

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY NOMINATION FORM

TITLE Buildings in Hamilton County Designed by R.H. Hunt Thematic Resources COUNTY Hamilton  
 SITE 22

HISTORIC NAME: Wyatt Hall  
 COMMON NAME: Chattanooga High School/Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences  
 ADDRESS: 865 East Third Street  
Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee

OWNER: City of Chattanooga Board of Education  
 OWNER'S ADDRESS: 1161 West 40th Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37409

HISTORIC USE: high school CURRENT USE: school  
 CATEGORY/BUILDING TYPE: school building  
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1920-1921 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: R.H. Hunt/George Beckham  
 ORIGINAL SITE: Yes MOVED: NA DATE: NA  
 ORIGINAL OWNER/SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS: City of Chattanooga Board of Education

HAS THIS PROPERTY BEEN DETERMINED ELIGIBLE? No DATE: NA

CONTRIBUTING	NON-CONTRIBUTING	ACREAGE: <u>2.46 acres</u>
<u>1</u> buildings	<u>0</u> buildings	UTM REFERENCE: <u>16/655540 /</u>
<u>0</u> structures	<u>0</u> structures	<u>3879700</u>
<u>0</u> sites	<u>0</u> sites	
<u>0</u> objects	<u>0</u> objects	
<u>1</u> total	<u>0</u> total	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION The nominated property is rectangular in shape and 2.46 acres in size. It is bounded on the south by East Third Street, and on the east, north, and west by adjoining property lines. This includes sufficient land to protect the historic setting and architectural integrity of Wyatt Hall.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Chattanooga Times, 12 December 1921; 26 June 1986.

Shannon, Willie. Plant Planner, Chattanooga Public Schools, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Interview, May 1986.

Wade, Elizabeth Kelley. History of Chattanooga High School. Chattanooga. Chattanooga High School, 1974.

PREPARED BY: NAME & TITLE Hugh K. Johnston Project Coordinator  
 ADDRESS: Chattanooga Public Schools, 1161 West 40th Street  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37409 DATE: June 1986

SEP 23 1986

3 1986

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY NOMINATION FORM - CONTINUATION SHEET

Buildings in Hamilton County Designed

TITLE by R.H. Hunt Thematic Resources

SITE 10

PAGE 2 of 3

DESCRIPTION: Constructed in 1920-1921, Wyatt Hall is an imposing three story school designed by R.H. Hunt. The Georgian Revival style building is faced with red brick and embellished with limestone trim. Structurally, the building consists of a reinforced concrete frame with clay tile and a wood roof structure. The building is presently being rehabilitated and still retains its architectural integrity.

The dominant feature of the building is the four story, five bay entrance. A monumental stair case flanked by limestone balustrades leads to three multiple pane glass doors. The doors are surmounted by semi-circular fanlights and flanked by fluted columns and plain pilasters. A limestone pediment containing a cartouche with "WH" inscribed on it and a limestone balustrade are other decorative elements on this section. The taller entrance contrasts with the horizontal lines of the rest of the building. Secondary entrances along the facade complement the main entrance. Multi-pane sash windows and limestone quoins ornament the facade and the other elevations, including the 1935 wings.

The interior contains approximately sixty classrooms, a 950 seat auditorium, a cafeteria, a study, a library, a band room, music rooms and a gymnasium. The main lobby, at the second story level, and the lobby on the third story, are embellished by paneled pilasters and crown moldings with egg and dart and dentil trim. Wood lockers, doors capped by transom lights, and terrazo floors line the corridors. A prominent feature of the interior is the auditorium. Large multi-pane windows flank both sides of the assembly area. The stage area is ornamented with acanthus leaf and floral motif designs. The original light fixtures and seats are extant. A c.1955 mural depicting John Ross is located in the school office. (continued)

SIGNIFICANCE:

CRITERIA: C CONSIDERATION: NA

AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE/SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1920-1921/1935

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local

Wyatt Hall is significant to this thematic nomination as an excellent representation of an educational facility designed by R.H. Hunt. The Georgian Revival style school is highlighted by a four story entrance embellished with a limestone pediment, pilasters and quoins. The interior retains wood doors with transom lights and classical style plaster trim. Although Hunt designed numerous school buildings, few of his unaltered schools remain in Chattanooga. Both the main building and 1935 addition were designed by Hunt. Wyatt Hall retains its architectural integrity.

The school building was named in honor of Professor Henry D. Wyatt, the founder of the public school system in Chattanooga. The first public school in the city was established in 1872 and in 1874 the first public high school was opened. Wyatt was both a teacher and the first superintendent of schools.

Wyatt Hall was dedicated in December, 1921. It was built during a period of expansion in the city school system. Within the previous three years a new grammar school and another high school were completed, rooms were added onto two older school buildings, and property was purchased with the intent of constructing two more school buildings. Enrollment in the high school had grown from 396 students in 1910 to 1,025 students in 1921. During the same time span the school budget had increased from \$90,000 to \$525,000.

Both the architect R.H. Hunt and the builder George Beckham spoke at the dedication ceremonies. Beckham reported that over 1,000,000 bricks and 5,000 square yards of cement were utilized in the construction of the high school.

In 1935 two wings were added to accommodate the increase in students. Hunt designed the additions to be compatible with his original design. Wyatt Hall was used as a high school from 1921-1983. Presently the building is being used as a school of nursing. It is being rehabilitated for use as an arts and sciences school for grades five through eight. Eventually grades kindergarden through twelve may occupy the school. Plaster walls and ceilings are being repainted, woodwork is being stained or repainted, shelves and lockers are being refinished, auditorium seats are being cleaned, and ornamental moldings are being refurbished. Both the nursing school and arts and sciences school will occupy the building this fall.

TENNESSEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY NOMINATION FORM - CONTINUATION SHEET

Buildings in Hamilton County Designed

TITLE by R.H. Hunt Thematic Resources

SITE 10

PAGE 3 of 3

DESCRIPTION:

The daylighting and ventilation systems inherent in the original school design demonstrate some of the principles which were taken for granted and eventually forgotten until the energy crisis of the late seventies. The transom lights provide for the transfer of light and air from the outside via the classrooms. A series of well planned ventilation shafts and fans help to cool the building during warmer months.

SIGNIFICANCE:

C

CONSIDERATION:

NA

CRITERIA:

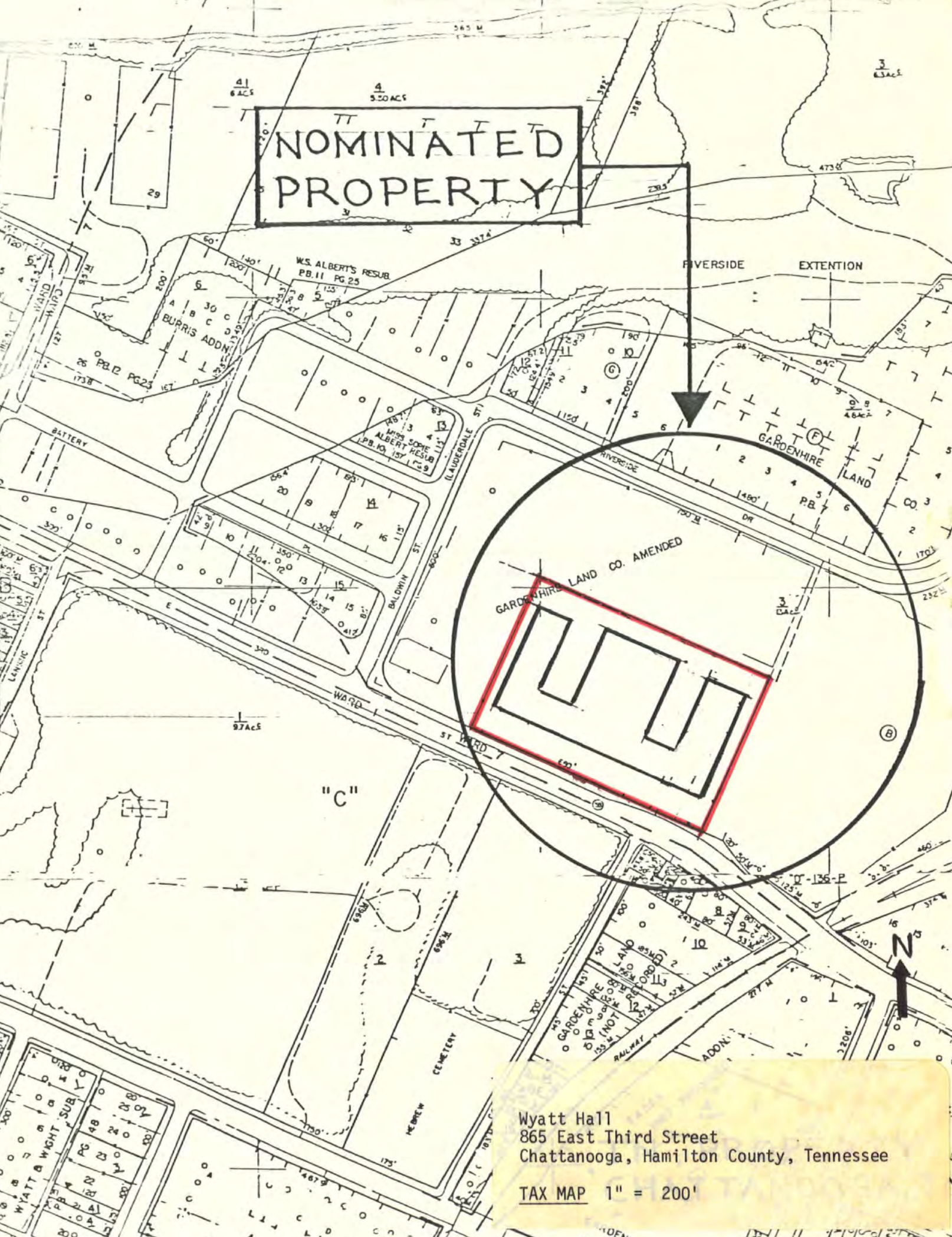
AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE/SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1920-1921/1935

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: local



NOMINATED  
PROPERTY



GARDENHIRE LAND CO. AMENDED

RIVERSIDE EXTENTION

"C"

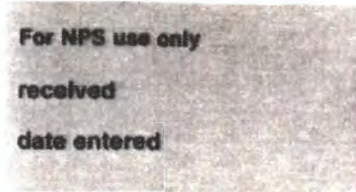
Wyatt Hall  
865 East Third Street  
Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee

TAX MAP 1" = 200'



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Buildings in Hamilton County Designed by R.H. Hunt Thematic Resources  
State TENNESSEE

Nomination/Type of Review

1. Maclellan Building

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

Date/Signature

*Melona Byers 4/4/85*

Attest

2. Wyatt Hall

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Melona Byers 10/23/86*

Attest

3.

Keeper

Attest

4.

Keeper

Attest

5.

Keeper

Attest

6.

Keeper

Attest

7.

Keeper

Attest

8.

Keeper

Attest

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Wyatt Hall (Hunt, Reuben H., Buildings in  
Hamilton County TR)  
Hamilton County  
TENNESSEE

Working No. SEP 23 1986  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88  
Date Due: 10/23/86 - 11/2/86  
Action:  ACCEPT 10-23-86  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

- 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. Name \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location \_\_\_\_\_

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

4. Owner of Property \_\_\_\_\_

5. Location of Legal Description \_\_\_\_\_

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

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

Wyatt Hall (Hunt, Robert H., Buildings in  
 Hamilton County TN)  
 Hamilton County  
 Tennessee

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreege of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
 UTM 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: \_\_\_\_\_





















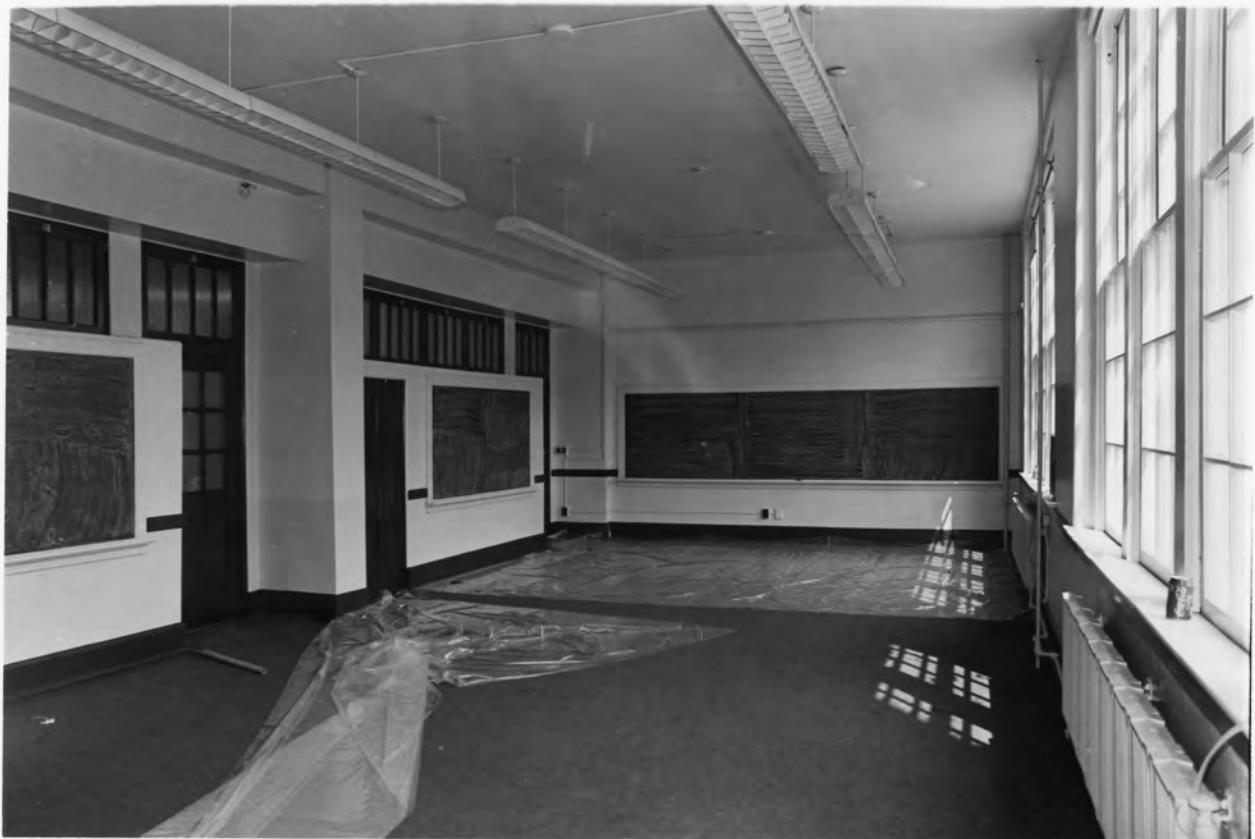






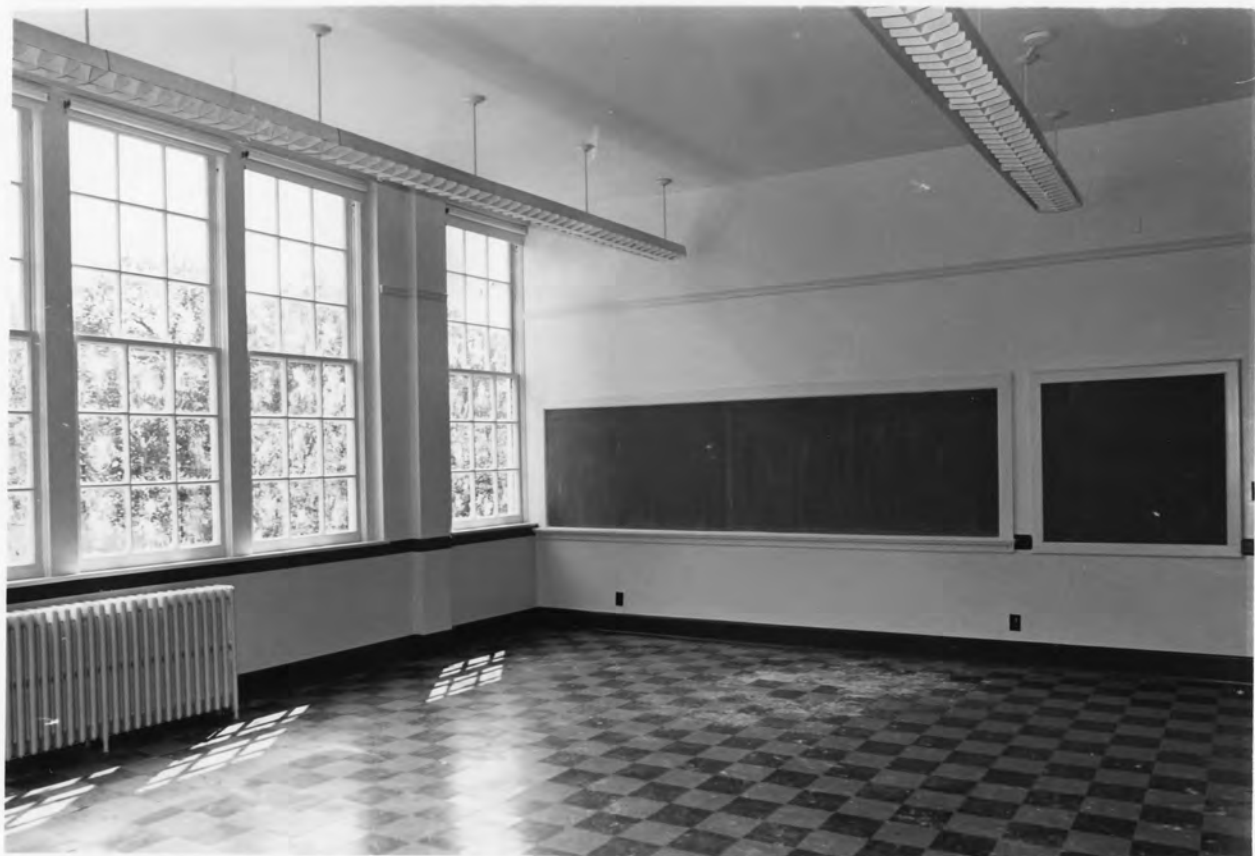




















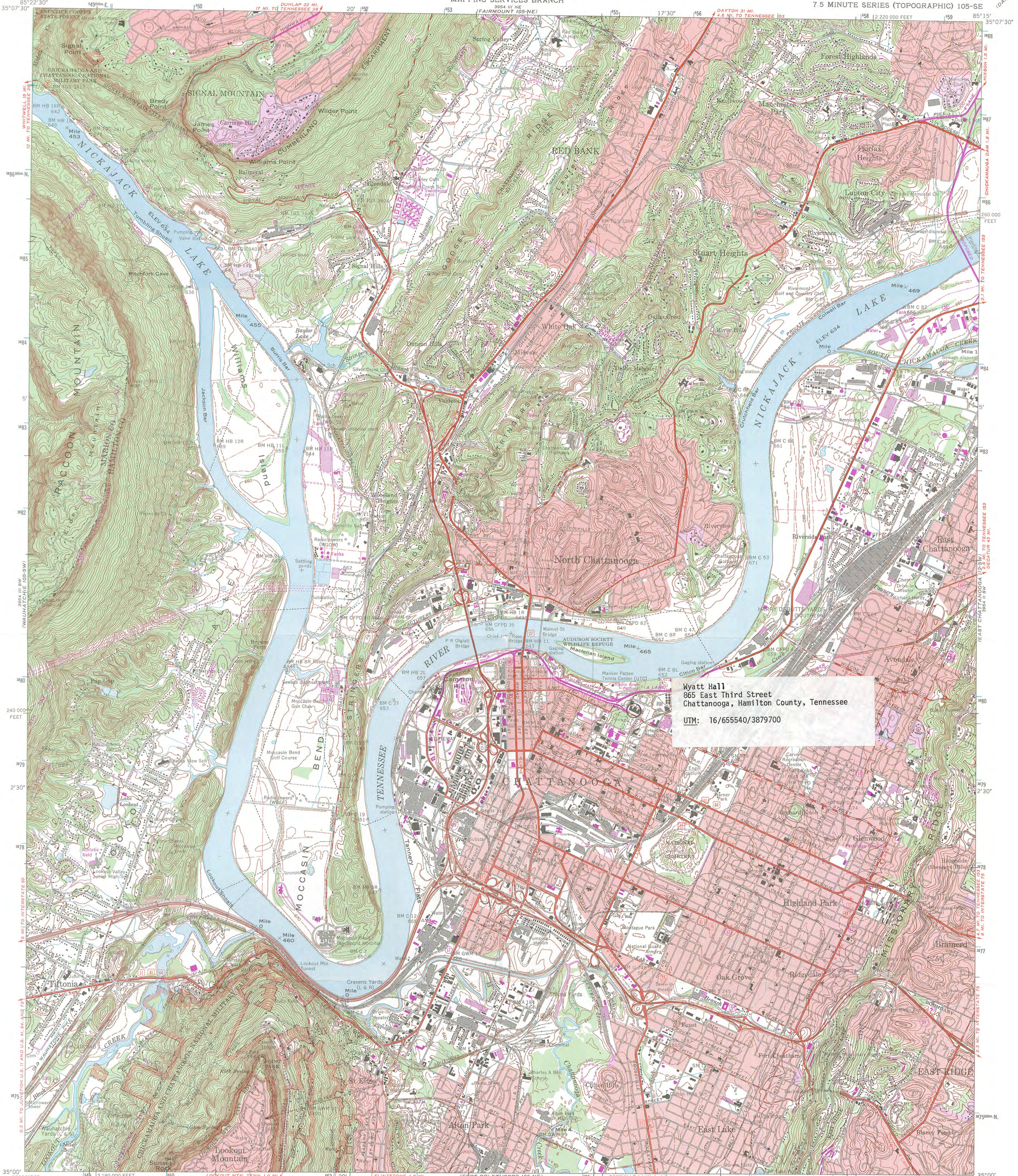




CHATTANOOGA ~ VISION OF JOHN ROSS





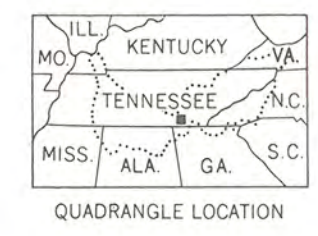


**Wyatt Hall**  
865 East Third Street  
Chattanooga, Hamilton County, Tennessee  
UTM: 16/655540/3879700

Mapped and edited by Tennessee Valley Authority  
Published by the Geological Survey  
Control by NOS/NOAA, USGS, CE, and TVA  
Revised by TVA in 1968 by photogrammetric methods using  
aerial photographs taken 1968 and by reference to TVA-USGS  
quadrangle dated 1958. Map field checked by TVA, 1969  
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum  
10,000 foot grid based on Tennessee rectangular  
coordinate system  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator Grid ticks,  
Zone 16, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines  
visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

UTM GRID AND 1976 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET  
Revisions shown in purple and recompliation of woodland  
areas compiled by the Tennessee Valley Authority from aerial  
photographs taken 1976. This information not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

SCALE 1:24,000  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DASHED LINES REPRESENT HALF-INTERVAL CONTOURS  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
TENNESSEE DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENN. 37219,  
U.S. TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY, CHATTANOOGA, TENN. 37401 OR KNOXVILLE, TENN. 37902.  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ..... Poor motor road .....  
Medium-duty ..... Wagon and jeep track .....  
Light-duty ..... Foot trail .....  
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route  
In developed areas, only through roads are classified

CHATTANOOGA, TENN.  
N3500-W8515/7.5  
1969  
PHOTOREVISED 1976  
AMS 3954-III SE-SERIES 9841





**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

701 BROADWAY  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219-5237  
615/742-6716

September 18, 1986

Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
1100 L Street  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the necessary forms to add Wyatt Hall to the Buildings in Hamilton County Designed by R.H. Hunt Thematic Resources nomination which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on February 29, 1980.

If any further information is required, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Herbert L. Harper,  
Executive Director and  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

HLH:jd  
Enclosure

SEP 23 1986