stockholders elected to the board of directors: Alex Anderson, C. H. Candler, Jr., J. R. Cowan (named vice president and later to become president of the company), Clement A. Evans, Wilbur Glenn, Granger Hansell, H. L. Litchfield, I. P. Morton, James D. Robinson, Jr. and Luke E. Tate.

Lawsuits and counter lawsuits were heard in the courts for the next several years. Deteriorating financial statements through the 1930s had taken a toll on the company's assets. Replacing equipment, maintaining buildings, repairing employee housing, increasing salaries, and other expenses raised the company's operating expenses. The power plant sat idle. Mausoleums in Chicago, Michigan, Oklahoma, and other locations had not been paid in full and claims were made against the company's assets. The Georgia Marble Company and the S. C. Tate Estate retained joint ownership of company property.

In 1941, J. R. Cowan was appointed resident of the company and the board of directors devised a plan to keep the company solvent that included the following terms: established an office in Atlanta in addition to Tate office; several parcels of land were sold, some with mineral rights reserved; applied new sales techniques; independent pricing policy structure; set 65 as established retirement for officers and employees; tractors replaced mules for moving marble on the lots; electric service was added to houses without previous service; some of the properties jointly owned by S. C. Tate heirs and the company were split and appropriate deeds prepared; and uses for waste marble were explored. Also in 1941, the Georgia Marble Company purchased the Georgia Marble Finishing Works in Canton, which had an inventory of 40,000-cubic feet of silver-gray marble, a color that was in demand but not produced in the Tate quarries.

The company's electric distribution system that served Tate, Marble Hill, and Nelson was sold to the Rural Electrification Administration. Stephen C. Tate II, Col. Sam's nephew, was instrumental in bringing the REA to Pickens County. The company turned over Tate High School to the Pickens County Board of Education. Single teachers continued to live at the company house into the 1960s. The Marietta marble plant was sold. In April 1941, a syndicate formed as the Georgia Marble Holding Company purchased 13,121 shares of the 20,000 total shares.

In the mid-1940s, the Georgia Marble Company received a contract to produce military headstones for the federal government. As a result of World War II, the company produced a significant number of headstones. The company continues to produce headstones for the federal government.

NPS Form 10-900-a United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8-Statement of Significance

By 1945, new equipment was ordered and sanitation facilities were added to the Tate plant and at the Tate High School. The company also donated \$10,000 toward the building of a medical clinic for Tate. Orders for building and structural marble increased. Among the orders was an \$85,000 order for blocks to be used in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. President Cowan proposed the establishment of a Delaware Corporation to operate the company-owned timberlands.

John W. Dent became affiliated with the Georgia Marble Company in June 1947. Later that year, the company began the Calcium Products Division. Dent continued to lead this division until being made Executive Vice President in 1954. Wet ground marble was used in products, such as chicken feed, cast stone, terrazzo, rubber goods, chewing gum, and paints. William B. Tate, Jr., grandson of William Tate, became the sales manager for the Calcium Products Division, the first family member to re-enter the marble industry following Col. Sam's death.

Beginning in the late 1940s and continuing through the 1950s, the company sold employee houses to the current employee occupants. Residents purchased nearly all of the houses in the newer sections of Tate. Houses in the vicinity of the marble quarries with possible marble deposits below were demolished. In 1947, the Tate Community Association was organized for the purpose of building a community clinic. Fundraisers included plays, carnivals, raffles, and other events. The Georgia Marble Company donated \$10,000. The seven-bed clinic was built in 1948 for \$38,076.

In 1950, monument sales accounted for 51% of company's gross sales. The Calcium Products sales comprised 22% of the total sales. J. R. Cowan continued to serve as president until 1955. He died one month after being named Chairman of the Board. John W. Dent became President. He previously worked at Thompson-Weinman, stone crushers in Bartow County. The company continued to purchase marble interests in other states.

In 1958, the Georgia Marble Company signed a contract to provide two-dozen Corinthian columns for the renovation of the east front of the United States Capitol. The \$2,783,650 contract represents the largest and most prestigious commission for the company. Work consisted of quarrying and processing some 15-million pounds of marble. One original column was brought from the Capitol to the finishing plant in Nelson so the new columns could be made identical to the original. The Corinthian columns, which had to be turned and carved, were completed in time for the inauguration of John F. Kennedy in 1961. Local workers celebrated the completion by making souvenir bookends and paperweights from the original Capitol column.

The structural stone business, once the company's principal product, was in decline. During the 1970s, the dwindling number of structural stone projects included Water Tower Place in Chicago, Omni International Hotel in Atlanta, and in Washington, D.C., the East Wing of the National Gallery of Art, the Air and Space Museum, and the James Madison Building of the Library of Congress. In July 1984, the last marble slabs were sent to Washington D.C., for the completion of the Russian

OMB Approved No. 1024-0018

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8---Statement of Significance

Embassy. After this commission, the finishing department employed fewer and fewer artisans.

The Jim Walter Corporation purchased the Georgia Marble Company in 1969 for \$23,000,000. A series of company presidents followed who had less success in the areas of sales and marketing. Labor relations worsened followed by several strikes. Retiring employees were not replaced. The Georgia Marble Company was later purchased by Kholbert, Kravis Roberts and Company (KKR), Hillsborough Holding Corporation, First Chicago Corporation and Management, and Imerys, a French-Canadian firm.

Imerys, which purchased the company in 1996, sent nearly all of quarried marble to the Calcium Products Division in Marble Hill to be converted to pulverized calcium. The company lost the federal contract to produce marble headstones, but subcontracted with a Colorado company to continue producing the headstones while they scaled down marble operations in Tate. By 2001, only two stonecutters remained in the Tate plant, where they carved replacements for damaged monuments and memorials, the Hank Williams memorial in Montgomery Alabama. By 2003, only 25 employees worked in the Tate quarries. That same year, the Nelson plant of the Georgia Marble Company was closed. The Tate family purchased the Nelson plant and all the equipment.

In August 2003, Polycor purchased the Tate plant and Imerys moved their operation to the former Calcium Products Division in Marble Hill. Polycor, a French marble-finishing company, purchased the existing buildings at the Tate facility. Polycor quarries marble in Tate and pre-cuts the stone for shipment to other finishing plants. The company has hundreds of stock designs of memorials and mausoleums. The Tate estate retains ownership of the quarries.

#### 9. Major Bibliographic References

- Annual Announcement of Tate High School, September 1915-May 1916. Tate High School Yearbook, 1916.
- Bayley, W. S. *Geology of the Tate Quadrangle*. Georgia, Stein Printing Company, Atlanta, 1928.
- Butler, Mimi Jo. Historic District Information Form. Tate Historic District. On file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, Atlanta, Georgia, 2004.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Pickens County, Georgia Marriages 1853 – 1965.* Tate, Ga.: Butler Publishing, 1999.

- Griffeth, Stephen E. The Many Facets of Tate Georgia, A Native Son Remembers Historic Tate. Fernandina Beach, Fla.: Wolfe Publishing Company, 1998.
- Heritage of Pickens County, Georgia 1853-1998. Pickens County Heritage Book Committee. Missouri: Walsworth Publishing Company, 1998.
- Marlin, Lloyd. The History of Cherokee County. Atlanta: Walter W. Brown Publishing Company, 1932.

Memoirs of Georgia. 2 vols. Atlanta: Southern Historical Association, 1895.

The Pioneer (Tate High School Yearbook). Lafayette, Ind.: LaFayette Printing Company, 1925.

The Pioneer (Tate High School Yearbook). Atlanta: Ben Franklin Press, 1926.

- Ray, Bambi, Marion Ellis, and Cyd Dolder. "Elementary and Secondary Public Schools in Georgia, 1868-1971." Multiple-property National Register nomination form on file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, Atlanta, Georgia, 2005.
- Tate, Luke E., *The History of Pickens County, Georgia.* Atlanta: Walter W. Brown Publishing Company, 1935.
- Taylor, Wyndell and Bernice O. Taylor. *Cherokee County Land Records, vols. 1-7*, Powder Springs, Ga.: Taylor Publishing Company, 1992-1996.
- Teague, Gene E. and Miranda E. Reece, *Cemeteries of Pickens County, Georgia.* Roswell, Ga: Wolfe Publishing Company,1995.
- Turbeville, Robert Paul. *Eminent Georgians.* vol. I, Southern Society for Research and History, 1937.

Walker, Charles O. Cherokee Images. Canton, Ga.: Industrial Printing Service, 1988-

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

#### 1989.

Warren, Mary B. and Eve B. Weeks. *Whites Among the Cherokees, Georgia 1828-1838.* Heritage Papers, Danielsville, Ga., 1987.

#### Newspapers:

"Colonel Sam Tate Keeps Fine Health on 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday," *The Constitution*, Atlanta, October 1935.

"Millions in Marble," The Constitution, Atlanta, July 20 1884.

"Mr. Sam's Amazing Memorial," The Atlanta Journal - Constitution, [c.1930].

The Herald, Jasper, Georgia, February 2, 1888-August 19, 1899.

The Mountain Boys, Jasper, Georgia, November 1, 1884.

Pickens County Progress, Jasper, Georgia, September 1899-1958.

#### Periodicals:

American Art in Stone, March 1949.

Hill, J. B. editor, The Memorial Salesman, The Georgia Marble Company, April 1950.

Monumental News Review, Monument Builders of America, Chicago, IL, July 1962.

## Georgia Marble Company Publications

A Brief History of The Georgia Marble Company. May, 1963.

Hill, J. B. The Story of Georgia Marble, 1946.

Hill, J. B. Producing America's Buried Treasure, The Story of The Georgia Marble Company, 1960.

#### Manuscripts

Tate Family Manuscripts and The Georgia Marble Company, Hargrett Manuscript

Section 9-Major Bibliographic References

Library, University of Georgia Library, Athens, Georgia.

#### **Interviews**

Eubanks, Willie Frank Newman Interviews, 1997, Tate High School music teacher beginning in 1926

- Hill, J. B., Unpublished memories and interviews, 1958-1988 (including handwritten lists of thousands of memorials and mausoleums he designed and were finished at GMC, Tate)
- Hill, Mildred Pattillo, Interviews 1997-2001, first PTA President of Tate High School, 1936
- Little, Lula Prather, Interview, 2001 and 2003, 1932 graduate of Tate High School and daughter of a lifelong employee of Georgia Marble Company.
- Pendley, Russell "Doods", Interview, 2003, employee of Georgia Marble Company 35 years
- Thacker, Brenda Padgett, "Memories of Living in a Georgia Marble Company Family," 2004, includes drawing of family homeplace.

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): ( ) N/A

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued date issued:
- (x) previously listed in the National Register: Tate House (May 17, 1974) Tate Gymnasium (December 12, 2002)
- () 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:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 550 acres.

#### **UTM References**

A)	Zone 16	Easting 742530	Northing 3812080
B)	Zone 16	Easting 742500	Northing 3809340
C)	Zone 16	Easting 741150	Northing 3809560
D)	Zone 16	Easting 739970	Northing 3810430
E)	Zone 16	Easting 739200	Northing 3812100
F)	Zone 16	Easting 739100	Northing 3812620

#### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The historic district boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, which is drawn to scale.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the property the intact quarry-related resources historically associated with the Georgia Marble Company and the houses, commercial buildings, and community landmark buildings historically associated with the town of Tate. The irregular-shaped boundary includes the lowlands along Long Swamp Creek that contain the quarries and marble plant and the historic mule pasture. Residential areas of Tate follow the dramatic topography, which is marked by steep hills that were never developed and narrow valleys that formed isolated neighborhoods. Most of houses in Tate are located on high ground at the west end of the district. In some cases, such as Smoky Hollow Road, the boundary follows the road through a narrow valley to include the historic road, house, and church.

The historic district is bounded on the north and south by undeveloped land that is not historically associated with the community of Tate. The district is bounded to the east by Marble Hill and the community of Marble Hill and to the west the district is bounded by the nonhistoric commercial area. Portions of Tate that have lost historic integrity have been excluded from the historic district.

## 11. Form Prepared By

# **State Historic Preservation Office**

name/title Steven Moffson, Architectural Historian organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources mailing address 47 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 414-H city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30334 telephone (404) 656-2840 date April 10, 2005 e-mail steven\_moffson@dnr.state.ga.us

#### Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Mimi Jo Butler organization Marble Valley Friends, Inc. mailing address P.O. Box 142 city or town Tate state GA zip code 30177 telephone N/A e-mail N/A

- (X) property owner
- () consultant
- () regional development center preservation planner
- () other:

**Property Owner or Contact Information** 

name (property owner or contact person) Same as above. organization (if applicable) mailing address city or town state zip code e-mail (optional)

#### Photographs

Name of Property:	Georgia Marble Company and Tate Historic District
City or Vicinity:	Tate
County:	Pickens
State:	Georgia
Photographer:	James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed:	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed:	July 2004

#### **Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 73

- 1. Tate House, photographer facing south.
- 2. Tate Mule Barn, photographer facing northwest.

#### Georgia Marble Company

- 3. Design Studio, photographer facing northwest.
- 4. Office, photographer facing northwest.
- 5. Company store/post office, photographer facing northwest.
- 6. Marble Grinding shop (left), shed (right), photographer facing southwest.
- 7. Power plant, photographer facing northeast.
- 8. Gantry crane, photographer facing south.
- 9. Gantry crane with finishing shed (background), photographer facing southwest.
- 10. Gantry crane with finishing shed (background), photographer facing southwest.
- 11. Gantry crane, photographer facing north.
- 12. Etowah pink marble quarry, photographer facing north.
- 13. Etowah pink marble quarry, photographer facing north.

#### Photographs

- 14. White marble quarry, photographer facing north.
- 15. White marble quarry, photographer facing north.
- 16. White marble quarry with finishing shed (background), photographer facing north.
- 17. White marble quarry photographer facing southeast.
- 18. White marble quarry, photographer facing west.
- 19. White marble quarry with finishing shed (background), photographer facing north.
- 20. Louisville and Nashville Railroad spur, photographer facing south.
- 21. Louisville and Nashville Railroad spur, photographer facing south.

#### Tate community

22. Crossing at Georgia Highway 53 and Louisville and Nashville Railroad spur, photographer facing east.

- 23. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northwest.
- 24. House, photographer facing northeast.
- 25. Tate Methodist Church, photographer facing northwest.
- 26. Smoky Hollow Methodist Church, photographer facing southwest.
- 27. Houses in Smoky Hollow, photographer facing southwest.
- 28. Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, photographer facing north.
- 29. Tate High School, photographer facing northwest.
- 30. Tate High School, photographer facing west.
- 31. Tate High School, photographer facing southeast.
- 32. Tate High School north annex, photographer facing northwest.
- 33. Tate Gymnasium, photographer facing southwest.

#### Photographs

- 34. View Drive, photographer facing south.
- 36. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing north.
- 37. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northeast.
- 38. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northeast.
- 39. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing southwest.
- 40. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing west.
- 41. Tate Clinic, Clinic Road, photographer facing west.
- 42. Christian Avenue, photographer facing northwest.
- 43. Christian Avenue, photographer facing northeast.
- 44. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing northwest.
- 45. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing west.
- 46. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing northwest.
- 47. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing northwest.
- 48. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing northwest.
- 49. Rabbit Town Road, photographer facing west.
- 50. Rabbit Town Road, photographer facing west.
- 51. North Station Street, photographer facing southwest.
- 52. North Station Street, photographer facing north.
- 53. North Station Street, photographer facing west.
- 54. North Station Street, photographer facing west.
- 55. North Station Street, photographer facing north.
- 56. New Town Street/Old Federal Road, photographer facing northwest.

#### Photographs

- 57. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northwest.
- 58. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northwest.
- 59. Georgia Highway 53, photographer facing northwest.
- 60. African-American Cemetery, photographer facing west.
- 61. African-American Cemetery, photographer facing northwest.
- 62. Cool Springs Baptist Church, photographer facing north.
- 63. Cemetery at Cool Springs Baptist Church photographer facing northwest.
- 64. Cemetery at Cool Springs Baptist Church photographer facing northwest.
- 65. Downtown Tate, photographer facing west.
- 66. North Station Street, photographer facing northwest.
- 67. Tate Depot, photographer facing northwest.
- 68. Old Tate Cemetery, photographer facing northwest.
- 69. Old Tate Cemetery, photographer facing northwest.
- 70. Tate Family Cemetery, photographer facing north.
- 71. Tate Family Cemetery, photographer facing north.
- 72. South Station Street, photographer facing northwest.
- 73. Windy Hill, photographer facing north.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)