

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

OMB NO. 1024-0013

EXP. 12/31/84

For NPS use only

received MAY 18 1982

date entered
JUN 17 1982

1. Name

historic Wright Hotel

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 201 East Market Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Chatsworth

N/A vicinity of

congressional district

state Georgia

code 013

county Murray

code 213

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☒ N/A in process
☐ being considered

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☐ yes: restricted
☒ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Katherine Wright Raine

street & number 201 East Market Street

city, town Chatsworth

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 30705

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Murray County Courthouse

city, town Chatsworth

state Georgia 30705

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:

title Murray County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1975

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wright Hotel, built in 1909, is a vernacular, two story brick hotel with a two-story porch on each side. It is located in the downtown area of Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia on a one-half acre city lot.

The hotel is square in plan and has a double hip roof with a dormer on each side. The roof, originally of tin, is now covered with asphalt shingles. The building, which rests on a ten foot brick foundation is built of local brick laid in common bond. Windows are one-over-one double hung sash except for the six-over-six sash in the dormers. Windows and doors are set into segmental arched openings. The hotel is encased on all sides by a two-story porch with square columns and a simple second-story railing. First floor columns rest on brick piers. The original porch floor has been replaced with concrete; metal awnings have been added to the porch on both levels. The central portion of the second-story rear porch was enclosed in 1920 to form a bathroom. A concrete block laundry room and bath were added to the first floor rear in 1962.

The hotel interior is organized around a central stairhall with lobby, parlor, dining room, kitchen and guest rooms on the first floor and guest rooms and baths on the second. The attic, finished in 1913, contains three more guest rooms and two baths. Low rise, single run stairways are located one above the other in the halls.

The interior is finished with plaster walls and ceilings of beaded tongue and groove boards. Wood baseboards, doors, door and window surrounds, and mantels feature their original dark "black walnut" stain. Doors have six horizontal panels. Fireplaces, located in nearly every room, have built-in coal grates and simple wooden mantels; the ones in the first floor lobby-bedroom and dining room have mirrored overmantels. Changes to the structure are minimal. The originally separated parlor and dining room have been opened up recently to make one living area. Upstairs, the bathrooms were added in 1922. A 1920's steam heating system is intact with the exception of the original boiler, which has been replaced.

The Wright Hotel is situated on a corner lot in downtown Chatsworth. A cement and stone retaining wall runs along the front and east side of the property. Several large hardwood trees and lawns flank the hotel. To the rear, separated from the building by an asphalt drive, are a garden and a non-historic concrete block garage located on the site of the servants quarters. The hotel is located on East Market Street, exactly halfway between the Courthouse and the railroad depot. Stores and a brick warehouse are located in its immediate vicinity.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

Page

2

BOUNDARY

The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the current legal description of the hotel property. It includes the hotel and its grounds, and is outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed surveyor's map.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in March, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800-1899	☒ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☒ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☒ other (specify) local history

Specific dates Built, 1909 **Builder/Architect** Thomas M. Wright, Thomas Banks (builders)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Wright Hotel is architecturally significant as a fine intact example of a vernacular style, early twentieth century hotel in North Georgia. In terms of commerce, the Wright Hotel represents a major commercial venture in a newly founded town that was itself a commercial undertaking. In terms of local history, the hotel was one of two in downtown Chatsworth that served as centers of local social activity. It is the only one to survive. These areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

The Wright Hotel reflects its local, vernacular, do-it-yourself origins. Built by its owner-operator, Thomas Monroe Wright, and his cousin, Thomas Banks, a builder from Cleveland, Tennessee, it shows few signs of high style architecture. Local materials were used as much as possible. Bricks were manufactured a few blocks away at the now defunct Chatsworth Brick Company. Timber was cut from Mr. Wright's nearby farm and aged for a year before being used in the hotel construction. The surrounding two-story porches made excellent use of one of the area's greatest resources, cool mountain air. The ten foot deep foundation and twelve inch thick exterior walls reflect the care with which Mr. Wright constructed the building. The hotel's modest scale, simplicity of design and structural solidity give it real integrity. The building no longer functions as a hotel, but it has survived remarkably intact.

Chatsworth is a town that traces its origins to the arrival of the railroad in 1905. It is a town that began as a commercial undertaking, the first land being subdivided and sold in 1906 by the newly formed Chatsworth Land Company. Speculative building began in earnest in 1907, and in 1913 it was designated county seat. The 1908-1909 building of the Wright Hotel in the downtown area represents a major commercial venture in the new town. The family-run hotel was built by Mr. Wright to serve the influx of new people who came with the railroad, vacationers, traveling salesmen or "drummers", and men in the process of establishing new local businesses. With the 1913 designation of Chatsworth as county seat, it housed many of the out-of-town judges and jurors. It is significant that the hotel is conveniently located exactly halfway between the courthouse and the railroad depot and only about a block away from each.

The Wright Hotel, like most small town hotels, was an important center of local social activity. Chatsworth had only two such hotels, and the Wright Hotel is the only one to survive. From its opening in 1909 until the time it closed in 1968, it served as a place for meetings, receptions and association gatherings. Several men who became prominent local businessmen used the hotel as headquarters while they built up their businesses. One, Mr. J. Frazier Glenn, turned the local talc mine into a multi-million dollar operation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

Dykes, Mrs. Clay. "Historic Preservation Section Structural and Site Survey Form", July 26, 1979; on file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approximately one-half acre

Quadrangle name Chatsworth, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	7	0	4	2	3	5	3	8	4	9	3	4	5
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary is marked on the enclosed surveyor's map. It coincides with the current legal description of the hotel property and includes the hotel and its grounds.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources

date February 16, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, SW

telephone 404 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/30/82

For NPS use only

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

Alonzo Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register date 6/17/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

WRIGHT HOTEL
CHATSWORTH, MURRAY COUNTY, GEORGIA

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

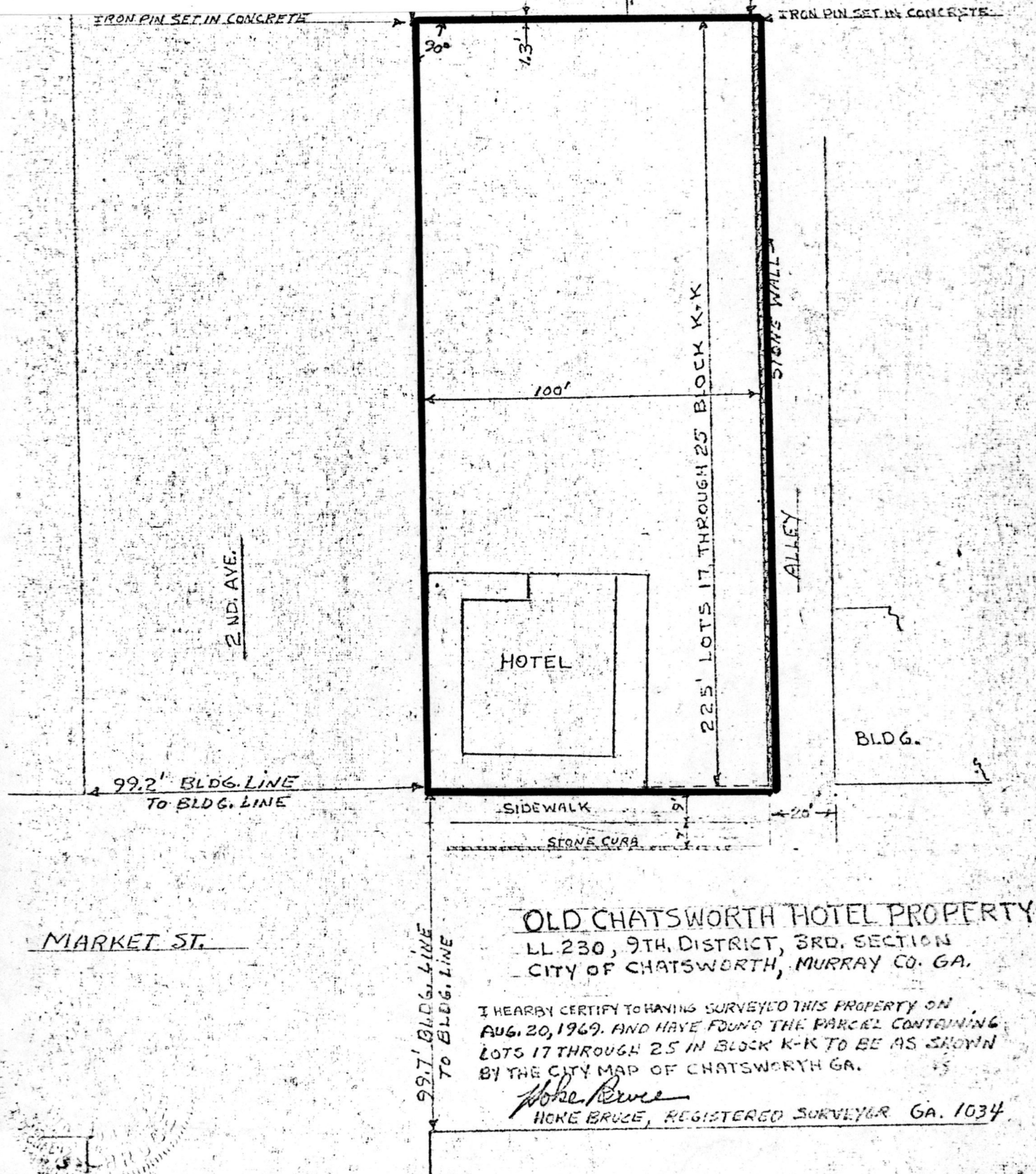
Source: Surveyor's Map

Date: August 20, 1969

North: ↑

Scale: 1" = 40'

Property Boundary: _____



OLD CHATSWORTH HOTEL PROPERTY

LL 230, 9TH. DISTRICT, 3RD. SECTION
CITY OF CHATSWORTH, MURRAY CO. GA.

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO HAVING SURVEYED THIS PROPERTY ON
AUG. 20, 1969, AND HAVE FOUND THE PARCEL CONTAINING
LOTS 17 THROUGH 25 IN BLOCK K-K TO BE AS SHOWN
BY THE CITY MAP OF CHATSWORTH GA.

Horne Bruce

HORNE BRUCE, REGISTERED SURVEYOR GA. 1034

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Wright Hotel
State, County: GA, Murray
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 5/18/82-1438Fed. Reg. Date: FEB 1 1983Date Due: 6/17/82 - 7/2/82Action: ☒ ACCEPT 6/17/82
Entered in the RETURN
National Register REJECTphotos ✓
maps ✓ 82002456

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USFT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (1 of 11): Front facade of
hotel; photographer facing northeast.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (2 of 11): East side of
hotel; photographer facing northwest.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed : Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (3 of 11): Rear and east
side of hotel; photographer facing
southwest.



WRIGHT HOTEL
Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
Date: March, 1981
Description (4 of 11): Front entrance;
photographer facing north.



WRIGHT HOTEL
Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
Date: March, 1981
Description (5 of 11): First floor
stairhall; photographer facing north.



WRIGHT HOTEL
Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
Date: March, 1981
Description (6 of 11): First floor
parlor and dining room; photographer
facing northeast.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (7 of 11): Dining room
fireplace; photographer facing
northeast.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (8 of 11): First floor
bedroom; photographer facing west.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

Date: March, 1981

Description (9 of 11): Second floor
hall; photographer facing south.



WRIGHT HOTEL

Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart

Negatives filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

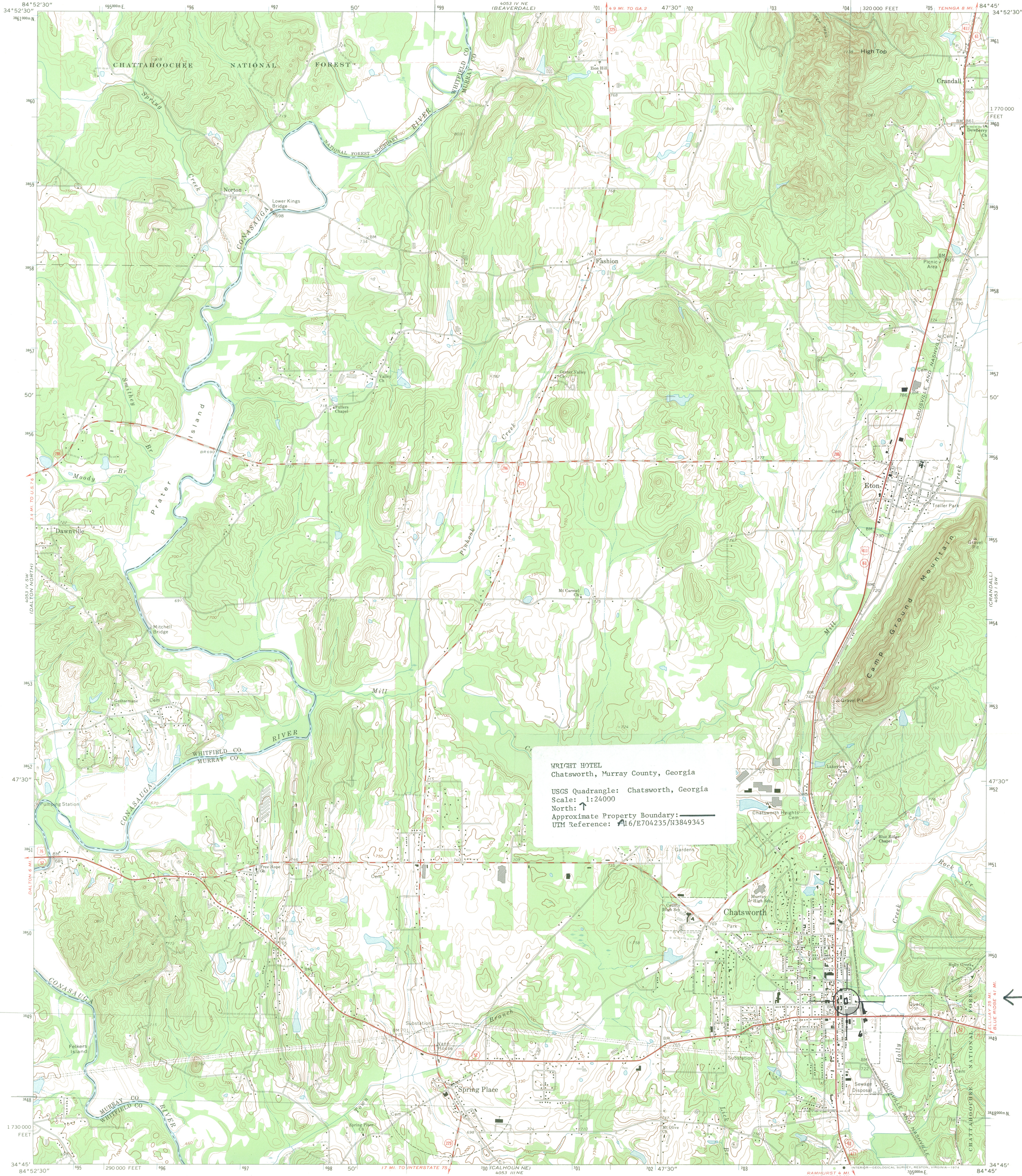
Date: March, 1981

Description (10 of 11): Southwest second
floor bedroom; photographer facing
southwest.



WRIGHT HOTEL
Chatsworth, Murray County, Georgia

Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negatives Filed: Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
Date: March, 1981
Description (11 of 11): Second floor
bedroom; photographer facing west.

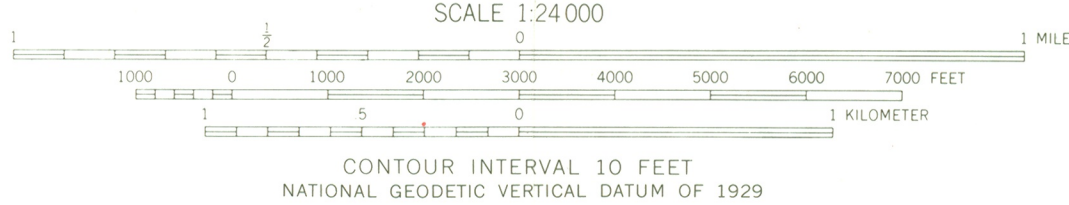
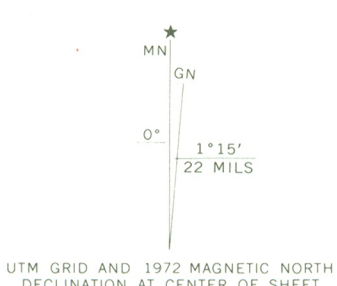


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Georgia Geodetic Survey
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1972

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Georgia coordinate
system, west zone (transverse Mercator)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

CHATSWORTH, GA.
SE/4 DALTON 15' QUADRANGLE
N3445-W8445/7.5

1972

AMS 4053 IV SE—SERIES V845

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Wright Hotel, Murray Co. / Martin House, Whitfield Co.



Crown Gardens and Archives

715 Chattanooga Avenue Dalton, Georgia 30720

March 9, 1982

Elizabeth A. Lyon, Chief
Historic Preservation Section
State Historic Preservation Officer
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington St. SW
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Dr. Lyons:

Thank you for the information concerning the review of the Martin House and the Wright Hotel for the National Register nomination.

As you know, our organization is vitally interested in the preservation of these two structures and heartily endorses their nomination to the National Register.

The Wright Hotel is a unique structure of its kind and the Murray County members would very much like to see this nominated.

The Martin house is one of the few of this style which still exists in our city. We are anxious to see it nominated also.

We sincerely hope that both will receive the recognition they deserve.

Sincerely,

Polly Boggess

Polly Boggess, Director

Mary Gene Dykes, President
Ellen Thompson, Vice-president
Dot Seaton, Secretary
Louise Coker, Coor. Secretary
Lyle Kinney, Treasurer
Judy Alderman, Chairman, House Committee

RECEIVED

MAR 12 1982

HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

A Project of the Whitfield-Murray Historical Society



Joe D. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Henry D. Struble
DIRECTOR

Department of Natural Resources
PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC SITES DIVISION

270 WASHINGTON ST., S. W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-2754

May 4, 1982



Ms Carol D. Shull
Acting Keeper of the National Register
National Register Division
National Park Service
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ms. ^{Carol} Shull:

Enclosed please find the following National Register nominations
for your consideration:

- Walters - Davis House, Stephens County
- Wright Hotel, Murray County
- Crawford W. Brazell House, Toombs County
- The Alexander Hotel, Tattnall County
- Asa Chandler House, Elbert County
- The New Albany Hotel, Dougherty County
- Burwell O. Hill House, Meriwether County

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Lyon, Chief
Historic Preservation Section
State Historic Preservation Officer