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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

**historic name** Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District  
**other names/site number** Third District Agricultural & Mechanical School (3<sup>rd</sup> District A & M), 1906  
State Agricultural and Normal College (Americus Normal College), 1926  
Georgia Southwestern College, 1931  
Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW), 1996 to present

## 2. Location

**street & number** 800 Wheatley Street  
**city, town** Americus  
**county** Sumter **code** GA 261  
**state** Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 31709

(N/A) not for publication

## 3. Classification

### Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

### Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

### Number of Resources within Property:

### Contributing

### Noncontributing

<b>buildings</b>	8	1
<b>sites</b>	0	0
<b>structures</b>	2	1
<b>objects</b>	0	0
<b>total</b>	10	2

**Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:** N/A

**Name of previous listing:** N/A

**Name of related multiple property listing:** N/A

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 meets the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Richard Clover  
Signature of certifying official

8-13-07  
Date

Er

W. Ray Luce  
Historic Preservation Division Director  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ( ) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

(  ) entered in the National Register

Edson H. Beall 9-27-07

( ) determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) removed from the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) other, explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

( ) see continuation sheet

for

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

EDUCATION/college

### Current Functions:

EDUCATION/college

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival, Classical Revival

### Materials:

<b>foundation</b>	BRICK
<b>walls</b>	BRICK
<b>roof</b>	ASPHALT, METAL
<b>other</b>	n/a

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

#### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District is located on the current Georgia Southwestern State University campus within the city limits of Americus in Sumter County, approximately two miles southeast of the downtown business district. The 13-acre historic district is the central core of a larger campus with a number of more recently constructed buildings around the perimeter. The eight contributing buildings in the district represent the development of the school from its inception in 1906 as the Third District Agricultural & Mechanical (A & M) School through 1956 when it was known as Georgia Southwestern College, and when the first phase of construction ended. The district also retains its historic designed campus plan created c.1906-1910, including characteristic features of other A & M schools in Georgia.

The historic district includes eight classically inspired buildings, a large triangular front lawn, and a smaller quadrangle. Wheatley Administration Building (1918) is the architecturally prominent building located at the eastern apex of the triangle. Five other less ornate buildings located at forty-five degree angles to either side of Wheatley Administration Building make up the arms of the original campus configuration, forming the triangular open space. Collum I (1951-2), Crawford Wheatley Hall (1912), and Newman Alumni Center (1915) extend to the northwest of Wheatley Administration Building. A parking lot is located between Wheatley Administration Building and Crawford Wheatley Hall. The parking lot is where Terrell Hall, an original campus building constructed in 1907, once stood. Collum I is located behind and parallel to the parking lot. Sanford Hall (1937-9), and Morgan Hall (1937-9) extend in a line southwest of Wheatley Administration Building. The open "V" of the front lawn is bounded by a perimeter road to the west and is bisected by walkways and a curving entry drive on axis with Wheatley Administration Building. Informal arrangements of mature trees and

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smaller shrubs are located throughout the lawn. Brick entrance gates flank the entry drive located at the west side of the triangular front lawn and across from Glessner Street. Pedestrian walkways connect along the front of the buildings and around the perimeter of the triangle. Florrie Chappell Gymnasium (1939) is located to the east of Wheatley Administration Building. Between Florrie Chappell Gymnasium and Wheatley Hall, there is a smaller rectangular quadrangle space. The quadrangle is bisected by a walkway on axis with Wheatley Administration Building and Florrie Chappell Gymnasium. The quadrangle is an open lawn area with trees bordering the north and south sides. Jackson Hall (1956) is located at the south side of this quadrangle.

The historic district includes two contributing structures: the system of roadways and walkways bordering or crossing the open V-shaped front lawn and small quadrangle, and the two brick front "gates" flanking the main entry drive in the middle of the open end of the "V". The eight contributing buildings that form the core of the historic campus are Newman Alumni Center, Crawford Wheatley Hall, Collum I, Wheatley Administration Building, Florrie Chappell Gymnasium, Jackson Hall, Sanford Hall, and Morgan Hall. Stanford Hall and Morgan Hall now have a connecting elevator addition (2000). Morgan Annex, built in 1964 and attached to Morgan Hall, is a noncontributing building. The Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower (1991) is a noncontributing structure.

The contributing buildings in the district are all brick, two to three stories in height, and designed in Colonial Revival or other classical revival styles or more modern adaptations. The use of most of the buildings has changed over time and the interiors modified accordingly. The exteriors have undergone minor modifications and remain largely intact. Each of the contributing buildings has had various upgrades and rehabilitation work to keep them functional, most noticeably window changes and provisions for handicapped accessibility. Together the eight classically inspired buildings constructed between 1906 and 1956, the open "V"-shaped front lawn, and the rectangular quadrangle comprise the historic center of the campus.

## OVERVIEW OF HISTORIC DISTRICT SETTING

Formed on December 26, 1831, Sumter County is in the southwestern portion of Georgia approximately 140 miles south of Atlanta. According to the 2000 census, Sumter County is 485.3 square miles in area with a population of 33,200. Americus, with a population of 17,000, is the county seat of Sumter County. Other incorporated cities in the county include Andersonville, DeSoto, Leslie, and Plains. Sumter County is rich in cultural and historic resources. It is home to several prominent National Register properties including the Plains Historic District (Jimmy Carter Boyhood Home), the Andersonville National Historic Site, the Americus Historic District, and the Ashby Street Shotgun Row Historic District.

The Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District is located within the 253-acre Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) campus. This campus acreage includes the 16.07-acre Chapman Estate purchased in 1999 and the 45-acre Bowen Property donated to the university in 2001. The university also recently acquired the adjacent golf course. The campus is situated on what formerly functioned as farmland. The landscape is relatively flat with open lawns and mature trees. The historic district consists of approximately 13 acres.

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Construction of the 130,000-square-foot Student Success Center, designed as the new hub of campus, was recently completed just outside the district boundaries. The large domed, two-story facility includes a convocation hall/sports arena with seating for 3,000, updated recreational facilities, classrooms, conference space, fitness areas, offices, and room for various student organizations. Its dome is visible from many of the contributing buildings in the historic district (Photographs 9 and 10).

Primarily single-family residences and neighborhoods surround the campus. The area to the northeast of campus between the campus boundary and Felder Road consists primarily of 1950s and 1960s single-family residences. The area to the north of Felder Road and south of Tripp Street is comprised of 1950s and 1960s single-family residences, a few commercial properties, and late 1980s multi-family residences. Across Anthony Street sits the former Anthony School, a historic building that is not owned by GSW and is occupied by a government agency. To the northwest, the single-family residences that extend down Wheatley Street and are adjacent to Georgia Southwestern State University date to approximately the 1930s and 1940s. They may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The Americus Historic District (listed 1976) is located to the west of campus approximately two blocks west of Elm Street. The properties that run along the east side of Elm Street between Felder Road to the north and the GSW Golf and Conference Center driveway to the south consist mostly of single-family residences dating between 1900 and 1940. Several historic railroad and agricultural structures are located at the area where the railroad intersects Elm Street. Railroad tracks run along the south and west sides of campus separating it from the golf course. The area along Lee Street, south of the GSW Golf and Conference Center driveway consists primarily of single-family residences dating from the 1960s to the present and forested areas. The area directly east of the golf course is undeveloped forest. The area to the east of campus running along Swell Street until it intersects the railroad consists of an industrial area.

### DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS

The eight contributing buildings will be described in the order that they are arranged along the campus drive from north to south. The buildings are listed according to their current names with former names and dates of construction in parenthesis. Then the two contributing structures, one non-contributing building, and one non-contributing structure will be described. Letters before the building names refer to the designation on the National Register district map.

#### **Contributing Buildings**

##### **A: Newman Alumni Center (The Senior Girls Home; President's Home, 1915)**

Newman Alumni Center (Photographs 2 and 3) is located at the north end of the campus triangle. Built in 1915 as a girls' dormitory and later used as the president's home, the building was renovated in 2000 and currently functions as the alumni center. The original architect has not been identified.

Newman Alumni Center is a rectangular Colonial Revival-style building. The building mass is comprised of a two-story central core flanked by one-story porches. The façade of the central core is

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three bays. The front entry stoop and the northwest porch are open while the southeast porch has been enclosed with windows. The foundation and water table are clad in stucco, and the walls of the building are clad in brick in a running bond pattern. The roof is hipped with a central dormer at the front side. It is clad in asphalt shingles with an interior chimney at each end. The roof has deep eaves with modillions at the cornice. Square brick columns support the flat roofs of each porch, which are topped by decorative balustrades. Sidelights and an arched transom light accent the front entrance. The building has double-hung nine-over-one windows. The windows occur in groups of two or three with flat arches and keystones. The interior first floor includes a central hall flanked on each side by two rooms.

Newman Alumni Center has undergone some changes, but retains overall integrity. The windows have been replaced. The new windows match the original in style, size, and configuration. Originally both the northwest and southeast wings were open. The southeast wing has been enclosed with nine-over-one double-hung windows and wood wall panels. One chimney has been removed from the southeast side of the building. The decorative balustrades at the porches are similar to the original, but not an exact replication. Metal stair railings and a handicapped ramp were added to the building in the most recent renovation.

**B: Crawford Wheatley Hall (Wheatley Hall, 1912)**

Crawford Wheatley Hall (Photograph 4) is located southeast of the Newman Alumni Center. Built in 1912 with a dining hall on the first floor and girls' dorms on the second floor, it was named for Crawford Wheatley, a member of the board of trustees and treasurer of the institution who actively donated his time and money to the school. In the Forty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1912, Principal J.M. Collum stated, "In the meantime, due to the public spiritedness of Mr. Crawford Wheatley, plans were drawn for a \$1,300.00 building for girls, and the contract let, and the building erected and turned over to the Board September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1912. Since that time girls have been reinstated. Under the new conditions, the co-education of the sexes is wholly [sic] satisfactory."<sup>1</sup> This statement indicates that the architect Crawford Wheatley provided the plans for Crawford Wheatley Hall. The building was recently renovated and currently serves academic functions.

Crawford Wheatley Hall is a Colonial Revival-style building. The rectangular building is two stories in height. The façade fronting the lawn is nine bays wide. The foundation and water table are clad in stucco. The walls are clad in brick in a running bond pattern, and the cornice includes decorative corbelling. The roof is hipped and clad with standing seam metal. The centrally located entrance is accented by a porch with decorative balustrades at the roof and base. The windows are double hung with four-over-four sashes arranged individually or in pairs.

Crawford Wheatley Hall retains integrity, although some modifications have been made to the building. By 1939, the upper portion of each end bay was enclosed with stucco-clad walls and four-over-four double-hung windows. By 1956, the first level end-bay entry porches were enclosed with

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<sup>1</sup> *Forty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1912.* Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1913, 216.

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brick walls and double hung windows. By 1960, the four chimneys were removed. In the recent renovation, the windows were replaced with new windows that match the original in size and style. Four posts were added under the front balcony, which was previously cantilevered. A door replaced a window at the central bay. An ADA-compliant ramp was also added.

**C: Collum I (Collum Hall, 1951-1952)**

Collum I (Photograph 5) is located behind and parallel to the parking lot between Charles Wheatley Administration Building and Crawford Wheatley Hall. The building was designed by Logan and Williams and constructed in 1951-1952 at a cost of \$168,000. Originally a men's residence hall, it was named in honor of John M. Collum who was principal of the Third District A & M School from 1908 to 1921.

The rectangular building is three stories in height with a side-gabled roof covered in clay tiles. The façade is twelve bays wide. The foundation is clad in stucco and the walls are clad with red brick in a common bond pattern with six rows of stretchers between rows of headers. The end bays are for circulation and include the stairs. The middle bays are separated by brick buttresses topped with cast stone caps. The windows have stone or concrete lintels and brick sills. Each large window has twelve lights. Windows are divided into three vertical sections and four horizontal sections. Metal air vents are located below each window. The windows at the end circulation bays have four horizontal lights each and no vents.

Collum I retains a high degree of integrity. Very few changes have been made to the exterior. The vents below the windows were added after 1960. The connector between Collum I and Collum II was added in 1964 when Collum II was built. (Collum II was demolished in 2002 to make way for the new Student Success Center, but the connector remains. The connector also leads to Prance Hall, which was constructed in 1969.) The connector is one story in height and does not detract from the character defining features of Collum I. The interior spaces of Collum I retain their original layout with a central hall flanked on both sides by rooms. The interior finishes have been changed on the first floor of Collum I, which was recently renovated for classroom use. The second and third stories have not been renovated and are not currently being used.

**D: Charles Wheatley Administration Building (Administration Building; Wheatley Hall, 1918, 1937)**

Charles Wheatley Administration Building (Photographs 1,2, 6, 8, 9) anchors the triangular front lawn and sits between Crawford Wheatley Hall and Sanford Hall. Constructed in 1918, the present Charles Wheatley Administration Building replaced the original Academic Hall, which was built on the same site in 1907 and destroyed by a fire in April of 1915. The building is named in honor of Charles Huntington Wheatley, the son of Crawford Wheatley, an architect and member of the local board.<sup>2</sup> Architect Crawford Wheatley supervised the construction of the new Charles Wheatley

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<sup>2</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 8.

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Administration Building.<sup>3</sup> In 1937, an annex that housed the campus store was added to the rear of Wheatley Administration Building with the financial assistance of Sumter County Commissioners. The campus store served as a student center until 1966 when the Marshall Student Center was completed. Charles Wheatley Administration Building currently serves administrative functions and is undergoing rehabilitation.

This Neoclassical-style rectangular building is two stories in height. The façade is eleven bays wide. The foundation and water table are clad in stucco. The walls are brick in a running bond pattern. Brick pilasters frame the bays at each end of the facade. Walls are topped by an entablature with a deep cornice and modillions. A parapet wall with coping is located above the cornice. The shingle-clad roof is cross-gabled with a raised central dome clad in metal. The cornice at the walls supporting the dome has modillions. A central, pedimented portico with four, colossal Corinthian columns accents the front façade and entrance. The entablature at the walls continues at the pediment. The architrave and frieze are unadorned. The cornices include modillions. The center of the tympanum is accented with an oxeye window. Brick pilasters with Corinthian capitals frame the three bays under the pediment. The building has double-hung windows that occur individually and in groups of two to three. The sashes are in six-over-six, nine-over-nine, or 15-over-15 configurations. The windows have flat arches or triangular or segmental pediments.

Charles Wheatley Administration Building retains a high degree of integrity at the exterior. Very few exterior changes have been made. The dome has been painted a lighter color and the anthemion cresting is missing at the cornice of the dome walls. Several windows at the north and south sides of the building were shortened when the auditorium was changed to a library (c.1940). Raised walkways were added to the north and south sides of the building. A second floor entrance was added at the south side of the 1937 addition. At the rear of the building, the windows and doors of the 1937 addition were changed. At the south side of the building, a concrete screen wall was added to hide mechanical equipment. The interior has been modified and reconfigured to adapt to changing uses.

### **E: Florrie Chappell Gymnasium (1939)**

Florrie Chappell Gymnasium (Photograph 7), constructed in 1939, is located to the east of and behind Charles Wheatley Administration Building. A rectangular lawn (a small quadrangle) separates the two buildings. According to the Georgia Southwestern State University News Media Guide, the gymnasium "...was built by the Board of Regents and the P.W.A... at a cost of \$65,000."<sup>4</sup> The first level included a gymnasium and auditorium; the basement included a swimming pool and recreation room; and the back included offices. The architect has not been identified. Florrie Chappell Gymnasium is currently used for intramural sports and offices. Rehabilitation of the building is planned for the future.

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 10.



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Florrie Chappell Gymnasium is a Classical Revival-style building. The west façade is organized into two masses - a one-story entry area that fronts the two-story wall of the gymnasium. The entry area is five bays wide, and behind it, the gymnasium wall is seven bays wide. The north and south sides of the building extend back eleven bays. The building has a stucco-clad foundation and water table. The walls are clad with brick in a running bond pattern. Cast stone coping tops the parapet, and the roof is flat.

The entrance area is accented with a Palladian-style opening with pilasters and a recessed door. The entry bay is flanked on each side by two openings (one window and one door) topped by brick arches. Two cast stone circular medallions are located above the outer columns of the Palladian opening. Three arched openings with windows are located behind and above the one-story entry at the second level of the core of the building. Two of these windows have been reduced in size within their original openings. Centered above the arched windows is a decorative cast stone relief ornament in a swag and shield design.

At the north and south sides of the building, seven bays have large, wood, double-hung windows that border the open, double height, gymnasium space. The windows are paired, have nine-over-nine sashes, and are topped with brick arches and keystones. Double-hung windows at each floor penetrate the three bays at the back of the building.

Florrie Chappell Gymnasium retains a high degree of integrity on the exterior. Some modifications have occurred over time. Two windows at the west side of the single story entrance area have been replaced with doors. At the second level of the west side of the building, two of the double hung windows have been replaced. The front steps were enlarged.

**F: Jackson Hall (Music, 1956)**

Jackson Hall (Photograph 10) is located at the south side of the quadrangle between Wheatley Administration Building and Florrie Chappell Gymnasium. The building was designed by Logan and Williams and completed in 1956 at a cost of \$210,000. Originally, Jackson Hall functioned as a classroom and auditorium building. The building included chemistry and biology laboratories and a 400-seat auditorium. Jackson Hall was named in honor of Deborah G. Jackson from Lee County. Ms. Jackson donated money to the school for the Jackson Loan Fund. When Georgia Southwestern became a four-year college in 1964, new science buildings were constructed, freeing classroom space in Jackson Hall for the music program. On October 12, 2002, the university held a formal ceremony kicking off a \$2.7 million renovation of Jackson Hall, which is now complete.

Jackson Hall is a Colonial Revival-style building with some more modern stripped-down elements. The building is comprised of two adjacent, rectangular masses – one mass is two stories in height and the other mass is one story in height. Both masses have side-gabled roofs covered with asphalt shingles. The two-story mass includes classroom and office space. The one-story mass houses the auditorium. The building is eleven bays wide and three bays deep. The foundation is brick with a stone water table. The walls are clad with brick in a common bond pattern. The bays on the west and east sides are separated by brick pilasters. The end bays have horizontal cast stone banding

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alternating with brick. The cornice and unadorned frieze (entablature) are cast stone. An oculus with a vent is centered on the end gable. The building has two primary entrances. One entrance is centered on the north side of the building and faces the quadrangle. The other entrance is at the middle of the west side of the building. Both entrances are framed by cast stone pilasters and topped by entablatures and broken pediments. The large windows are fixed, and have brick lintels and cast stone sills.

Jackson Hall remains intact as a contributing resource. Some changes were made to the building when it was renovated, but it retains its basic shape and massing. The original metal windows were replaced with smaller, vinyl windows, and some openings were filled with brick. A handicapped accessible ramp was added to the entrance at the west side of the building. Some interior finishes were modified in the recent renovation.

**G: Sanford Hall (Grace Sanford Hall, 1939)**

Sanford Hall (Photographs 11 and 12) is located southwest of Wheatley Administration Building and faces the triangular front lawn. Chancellor S. V. Sanford spoke at the building dedication in 1939. Construction of Sanford Hall was completed in 1939 with the assistance of a Public Works Administration grant, and the architect is unidentified.<sup>5</sup> Sanford Hall originally functioned as a dormitory and currently serves administrative purposes.

Sanford Hall is a Classical Revival-style building. The rectangular structure is a three-part plan with a central core flanked on both sides by symmetrical wings. The central core is five bays wide and each of the two wings is five bays wide. The foundation is brick with a stucco-clad water table. The walls are clad with brick in a running bond pattern. The side-gabled roof is clad with asphalt shingles and has a central chimney. The façade has two primary entrances at the central core of the building. The entrances are framed with engaged columns topped by entablatures. The windows above the entrances are topped with fanlights and have decorative trim. Pilasters and entablatures frame the three window openings between the two entrances. The current windows have 30 lights topped by a six-light transom. The windows at the first floor have flat cast stone arches.

Sanford Hall retains integrity. Selected windows and doors have been replaced. The original casement windows with transoms have been replaced. The replacement windows match the original in size and are a close match to the original window configuration. Some doors have been replaced. Individual air-conditioning units were added to each room and vents associated with the units are located at the exterior of the building below the windows. In the early 2000s, a connector addition was constructed between Sanford Hall and Morgan Hall. The connector provides an elevator tower and access to all levels in the two buildings. The elevator addition was not present during the period of significance.

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<sup>5</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 10.

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**H: Morgan Hall (1937)**

Morgan Hall is located southwest of Sanford Hall and faces the triangular front lawn. In 1934, the Public Works Administration allotted \$69,300 for the construction of a dormitory for men named to honor S.H. Morgan, a member of the Board of Regents.<sup>6</sup> Morgan Hall was constructed in 1936-1937, and the architect is unidentified. Morgan Hall originally functioned as a dorm. Currently, it serves administrative functions.

Morgan Hall is a Classical Revival-style building. The rectangular building is two stories in height. The façade is eleven bays wide and the sides are three bays deep. The walls are brick in a running bond pattern with decorative corbelling toward the top. The roof is flat. Three window bays separate the two main entries. The Palladian-style entries are framed by pilasters and entablatures topped by a semicircular concave medallion. The doors are flanked by sidelights with six lights each. The windows are double hung with six-over-six lights and flat brick arches.

Morgan Hall remains intact, but has undergone some changes. The windows have been replaced. The decorative cast stone ornament that was located above the center window is missing. The Sanford Hall-Morgan Hall Connector is an addition that was completed in the early 2000s at a cost of \$523,183.

**Contributing Structures**

**System of roadways/walkways/lawn/quadrangle (1906-1942)**

The campus layout for the Third District Agricultural & Mechanical (A & M) School began to take shape in 1906 and illustrates a designed plan that is similar to other Agricultural and Mechanical schools in Georgia. This typical campus design usually consisted of three or more buildings arranged to embrace an open, semicircle or triangular shaped green space. The generous green space serves as a front lawn for the buildings and is usually bounded by a perimeter road and an arcing entrance drive (Photograph 1). At the apex of the triangle or top of the arc, an architecturally prominent building is centered on axis as a focal element, with less architecturally prominent buildings (typically residence halls) flanking symmetrically at an angle to the central building. Pedestrian walkways connect along the front of the buildings and around the perimeter of the open front space. Trees were planted throughout the space. The original campus layout at Georgia Southwestern State University is an example of a designed landscape by Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta. Planting plans were provided by horticulturalist P.J. Berckmans of Augusta.

The open front lawn of Georgia Southwestern State University is triangular in shape. Wheatley Administration Building is the architecturally prominent building located at the apex of the triangle and on axis with Glessner Street and the circular drive that bisects the triangle. Other less ornate buildings are located at forty-five degree angles to Wheatley Administration Building. These buildings

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<sup>6</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 9.

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and Wheatley Street to the west frame the triangular front lawn. Pedestrian walkways connect along the front of the buildings and around the perimeter of the open lawn space. This designed landscape includes trees planted for visual interest, to reinforce circulation routes, to frame views of campus buildings, and to offer shade. The Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower (noncontributing) was built in the southwest side of the triangle in 1991.

The quadrangle of Georgia Southwestern State University is rectangular in shape and located behind Wheatley Administration Building between it and Florrie Chappell Gymnasium to the east. This quadrangle is the tail to the overall Y-shaped historic campus district. A sidewalk is on axis with Wheatley Administration Building and Florrie Chappell Gymnasium and bisects the quadrangle. The quadrangle is open lawn bordered on the north and south sides by mature trees.

In 1938, the Georgia Highway Board completed a survey of the Georgia Southwestern College campus and planned a system of driveways and walks with construction scheduled for the fall of that year. It was also during this time that the entrance gates were constructed at the west side of the front lawn adjacent to the intersection of Wheatley Street and Glessner Street. The project was completed on February 13, 1942. The changes that took place are depicted in an aerial photograph of the campus dating to 1940. According to the Georgia Southwestern State University Media Guide, on the day that the project was completed, "four freshman etched their names in the wet cement of the newly constructed driveway entering the campus from the end of Glessner Street. The names are still visible: Bill Davis (Desoto), John McCrea (Atlanta), Bob Logan (Quitman), and Jimmy Carter (Plains)."<sup>7</sup>

**K: Front Gates (c.1940)**

Curved, quarter-circle, brick entry "gates" (Photograph 1) flank each side of the main entry drive at the west side of the triangular front lawn across from Glessner Street. The gates are framed by brick posts topped with pyramidal, cast stone caps and decorative ball-shaped finials.

**Non-contributing Building**

**I: Morgan Annex (1964)**

Morgan Annex, which is connected to Morgan Hall, was completed in 1964 and designed by Houston and Gaston. Morgan Annex currently serves as a private room, co-educational residence hall for upper class students. Morgan Annex is a brick building two stories in height with a flat roof and aluminum windows. Morgan Annex was not present during the period of significance and is of a different era and style than the contributing buildings in the historic district.

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<sup>7</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 11.

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**Non-contributing Structure**

**J: Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower (1991)**

The Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower was constructed in 1991 and designed by Saunders & Associates. Georgia Southwestern alumna and educator Martha Westbrook honored her father, Daniel Webster Westbrook, by giving the monument to her alma mater. Ms. Westbrook has also established the Martha Hudson Westbrook Academic Scholarship. Westbrook Memorial Tower is three stories in height with a bell shaped, metal clad roof. The tower is clad in brick. The second level of the tower includes circular openings and the third level is open with square columns at the perimeter. Westbrook Memorial Tower was not present during the period of significance and is of a different era and style than the contributing buildings in the historic district.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:**

nationally       statewide       locally

**Applicable National Register Criteria:**

A       B       C       D

**Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):** (X) N/A

A       B       C       D       E       F       G

**Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):**

ARCHITECTURE  
EDUCATION

**Period of Significance:**

1906-1956

**Significant Dates:**

1906 (founding date), 1908 (officially opened), 1926 (teacher's college created),  
1931 (integrated into University System of Georgia under the Board of Regents)

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta  
T.F. Lockwood of Columbus  
Crawford Wheatley of Americus

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**Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)**

The Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District comprises the historic core of the early-20th-century Third District A & M School that later developed into a state college and university. It was one of twelve state-supported schools established throughout Georgia during that time.

The district is significant in architecture because it retains a number of historic campus buildings that were constructed as the school progressed from a regional high school to a teacher's college to a four-year institution. It includes historic campus buildings dating from 1912 to 1956 in an arrangement along a triangular front lawn that is specific to Georgia A & M schools designed by Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta. Eight contributing buildings remain relatively intact and reflect the use of the Colonial Revival and Classical Revival styles often found on traditional campuses of the era. While many of the buildings' architects are not known, those who have been identified were either local architects or those already working for the university system designing buildings for other campuses.

The layout of the grounds and buildings at Georgia Southwestern are known to be similar to several other campuses that originated as A & M schools including Georgia Southern University, the State University of West Georgia, South Georgia College, Valdosta State University, and Abraham Baldwin College. In 1906 Haralson Bleckley provided the designs for buildings at nine of the eleven A & M schools in Georgia. (Bleckley's buildings at Georgia Southwestern are no longer extant, but the underlying campus plan remains.) Typically, these A & M schools originated with three campus buildings arranged to front a formal crescent or triangular shaped front lawn and arced entry drive. The layout at Georgia Southwestern is most similar to that at Georgia Southern University and the State University of West Georgia. All three campuses originally had a classical building positioned on axis with an entry drive that intersects a perimeter campus road. These visually dominant neoclassical buildings were flanked on both sides by other classically inspired buildings.

The district is significant in education because it represents the evolving needs of the system of higher education in Georgia. It began as a state-supported regional high school, part of the A & M system of schools, which was created by the Georgia General Assembly in 1905 to put a high school in each congressional district. Many of the 12 A & M Schools became junior colleges by the 1920s and 1930s. In this case Third District A & M School became the State Agricultural and Normal College in 1926, and then Georgia Southwestern College, a two-year institution, from 1931 until 1964. It remains under the Board of Regents System of Georgia.

Georgia Southwestern State University was founded in 1906 as the Third District Agricultural & Mechanical (A & M) School. It was part of the Perry Bill that created a State School of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts in each of eleven congressional districts in Georgia. The school opened its doors for classes in 1908. At the time of their creation, the A & M Schools were considered postsecondary schools, but they offered basic high school classes with an emphasis on agriculture and domestic sciences. Enrollment at the Third District A & M increased, and the curriculum expanded over time. As a result of an increasing demand for higher education, the General

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Assembly passed an act on April 15, 1926 creating a teachers' college to be located at the Third District A & M School. In addition to the high school curriculum, the school would now offer two years of college work. The curriculum was expanded to include courses in teacher training, and the State Department of Education gave teacher certification to students who completed the program. Reflecting these changes, the school's name changed to Americus Normal College.

After June of 1930, the school no longer offered high school courses. In 1931 the state institutions of Georgia were integrated into one system, the University System of Georgia, and under the Reorganization Act, the Board of Regents (BOR) was created. Under BOR administration, the school's name changed to Georgia Southwestern College. The degree program remained limited to two years and the curriculum remained the same. The institution was accredited by the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, the American Association of Junior Colleges, the Georgia Association of Colleges, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. In July of 1956, the Nursing Department of Georgia Southwestern College was fully accredited by the Board of Examiners for Georgia. Georgia Southwestern became a senior unit of the University System of Georgia in 1964, and in 1968, the first baccalaureate degrees were conferred. In 1973, graduate work was added to the curriculum. Since then, several advanced degree programs have been added to the curriculum. In 1996, Georgia Southwestern College gained state university status from the Board of Regents, and the name was changed to Georgia Southwestern State University.

**National Register Criteria**

This nomination meets National Register Criterion A in the area of education, because as a regional high school that became a college, the district represents the evolving needs and patterns of Georgia's expanding educational system. The triangular front lawn, quadrangle, walks, drives, and significant buildings in the district show the evolution of Georgia Southwestern State University from its inception as an agricultural high school to the university that it is today. Several of the buildings are named for and associated with prominent supporters of the university.

The nomination meets National Register Criterion C for its architecture, because most of the buildings are good examples of Classical Revival or Colonial Revival styles representing the typical collegiate look of the first half of the twentieth century. The buildings are relatively intact, and retain many of their original details and character-defining features. Morgan Hall, Florrie Chappell Gymnasium, and Sanford Hall are examples of buildings that were funded with Public Works Administration money.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

N/A

**Period of significance (justification)**

The period of significance extends from the date of the founding of the school in 1906 to the end of the first period of development for the school in 1956. This period represents the first of three



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phases of development for the university.

**Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

Contributing Buildings: 8 (Newman Alumni Center, Crawford Wheatley Hall, Collum I, Wheatley Administration Building, Florrie Chappell Gymnasium, Sanford Hall, and Morgan Hall, and Jackson Hall).

Non-Contributing Buildings: 1 (Morgan Annex).

Contributing Structures: 2 (The roadways and walkways of the large triangular front lawn and the smaller quadrangle; and the flanking front gates of the main entry drive).

Non-Contributing Structures: 1 (The Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower).

Total: Contributing 10      Non-contributing: 2

**Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)**

**\*\*NOTE: The following history was written by Amie A. Spinks, consultant with The Office of Jack Pyburn, Architect, April 2005. It has been minimally edited.**

**Introduction**

Founded in 1906 as the Third District A & M School, Georgia Southwestern State University celebrated its centennial birthday in 2006. While several aspects of the school have remained constant, others have changed significantly over time. The growth and development of the university reflect in many ways the patterns of events that have occurred at the local, state, and national levels. Much of the information for this document on the history of the university came from *Through the Years* by Macy Gray, former librarian at Georgia Southwestern State University, and the school annuals.

Three distinct phases of development are evident in the built environment of Georgia Southwestern State University. Phase I, the initial phase of development, extends from 1906-1956. Phase II extends from 1957 to 1972. Phase III includes the years from 1973 to the present.

**Phase I (1906 - 1956)**

Georgia Southwestern State University was founded on August 19, 1906 as the Third District Agricultural & Mechanical (A & M) School. It was one of eleven agricultural and mechanical schools established in the state, one in each congressional district. "This institution had its beginning in 1906 when a bill introduced by Hon. H.H. Perry of Hall County was passed by the General Assembly of Georgia and signed by Governor Joseph M. Terrell, creating a State School of Agriculture and

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Mechanic Arts in each of eleven congressional districts of Georgia. Accepting a bid of two hundred and seventy-five acres of land and \$300,000.00 in cash, offered by Sumter County, the State located one of the schools just outside the city limits of Americus.”<sup>8</sup> At the time of their founding, the A & M Schools were additional branches of the University of Georgia under the umbrella of the university’s College of Agriculture. The A & M schools were intended to be boarding schools providing agricultural and vocational education to male and female high school-aged students.

The following excerpts from the Annual Reports to the Department of Education indicate the purpose of the schools when they first started and some eventual changes. The Annual Report of the Department of Education for the School Year Ending December 31, 1910 includes a “Historical Sketch of the District Agricultural School” by S.L. Lewis. This portion of the report provides information on the general functioning and purpose of the schools at that time. When they first started, the agricultural and mechanical schools were a new and experimental development for Georgia. Because of this, many of the schools had difficulties getting teachers and funding. Additionally, the purpose and associated curriculum of the schools was often misunderstood. Lewis states,

“The name, ‘Agricultural School,’ is unfortunate, in that it causes many...to think that we spend most of our time in physical labor... As far as I have been able to study the various curricula, I find that during the first three years they devote an average of one-fifth of the study and recitation time to the study of agriculture proper. During the fourth year the boys spend more time on this subject, the girls less. The remainder of the time is spent in the studies taught in the ordinary high schools, save no foreign language is required. Latin is taught in some. Expression and music are taught in several. The chief difference then in the subjects taught is the substitution of agriculture for foreign language. While we teach practically the same subjects as other high schools, we select and adapt it to fit our special needs. We probably stress somewhat physics, chemistry and botany.”<sup>9</sup>

In addition to their studies, students were required to work up to nine hours a week for which they were paid. Also, the boys worked in the shop for three to four hours and the girls spent three to eight hours practicing domestic science work. Lewis explained that the A & M schools were just as useful for girls as they were for boys. He also clarified that the A & M schools were not colleges and not doing college work. Lewis summarized,

“The latest philosophy of education shows that that which fits a child best for his place in the world as a producer tends to his own highest development physically, intellectually and morally.’ It is upon this philosophy that these schools are founded...Secondarily they are preparatory schools, but most of our graduates will not go to the colleges. The chief purpose is to make the citizen – farmer – to give the boys and girls that are to develop the high rural civilization of succeeding generations a

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8 Giles, Willie Mae, ed. *Le Resume*, 1927. Americus: Senior Class of Americus Normal College, 1927, 8.

9 Thirty Ninth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1910. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas P. Byrd, State Printer, 1911, 160.

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liberal education in terms of country life. They train both the head and the hand and in requiring labor of every one they teach the dignity of labor."<sup>10</sup>

In his annual report for the year of 1914 to the Department of Education, the principal of the Second District Agricultural and Mechanical School, S.L. Lewis, explained: "Our eleven District Agricultural Schools occupy a somewhat anomalous position in our educational system. They are not connected with the university, nor with the public schools...they were designed particularly for agricultural instruction and in this way differ from the ordinary high schools."<sup>11</sup> The Fifty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the school year ending December 31, 1922 states:

"The twelve District Agricultural Schools were not intended to be feeders for colleges. Their purpose was broader and closer to the needs of the people. It has been unfortunate that merely for the sake of preparing a small number for college there has been a sacrifice of the great opportunity for training more intensely thousands in agriculture and mechanical work. There is a crying need in Georgia for thousands of young men to be trained in practical mechanics and practical agriculture in a practical way, without all the red tape and expense and time required in the formalistic type of work. Henry Ford and Rockefeller and Edison and Andrew Carnegie never in all their lives reached the place where they could qualify on the standard 15 units entrance requirements for college. They have surpassed not a few college graduates. And possibly some poor boys living here in Georgia, if given an opportunity at this practical type of training, will also surpass some of their more highly schooled brothers. Some boys do not need and ought not to have the traditional type of training; let them develop by doing things."<sup>12</sup>

Although the A & M schools started as vocational schools, many of them evolved into colleges and universities.

In 1906, Haralson Bleckley designed the first three buildings for the newly created system of Agricultural and Mechanical Schools for the State. The first three buildings included an academic hall and two dormitories, one for girls and one for boys. "Nine of the campuses were built in 1907 using Bleckley's plans for the main buildings. Most of these survive today in the University System of Georgia. These include the main structures at West Georgia College in Carrollton, Georgia Southwestern in Americus, South Georgia College in Douglas, and Georgia Southern College in Statesboro to name the best known."<sup>13</sup> Initially, some schools built only two of the three planned buildings for the A & M campuses. The Third District A & M was one of these schools. Although neither of the two original Bleckley buildings now survives, the pattern of subsequent construction followed the Bleckley plan.

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10 Thirty Ninth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1910. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas P. Byrd, State Printer, 1911, 163.

11 Forty-Third Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1914. Atlanta, Georgia; Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1915, 23-24.

12 Fifty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1922. Atlanta, Georgia; Chas P. Byrd, State Printer, 1915, 22.

13 Georgia Historic Preservation Division architect file on Haralson Bleckley.

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Because Bleckley designed the layout of the grounds and buildings at Third District A & M, it is similar to that of several other original A & M schools including Georgia Southern University, the State University of West Georgia, South Georgia College, Valdosta State University, and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Typically, the design for these A & M schools included three Classical Revival-style buildings arranged to embrace a triangular or crescent shaped formal front lawn and arced entry drive. The front lawn is usually bounded by a perimeter road on the side opposite the buildings. The most ornate and prominent building was located at the apex of the triangle and on axis with an arced entry drive or sidewalk that bisected the triangular front lawn. The layout at Georgia Southwestern is most similar to that at Georgia Southern University. Both campuses have a prominent neoclassical building positioned on axis with an entry drive that intersects a perimeter campus road. These visually dominant neoclassical buildings are flanked on both sides by other less ornate classical structures positioned at forty-five degree angles to the main building. Pedestrian walkways connect along the front of the buildings and around the perimeter of the open lawn space. The front lawns and quadrangles were landscaped with trees and plants to provide visual interest and frame views. Original to the Third District A & M campus, but no longer standing, Academic Hall (1908) and Terrell Hall (boys dormitory, 1908) were almost identical to Academic Hall (1907) and the Boys Dormitory (1907) at the Fourth District A & M School, today the State University of West Georgia.

The following information on Haralson Bleckley was obtained from the architect files at the Georgia Historic Preservation Division. Haralson Bleckley was born in Atlanta, Georgia in January of 1870 and died in Atlanta in December of 1933. He was educated in New York with course work at Columbia University and in Paris, France. Bleckley began his architectural career as a draftsman in 1888 in the office of Edmund G. Lind. After working with Lind for about two years, Bleckley left for further study and work in New York. From New York, Bleckley studied in Paris and was one of Georgia's first native architects to study there. After Paris, Bleckley worked again in New York. Then, in 1895, he returned to Atlanta and opened his own office. From 1897-1902, he was in partnership with Harry N. Tyler as Bleckley and Tyler. After Bleckley's partnership with Tyler dissolved, Bleckley worked independently for the rest of his career except for a brief partnership in 1911-1913 with C. Roy McDonald. Haralson Bleckley was a member of the Atlanta Chapter of the AIA, the architectural League of New York, and the Architectural Arts League of Atlanta.

In addition to the A & M schools, Haralson Bleckley is known for designing many works associated with Georgia's educational systems. Bleckley designed the Peabody Library (1904), now the Georgia Museum of Art, at the University of Georgia in Athens. In Atlanta, he designed both high schools and elementary schools, starting in 1905 with the Eighth Ward School. Eventually, Bleckley published several of his designs in *The American Architect*, a national professional periodical. Bleckley also designed churches, clubs, apartment buildings, private homes, and office buildings. In Atlanta, he designed the Ponce De Leon Baptist Church (1905), the original Brookhaven Country Club (1911), the Dakota Hotel (1910), and the Atlanta Theater (1911). In Athens, Bleckley designed the Southern Mutual Insurance Building (1908). Haralson Bleckley is best known for the Bleckley Plaza Plan, a proposal for redeveloping downtown Atlanta in the City Beautiful tradition. Although the plan was proposed to the public in 1909, it was never realized. Haralson Bleckley showed great

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creative potential early in his career and is one of the few visionary architects of Georgia.<sup>14</sup>

Once the Third District A & M School was established, construction efforts were underway. The 1927 school yearbook *Le Resume* states, "Buildings were erected according to plans furnished by Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta, T.F. Lockwood of Columbus, and Crawford Wheatley of Americus. Plans for the development of the grounds as well as many shrubs and flowers for this purpose, were furnished by P.J. Berkman [sic] of Augusta." P.J. Berckmans was a renowned Georgia horticulturist who greatly influenced the horticulture industry in Georgia and the United States. P.J. Berckmans immigrated to Georgia from Belgium in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century and opened P.J. Berckmans Fruitlands Nursery in Augusta. Berckmans developed and released hundreds of new plant varieties at his nursery, which became one of the largest nurseries in the U.S. by the end of the century. "In 1908, the U.S. Department of Agriculture declared that he [Berckmans] had done more for American horticulture than almost any other man. Fruitlands Nursery became a world-class experimental station as well as a botanical garden which disseminated many of the most valuable plants of the southern horticulturist including honey peaches, Kelsey plum, Japanese persimmon, hardy lemon, Amoor River privet, Berckmans dwarf arborvitae, eleagnus, wisteria, and many others."<sup>15</sup> P.J. Berckman's Nursery is now the site of Augusta National Golf Club, and the Augusta National Club House is the original family home of the Berckmans.<sup>16</sup>

The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1907 includes a summary of the progress made at the Third District A & M for the year.

"There has been completed an academic building and a boys dormitory and a dining hall. The latter building will be used, later, as a shop, and has been located at the place designated on the plan for the wood shop, and has been erected after the plans for the wood shop. The first two buildings have been erected after the plans of those of the other ten schools in the State. There is near enough for all purposes of the school, and on the school grounds, a farm settlement. This settlement comprises a farm house of four rooms, meat house, cribs, tool house, poultry houses and poultry runs, stables and barn for stock, and a very large and comfortable barn with conveniences for dairy cows and cattle... The farm contains about 275 acres."<sup>17</sup>

Although the school did not officially open until 1908, the annual report indicates that limited classes were offered during 1907. "During the term one hundred and nine pupils have been enrolled. Fifteen counties are represented at the school. Only about ten girls are in attendance for the reason that places could not be provided for them in the dormitory. A number of local applications had to be refused admission for the reason that it was thought best on account of the limited equipment and the need of other teachers, not to admit them. . . A girls' dormitory must be built before many girls

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<sup>14</sup> Georgia Historic Preservation Division. Haralson Bleckley vertical file.

<sup>15</sup> GGIA Facts – Past & Present. Georgia Green Industry Association. Copyright 2005. <http://www.ggia.org/Trade/Who%20We%20Are/History.asp>. Accessed 4.7.2005.

<sup>16</sup> Gardens and collections. <http://www.uga.edu/botgarden/GarHer.html> Accessed 4.7.2005.

<sup>17</sup> Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1907. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1908, 198.

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can be admitted. There is a healthy local and sectional sentiment favoring the school.”<sup>18</sup>

The Third District A & M School officially opened for classes on January 4, 1908. When classes began, the minimum age requirement was 13 years for girls and 14 years for boys. Like the other district schools, high school classes in agriculture and economics were offered. In addition to academics, extra curricular activities were offered in military training, band, basketball, baseball, and football.

By the time the school opened in 1908, three buildings had been constructed on campus: Terrell Hall, Academic Hall, and the Dining Hall. Terrell Hall (1907) functioned as a dormitory for boys and was named in honor of Governor Joseph Terrell. Academic Hall (1907) was located on the site that Wheatley Administration Building now occupies. The 1913 school catalog describes Academic Hall as a two-story building with eight classrooms, laboratories, and an 800-seat auditorium. A 1912 Sanborn map indicates that the original Dining Hall was located to the rear of Academic Hall. According to school records, the building was a one-story wooden structure. Former librarian Macy Gray reported that girls were housed in rented buildings on Felder Street near campus in 1907 until dormitories could be built.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1908 describes the school. “There have been fully completed, an academic building, a boy’s dormitory, a dining hall and a blacksmith shop... The plans have been developed after the plans of a landscape gardener. Drives and walks have been built and sodded with grasses. About one hundred trees, representing practically every tree that grows in the State, have been set and are growing. In the flower yards have been set and growing, bushes and shrubs representing every known variety that grows in our climate. Every tree and plant has been labeled. A pretty ball park has been laid off and has been graded.”<sup>19</sup> The school farm included grains such as oats, wheat, clover, and alfalfa, dairy and poultry yards, and smith and wood shops. The annual report also included information about the student body and curriculum, “One hundred and seventy-two pupils have been enrolled, representing twenty counties and three States. Of this number one hundred and fifty-five are boys and seventeen girls... A regular high school course is being given. Five regular classes, including preparatory, have been organized. In addition to this course, a theoretical and practical course is given in agriculture and the allied sciences. This includes work in the physical and chemical laboratories and microscopic tests.”<sup>20</sup>

By 1910, 230 students had been admitted to the school from 29 Georgia counties, plus Alabama, Florida, and South Carolina. In that year, some applicants had to be refused due to lack of room in the dormitories. The Third District A & M was one of several schools to introduce military style discipline to its program. The status of the school was explained in the annual report, “The School is under military discipline and is furnished arms and equipment by the United States War

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<sup>18</sup> Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1907. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1908, 200.

<sup>19</sup> Thirty-Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1908. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1909, 316.

<sup>20</sup> Thirty-Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1908. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1909, 317.

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Department.”<sup>21</sup> All the male and female students wore uniforms. “A diploma course requires four years above the seventh grade. No diploma [is] granted for less than two years’ work in the school.”<sup>22</sup>

Since its inception, the Third District A & M continued to grow and expand with several building projects taking place between 1910 and 1920. In 1910, a wooden shop building was constructed on campus. The 1912 Sanborn map indicates that this building was located to the rear of the academic building near the dining hall. The wooden shop building no longer exists. The 1911 annual report lists the farm output for the years and indicates the state of the school farm: “Corn, 20 acres, 520 bushels. Cotton, 5 acres, 2878 lbs. of lint. Peanuts, 6 acres, 24 bushels. Rye, 2 acres, 24 bushels. Oats, 50 acres, 1980 bushels. Hay (after oats), 35 acres, 56,000 lbs. (28 tons). Value of pork sold and used, \$512.00. Estimated value of hogs lost on account of cholera, \$400.00. Estimated value of hogs on hand, \$300.00. Dairy products, all used by school, \$876.00.” In 1912, Wheatley Hall, known today as Crawford Wheatley Hall, was built. It was named for Crawford Wheatley, a member of the board of trustees and treasurer of the institution who actively donated his time and money to the school. When it was built, Crawford Wheatley Hall housed the kitchen and dining hall on the first floor and a dormitory for girls on the second floor.<sup>23</sup> In the Forty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1912, the principal of the school, J.M. Collum, noted: “...due to the public spiritedness of Mr. Crawford Wheatley, plans were drawn for a \$1,300.00 building for girls, and the contract let, and the building erected and turned over to the Board September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1912.”<sup>24</sup> The annual report indicates that Crawford Wheatley Hall was constructed at a cost of \$13,000 with \$6,000 provided by the state.

“By 1913, the school farm was fully operational. Oats and other small grain were grown on the major portion of the acreage and hogs were raised. A few acres were given over to farming and agricultural demonstration.”<sup>25</sup> One hundred and twenty students were enrolled in 1913. The annual report indicated that the school was at maximum capacity and that no more students could be admitted until more room was made. The Senior Girls’ Home, known today as Newman Alumni Center, and prior to that as the President’s Home, was constructed in 1915. This building is located at the northwest end of the triangular front lawn next to Crawford Wheatley Hall. In April of 1915, Academic Hall was destroyed in a devastating fire. Rebuilding efforts followed shortly thereafter and were “supervised by architect Crawford Wheatley, a member of the local board.”<sup>26</sup> The new Wheatley Academic Building “was completed in 1918 at a cost of \$75,000. It is named in honor of Charles Huntington Wheatley (son of Crawford Wheatley).”<sup>27</sup> Like its predecessor, Wheatley Academic Building is classical in

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21 Thirty Ninth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1910. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas P. Byrd, State Printer, 1911, 169.

22 Thirty Ninth Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1910. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas P. Byrd, State Printer, 1911, 170.

23 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 7.

24 *Forty-First Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1912*. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1913, 216.

25 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 7.

26 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 8.

27 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 8.

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style. In 1915, a farmhouse was constructed on campus at the cost of \$2400. This building was demolished after 1957. In 1916-1917, an elementary school for Teacher's Training was built on Simmons Street for \$4,500. This building was adapted for use as a chemistry lab, home economics department, and in 1957 faculty and staff offices. The building was demolished in 1965.

Enrollment at the Third District A & M School increased continually and the curriculum expanded. In 1924, the school began offering one year of college work. As a result of an increasing demand for higher education, the General Assembly passed an act on April 15, 1926 creating a teacher's college to be located at the Third District A & M School. In addition to the high school curriculum, the school would now offer two years of college work; the curriculum was expanded to include courses in teacher training; and the State Department of Education gave teacher certification to students who completed the program.<sup>28</sup> Reflecting these changes, the Third District A & M changed its name to the State Agricultural and Normal College, although the school was commonly referred to as Americus Normal College.<sup>29</sup> After June of 1930, the college no longer offered high school education.<sup>30</sup> The school was essentially functioning as a junior college offering two years of college work.

The next major administrative change for the school occurred in 1931 when the state institutions of Georgia were integrated into one system, the University System of Georgia (USG), and under the Reorganization Act, the Board of Regents (BOR) was created.<sup>31</sup> Under BOR administration, the school's name was changed to Georgia Southwestern College. The degree program remained limited to two years, and the same curriculum was kept in place as was offered under the normal school format. The institution was accredited by the State Board of Education, the Board of Regents, the American Association of Junior Colleges, the Georgia Association of Colleges, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.<sup>32</sup>

Four buildings were added to the campus between 1931 and 1945, after the BOR was created and ending with World War II: Sanford Hall (1939), Morgan Hall (1937), Florrie Chappell Gymnasium (1939), and the Lake House (1942). In 1931, a nine-hole golf course was located at the area between the college and Anthony School, which was situated to the north of campus across Perimeter Road.<sup>33</sup> Utilizing the golf course, a Georgia Southwestern College professor provided free golf instruction to students.<sup>34</sup> In 1934, the Public Works Administration allotted \$69,300 for the construction of a dormitory for men named to honor S.H. Morgan, a member of the Board of Regents.<sup>35</sup> "S.H. Morgan of Guyton, Georgia had outlined a symmetrical pattern of buildings for the front drive of campus, with the new men's dormitory being an integral part."<sup>36</sup> Construction on Morgan

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28 <http://www.gsw.edu/university/history.html> Accessed 2/5/2004.

29 <http://www.usg.edu/inst/gasou.html> Accessed 2/5/2004.

30 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 7.

31 <http://www.usg.edu/inst/gasou.html> Accessed 2/5/2004.

32 <http://www.usg.edu/inst/gasou.html> Accessed 2/5/2004.

33 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 16.

34 *Ibid.*

35 *Ibid.*, 19.

36 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 9.



National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Hall was finished by 1937. Also in 1937, the annex and campus store were added to the rear of Wheatley Administration Building with the assistance of Sumter County Commissioners.<sup>37</sup> Grace Sanford Hall, a women's residence hall, was dedicated in 1936 and completed in 1939 through a Public Works Administration Grant. Grace Sanford Hall is named in honor of Grace McClathrey Sanford, wife of Stedman Vincent Sanford, chancellor of the University System of Georgia from 1935 to 1945.<sup>38</sup> Florrie Chappell Auditorium Gymnasium was also completed in 1939. The gymnasium was built by the "Board of Regents and the P.W.A." and had a seating capacity of nearly 1,000 with a swimming pool and recreation room in the basement.<sup>39</sup> Florrie Chappell is named "in honor of Florrie Allen Chappell, mother of Allen Chappell, who served in the Georgia Senate and as a member of the Georgia Public Service Commission during the institution's Peyton Jacob administration."<sup>40</sup> After Florrie Chappell was completed, the library was relocated from the north wing of Wheatley Administration Building, where it had been since 1934, to the auditorium space.<sup>41</sup>

"In 1938, the Georgia Highway Board completed a survey of the campus and planned a complete system of driveways and walks with construction to begin in the fall of that year."<sup>42</sup> Roads encircling campus, portions of which form Perimeter Road today, were completed on February 13, 1942. "On this date, four freshmen etched their names in the wet cement of the newly constructed driveway entering the campus from the end of Glessner Street. The names are still visible: Bill Davis (DeSoto), John McCrea (Atlanta), Bob Logan (Quitman), and Jimmy Carter (Plains)."<sup>43</sup> According to the Georgia Southwestern State University facilities department, the lakehouse (not in the district) was moved from Fort Benning to its current location on campus in 1942. The lakehouse was used for recreational purposes and situated next to what were wetlands at the time.

During World War II (1942-1945), enrollment declined and development activity at the campus subsided. During the war years, as was typical across the country, so many men were in the armed services that enrollment at Georgia Southwestern College became predominantly female. During this difficult time, the college farm supplied vegetables, milk, pork, and beef and substantially supplemented the meat ration of the dining hall.<sup>44</sup> In 1945, 21 women and no men graduated from the school.<sup>45</sup>

Two of the university's most famous students were enrolled at the school during the 1940s, former President Jimmy Carter, and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Jimmy Carter attended the

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37 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 12.

38 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 10.

39 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 10.

40 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 10.

41 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 22-23.

42 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 11.

43 Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 11.

44 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 22-23.

45 *Ibid*, 22-23.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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university as a freshman in 1941-1942, and Rosalynn Carter graduated from the university in 1946. Both hold honorary doctorates from the university, and continue to be involved with the university today.

Following World War II, Georgia Southwestern entered a new stage of growth and development within the context of a changed and modern world. With the passing of the GI Bill, college enrollment greatly increased across the country. Statewide in the university system, enrollment shot up from 13,736 in 1940 to 25,000 in 1947.<sup>46</sup> The sudden influx of students brought a need for new programs, buildings, and equipment. In 1946, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia authorized Georgia Southwestern to double its expenditures. By 1947, many new faculty members had been added and enrollment was up to 565 students. The living quarters were reportedly overflowing and President Jacob described them to be, "like sardines in a can."<sup>47</sup>

Several small-scale building projects took place on campus during the latter half of the 1940s. In 1947, a wood frame laboratory building with five classrooms was constructed as a gift from the FWA, and 18 FPHA apartments for married veterans were constructed across the road from the rear of Terrell Hall and Wheatley Hall.<sup>48</sup> None of these structures are extant today. In 1947, the curriculum was adapted to offer a number of senior college degrees. Terminal curricula in education, secretarial science, commerce, and distributive education were added at this time, as well. A year later in 1948, Georgia Southwestern College began to participate in intercollegiate sports.<sup>49</sup> The eight-acre college lake was constructed in 1949 with a 13-foot dam. Four springs feed the lake, which is up to 10 feet deep. At one time, an outdoor amphitheater was located near the lake. In 1949, Mrs. P.A. Jackson of Americus named Georgia Southwestern College as the residual beneficiary of \$100,000.00 in her will. Thus, the Jackson loan fund was made available.

Growth at Georgia Southwestern College was moderate during the 1950s. In February of 1951, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia authorized Georgia Southwestern College to offer curricula in technical fields in collaboration with the South Georgia Trade and Vocational School and to establish a curriculum in nursing education in collaboration with the Americus and Sumter County Hospital.<sup>50</sup> The ground breaking for Collum Hall (currently Collum I) was in October of 1951, and the building was dedicated one year later on October 15, 1952. Governor Talmadge was the principal speaker for the dedication of Collum I, named for John M. Collum who was head of the Third District A & M School from 1908 to 1921.<sup>51</sup> Several programs were initiated in the 1950s. In 1953, Georgia Southwestern College began participating in the Keep Georgia Green program by planting slash and long leaf pines on the campus. By 1957, the college had approximately 125 acres of pines in various stages of growth. The rise of automobile ownership and use had a significant impact on the Georgia Southwestern College campus. In 1954, parking lines at selected points along

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46 <http://www.usg.edu/bor70th/p5/phtml> Accessed 1/22/2004.

47 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 27.

48 Ibid.

49 Ibid.

50 Gray, Macy Bishop. *Through the Years: A Brief Informal Record of Georgia Southwestern College: 1908-1957*. Americus: Americus Printing Company, 1957, 31.

51 Ibid, 31-32.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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the interior campus driveways were laid out by the local police chief.<sup>52</sup>

Construction of Jackson Hall was completed in 1956 at the cost of \$210,000.00. Jackson Hall was named in honor of Mrs. P. Jackson who had established the Jackson loan fund. When it was completed, Jackson Hall functioned as a classroom-auditorium building that included chemistry and biological laboratories. Both of the buildings constructed on campus during the 1950s, Jackson Hall and Collum I, were designed by Logan and Williams with a more modern interpretation of classical styles. The character of these buildings exemplified the shift in architecture from more traditional styles to the International style. In July of 1956, the Nursing Education Department of Georgia Southwestern College was fully accredited by the Board of Examiners for Georgia.

**PHASE II (1957 - 1972)**

The dawning of the 1960s signaled the beginning of an explosive decade for higher education in the United States and also in Georgia.<sup>53</sup> The school became a senior unit of the University System of Georgia in 1964 and was granted four-year status. In 1968, the first baccalaureate degrees were conferred.<sup>54</sup> During the 1960s, Georgia Southwestern entered its most productive building and expansion phase to date. Eighteen buildings were constructed on campus during this period. These buildings include: Jacob Hall (1960), the Nursing Media Skills Center (1962), Collum II (1963), Morgan Hall Annex (1963), the Rosalynn Carter Institute (1965), the temporary Psychology Building (1965), the Science Building (1965), Herschel Smith Health Center (1966), the Field House (1967), Marshall Student Center (1967), Jordan Hall (1967), the English Building (1968), Maintenance (1968), Greenhouse (1968), Prance Hall (1969), the Roney Building (1969), Duncan Hall (1969), and Complex III (1969). The Rosalynn Carter Institute built in 1965 originally served as the university president's home. The Psychology Building, which was built as a temporary structure, is still used by the university today.

The explosive growth of the 1960s subsided in the 1970s. Three buildings were constructed on campus between 1970 and 1973: the Warehouse Annex to the Maintenance Building (1970), the James Earl Carter Library (1971), and the Business History Political Science Building (1972).

The new Georgia Southwestern library was named the James Earl Carter Library (James Earl Carter was the father of President Jimmy Carter) by request of the college "in appreciation of his loyal support for this institution and the university system." According to the school newspaper, "Mr. Carter was a Sumter County farmer and businessman, civic leader, strong supporter of education, and representative from Sumter County to the General Assembly of Georgia. Mr. Carter served on the Sumter County Board of Education for 17 years and was Chairman of that Board at the time of his death. He was dedicated to the ideal that all young people should have an education. James Earl Carter's service to this country and to education was cut short by his death in 1953. In appreciation for these qualities and achievements and for his loyal support for this institution and the university system, Georgia Southwestern requested authorization to name this facility the James Earl Carter

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<sup>52</sup> Ibid, 34.

<sup>53</sup> A Brief History, 1932-2002, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. <http://www.usg.edu/bor70th/p5.phtml> Accessed 1/22/2004.

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.gsw.edu/university/history.html> Accessed 2/5/2004.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Library.<sup>55</sup>

A permanent exhibit about former President Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter is on display at the James Earl Carter Library. Emphasis of the display has been placed on the relationship of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter to southwest Georgia, to their home county of Sumter, and to Georgia Southwestern State University. There is also an exhibit on Jimmy Carter's mother, Lillian Carter, located on the first floor of the library.

**PHASE III (1973 - Present)**

Phase III encompasses the time from 1973 to the present. Following the robust growth of the previous decades, building activity subsided on campus. However, several significant changes took place. In 1973, graduate work was added to the curriculum, and since then, several additional degree programs were added including the Specialist in Education (1983), the Master of Science in Administration (1983), and the Master of Science in Computer Science (1986).

The next building to be constructed on campus was the Fine Arts Building (1981) designed by Zeb Lackey. Although this building was constructed eight years after the Business History and Political Science Building, its design incorporates characteristics of brutalism and is very much in keeping with the architectural style of its surroundings in the southwest portion of campus.

In 1987, the Rosalyn Carter Institute was established in honor of Mrs. Carter, an alumna of Georgia Southwestern, to enhance her longstanding commitments to human development and mental health. "Through research, education, and training, the RCI promotes the mental health and well-being of individuals, families, and professional caregivers; teaches effective care giving practices; builds public awareness of care giving needs; and advances public and social policies that enhance caring communities. These goals are met by forming partnerships with professionals, groups, and individuals to deliver education and training programs, research and program evaluation around care needs, and policy and advocacy efforts that promote healthy individual development and increase community care giving capacity."<sup>56</sup>

Four buildings and structures were constructed on campus during the 1990s: the Education Center (1990), the Deriso Swimming Pool (1991), the Psychology Lab (1991), and the Westbrook Memorial Tower (1991). A neotraditional building, the Education Center is located to the west of campus on a 45-degree angle across Wheatley Street. The Deriso Swimming Pool is a primarily metal and glass structure used by both the university and community. The Westbrook Memorial Bell Tower was constructed on the open lawn at the front of the campus.

In 1996, Georgia Southwestern College gained state university status from the Board of Regents, and therefore, the name was changed to Georgia Southwestern State University.<sup>57</sup> Former President

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<sup>55</sup> Newspaper article from James Earl Carter Library files. No date or title provided.

<sup>56</sup> *President and Mrs. Carter Donate \$370,000 of Nobel Peace Prize Winnings to Rosalynn Carter Institute at GSW.*  
[http://www.gsw.edu/~univrel/press\\_release/0316.htm](http://www.gsw.edu/~univrel/press_release/0316.htm) Accessed 2/13/2004.

<sup>57</sup> Tietjen, Mildred. Unpublished draft, *A Brief History of Georgia Southwestern State University.*

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter donated \$370,000 of Mr. Carter's 2002 Nobel Peace Prize Winnings to the Rosalynn Carter Institute. Commenting on the award, the Carters stated that the goals of the institution are in line with their goals, and they are proud of the work that the institution has accomplished to date.

Currently, Georgia Southwestern State University includes 250 acres of land and 35 buildings. Several building projects are underway on campus. In 2003, construction started on the new Student Success Center. Wheatley Academic Building has recently undergone rehabilitation, and the Marshall Student Center had also been renovated. These projects are part of the university's ongoing efforts to enhance the campus environment.

Georgia Southwestern State University is one of the smaller schools of the University System of Georgia (USG) with 2,600 students enrolled in graduate and undergraduate programs. Among the 34 institutions of the USG, which includes research universities, regional universities, state universities, and two-year colleges, Georgia Southwestern State University ranks 23<sup>rd</sup> in population. Of the thirteen state universities of the USG, Georgia Southwestern State University is the third smallest in population. Kennesaw State University has the largest population with 17,400 students. Savannah State University and Fort Valley State University have the smallest populations with 2,500 students each.

According to Georgia Southwestern's News Media Guide,

"The university provides a wide variety of undergraduate and master's degree programs...Approximately 2,600 residential and commuter students are enrolled and the student body averages 24 years of age. Students come primarily from Georgia, but some 25 states and 37 nations also are represented among enrollees.

The University offers 38 bachelor's degree programs in arts and sciences, including a bachelor of fine arts, business administration, computer and information sciences, education, and nursing; 18 graduate programs including education, business, computer science, and midwifery, plus a specialist program in education and pre-professional programs in law, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and various allied health-care professions. Georgia Southwestern and Georgia Institute of Technology offer a dual-degree program in engineering leading to a bachelor's degree in science or mathematics from Georgia Southwestern and a bachelor's degree in engineering from Georgia Tech. The university also offers cooperative programs with South Georgia Technical College and other two-year institutions, culminating in a baccalaureate degree from Georgia Southwestern...GSW is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, bachelor, master, and specialist degrees."<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>58</sup> Georgia Southwestern State University. *Eye on Experts GSW's News Media Guide to Expertise & Information*. Americus Georgia: Division of University Relations, Spring 2003, 5.

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\_\_\_\_\_. *Thirty Seventh Annual Report of the Department of Education to the General Assembly of the State of Georgia for the School Year Ending December 31, 1908*. Atlanta, Georgia: Chas. P. Byrd, State Printer, 1909.

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National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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## Maps

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Sanborn Map, Americus, 1924 (online)  
Sanborn Map, Americus, 1939 (online)

Topozone. USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Map. Quadrangle: Americus, Georgia. Recorded 1973; Photorevised 1985. <Http://www.topozone.com/>. Accessed 9/10/2004.



National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**  
**date issued:**
- 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 – Georgia Southwestern State University**
- Other, Specify Repository:**

**Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A**

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property**      Approximately 13 acres.

### UTM References

A)	Zone 16	Easting 762532	Northing 3550041
B)	Zone 16	Easting 762857	Northing 3549914
C)	Zone 16	Easting 762771	Northing 3549782
D)	Zone 16	Easting 762507	Northing 3549731

### Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is indicated by a heavy line on an attached map of the campus. The historic district is bounded by Wheatley Street to the west and the beginning of Simmons Street to the north. From Simmons Street, the boundary turns and extends southeast along the backside of Newman Alumni Center and Crawford Wheatley Hall. The boundary then extends around Collum I and approaches the north side of the Wheatley Administration Building. At Wheatley Administration Building, the border extends to the east and back, wrapping around the quadrangle and Florrie Chappell Gymnasium. At the south side of the quadrangle, the boundary wraps around Jackson Hall to the southeast corner of Wheatley Administration Building. From the southeast corner of Wheatley Administration Building, the district border extends southwest behind Sanford Hall and Morgan Hall to the access road, wrapping around the Morgan Annex, and terminating at Wheatley Street.

### Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the historic and original core of what evolved into Georgia Southwestern State University. The historic district boundaries were chosen for several reasons: they represent the remaining intact historic acreage and buildings of the campus; they represent the historic core of the campus while the remainder of the campus represents the modern development of the school; and these boundaries include a concentration of the historic resources on campus. Together, the buildings and the open spaces that they frame have retained their basic layout and character. The district comprises the historic center of the campus and the focal point of the campus. These resources represent the school's development from its inception in 1906 through the end of its first phase of construction in 1956.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Denise P. Messick/National Register Historian  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**mailing address** 34 Peachtree Street, Suite 1600  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303-2316  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** July 2007  
**e-mail** denise\_messick@dnr.state.ga.us

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)** ( ) not applicable

**name/title** Amie A. Spinks  
**organization** The Office Jack Pyburn, Architect, Inc.  
**mailing address** 1197 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 533A  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** GA **zip code** 30361  
**telephone** (404) 685-9015

- ( ) **property owner**  
(X) **consultant**  
( ) **regional development center preservation planner**  
( ) **other:**

**Property Owner or Contact Information**

**name (property owner or contact person)** Dr. Kendall A. Blanchard, President  
**organization (if applicable)** Georgia Southwestern State University  
**mailing address** 800 Wheatley Street  
**city or town** Americus **state** Georgia **zip code** 31079  
**e-mail (optional)**

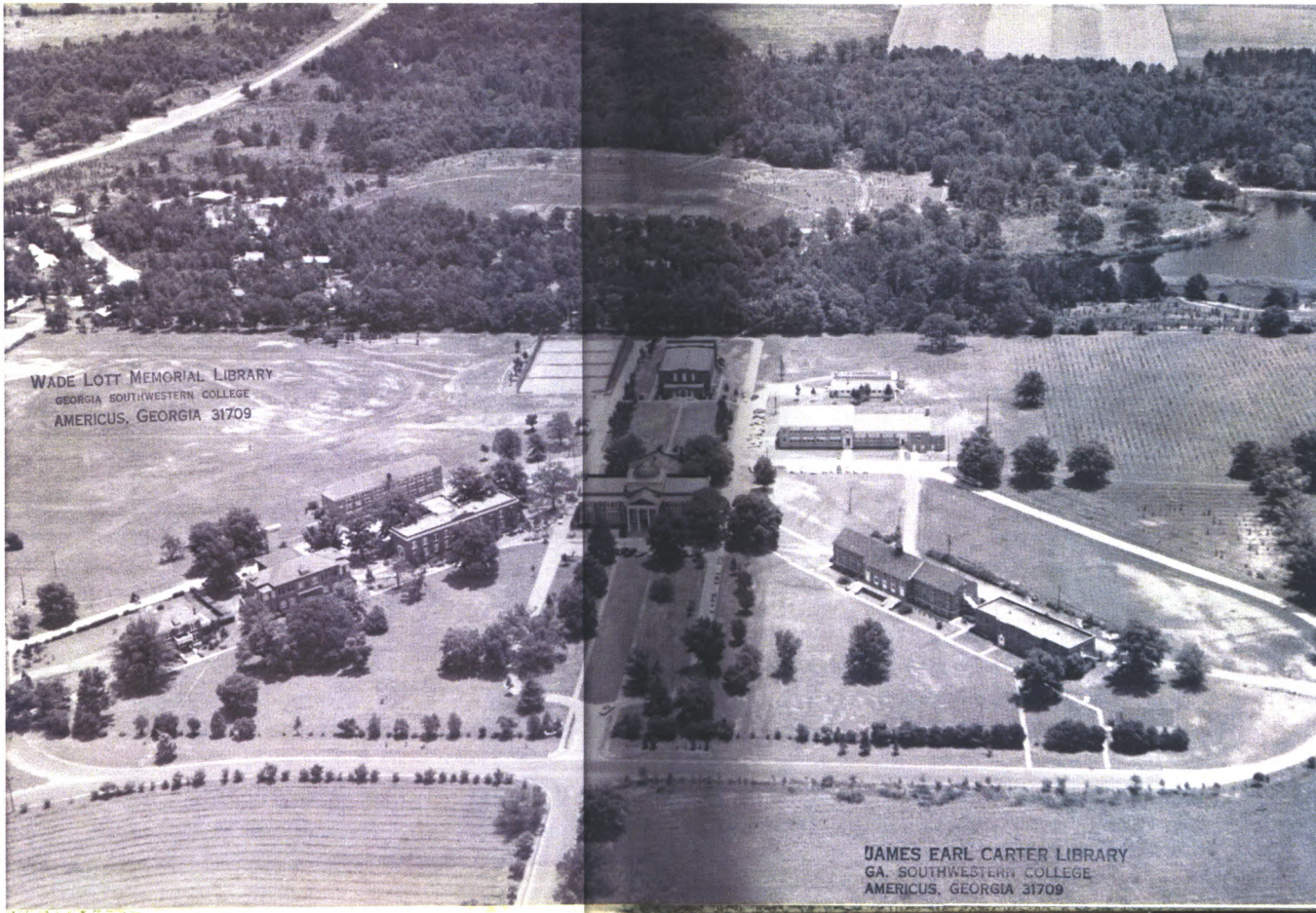
**Additional Documentation**

Historic Photographs

- Attachment 1: 1940 aerial view of campus; photograph from school yearbook.  
Attachment 2: 1960 aerial view of campus; photograph from school yearbook.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

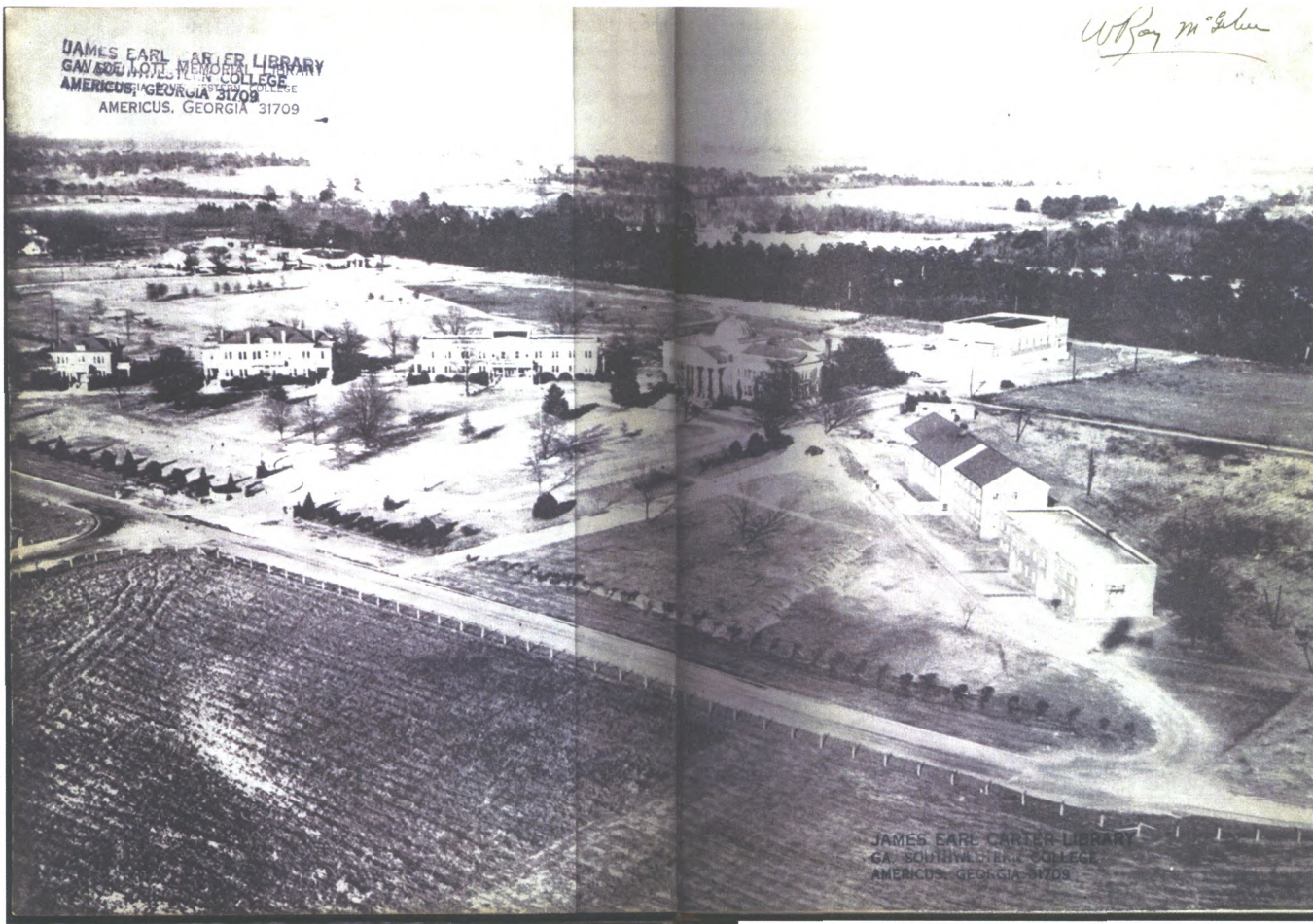


Attachment 2 of 2:

1960 Aerial View of Campus  
Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District  
Sumter County, Georgia

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs



Attachment 1 of 2:

1940 Aerial View of Campus  
Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District  
Sumter County, Georgia

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

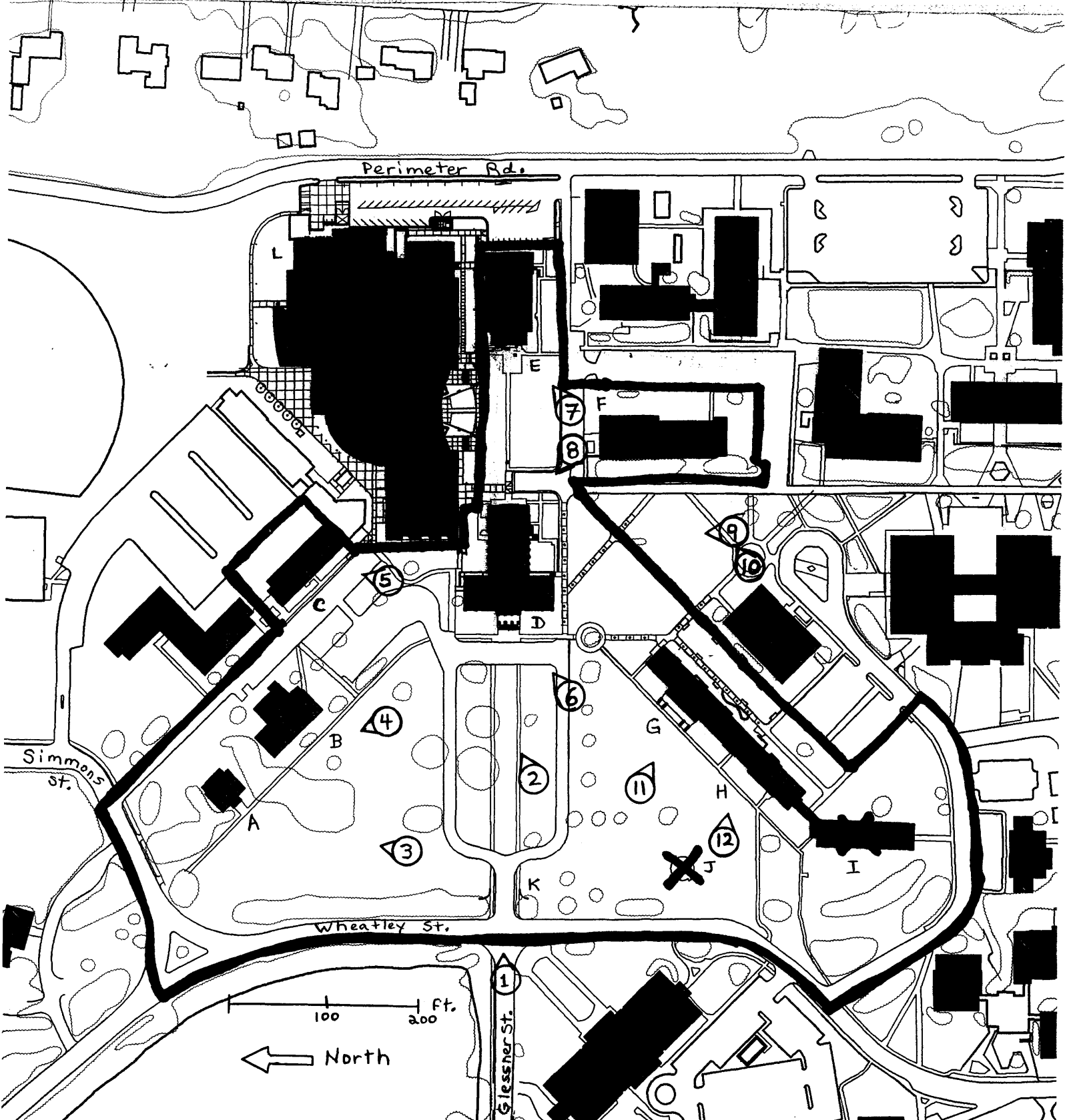
---

**Name of Property:** Third District A & M School/Georgia Southwestern College Historic District  
**City or Vicinity:** Americus  
**County:** Sumter  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** November 2005

**Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 12

- 1: Entry gates and campus triangle; photographer facing east.
- 2: Lawn and Wheatley Administration Building; photographer facing northeast.
- 3: Newman Alumni Center; photographer facing north.
- 4: Crawford Wheatley Hall and Newman Alumni Center; photographer facing northwest.
- 5: Collum I; photographer facing north.
- 6: Front of Wheatley Administration Building; photographer facing northeast.
- 7: Florrie Chappell Gymnasium; photographer facing northeast.
- 8: Rear of Wheatley Administration Building; photographer facing northwest.
- 9: Campus lawn showing Wheatley Administration Building (left) and Student Success Center (right); photographer facing north.
- 10: Campus lawn showing Student Success Center (left) and Jackson Hall (right); photographer facing northeast.
- 11: Sanford Hall; photographer facing east.
- 12: Campus triangle showing Sanford Hall (left) and Morgan Hall (right); photographer facing east.



**THIRD DISTRICT A & M SCHOOL/  
 GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 NATIONAL REGISTER MAP/SKETCH MAP**

NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY: **—————**

**X** = NON-CONTRIBUTING

SCALE: SHOWN ON MAP  
 SOURCE: OFFICE OF JACK PYBURN, ARCHITECT, INC.



KEY TO BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES:

- A: NEWMAN ALUMNI CENTER
- B: CRAWFORD WHEATLEY HALL
- C: COLLUM I
- D: WHEATLEY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
- E: FLORRIE CHAPPELL GYMNASIUM
- F: JACKSON HALL
- G: SANFORD HALL
- H: MORGAN HALL
- I: MORGAN ANNEX
- J: WESTBROOK MEMORIAL BELL TOWER
- K: ENTRANCE GATES
- L: STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER (outside district)