NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NATIONAL REGISTER, HISTORIC PLACES & EDUCATION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

547

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Carnegie Free Library
other names/site number Cherokee County Administration Building

2. Location

street & number 210 North Limestone Street not for publication ____
city or town Gaffney vicinity ____
state South Carolina code SC county Cherokee code 021 zip code 29340

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination __ request for determination of eligibility 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 X meets __does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant __ nationally __statewide X locally. (__ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 4/28/2000
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property __ meets __does not meet the National Register criteria. (__See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

✓ entered in the National Register — Edson W. Beall — 6-2-00
__See continuation sheet.
__determined eligible for the National Register
__See continuation sheet.
__ determined not eligible for the National Register
__ removed from the National Register

__ other (explain):

Carnegie Free Library
Name of Property

Cherokee County, South Carolina
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

__ private
X public-local
__ public-State
__ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: EDUCATION
Subcategory: Library

Current Functions
(Enter caregories from instructions)

Category: GOVERNMENT
Subcategory: County Offices

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
foundation Concrete
walls Brick
roof Metal
other Wood

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Carnegie Free Library
Name of Property

Cherokee County, South Carolina
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

__ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
__ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period,or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
__ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

__ a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
__ b removed from its original location.
__ c a birthplace or a grave.
__ d a cemetery.
__ e a reconstructed building, object,or structure.
__ f a commemorative property.
__ g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1914-1938

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hamby, Arthur W.
Miller, S.A.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

__ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
__ previously listed in the National Register
__ 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:

__ State Historic Preservation Office
__Other State agency
__ Federal agency
__ Local government
__ University
X Other
Name of repository:
Cherokee County Public LIbrary, Gaffney, S.C.

Carnegie Free Library
Name of Property

Cherokee County, South Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	440881	3881207	3			
2				4			

___See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jean and Dale Ogden (with assistance from the SHPO staff)
organization Committee to Save the Carnegie date 26 November 1999
street & number 608 Perrin Drive telephone (864) 579-7539
city or town Spartanburg state SC zip code 29307

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets
Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs
Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.
Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Cherokee County
street & number 210 North Limestone Street telephone (864) 487-2560
city or town Gaffney state SC zip code 29340

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended(16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.0. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The Carnegie Free Library is a one-story-over-raised-basement red brick Classical Revival building constructed in 1913-14, according to the designs of Arthur W. Hamby, of the well-known Columbia, South Carolina, architectural firm of Hamby & Rorke. Facing north, it is located at 210 Limestone Street, the main street in downtown Gaffney. It is situated across the street from the Gaffney municipal buildings and between the First Baptist Church and a Main Street parking lot. The gently-pitched standing seam metal roof is hidden from view by a brick parapet which wraps around all four sides of the rectangularly-shaped building.

Set upon a brick basement, the two levels are delineated by a heavy limestone watertable. Granite steps flanked by stepped cast stone-capped pedestals lead to the centrally-located double-leaf wood and glass paneled doors at the entry to the main (second) floor of the building. CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY is inscribed in limestone immediately above the entrance, however, is presently obscured by a wooden sign which reads CHEROKEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. The building's slightly projecting central pavilion or frontispiece is limestone and features six horizontal brick inset panels on either side of the entrance, as well as two decorative metal and milk glass globe light fixtures. The composition is completed with a box bracketed, projecting cornice. Flanking the main entrance are tripartite decoratively-traceried Neoclassical style windows [now painted white] with wooden slat awnings placed high along the front wall of the building. Beneath each set of windows is a large underpanel framed in brick with limestone corner blocks and featuring a field of brick laid in a basketweave pattern. A bronze memorial plaque to Cherokee County's World War I dead is centrally placed upon the underpanel at the left of the building's entrance. The building's two front corners are quirked, and a projecting classical cornice completely encircles the building.

The first floor is partially below grade and two triple, six-light panels of windows, corresponding to those on the upper level, flank a lower double-leaf wooden door entry reached by cast stone steps from either side. This lower entry is hidden from view by the main entrance steps.

The west and east [side] elevations each exhibit two sets of quadruple Neoclassical style windows on the upper level, as well as underpanels identical to those on the front of the building. The rear set of windows on the west elevation has a wooden awning identical to those on the front. The lower level of the west elevation contains a paired six-light window on the front [original section], a set of four six-light windows on the rear addition, and an intervening door to the basement level. The original section of the east elevation features a paired set of windows identical to those on the west elevation, Two glass and wood paneled doors, as well as a single six-light window are located on the historic addition of the east elevation.

The south [rear] elevation's upper level has symmetrically placed tripartite Neoclassical style windows, the one nearest the southwest corner of the building still with its wooden slat awning. Unlike the other elevations, these sets of windows have no decorative underpanels. The lower rear

level has two triple six-pane windows corresponding to the central and left [westernmost] upper window sets, while two smaller windows are present beneath the easternmost upper window set. Most windows are presently painted white both inside and out.

In 1937, the original structure, as designed by architect Arthur W. Hamby, was doubled in size by a rear addition. In the western and eastern sides of the building, a subtle distinction can be detected among the red bricks separating the original building from the 1937 addition. A matching standing seam metal pitched roof was added to the addition with the original rear wall being left to act in part as a firewall between the sections. S.A. Miller, a Gaffney contractor/builder, closely followed Hamby's original design for this addition. The exterior of the building retains its architectural and historical integrity.

The interior original pressed-metal ceiling, plaster walls and decorative crown molding are intact, but obscured by a dropped acoustical ceiling. In 1972, when a modern Cherokee County Library was built at another site, the county modified the Carnegie Free Library interior to serve as the Cherokee County Administration Building. The ceiling was lowered and modern composition wood paneled upper or main level. The lower level, used for offices and storage, retains more of its historic finishes.

A granite monument marking the grave of Colonel James Williams, erected by the Daniel Morgan Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1917, is located on the western side of the front lawn; it includes two reproduction American Revolutionary War-era cannon and cannonballs. A granite war memorial obelisk in memory of Cherokee County soldiers killed in World Wars I and II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, erected by the Cherokee County Veterans' Council in 1982, is located on the eastern side of the front lawn.

The Carnegie Free Library, built 1913-14 as one of fourteen public libraries built in South Carolina between 1903 and 1916 with funding from Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Foundation, is significant both as an excellent example of Classical Revival public architecture and for its role as Gaffney's first public library. It is representative of the trend toward the establishment of American public libraries in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The library, funded by the Carnegie Foundation upon application by the Gaffney Women's Club, was built at a cost of $7,500 on a site donated by the city of Gaffney. The Women's Club also sponsored a campaign to approve an increase in local taxes in support of the library. The building, as designed by Columbia, South Carolina, architect Arthur W. Hamby in 1913-14, measured 28' x 30' and opened to the public in 1914. In 1936 Mayor R.C. Swofford and town librarian Mrs. Pratt Pierson formed a committee to plan an addition to the Carnegie Free Library intended to double the floor plan and establish a complete children's department. A one-half-mill tax levy raised $3,000, and the bricks for the addition were salvaged from the Irene Garage, which had been recently destroyed by a tornado. The addition was opened to the public in early 1938.[1]

The Carnegie Free Library building, since its dedication in 1914, has served the citizens of Cherokee County; it has been in continual use since that time. For its first fifty-eight years, as the county public library, it was a center for education and cultural enlightenment. It has functioned since essentially as an annex to the county courthouse.

[1] George Bobinski, Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development (Chicago: American Library Association, 1969), pp. 207-242; Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, S.C.), 13 April 1937, 11 January 1938, 30 March 1939.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

George Bobinski. Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development. Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.

Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, S.C.), 13 April 1937, 11 January 1938, 30 March 1939.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown as the black line labeled "Carnegie Free Library" on the accompanying portion of Cherokee County Tax Map #006172, drawn at a scale of 1" = 150'.

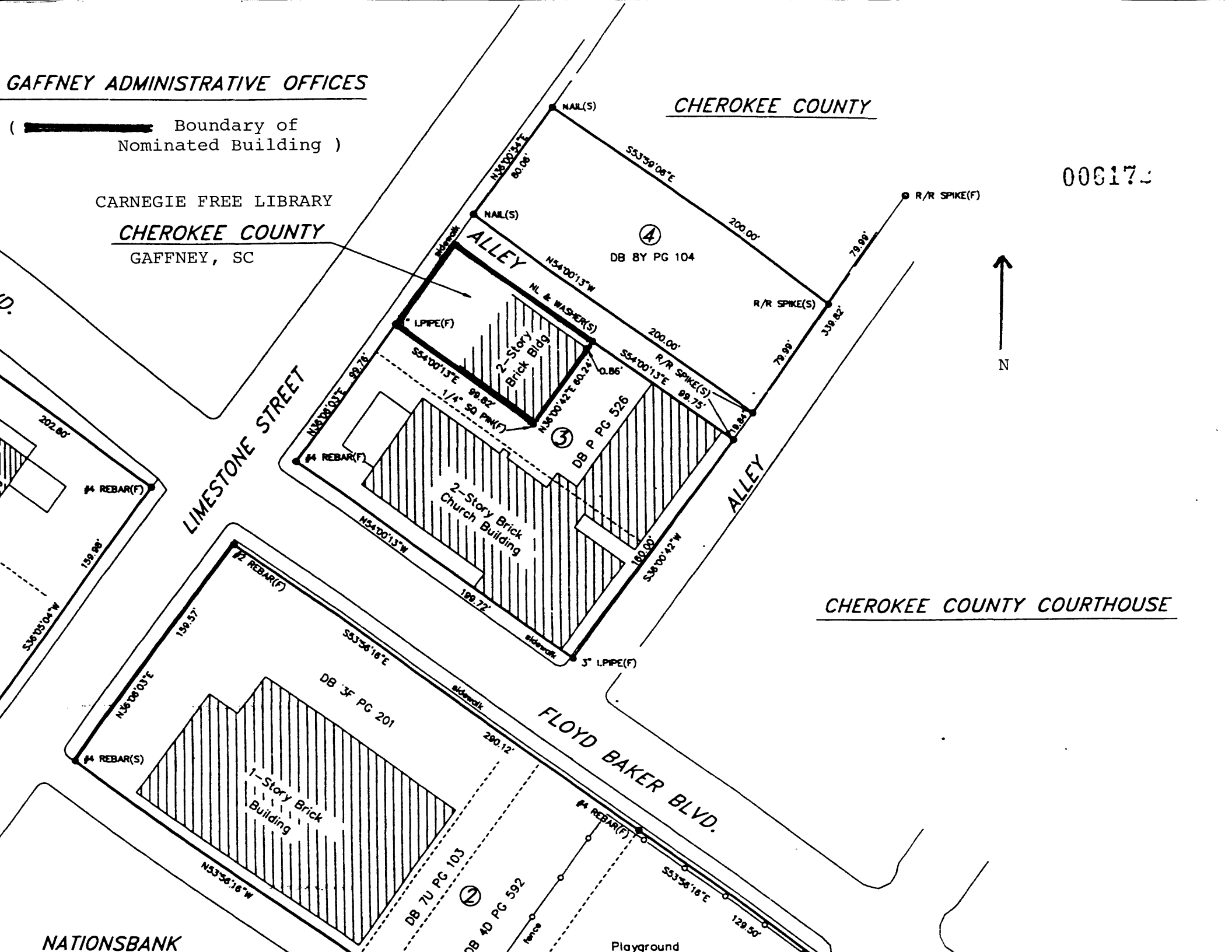
Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the Carnegie Free Library (Cherokee County Administration Building) and its immediate setting.

The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

Name of Property:	Carnegie Free Library
Location of Property:	210 North Limestone Street Gaffney, Cherokee County, S.C.
Name of Photographer:	Jean W. Ogden
Date of Photographs:	17 November 1999
Location of Original Negatives:	South Carolina Department of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

1. Facade, facing north
2. Entrance, facing north
3. Rear, facing south
4. Left elevation, facing east
5. Facade right oblique
6. Interior entrance
7. Facade left oblique


GAFFNEY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
(Boundary of Nominated Building)
CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY
CHEROKEE COUNTY
GAFFNEY, SC
CHEROKEE COUNTY
CHEROKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
LIMESTONE STREET
FLOYD BAKER BLVD.
ALLEY
ALLEY
NATIONSBANK
NAIL(S)
NAIL(S)
R/R SPIKE(F)
R/R SPIKE(S)
R/R SPIKE(S)
NL & WASHER(S)
1/4" SQ PIN(F)
3" I.PIPE(F)
#4 REBAR(F)
#4 REBAR(F)
#4 REBAR(S)
#2 REBAR(F)
#4 REBAR(F)
DB 8Y PG 104
DB P PG 526
DB 3F PG 201
DB 7U PG 103
DB 4D PG 592
2-Story Brick Bldg
2-Story Brick Church Building
1-Story Brick Building
sidewalk
sidewalk
sidewalk
sidewalk
fence
Playground
N
S53°59'06"E
200.00'
N36°00'54"E
80.06'
N54°00'13"W
200.00'
S54°00'13"E
99.75'
S54°00'13"E
99.82'
N36°00'42"E
60.24'
0.86'
N36°06'03"E
99.76'
N54°00'13"W
199.72'
S36°00'42"W
160.00'
S36°05'04"W
159.98'
202.80'
79.99'
339.82'
79.99'
19.84'
S53°56'16"E
290.12'
S53°56'16"E
129.50'
N36°06'03"E
159.57'
N53°56'16"W