

PH0023116

10th Congressional District  
Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Georgia</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Clarke</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Governor Wilson Lumpkin House, "Rock House"**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

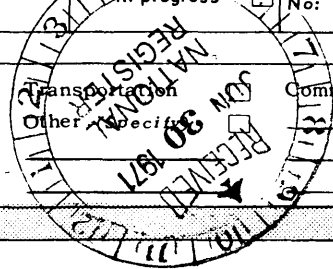
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Cedar Street, South Campus, University of Georgia**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Athens**

STATE <b>Georgia</b>	CODE <b>13</b>	COUNTY: <b>Clarke</b>	CODE <b>059</b>
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:  
**Regents of the University System of Georgia**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**214 Washington Street, S. W.**

CITY OR TOWN: <b>Atlanta</b>	STATE: <b>Georgia</b>	CODE <b>13</b>
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Clarke County Courthouse, Deed Book 3, p. 578**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: <b>Athens</b>	STATE: <b>Georgia</b>	CODE <b>13</b>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Athens Historic Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1968** Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Special Collections Division, University of Georgia Library**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: <b>Athens</b>	STATE: <b>Georgia</b>	CODE <b>13</b>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia  
COUNTY: Clarke  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

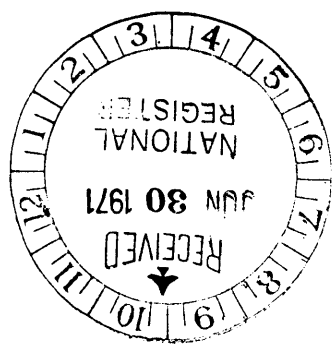
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Greek Revival architecture was favored in Athens when Wilson Lumpkin, who was Governor of Georgia 1831-35, decided to build a home resembling the old millhouse at Cedar Shoals which was one of the first buildings in Athens. Lumpkin built his house on a hill to the south of Athens and the University, which afforded an excellent view of both. He called this hill, Cedar Hill. Today, the structure is located on Cedar Street and is surrounded by the University of Georgia campus. Lumpkin built the house of stone collected from the surrounding property and cut and dressed on the site. Begun in March 1842, the house was completed in November 1844.

Exterior: This 52 by 40 foot stone house rises two stories above a ground-level basement. Its walls are two feet thick. Access to the entrance is by way of a steep flight of steps which lead up to a small one-story porch with simple wooden post supports. The doorway is a spartan adaptation of the typical Greek Revival with sidelights and those above. Located over the doorway, and looking out upon the porch roof, is an adaptation of a Palladian window. There are the traditional sidelights but the light above the window is omitted. All windows have a stone lintel and are six-over-six. The roof is hipped with chimneys on the two sides.

Interior: The basic plan of this structure, repeated in the basement and the upper floors, is a central hallway with two rooms on both sides. All interior surfaces are extremely plain while the thick doorway openings and walls join with them to create an atmosphere of simplicity and strength.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian  16th Century  18th Century  20th Century   
 15th Century  17th Century  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1842-44

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>History</u>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

When Wilson Lumpkin considered the building of his house, he felt that to suit himself it must be an original house and one which would express his inward idea of life in its social and domestic aspect. Feeling that it would be impossible for an architect to design a house suitable to his desires, Lumpkin prepared his own design and followed every detail of its construction with the utmost care, maintaining careful records of its progress. He would accept only skilled workmanship. The stone work was done by Edward Lilley of Ireland, the wood work by David Demorist of New Jersey, the painting by C. G. Oliver of England, and the plastering by a Mr. Williams of New York City.

This was a very personal house as described in Lumpkin's words, "I have endeavored to put a piece of my character in its stone walls." Lumpkin explained his philosophy, "...and until this building falls down, or is destroyed, there I stand to be praised, or lampooned, as the work may be thought, to be good or bad, by the beholder. And although for a time, I may be exalted or despised, by ignorance and stupidity, I feel that time will award the verdict of truth, and by my own works, I shall be judged by posterity."

Upon the death of Lumpkin, the house passed to his daughter, Mrs. Martha Atalanta Lumpkin Compton. It was for Mrs. Compton that Atlanta was first named Marthasville and some contend that when the name was changed she still remained the namesake.

As the University grew, Mrs. Compton gradually sold her property until only the house and a few acres remained. Later, she reluctantly sold the house to the University in 1907 with a provision in the deed that if the house, symbolic of her father's personality, were ever removed from the premises, or destroyed manually, the penalty would be the reversion of the title of the property to her heirs.

Lumpkin House, protected, has continued to stand while it has been surrounded by the University's Science Center and other buildings. Used in the past as a dormitory, classrooms, a branch library, and a computer center, it is now the headquarters of the Institute of Ecology, whose members refer to it as the "Rock House." It is an architectural reflection of a notable Georgian, Indian Commissioner, Congressman and Governor (1831-1835).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lumpkin Papers, Special Collections Division, University of Georgia Library, Athens.  
 Nichols, Frederick Doveton, Early Architecture of Georgia. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1957.  
 Marsh, Kenneth F. and Blanch, Athens: Georgia's Columned City. Asheville: The Biltmore Press, 1964.  
 Malone, Dumas, Dictionary of American Biography. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1933).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

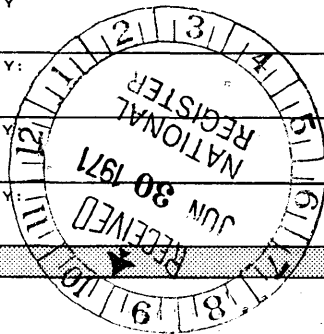
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 56' 51"	83° 22' 26"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

NOU  
CX

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**John C. Waters, President**

ORGANIZATION: **Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation** DATE: **June 2, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**P.O. Box 5671**

CITY OR TOWN: **Athens** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National  State  Local

Name Mary Gregory Jewett  
 Title State Liaison Officer

Date June 23, 1971

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

Ernest A. Ginnally  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

MAR 16 1972

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 ATTEST:

William H. ...  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Clarke	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**1. NAME**

COMMON: Governor Wilson Lumpkin House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

Cedar Street, South Campus, University of Georgia

CITY OR TOWN:

Athens

STATE:

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY:

Clarke

CODE

059

**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE:

Athens-Clarke County Planning Commission

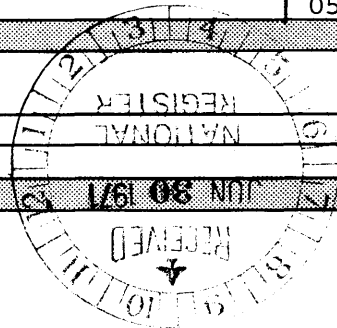
SCALE: 1" = 200'

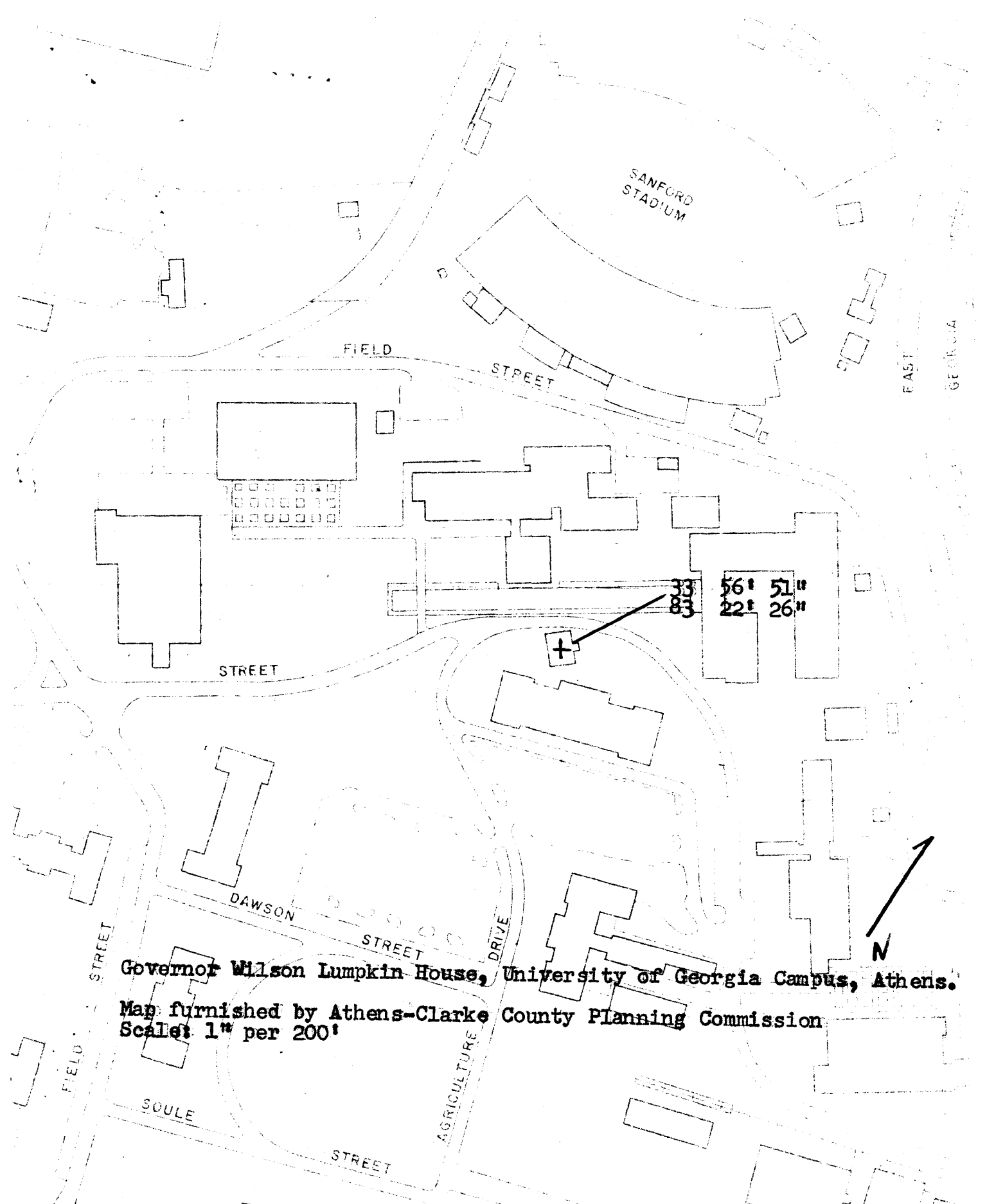
DATE: 1971

**4. REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.





**Governor Wilson Lumpkin House, University of Georgia Campus, Athens.**

**Map furnished by Athens-Clarke County Planning Commission**

**Scale: 1" per 200'**