INSTRUCTIONS

ш ш Form 10-306 (Oct. 1972)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Georgia

					COUNTY:					
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES					Chatham	1				
	INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES					FOR NPS USE ONLY				
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7.

The Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Savannah, Georgia, is a U-shaped marble building which fronts Wright Square on the east. Covering a downtown city block, its boundaries are defined by State Street on the north, Whitaker Street on the west, and York Street on the south. The three-story structure is built in what would be termed most correctly the Second Renaissance Revival style.

When first built, the Federal Building, then the Post Office, was less than half the size of its present-day appearance. President Street ran into Wright Square at the time of its construction in the 1890's. The main facade of the Post Office, with its five arched entrance doors with leaded and stained glass and its centrally placed square tower, opened onto President Street. When the building was enlarged in the early 1930's, President Street was closed and the structure extended north to State Street.

The 1930's addition successfully reproduced not only the style but also the details of the eadier section. Wall surfaces are white marble. On the rusticated first floor, stone has a slightly rough texture to contrast with the smoother walls of the upper stories. Elevations are symmetrical and have very slight projecting and receding planes.

A variety of openings have been used. All those on the first floor have rounded arches, including the two main entrances now located on the east facade. Second floor openings are flat across the east front and on the end bays of both sides. Other openings on the second story, as well as those on the third floor, are arched. Openings are often grouped in two's and three's. Openings in the central mass of both sides and in the entrance bays on the east front are recessed and pillared with balconies, creating a loggia or gallery effect. Second floor windows are connected by a stringcourse. There is elaborate carving over many openings, including one face of "Uncle Sam" with the initials "US", "CH", and "PO".

The cornice is both heavily carved and inset with medallions of Ayrying colors of marble. Shading the cornice is a projecting, bracketed eave. The roof has only a slight pitch.

At the rear of the building on Whitaker Street is the covered loading and service area.

When completed in 1899, the Post Office had thirty-two rooms occupied by various federal agencies. It was heated by steam and open fireplaces with gas logs. Due to extensive renovations, few evidences of the early appearance of the interior are visible, although some of the original oak paneling and mantels remain intact. The courtroom has been active considerably.

The building dimensions are 154'0" x 154'0".

NATIONAL REGISTER

	SIGNIFICANCE						
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	☐ 15th Cen			19th Century			
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	prominently located on Wright Square in the downtown section. Although "historic" Savannah is identified generally with an earlier period, the Federal Building makes an important visual contribution to the city architecturally. A notable representation of its period and built in the Second Renaissance Revival style, it is one of the more distinguished and imposing structures of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Savannah.  The site of the Federal Building is historically important. James Edward Oglethorpe, the founder of Georgia, erected a courthouse on the site, where, among other events, John Wesley preached during						
According to a government printed history, work on a post office at the corner of York and Abercon Streets had begun in 1889, but was suspended because Savannah citizens wanted "a more suitable structure." Congress was persuaded to appropriate more funds and on June 15, 1894, a local newspaper reported that excavations had begun the day before at the President Street site. It noted that local men were being employed for the project. On July 31, 1899, the paper announced that the following day all departments of the post office were to be in the "new government building," which is "an orna@ment and a pride to the city." It also housed the United States Courts, the United States Engineers, and the Weather Bureau. The building was probably designed in 1893-1894 when W. J. Edbrooke was Supervising Architect.  The building was enlarged between 1930 and 1932, when President Street was closed and the structure extended to include a full city block. Today, it serves as a postal station as well as offices for numerous federal agencies.							

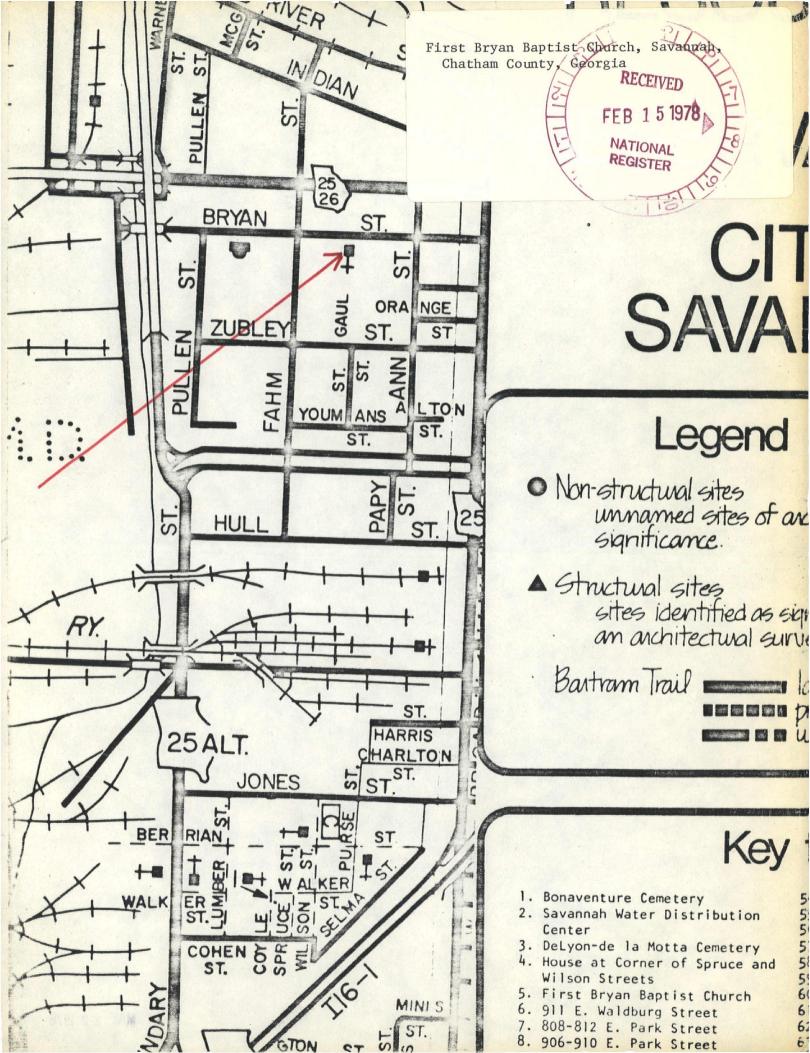
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6-4-74

Date .

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National Register write-up July 9,1974  Federal Register entry July 2,1974	Send-backRe-submit	
	Entered JUN	7 1974





Form No. 10-301a (7/72)

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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

COUNTY
Chatham

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

	AND/OR HISTORIC: Post Office						
2.	LOCATION						
	street and number: Wright Square						
	CITY OR TOWN: Savannah	31141/15					
	Georgia CODE COUNT	hatham					
3.	PHOTO REFERENCE	Nov 9					
	PHOTO CREDIT: R.R. Ellis DATE OF PHOTO: March, 1973	NATIONAL CO					
	NEGATIVE FILED AT: GSA, WASHINGTON, DC						
4.	IDENTIFICATION	6.1.01.7					
	Northeast view showing main or Wright Square entrance on east, and side or State Street facade on north. Taken from corner of Bull and State Streets looking southwest.						



8-110 GA-7

Form No. 10-301 Rev. 7-72

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Chatham	
FOR NPS USE ON	_Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUN 7 200	

	NAME	JUN 7 100
	common: Federal Building and United States Cou	
. 2.	LOCATION	
	STREET AND NUM BER:	
	Wright Square	
	Savannah	
	STATE:	
-	Georgia	COD
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6000000	DATE: 1955	1973
4,	REQUIREMENTS	NATIONAL S
	1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow.	REGISTER
	3. Latitude and longitude reference.	111 1011



Form No. 10-301a (7/72)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

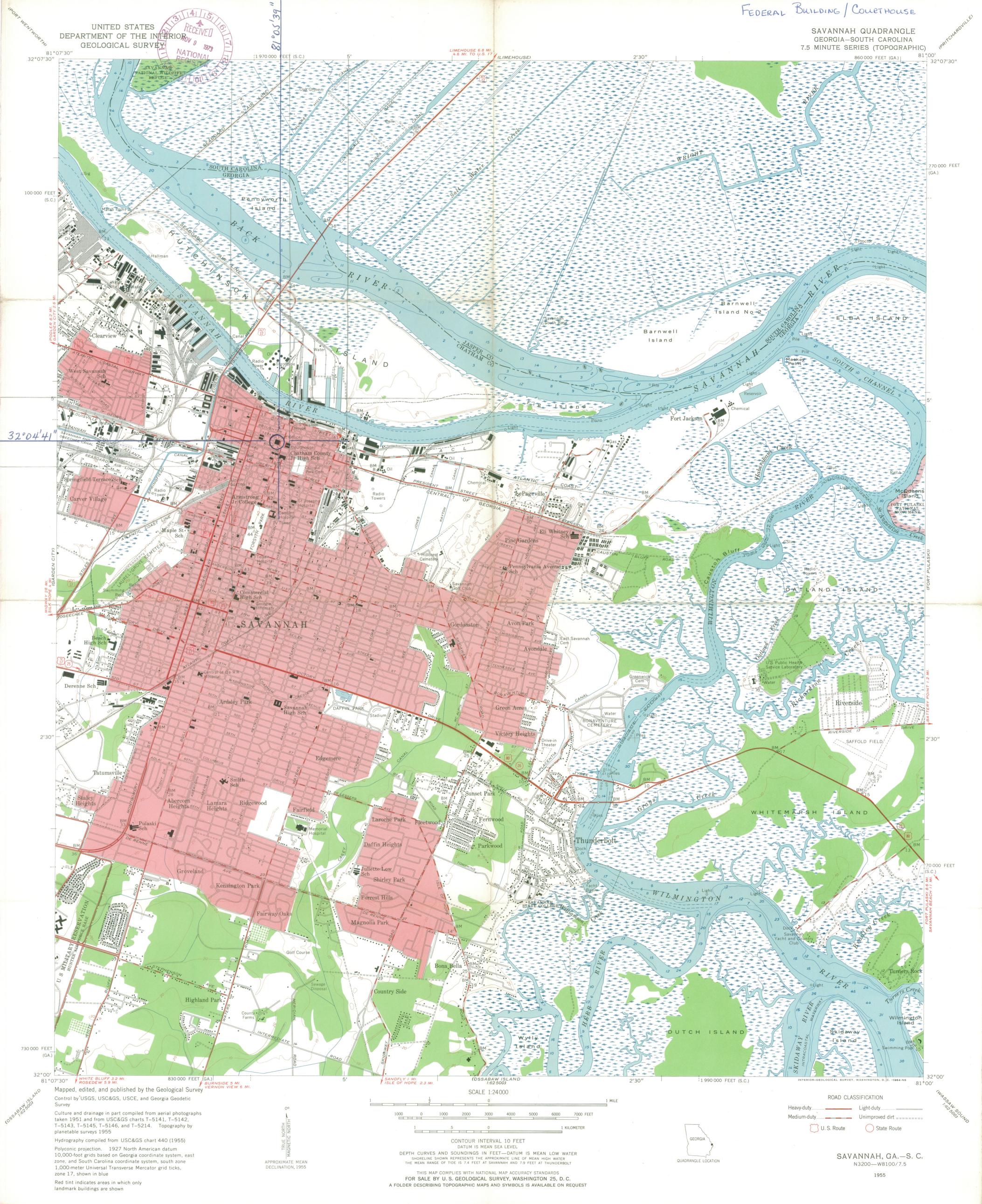
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

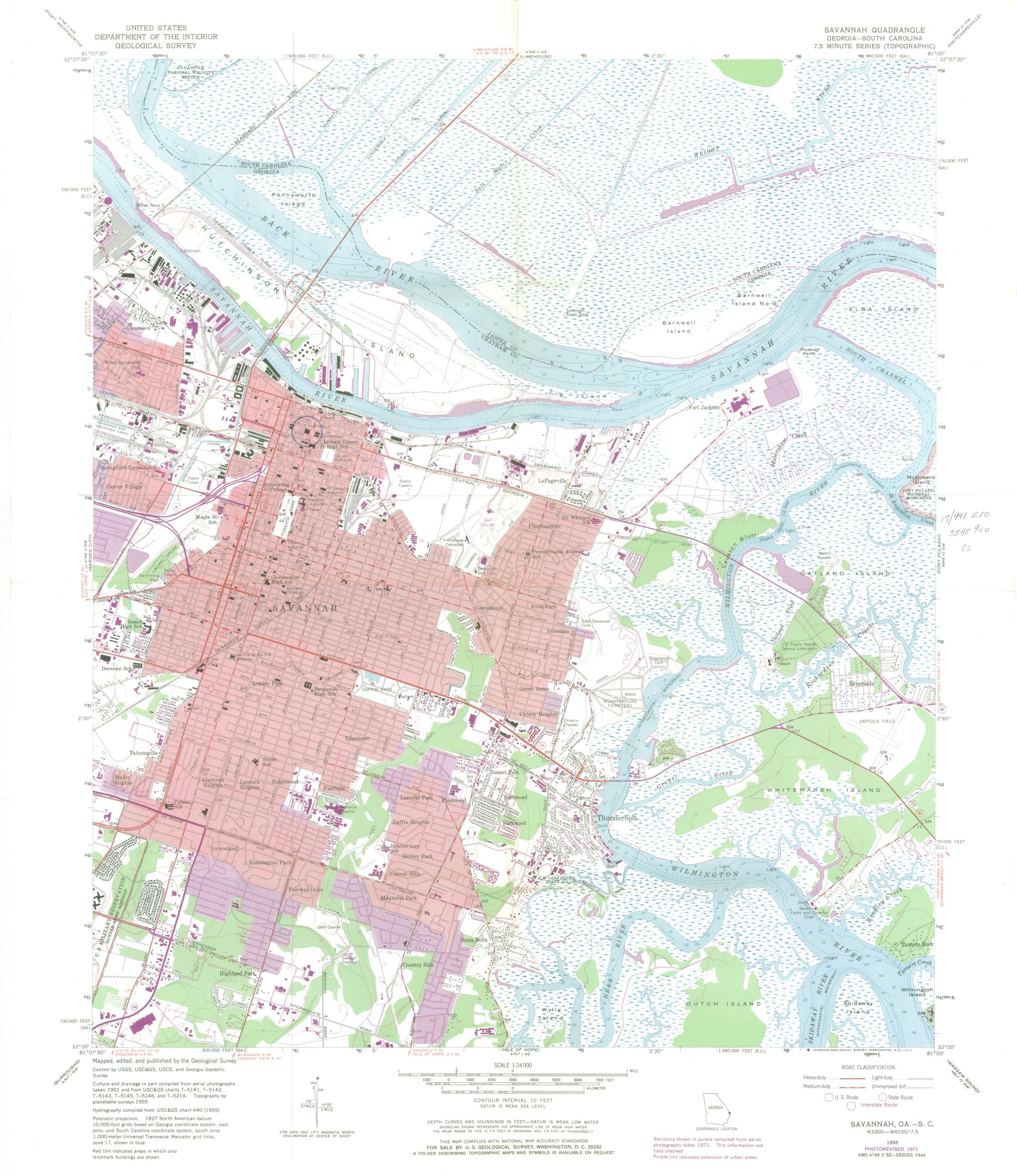
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia COUNTY Chatham FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

	STREET AND NUMBER:						
	Wright Square  CITY OR TOWN:  Savannah			(3)	SAIT 5	16	
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Date Entered NN 7 174

Name

Haralson County Courthouse

Federal Building and United States
- Courthouse

Habersham Memorial Hall

Location

Buchanan Haralson County

Savannah Chatham County

Atlanta Fulton County

Also Notified

Hon. Herman E. Talmadge

Hon. Sam Munn

Hon. John J. Flynt, Jr.

Hon. Bo Ginn

Eon. Andrew Young

Mr. Steven Ruttenbaum, General

Services Administration

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Joe D. Tanner, Commissioner Georgia Department of Natural Resources 710 Trinity-Washington Building 270 Washington Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30334

PR MMOTT: pl 6/10/74

Regional Director, Southeast Region

## Advisory Council On Historic Preservation

1522 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 1,3ted 11/13/66 Chatham County

JUN 4 1981

Mr. Wesley L. Johnson, Jr. Regional Administrator, Region 4 General Services Administration Richard B. Russell Federal Building 75 Spring Street SW. Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is in response to your letter of April 28, 1981, and accompanying "Preliminary Case Report," concerning adverse effects of the planned Savannah Federal Building and Parking Garage, at Savannah, Georgia, on archeological resources within the National Historic Landmark District. You have stated that GSA "will not be able to accomplish any further archeological work in Savannah due to lack of funds," and cite an archeological investigation undertaken during 1980 as evidence that GSA has already "spent over \$11,000 toward the recovery of these archeological resources" in the project area.

We are seriously concerned with the position GSA has taken, and we wish to make our own position on this point absolutely clear.

- 1. There is a signed Memorandum of Agreement for this project, ratified by the Chairman of the Council on June 8, 1979, requiring your treatment of archeological resources in accordance with a data recovery plan implemented in accordance with the Council's guidelines.
- 2. The archeological investigations conducted by Cultural Resource Services, Inc., and presented in the report titled <u>Historical and Archeological Investigations at the Planned Federal Building Site</u>, Savannah, Georgia (December 1980), included only identification and assessment of the potentially affected historic archeological component of the Savannah Historic District, in accordance with Stipulation 2.a. of the Memorandum of Agreement.
- 3. GSA's decision not to conduct recovery of the archeological data revealed by the testing program, if not reversed would result in an unmitigated adverse effect on the district and this would violate Stipulation 2.h. of the Memorandum of Agreement. This would cause GSA to no longer be in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Council's regulations (36 CFR Part 800). GSA would have to again request the Council's comments, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800, on the project and its effects on the Savannah Historic District.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. You should refrain from taking or sanctioning any action that could result in an adverse effect on any of the resources within the Savannah Historic District until this matter is resolved.

Sincerely,

Thomas F/ King

Director, Office of Cultural

Resource Preservation

# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

(1) NAME as it appears on federal regist	er:	OTHER NAMES:					. 3)d	ate of entry:	(4) county code:
First Bryan Baptist Church							MAY	2 2 1978	51
5 LOCATION street & number	city / town	vicinity of		state		county		6NPS REGIO	
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