

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 30 1979
DATE ENTERED DEC 11 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Atlanta Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

Race and Arch Sts.

STREET & NUMBER

Race Street at Arch Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

21

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Illinois

012

Logan

107

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER: Library

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Atlanta

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

VICINITY OF

Illinois 61723

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Logan County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Lincoln

Illinois 62656

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey (1)

Illinois Historic Structures Survey (2)

DATE November 1973 (1)

October 1974 (2)

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Illinois Department of Conservation

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Springfield

Illinois 62706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Atlanta Public Library has been in continuous use since its dedication on March 28, 1908. Designed by Paul A. Moratz of Bloomington and built by Joseph A. Reichel of El Paso, the building continues to be well-maintained and accurately reflects its original design.

The building combines two significant movements in American architectural history, the Neo-Classical Revival and the Octagon Mode. The plan of the structure is based upon a 48 feet diameter octagon but is dressed in Neo-Classical detail. Only the Classical front portico breaks the octagonal rhythm.

Exterior: The library is sited on a 180 by 143 feet parcel in Atlanta's central business district at the southwest corner of the intersection of Arch and Race Streets. The grounds are grass with a few trees and shrubs. A graveled parking area separates the Library from the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad through this downtown. Commercial structures dominate the adjacent blocks.

The octagon plan is evident from any of the eight sides of the structure. Seven faces are symmetrical with three tall lintelled windows in the main floor and three similarly spaced basement windows near grade. The entrance facade is completed in the temple style. A central double doorway capped with a rounded arch is flanked by two Roman Doric unfluted columns supporting a full pediment, graced with the words "Public Library" and "Museum". Dentils are in evidence on all facades. The columns are one inch cast iron shells. The structure is comprised of a basement, main floor, and roof. A string course defines the bottom of the main floor. The roof is a typical of Neo-Classicism but relates well to the octagon plan. The eight-sided red tile roof rises to a central peak, topped with a white finial. A single brick corbelled chimney rises from the fireplace in the northwest reading room. The library is constructed of brick and be-rock stones.

Interior: See continuation pages 3 and 4. The octagon mode determines the interior plan. The basement is primarily one large room, now with the Atlanta Museum. The basement was paneled in 1973 when the museum was established. The furnace and a store room flank the stairs and were partitioned at that time. (The building was constructed with a central furnace.) Wire glass is used in the basement windows, as noted in the original plans.

The main floor consists of the foyer, lobby, two reading rooms, and a stacks area. The foyer is at entrance level, with nine steps down to the basement and six steps up to the main floor. The lobby is a 14 feet, 3 inches diameter octagon framed by archways to the three other principal areas. The reading rooms and stacks area are created by sections of the base octagon plan minus the central lobby area. One fireplace sits in the northwest reading room. This plain brick fireplace was altered about 1960. A round-shaped hearth was replaced with a rectangular shape; the original materials were used. See continuation page #5.

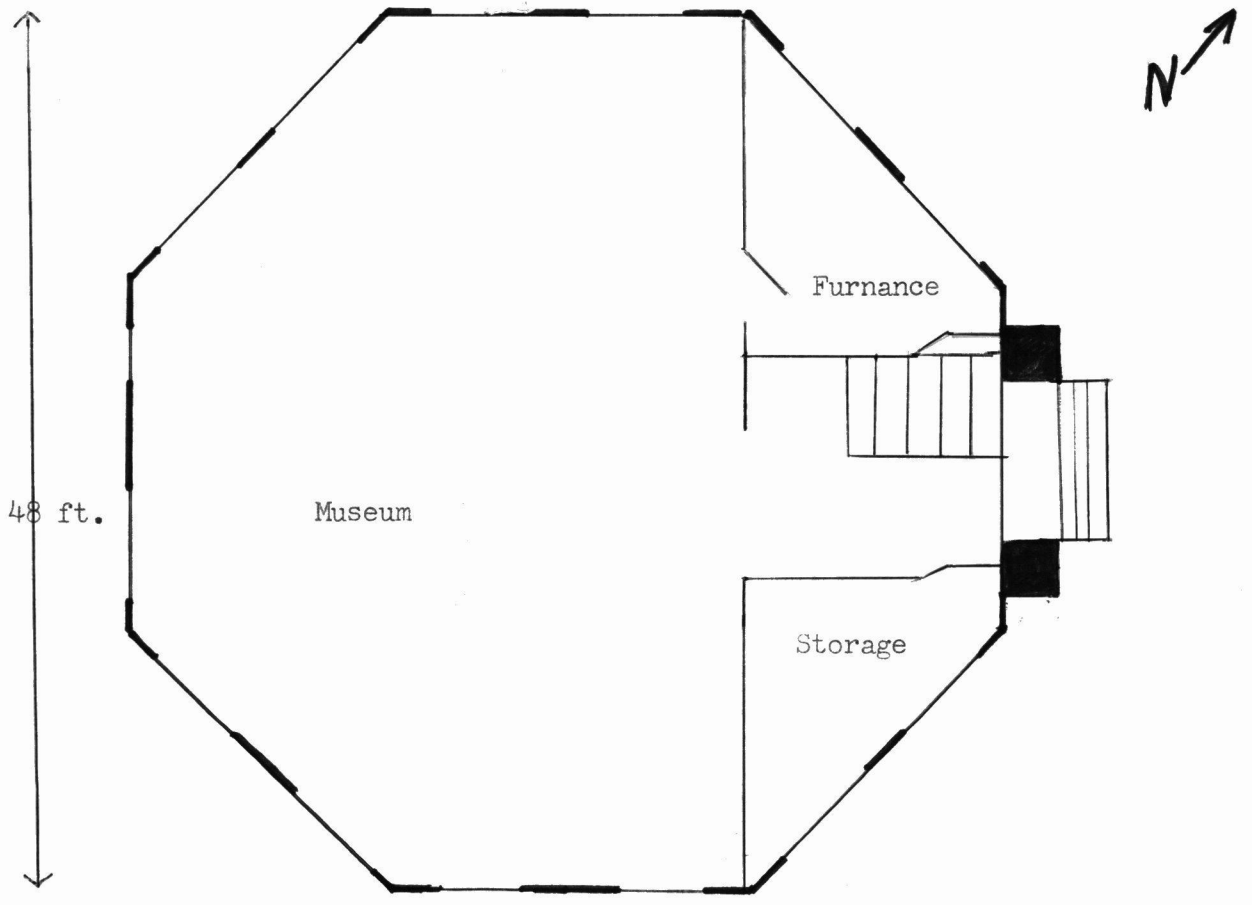
Originally decorated in tan and gold, the plastered walls are now again a light tan. Gold accents interior architectural trim, including an interior cornice at the base of an interior dome over the lobby area. All other ceilings are flat. Windows are tall and narrow on the main floor and evenly spaced. All woodwork is oak. A general restoration was completed in February, 1948. The main floor was carpeted in 1977.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 30 1979
DATE ENTERED DEC 11 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET Atlanta Public Library ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2



BASEMENT

Wall with window

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 30 1979

DEC 11 1979

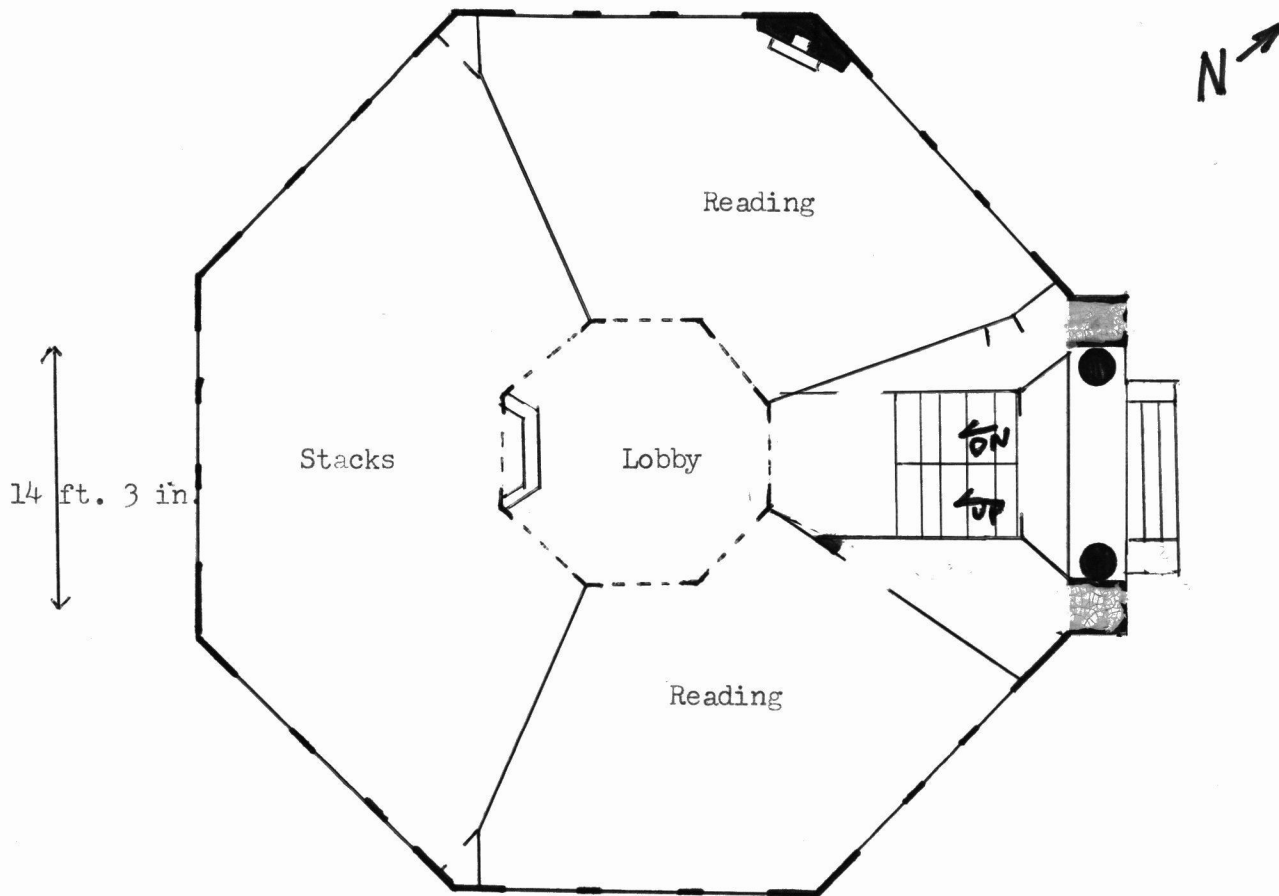
DATE ENTERED

Atlanta Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 3



Arch in lobby

MAIN FLOOR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

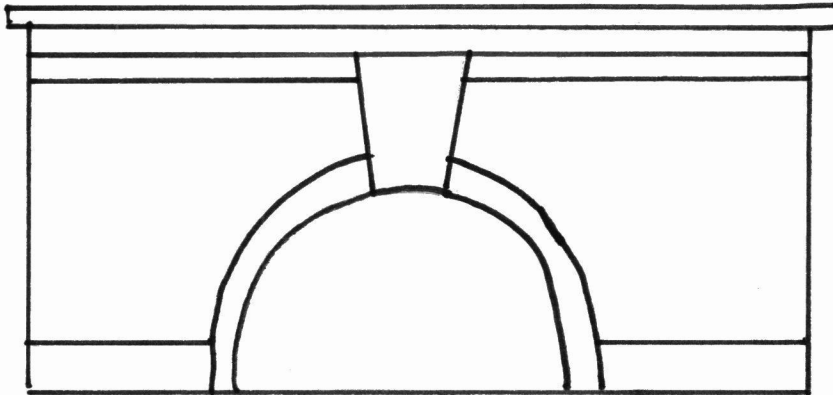
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 30 1979
DATE ENTERED	DEC 11 1979

Atlanta Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

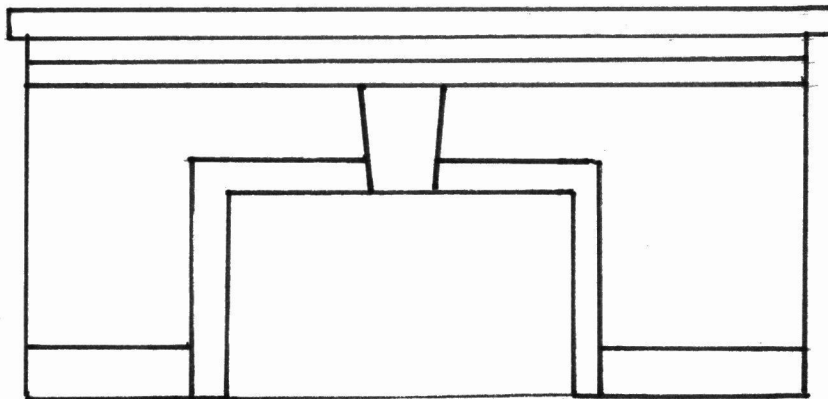
PAGE 4



Original

Fireplace Alteration

Northwest Reading Room



Existing (c. 1960)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATRE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Builder: Joseph A. Reichel
Architect: Paul A. Moratz

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Atlanta Public Library represents a well-maintained example of turn-of-the-entury public construction, combining two significant architectural styles, the Octagon Mode and Neo-Classical Revival. Alterations of the fireplace, carpeting on the main floor, and conversion of the basement to a museum do not detract from from the building's architectural quality.

The Octagon plan relates historically to the Octagon homes espoused by among others Orson Squire Fowler in the mid-1800's. The advantages accounted to the mode were compact, spacious interiors and better hearing. The octagonal form also relatedly closely to natural shapes.

Simulataneously, the architect Paul Moratz utilized the public style of the day, the Neo-Classical. The influence of the Columbian and Pan-American Expositions resulted in a widespread use of the style in public and quasi-public buildings throughout the nation. As previously described, the portico and stylistic detailed highlight this style.

As curious and unique as this combination of Octagon and Neo-Classical is the roof. This red tile roof comprised on eight flat triangular forms hints back to the Romanesque pyramidal roof not long out of common use. The Atlanta Public Library therefore is a unique example of public construction in the Midwest.

In addition, the building of the library represents a notable example of a community wishing to improve the cultural climate with local efforts. Responding to the free library movement, the citizens of Atlanta had established the library in March, 1873. The present library structure was completed in 1908 without Carnegie assistance, an **atypical**, approach to library building at the time. Seward Fields, a former citizen donated the land. Public contributions paid the cost of approximately \$9500, including a \$4000 donation by a local citizen Mrs. Martha Harness Tuttle. Further endowments helped then and continue to help support the library. These have included the establishment of a rental shelf of new fiction by the Atlanta Woman's Club in 1924, most now transferred to the free library; continuing contributions by the Junior Woman's Club; a Memory shelf in memory of Local men who lost their lives in World War II by G. Harry Tuttle; restoration work by both woman's clubs; many private gifts; and further endowments by Seward Fields, Alice Tuttle, and Lillian Harry. Included also is a gift of three pictures of Abraham Lincoln over the fireplace, given by Clinton D. McWhenny, from the collection of his mother Mrs. Anna Strong Forgy, whose grandfather Sylvester Strong was a warm personal friend of Lincoln. The Atlanta Public Library's basement now adds to this climate with the establishment of the city museum of the basement in 1973.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlanta Centennial Committee. A History of Atlanta 1853-1953. Atlanta, Illinois: The Stewart - Finks Publishing Company, 1953

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.6

QUADRANGLE NAME MCLEAN

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 310015 4158085
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Arch and Race Streets, thence southwest along the west right-of-way of Arch Street 80 feet, thence northwest 143 feet along a line parallel to Race Street, thence northeast 80 feet parallel to the west right-of-way of Arch Street, thence southeast along the southern right-of-way of Race Street to the point of beginning.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Patrick J. Glithero, Director

ORGANIZATION

Logan County Regional Planning Commission

DATE

April 20, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

529 South McLean Street

TELEPHONE

217-732-8835

CITY OR TOWN

Lincoln

STATE

Illinois 62656

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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

Dad Kennedy

TITLE

Director, Ill. Dept of Conservation

DATE

10/5/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Tom Carol A. Skell

DATE

12-11-79

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William H. Brennan

DATE

12.4.79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

Property Atlanta Public Library

79000852

State see Logan

Working Number 10-30-79 2621

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 4
Maps 1

HISTORIAN

wrl

*Rather interesting Octagonal, neoclassic
revival structure. Probably unique for its
era. - also significant for local philanthropy
and continued community support*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*accept
Brabnam
12.4.79*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*accept
Brabnam
12.4.79*

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-3-81

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered DEC 11 1979

PUBLIC LIBRARY
MUSEUM



- 1) Atlanta Public Library
- 2) Atlanta, Ill.
- 3) P. Glithero
- 4) 5-29-79
- 5) Logan County Regional Planning Commission
- 6) Front, facing south
- 7) #1

DEC 11 1979

OCT 30 1979



- 1) Atlanta Public Library
- 2) Atlanta, Ill.
- 3) P. Glithero
- 4) 5-29-79
- 5) Logan County Regional Planning Commission
- 6) Rear, facing north
- 7) #2

OCT 30 1979

DEC 11 1979



- 1) Atlanta Public Library
- 2) Atlanta, Illinois
- 3) P. Glithero
- 4) 5-29-79
- 5) Logan County Regional Planning Commission
- 6) Side, plus adjacent street
- 7) #3

OCT 30 1979

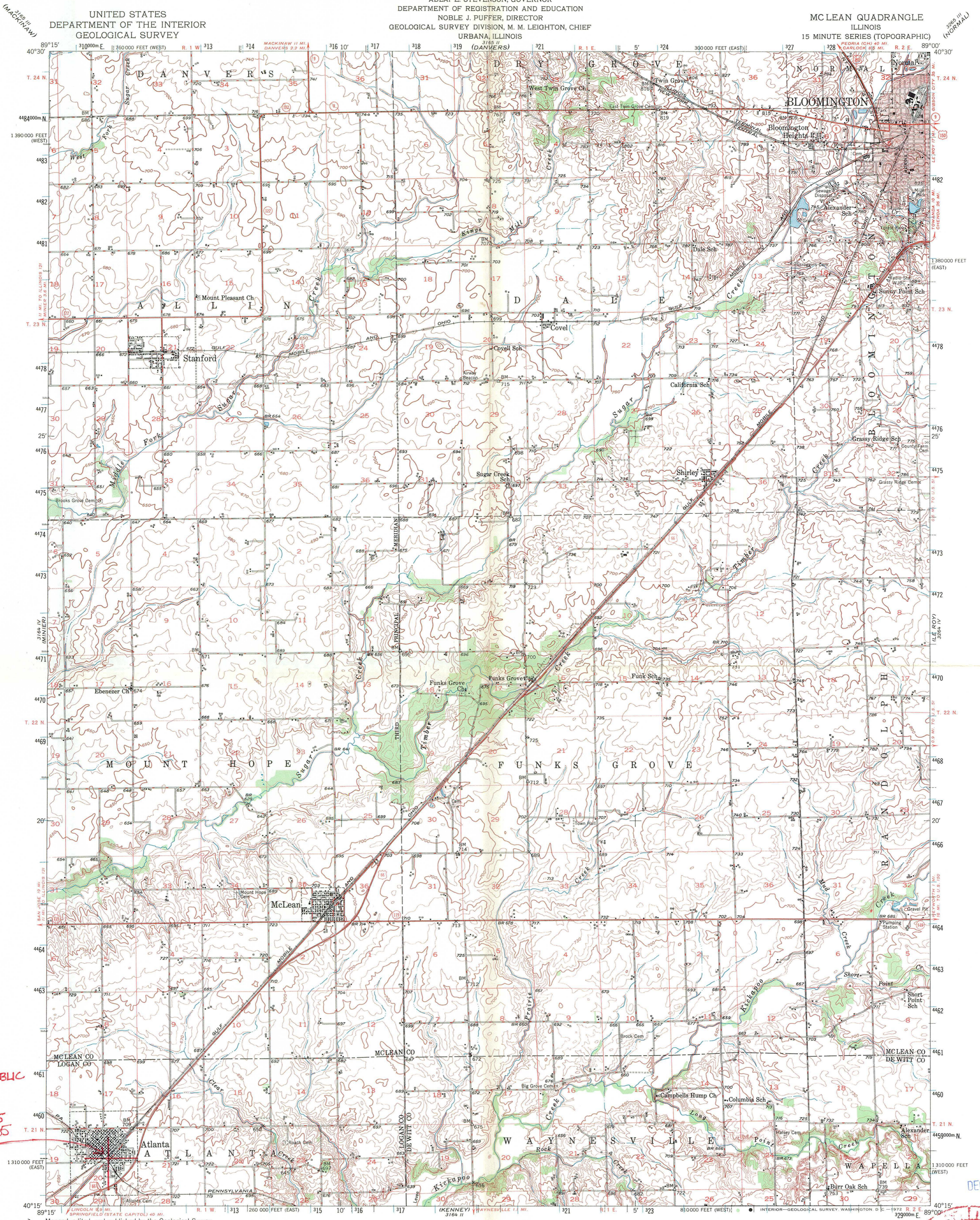
DEC 11 1979



- 1) Atlanta Public Library
- 2) Atlanta, Ill.
- 3) P. Glithero
- 4) 5-29-79
- 5) Logan County Regional Planning Commission
- 6) Interior, facing northwest reading room
from lobby
- 7) #4

OCT 30 1979

DEC 11 1979

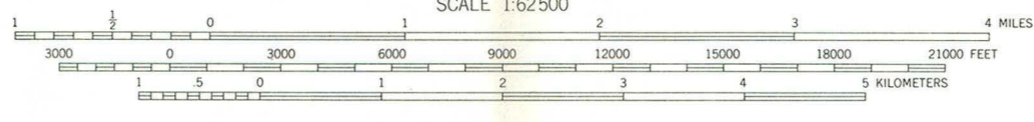
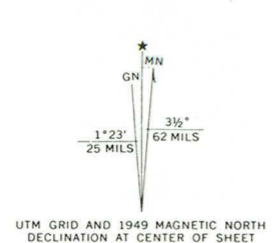


ATLANTA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Z 16
E 310015
N 4458085

DEC 11 1979

RECEIVED
OCT 30 1979
NATIONAL REGISTER

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Culture and drainage in part compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1940-1941
Topography by plane-table methods 1926, 1930, 1945, and 1949
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot based on Illinois coordinate system,
east and west zones
Red tint indicates area in which only
landmark buildings are shown
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND BY THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
HEAVY DUTY ALL WEATHER ROADS
MEDIUM DUTY ALL WEATHER ROADS
LOOSE SURFACE, GRADED, OR NARROW HARD-SURFACE
U. S. ROUTE
STATE ROUTE

MCLEAN, ILL.
N4015-W8900/15
1949

AMS 3164 1-SERIES V763

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered DEC 11 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Atlanta Public Library	Atlanta Logan County

Also Notified

Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Edward R. Madigan

State Historic Preservation Officer
Dr. David Kenney
Director, Department of Conservation
602 State Office Building
400 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

NR Byers/bjr 12/14/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202) 343-6401.