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OMB No. 1024-0018

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PROFES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties and the properties of by entering the requested information. National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the approprie box of 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, meterials, 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 Wynnton Village Historic District other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & numberRoughly bounded by Wildwood Avenue, Forest Avenue, 18th Street, 13th Street,
16th Avenue and Wynnton Roadcity, townColumbus() vicinity of
countyMuscogeecodeGA 215

state Georgia code GA zip code 31906

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

(X) private

P

- (X) public-local
- () public-state
- () public-federal

Category of Property:

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

Number of Resources within Property:	Contributing	Noncontributing
buildings	270	40
sites	1	0
structures	1	0
objects	0	0
total	272	40

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 3 Name of previous listing: The Cedars Woolfolk, John W., House Wynnton Academy 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.

Signature of certifying official

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

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- $(\sqrt{})$ entered in the National Register
- () determined eligible for the National Register
- () determined not eligible for the National Register
- () removed from the National Register
- () other, explain:
- () see continuation sheet

bor	

Keeper of the National Register

Date

Date

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store EDUCATION: school RELIGION: religious facility LANDSCAPE: park TRANSPORTATION: rail-related

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store EDUCATION: library RELIGION: religious facility LANDSCAPE: park

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival MID-19TH CENTURY: Gothic Revival LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Tudor Revival LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style OTHER: Folk Victorian OTHER: American Small House

Materials:

foundation	BRICK
	CONCRETE
walls	WOOD: weatherboard
	BRICK
	STUCCO
	SYNTHETICS: vinyl
roof	ASPHALT
	TERRA COTTA
	SLATE
other	TERRA COTTA

Section 7-Description

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Wynnton Village Historic District is located east of downtown Columbus, the county seat of Muscogee County, and is roughly bounded by Wildwood Avenue on the east, Wynnton Road on the south, Forest and 16th avenues on the west, and 13th and 18th streets on the north. The district is located in an area of predominantly historic residential developments that were known as Wynnton before its incorporation into the Columbus city limits in 1925. The Wynnton Village Historic District encompasses antebellum estates, late 19th- and early 20th-century streetcar and automobile suburbs, and World War II-era multiple family dwellings. The district is bounded by the National Register-listed Dinglewood (listed November 21, 2001) and Peacock Woods-Dimon Circle (listed March 26, 2003) historic districts on the west, the National Register-listed Hillcrest-Wildwood Circle Historic District (listed July 14, 2003) on the east, the historic Woodcrest subdivision on the north, and the pending National Register nominated Wynn's Hill-Overlook-Oak Circle Historic District on the south.

The Wynnton Village Historic District is an early- to mid-20th-century streetcar suburb of Columbus composed of a series of small subdivisions created from antebellum estates along the streetcar line. Antebellum resources located within the district include the c.1837 Greek Revival-style The Cedars. c.1840 Gothic Revival-style garconierre at The Cedars, the c.1835 Greek Revival-style John W. Woolfolk House, and the 1843 Wynnton Academy (now the Wynnton School library). The district contains an excellent collection of early to mid-20th-century house types and styles built primarily between 1920 and 1950. Common house types in the district include Georgian house. Georgian cottage, English cottage, English house, gabled ell cottage, bungalow, and ranch. Many of the resources in the district were designed by well-known architects and represent popular styles of the period in Georgia. Architectural styles represented in the district include Colonial Revival, Craftsman, and English Vernacular Revival. There are a number of historic apartment buildings in the district, most of which are two-story brick buildings with Colonial Revival details. Two historic gas stations are also located within the district along Wynnton Road. Community landmark buildings within the district include the 1843 Wynnton Academy (later Wynnton School) and the 1957 Temple Israel. As an early 20th-century residential neighborhood, the district's character-defining features include mature trees, informal landscaping, and uniform setbacks, as well as evidence of the former streetcar route, particularly along Wildwood Avenue.

FULL DESCRIPTION

The following description was prepared by Christi Commander, Carolyn Smith, and John Lupold, Department of History, Columbus State University, and edited by Gretchen A. Brock, National Register Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division. "Village of Wynnton Historic District," draft <u>National Register of Historic Places Form</u>, April 14, 2000. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

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The Wynnton Village Historic District is predominantly a neighborhood of 1920s and 1930s automobile suburbs developed from a series of contiguous antebellum country estates. Houses in the district represent common house types and styles in Georgia during the early 20th century and are generally one- or one-and-a-half-story wood or brick bungalows, side-gable cottages, or English cottages with Craftsman, Colonial Revival, or English Vernacular Revival details. A mature canopy of trees shelters the neighborhood, and yards are generally grassy lawns with informal plantings. Based on a sample of 122 houses whose construction date has been established: more than three-fourths of the houses were built during the 1920s and 1930s; a smaller proportion of the houses date from the 1940s (18%) with a small fraction (3%) from 1950 or a few years later.¹ A small percentage of houses were constructed pre-1910, and three buildings were built in the mid-1800s: The Cedars (1836), the Woolfolk Home (1840), and the Wynnton Academy (1843). The streetcar right-of-way on Wynnton Road and Wildwood Avenue is also an important historic feature.

The topography of the Wynnton area influenced the development of the various neighborhoods. In the Wynnton Village Historic District, Wynnton Road lies along a ridge at the southern boundary of the district. Forest and Wildwood avenues follow a perpendicular ridge to the Wynnton Road ridge. The land slopes downward at the northwest side of the district to Weracoba Creek (outside of the district). The terrain descends, quite sharply, from 12th Street (one block north of Wynnton Road) to 13th Street in a north-south direction along 16th, 18th, Owsley, Gurr, and Munro avenues. The descent on 16th Avenue is so steep that the residents call it "Thrill Hill". The land also rises along an east-west axis on the northern border of the district. Thirteenth Street (starting at the northwest corner of the district) ascends from the lowest level in the district (adjacent to Weracoba Creek) to the same elevation level as Wynnton Road (or The Cedars) by the point where 13th Street intersects with Eberhart Avenue.

The pattern of street and lot layouts within the district was influenced by four factors: the route of Wynnton Road; the 1828 lot lines (running east-west and north-south) of the original 100-acre Coweta Reserve lots; the lot lines of the antebellum estates, some of which later evolved into subdivisions; and the route of the streetcar Belt Line. Much of the district is a series of feeder streets to either Wynnton Road or 13th Street. Since Wynnton Road and 13th Street are not parallel, streets and lots within the neighborhood do not all have the same alignment. Wynnton Road became an important factor in determining street and lot layouts in the eastern portion of the district. The driveway to The Cedars from Wynnton Road (now Cedar Avenue) was aligned perpendicular to Wynnton Road and became an important axis for that part of the district, with Lockwood, Peacock, and Forest avenues running parallel with the historic Cedars driveway. Therefore, the lots in the eastern portion of the district are aligned with those streets, and their orientation has no relationship to the city grid.

¹ These statistics are based on a sample of 122 buildings for which the date of construction could be established. Seventy of the houses appear in W.C. Woodall's Columbus <u>Industrial Index</u>, which establishes the date of construction and often lists the original owner, builder, and architect. The 1923 Columbus <u>City Directory</u> is the first year that listed streets in the Wynnton area in a systematic way, so1923 was used to determine if a house existed by that date.

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Eighteenth Avenue follows an original north-south lot line between two 19th-century property owners, John Banks and John Woolfolk. The streets between 18th and Eberhart avenues are roughly parallel with the north-south lot line orientation due to an early land sale. John Banks, owner of The Cedars, originally owned 268 acres; he sold four strips of land between his house and the Woolfolk's before 1860. The north-south lot lines generally aligned with 18th Street. The back lot line of the tracts was identified in the deeds as the Banks' fence line.² The fence line later became 13th Street between 18th and Peacock avenues.

From downtown Columbus to the west of the Wynnton Village Historic District, the streetcar route ran along Wynnton Road to Wildwood Avenue, the traveled north along Wildwood Avenue to 17th Street, the proceeded west on 17th Street to Forest Avenue, and continued north on Forest Avenue to neighborhoods outside of the district. Physical evidence of the streetcar route is intact in the district and includes the right-of-way along Wynnton Road, the angled intersections where the streetcar changed directions, and the curved road along Wildwood Avenue near the current park and 17th Street.

Some family names of the people who purchased the Banks' tracts (either initially or later) are preserved in street names (Eberhart, Munro, Gurr, and Owsley avenues) in the western portion of the district. These streets, along with 18th and 16th avenues, were cut to provide access to the later 20th-century subdivisions. In general, these streets run perpendicular to 13th Street, and the lots along 18th, Owsley, and Gurr avenues tend to align with the city grid.

Beginning in the 1910s and 1920s, land was subdivided for a medium-density residential area. Because the property along Wynnton Road was very desirable, the antebellum estates were further subdivided as land passed from one generation to another. So, rather than attempting to combine several tracts for large-scale developments, real estate developers simply developed small subdivisions. Thus, approximately three-quarters of the district is comprised of small platted subdivisions. The district was not developed as one overall neighborhood with curvilinear streets like the adjacent Peacock Woods-Dimon Circle and Wynn's Hill-Overlook-Oak Circle neighborhoods.

Much of the development in the Wynnton Village Historic District contradicted the planning efforts in Columbus during the 1920s. The city established a planning board in 1924 and hired John Nolen of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to create a city plan. Published in 1926, the plan remains the most creative, most comprehensive plan ever devised for Columbus. Among other things, Nolen instructed the planning board to give particular attention to planning suburbs, to insure circulation within subdivisions, and to discourage small suburbs that would create mismatched streets or unnecessary intersections. As built, much of this neighborhood violated Nolen's strictures. The picturesque doglegs made by 13th Street as it traverses the district would displease Nolen and many later planners.

² Information from John M. Sheftall.

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In order to maximize their returns, developers created relatively small perpendicular or rectangular lots typically 75-feet wide by approximately 125-feet deep. The lot size does vary between subdivision ranging from widths as narrow as 40-feet and depths up to 150-feet. In comparison with adjacent neighborhoods, the lots in this district are smaller.³ One of the distinguishing features of the district, however, is a uniform setback of about 20 feet, which gives the district a sense of cohesiveness

The historic resources in the district reflect the significant periods in the development of Wynnton. The Wynnton area has been:

- a desirable location for antebellum mansions,
- a village center, which developed a true sense of community by 1860,
- streetcar suburbs, beginning in the 1890s, •
- a boulevard of monumental homes,
- automobile suburbs with intense development between 1919 and 1940.
- a prime location for small apartment buildings for World War II-era Fort Benning officers

ARCHITECTURAL TYPES AND STYLES

The predominant architectural styles within the district are Greek Revival for the 19th-century houses and Craftsman, Colonial Revival, and Tudor (English Vernacular) Revival for the 20th-century houses. Common house types in the district include Georgian house, Georgian cottage, English cottage, English house, gabled ell cottage, bungalow, and American Small House. The early- to mid-20th-century houses are set on smallish lots, mostly created from subdividing larger 19th-century estates, and were built for the growing Columbus middle class during the 1920s. 1930s. and 1940s. By the 1940s, the housing demands created by Fort Benning affected the Wynnton area. Some duplexes appeared here as early at the 1920s, but the real boom came about 1940, and a unique characteristic of this district is the significant number of apartments. Historic apartment buildings in the district are generally two-story brick buildings with Colonial Revival details. Geographically, apartments tended to be built close to Wynnton Road along the southern boundary of the district.

The original antebellum estates in the area were The Cedars and the John W. Woolfolk House. The Cedars has remained in the same family from its construction in 1836 to the present (listed in the National Register on November 23, 1971) (photograph 24). The Cedars is located on 13th Street at the north end of Cedar Street, in the center of the district. Construction of the house began in 1836 and was completed in 1837. The Cedars originally served as the family home of John and Sarah Banks, who had moved from east Georgia.⁴ The one-story house, Greek Revival-style house

³ From the 1940 real estate maps of Columbus, it appears that the Randolph and Owsley Terrace subdivisions may have been designed as lots for shotgun houses (with lots as narrow as 25 feet), and a buyer had to buy two lots to build a house there. Therefore, the density of these subdivisions is similar to that of the rest of the district.

⁴ The Cedars has remained continuously the residence of lineal descendants of John and Lucy Banks from 1836 until 2000, passing (by purchase) mostly through the female line. Family owners following the death of Sarah Banks in 1881 were: the Banks' daughter Josephine (and her husband G. J. Peacock) until 1914; their daughter Sallie (and her husband S. Wynnton Village Historic District, Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

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is constructed of load-bearing brick walls with the exterior façades covered in stucco and scored in large rectangles. Historically, the house was painted a bright rose color to resemble sandstone blocks. Four lonic, brick columns covered with stucco support the front portico. The house originally had a low, hip roof typical of the Greek Revival style that was replaced in 1889 by a steeply-pitched hip roof with cast-iron cresting, which is more reminiscent of a Chateauesque-style roof. The double front door is surrounded by a transom and sidelights and opens onto a large central hallway measuring nine-feet wide and 40-feet long. An unidentified, itinerate artist spent several months creating a faux marble finish on the walls in the hallway, which has been preserved and restored. The two hall doors on the right lead into formal rooms. A line of four bedrooms forms the left side of the house; the back two rooms open onto a rear portico with Doric columns. The original detached kitchen was located to the rear of the house. Brick-floored basement rooms, which are entered from outside the house, were used for workrooms and slaves' quarters. Larger slaves' quarters were located to the left rear of the house.⁵ In the 1840s, Banks added two small wing rooms to the front of the house. In 1889, at the same time the roof was replaced, a kitchen and a bathroom were added to the right rear of the house.

The Wynnton Village Historic District contains the only remaining example of the Gothic Revival style in the city of Columbus. John and Sarah Banks had 12 children, nine of whom were sons. In the 1840s, John Banks built a guesthouse or cottage, which soon became a garçonierre for his older boys. The cottage had two large rooms with a central chimney and was built in the Gothic Revival style, the latest style of the period. The house has board-and-batten siding, scalloped bargeboard along the side eaves, carved wood finials on the peaks of the gables, and a large chimney pot in the center of the roof.⁶ Over the years, the cottage was moved about 100 feet from the front left of the property to the back left of main house. During the historic period, one side of the cottage was converted into a garage and then back into an apartment, which now has a screened porch. In 1940, noted Columbus architect T. Firth Lockwood, Jr., designed an addition for the rear of the cottage, which then functioned as a duplex.⁷

The two-story, wood-frame, Greek Revival-style John W. Woolfolk House is a Georgian-type house with a monumental portico supported by Doric columns (listed in the National Register on January 22, 1979) (photograph 44). The house is located on 12th Street between 16th and 18th avenues, at the western edge of the district. The house originally had a monumental, Doric colonnade on three sides, which was removed during a 20th-century remodeling. The house has a Greek Revival-style entrance with simple entablature and a full transom and sidelights. The first floor windows are floor-length, six-over-six, double-hung windows. Directly over the first floor entrance is second-story entrance with an ornate wrought-iron balcony. After the death of John Woolfolk in 1861, the property

K. Dimon) until 1957; their son J. Wadkins Dimon until 1914 and their great-grandson, John M. Sheftall, the present owner.

5 The exact location is unknown, but they would be in what is now the Peacock Woods - Dimon Circle Historic District.

6 Chimney swifts love this chimney, probably because it is easy to enter. These birds probably should be recognized as a historic feature of the neighborhood, since their ancestors have been using the chimney for over 150 years.

7 At the same time a bathroom was added in the main house between the two back rooms. These rooms would be rented to army officers. Various conversations with J. Watkins (Buddy) Dimon and John Sheftall.

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went through a series of property owners by inheritance and by being sold. In 1883, William A. Little purchased six-and-a-half acres of land including the Woolfolk House and subdivided the property. The creation of 12th Street as part of the subdivision meant that the Woolfolk House lost its long driveway that connected it to Wynnton Road. In 1923, Mrs. Minnie Long Flournoy purchased the house and converted it into five apartments, two on each floor and one in the basement, the old slave quarters. The Columbus-based architectural firm of Charles Hickman and John Martin, Jr., designed the remodeling. In the process, the side porticos were removed and replaced by small one-story additions. The house functioned as the Colonial Apartments until the 1970s. The Woolfolk house then sat empty for approximately 15 years and is under ongoing rehabilitation. A small building resembling a saddlebag house faces 16th Avenue on what would have been the west side of the Woolfolk's back yard. The building was appears to have been an outbuilding for the house.

Late 19th-century houses are located along the western boundary of the district between 16th and 18th avenues. This area is called the Little's Survey subdivision and was developed in 1893 by Judge William Little. According to local sources, Columbus builders Rufus Jones and M.J.C. Pollard probably built these houses. A good representative example of a late 19th-century house in this area is the one-and-a-half-story Georgian cottage located at 1719 12th Street (photograph 47). The Folk Victorian-style house has a central entrance with transom and sidelights, triple-hung sash windows, a decorative cornice, and an integral front porch with turned posts, spindlework, and decorative finials and arches. Another good example is the gabled ell cottage located at 1225 18th Avenue. The one-story, frame house has Classical Revival-style elements including a one-story porch with entablature, dentils, and Corinthian columns, a transom and sidelight surrounding the front entrance, and gable returns and dentils in the front gables.

Rufus Jones, who owned a lumberyard in the area of the old East Commons, purchased the lot at 1601 Wynnton Road from Judge Little shortly after 1893. Jones built the one-and-a-half-story Georgian cottage-type house as his home (photograph 46, left). The house has a side-gable roof with three dormers and an integral full-width porch with six Ionic columns. Perhaps because he was in the lumber business, he trimmed his house with a profusion of wooden details. Every window has a heavy cornice with swags and scroll brackets. Modillion blocks and a dentil course decorate the eaves and gables. On the lot to the east of the house, Rufus Jones's wife Ida had a spectacular rose garden during the historic period. Behind his wife's garden. Mr. Jones built a windmill so that he might indulge his own hobby-fire fighting (photographs 46A and 46B). Jones was the slightly eccentric, self-appointed fireman of Wynnton at the turn of the century.⁸ He had a horse-drawn fire wagon and built the windmill to pump water for it. The tower of the windmill, but not the sweeps, and the attached bay where he housed his wagon is still standing and was converted into an apartment. Similar to his house, Jones built the windmill with elaborate wood decorations. The windmill base has pediments over windows and doors as well as a band of sawnwork serving as a cornice feature on the tower. The attached bay, once a barn, has board-and-batten siding, scalloped bargeboard. and scalloped vents.

⁸ Interview with Ellen Carr, a family descendant, by Christi Commander, October 29, 1996.

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During the early 20th century, a large number of Craftsman-style houses were constructed in the district. Using the sample of 122 houses, approximately 34 percent of the houses in the district were built in the Craftsman style between 1919 and 1937 with the largest concentration appearing in 1923 (10 built) and 1931 (19 built). Craftsman-style houses were built throughout the district with concentrations along Hill Street (photograph 39) and Cedar, Eberhart, and Owsley avenues.

Along Wildwood Avenue, a canopy of magnificent hardwood trees shelters (and probably predates) a row of Craftsman-style bungalows. Built within six years after the end of World War I, the bungalows are similar in size and internal layout, and their porches, front gables, and windows provide a variety of Craftsman-era details. There are hip-roof, side-gable, and front-gable bungalows with front-gable porches (photographs 12 and 14). Common Craftsman-style details are wood posts on brick piers, knee braces, exposed rafters, and Craftsman-style windows. Other good examples of rows of bungalows are located on 15th Street (photograph 5) and Cedar Avenue (photograph 23).

The house located at 1217 Munro Avenue is an excellent example of a Craftsman bungalow. The side-gable, frame bungalow has a very low pitched side-gable roof with very wide overhanging eaves, prominent exposed rafters and knee braces, a steeply-pitched eyebrow dormer, paired Craftsman-style windows, and a front-gable porch with battered, wood posts on brick piers. The 1912 hip-roof bungalow at 1917 Hill Street is another good example of a Craftsman bungalow. The house has an integral front porch with battered, wood posts on brick piers, wide overhanging eaves, and a hip-roof dormer. The front-gable bungalow located at 1225 Owsley Avenue has a front-gable porch with round posts on brick piers and paired windows (photograph 38). A good example of a side-gable bungalow is located at 1201 16th Avenue (photograph 45). The bungalow has a front-gable porch, knee braces, paired nine-over-one sash windows, and wide overhanging eaves.

Based on the sample of 122 buildings, the frequency of Colonial Revival-style houses is similar to that of Craftsman, approximately 33%. Colonial Revival-style houses in the district were generally constructed from the mid-1920s through the early 1950s. The median year of construction from the sample is 1938 with the greatest number of Colonial Revival-style houses built in 1926 (6), 1927 (7), 1936 (6), and 1941 (7). Architects designed more Colonial Revival-style houses than they did Craftsman style homes in the district, possibly due to the fact that local architects such as John C. Martin, Jr., T. Firth Lockwood, Jr., and, later, James J. W. Biggers, Sr., mainly designed in the Colonial Revival style.

An excellent example of a Colonial Revival-style Georgian house is located at 1255 Forest Avenue (photograph 19, left). The two-story, frame house has a low, hip-roof with exposed rafters; a symmetrical façade with grouped multi-paned windows; a one-story porte cochere on one side and a one-story enclosed porch on the other; a central entrance with fanlight and sidelights; and a one-story pedimented portico with a heavy entablature and thin, paired lonic columns.

A good example of a Colonial Revival-style Georgian cottage is located on 13th Street (photograph 25). The one-story, brick house has a symmetrical façade; a side-gable roof with a pedimented

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dormer with a Palladian-style window; a porte cochere; multi-paned casement windows; a flat-roof portico with paired lonic columns and an entablature; and a central entrance with a fanlight and sidelights.

The one-story, brick, gabled-ell cottages located at 1204, 1212, 1220, and 1224 Wildwood Avenue were built simultaneously in 1936 for Mrs. Andrew Prather and Mrs. Cliff Johnson⁹ by Williams Lumber Company according to designs from T. Firth Lockwood, Jr. The houses have similar but not identical Colonial Revival-style details including Doric columns, front porches, fanlights, grouped windows, gable returns, and cornices.

A good example of a 1949 Colonial Revival-style house is located on 13th Street. The one-story, Georgian cottage-type house was constructed for Judge and Mrs. T. L. Bowden on some of the last land to pass out of the Banks-Peacock-Dimon family. The house has a side-gable roof with three front-gable dormers and a side, screened porch that was later enclosed. The house retains its original asbestos siding, the latest innovation in home building in the mid-20th century. Square wood posts replaced the original cast-iron porch posts.

An example of an unusual architect-designed Colonial Revival-style house is located at 1266 Eberhart Avenue. The house was built in 1925 and was designed by the architectural firm of Charles F. Hickman and John C. Martin, Jr. The porchless, two-story, side-hall house has a large pedimented front gable, which is supported by four two-story pilasters. The door and two windows on the first floor are topped with wooden fanlights. On either side of the main block are one-story wings; one was originally a porch, but it has been enclosed.

Another prevalent architectural style within the district is the Tudor Revival or English Vernacular Revival style. Many examples were designed by Columbus architects. Based on the 122 building sample, Tudor (or English Vernacular) Revival details appear on about 20% of the houses (29) within the district.

Built in 1923, 1243 Forest Avenue is an excellent example of a Tudor Revival-style house (photograph 20). The one-and-a-half-story, brick-and-stucco English cottage has two front-facing, projecting gables (one is a porch and the other a projecting bay), half-timbering in the upper half story, multi-paned windows, and a porte cochere.

The 1934 Tudor Revival-style English house located at 2033 Wynnton Road is a good example of an architect-designed house in the district (photograph 28). T. Firth Lockwood, Jr., designed this one-and-a-half-story, stone house, which has massive chimneys, a tiled roof, half-timbering in the projecting front gables, and multi-paned windows. Burger King purchased the property in 1982 and sensitively adapted the house into a restaurant.

⁹ Mrs. Prather and Mrs. Johnson were sisters and had inherited this land from their mother, Lucy Banks Shepherd. The two sisters held the land together as one piece with four rental units. Their descendants still own this property.

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Another excellent example of a Tudor Revival-style English cottage is located at 1244 Cedar Avenue. The one-and-a-half-story, brick house was built in 1927 and has a projecting front gable, multi-colored slate roof, multi-paned windows, a rough-cut stone chimney, and rough-cut stone detailing around the front entrance.

Four Tudor Revival-style English cottages (1714, 1720, 1800, and 1804 Wildwood Avenue) were built in the first four years of the 1930s across the street from a row of Craftsman bungalows. Two of the houses have uncut stone-and-stucco exteriors and one of the houses has uniquely decorative half-timbering (photograph 13). All of the houses feature Tudor Revival-style characteristics such as projecting front gables, steeply pitched roofs, the use of multiple materials, and multi-paned windows.

During the late 1930s, 1940s, and early 1950s, American Small Houses were built in the district, mostly for the influx of personnel for nearby Fort Benning. A good example of an American Small House in the district is the brick house on 14th Street (photograph 4, right). Characteristic of an American Small House, this house has compact, nearly square massing and minimal details except for the small front porch.

Throughout the historic district, many historic residential outbuildings such as garages and sheds remain intact. These outbuildings were not individually identified within the district but remain an integral part of the overall historic character of the neighborhood.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING

The housing demands created by Fort Benning leading up to and after World War II affected this district with a rapid growth of multi-family housing in the 1940s. Some duplexes appeared in the district as early at the 1920s, but the real boom came about 1940, and a unique characteristic of this district is the significant number of apartments built during this time. Most of the historic apartment buildings are concentrated close to Wynnton Road along the southern boundary of the district. These apartment complexes of various sizes tended to be built with Colonial Revival detail, such as two-story brick construction, dormers, fanlights, quoins, some octagonal windows, and an emphasis on the doorway, which was usually pedimented.

A good example of a duplex in the district is the two-story, stuccoed house located at 1600 Forest Avenue (photograph 17). The Colonial Revival-style building has a symmetrical façade with two end chimneys; grouped multi-paned windows; and a one-story porch with Doric columns and decorative, arched supports.

An excellent example of an apartment building in the district is located at 1263 Peacock Avenue. The 1930 building was designed by Columbus architect F. Roy Duncan and built by local contractor J.W. Wallace. The Tudor Revival-style, two-and-a-half-story, brick-and-stucco building has halftimbering; multiple, projecting, front gables; grouped windows; and recessed round-arched entrances.

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In 1936, Joseph J. W. Biggers, Sr., designed a two-story apartment building that filled the block at the corner of Wynnton Road and Cedar Avenue (2121 Wynnton Road) (photograph 22, left in background). The two-story, brick building has an asymmetrical façade with a pedimented entrance on two sides and a low hip-roof (a new entrance was added to the front of the building in the late 20th century). A 1941 two-story triplex at 1605, 1607, and 1609 Wynnton Road was also designed by Joseph J.W. Biggers, Sr. (photograph 46, center). The building appears to be a large house but contained three upscale apartments. Two of the initial occupants were army majors, and they needed to only ring a bell to summon the servants who lived behind the complex.

Park Place Apartments located at 1831 Wynnton Road is larger in scale with 52 units in two long buildings. Built in 1949, the buildings are two stories and are arranged so the ends face the streets (Wynnton Road and 12th Street). The apartments have Colonial Revival-style details including quoins, a water table, pedminented entrances, and corbeled brickwork.

A good example of an early 1950s apartment building in the district is the two-story, brick building at 2001 Eberhart Avenue (photograph 29). The building reflects the simple, utilitarian design popular in the 1950s with essentially no ornamentation on the building except for its steel casement windows.

COMMUNITY LANDMARK BUILDINGS AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Historic resources in the Wynnton Village Historic District are overwhelmingly houses, but there are a few historic community landmark and commercial buildings associated with a historic residential neighborhood.

The Wynnton Academy, located on Wynnton Road, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 11, 1972 (photograph 1). The academy as an institution began in the late 1830s for the children of the Wynnton area landowners. In 1843, a one-story, brick building was built to house the school. While still a private academy, the school trustees expanded and modernized the facility. In 1919, T. Firth Lockwood, Jr., designed the two-story, symmetrical, central block with a restrained Classical style, which was built in front of the 1843 building. Lockwood used paired brackets at each corner and a row modillion blocks to give emphasis to the eaves. Another expansion in 1922-23 was designed by Columbus architects Charles Hickman and John Martin, Jr., who added wings to the 1919 building. The wings have arched entrances, which lead to a courtyard and the 1843 building that now being used as a library. The additions produced a debt of \$70,000 for the trustees of the private school. When the city limits expanded to encompass the Wynnton area in 1925, Wynnton Academy became a public city school.

Another community landmark building in the district is Temple Israel (photograph 9) on Wildwood Avenue just north of 16th Street. The 1957 synagogue was designed by the architectural firm of Braverman & Halperin of Cleveland, Ohio. Sigmund Braverman (1894-1960) is credited with the design; he was a prominent Jewish architect who designed more than 40 synagogues in the United States and Canada as well as apartments, schools, theaters, and hospitals. The congregation moved from the 1886 Gothic Revival-style Temple Israel at the corner of 10th Street and 4th Avenue

NPS Form 10-900-a United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

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(outside of the district), which was closer to downtown Columbus, to the new building as members moved to the suburbs, traffic became worse, and older members had difficulty with the steep steps of the original building. The current, International-style building has an asymmetrical façade, a flat roof with shallow coping, and large expanses of windowless walls on various planes.

Historic commercial buildings in the district are generally along Wynnton Road. The district retains a classic 1936 Pure Oil gas station located at 2331 Wynnton Road (photograph 2). The gas station was constructed by the local Wofford Oil Company and retains many of its original features although it now functions as Star Cleaners dry cleaning. The building retains its characteristic steep, multi-gabled roof, half-timbering details in the gables, and porte cochere. The three garage bays were sensitively glassed-in for the building's new use.

LANDSCAPE FEATURES

Two major landscape features in the Wynnton Village Historic District are the result of the streetcar line, the impetus for the development of the Wynnton area. Clearly visible along the northern side of Wynnton Road between 16th and Cedar avenues is the right-of-way for the Columbus Railroad, the streetcar line that ran from downtown Columbus along Wynnton Road and turned north on Wildwood Avenue as it traveled toward Wildwood Park. Perhaps because the streetcar line ran in front of the houses, a back alley ran behind the houses on the north side of Wynnton Road. The alley still exists between 16th and 18th avenues and between Munro and Eberhart avenues. The other landscape feature is Wildwood Park (photograph 10), which is a large greenspace bounded by 17th Street on the north, Forest Avenue on the west, and Wildwood Avenue on the east. The park originally served the streetcar line and became a park after the trolley was discontinued.

The earliest landscape features in the district are those associated with The Cedars (photograph 24). Significant historic trees associated with the antebellum estate are the red cedars, the descendants of the original specimens in the yard and those flanking Cedar Avenue, the original driveway of the house. Also large crepe myrtles have survived in the yard of the estate. The most prominent feature in the front yard today is a parterre garden planted with historic roses, boxwoods, and other appropriate specimens. These beds represent an historical reconstruction, created in the late 1990s, based on photographs and drawings of the antebellum plantings. One major difference is that the original yard would have had sand rather than grass in the spaces between the parterres.

Other historic cedar trees, which were planted in honor of different benefactors, are found in front of Wynnton Academy (photograph 1). When city personnel threatened to remove the trees in the early 1990s, students organized to save them. Not only did the city preserve them but also planted additional cedars to replace ones that had been cut down or died from disease.

Landscape features throughout the district are characteristic of late 19th- through mid-20th-century residential neighborhoods, such as sidewalks, mature trees, ornamental plantings, and grassy lawns. A mature canopy of hardwoods exists along many of the streets. Varieties of laurel and water oaks,

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along with a smaller number of sugar hackberries, loblolly pines, tulip poplars, sycamore, sweet gums, and an occasional maple create a street canopy within the district (photograph 32). Common ornamental trees in the district are crape myrtles, dogwoods, and magnolias. Another prominent historic landscape feature is the grassy front lawns unbroken by fences. The expanse of grass is supplemented by foundation plantings, which vary from yard to yard but tend to include boxwoods, pyracantha, hollies, spiraea, winter honeysuckle, daffodils, day lilies, and many varieties of camellias (photographs 3, 6, 20, and 37). One landscape characteristic dictated by the district's hilly topography is the presence of historic retaining walls, some of which are granite. The best examples are on 13th Street and Owsley, Gurr, and Forest avenues. Another significant characteristic of the district is the historic concrete driveways of some of the early 20th-century houses (photograph 31).

NONCONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

The majority of noncontributing properties in the district are nonhistoric apartment buildings, duplexes, and condominiums, particularly along 13th Street and Forest and Wildwood avenues. Due to Wynnton Road being a major thoroughfare in Columbus, nonhistoric commercial buildings have replaced historic buildings along the road, creating the historic district's uneven southern boundary (photograph 22).

8. Statement of Significance

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

() nationally () statewide (X) locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

(X) A () B (X) C () D

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

()A ()B ()C ()D ()E ()F ()G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance:

c.1835-1957

Significant Dates:

c.1835-construction of the John W. Woolfolk House

c.1837---construction of the Cedars

1843—construction of Wynnton Academy

1925—Columbus city limits expanded to include the Wynnton area (including Wynnton Village) 1957—construction of Temple Israel

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Biggers, Sr., James J.W.—architect, Columbus, GA Braverman & Halperin—architectural firm, Cleveland, OH Duncan, F. Roy—architect, Columbus, GA Hickman, Charles—architect, Columbus, GA Lockwood, Thomas Firth—architect, Columbus, GA Martin, Jr., John C.—architect, Columbus, GA

Wynnton Village Historic District, Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

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Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Wynnton Village Historic District is an example of an early- to mid-20th-century residential neighborhood developed in part from portions of antebellum estates and in response to the streetcar line that ran along the southern and eastern boundaries of the district. The evolution of the Wynnton Village Historic District encompasses several themes including an area of antebellum estates, a village center in the mid-1800s, the beginning of streetcar suburbs in the 1890s, a period of intense development and subdivision from 1919 through 1940 as a streetcar and automobile suburb, and a prime location for multi-family dwellings for World War II-era Fort Benning officers. Throughout its history, Wynnton Village Historic District has been a desirable location for upper- to middle-class residents.

The Wynnton Village Historic District is significant in the area of <u>architecture</u> for its excellent and intact residential resources representing the common types and styles of architecture in Georgia during the mid-19th century and early to mid-20th century as identified in <u>Georgia's Living Places</u>: <u>Historic Houses and Their Landscaped Settings</u>. The oldest houses in the district are the National Register listed The Cedars and the John W. Woolfolk House, which represent the early estates outside of downtown Columbus. The Cedars and the John W. Woolfolk House are excellent examples of mid-19th-century Greek Revival-style houses in Georgia. The later suburban houses within the historic district are representative of the popular house types and styles found in Columbus' early 20th-century suburbs. Common house types include English house, Georgian house, bungalow, English cottage, Georgian cottage, and American Small House. Architectural styles in the district reflect the popularity of early 20th-century revival styles in Columbus, including Colonial and Tudor revivals.

The district is also significant for its architect-designed residences including houses and apartment buildings designed by James J.W. Biggers, Sr., F. Roy Duncan, Charles F. Hickman, Thomas Firth Lockwood, Jr., and John C. Martin. James J.W. Biggers, Sr. graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1915 and was associated with the Atlanta firm of Hentz, Reid, and Adler for one year. In 1917, he was commissioned in the planning of Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia, and also worked in Decatur and Valdosta, Georgia, and in Jacksonville, Florida. He started a private firm in Columbus in the 1930s. F. Roy Duncan (1886-1947) graduated from Alabama Polytechnic Institute in Auburn, Alabama, in 1907. He worked on the construction of the Panama Canal and returned to Columbus in 1913 where he practiced architecture until 1946. Charles F. Hickman (1871-1952) began practicing architecture in Columbus in 1916. In 1921, he partnered with architect John C. Martin and they practiced as Hickman & Martin from 1921 to 1925. In 1927, he again had his own firm. Thomas Firth Lockwood, Jr., (1892-1963) graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1914 and worked in his father, Thomas Firth Lockwood, Sr.'s Columbus architecture and designed numerous houses, offices, and churches.

The Wynnton Village Historic District is also eligible for listing in the area of architecture for its excellent examples of historic multi-family housing. As the Wynnton Village Historic District

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developed as a series of smaller subdivisions by various developers rather than an overall plan for a residential neighborhood developed at one time, many of the residences are multi-family buildings. A few duplexes were constructed as early as the 1920s but most of the apartment buildings were built for soldiers training at Fort Benning during the 1930s and 1940s. In keeping with the style and scale of the surrounding houses, the historic apartment buildings in the district are generally architect-designed, two-story, brick or brick-and-stone Colonial Revival- or Tudor Revival-style buildings

The district is also significant in the area of architecture for its excellent examples of historic community landmark buildings and commercial buildings. The National Register listed Wynnton Academy is an excellent example of a school that grew over time as enrollment increased. The first Wynnton Academy building was built in 1843 in the Greek Revival style. By 1919, enrollment had increased at the private school, and a large, Classical Revival-style building was constructed in front of the 1843 building. As the population of the Wynnton area increased in the 1920s, wings were added to the 1919 part of the school in 1922-23. Temple Israel synagogue is the other community landmark building in the district. The 1957 synagogue was designed in the International style by architect Sigmund Braverman (1894-1960) of the architectural firm of Braverman & Halperin of Cleveland, Ohio. Braverman's family immigrated to the United States from Austria-Hungary in 1904. He received his bachelor's degree from the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1917 and served in World War I. In 1920, he opened an architectural practice in Cleveland and worked as assistant and acting city architect for Cleveland from 1932 through 1935. During his career, Braverman designed more than 40 synagogues in the United States and Canada as well as apartments. theaters. shopping centers, schools, and hospitals. Temple Israel is an excellent example of the International style with its flat roof, intersecting planes, asymmetrical facade, and expanses of windowless walls. The district also retains excellent examples of historic gas stations including a Pure Oil gas station on Wynnton Road.

The district is significant in the area of community planning and development as a good example of the development of Columbus neighborhoods from large antebellum estates to a series of planned early- to mid-20th-century streetcar and automobile suburban neighborhoods. The Wynnton Village Historic District is part of an area in Columbus known as Wynnton, which was outside of the city limits until 1925. The larger Wynnton area was composed of large antebellum estates during the 19th century that were subdivided into streetcar and automobile suburbs in the late 19th through the early 20th centuries. Many of these subdivisions surround the Wynnton Village Historic District; were large, planned subdivisions; and are listed in the National Register of Historic Places as separate district nominations (see Dinglewood Historic District, Peacock Woods-Dimon Circle Historic District, Hillcrest-Wildwood Circle Historic District, and Wynn's Hill-Overlook-Oak Circle Historic District). The Wynnton Village Historic District is essentially the core area of Wynnton with the school, the remaining historic commercial buildings, and a series of smaller subdivisions along the streetcar line. Similar to the surrounding districts, the Wynnton Village Historic District began as two large antebellum estates owned by John Banks and John W. Woolfolk. Because the estates were along Wynnton Road and the property became very desirable in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, these antebellum estates were subdivided a number of times as land passed from one generation to

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another. So, rather than attempting to combine several tracts for large-scale developments, real estate developers simply developed smaller subdivisions in this area. Thus, approximately threequarters of the district is comprised of small platted subdivisions developed for Columbus' middleand upper-class residents who lived in the suburbs and commuted to businesses in town beginning with the streetcar and later with automobiles.

National Register Criteria

The Wynnton Village Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under National Register Criterion A as an excellent example of the growth of a residential area from large antebellum landholding to a series of small residential subdivision developments occurring as a result of transportation enhancements, first a streetcar line then automobiles. The district is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C for its excellent examples of mid-19th- and early-to mid-20th-century houses representing common types and styles found in Georgia.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the date of construction of the earliest extant resource in the district, the c.1835 John W. Woolfolk House and ends with 1957, the date of construction for Temple Israel, significant as an important community landmark building in Columbus, as an excellent example of the International style of architecture, and as a work by the architectural firm of Braverman & Halperin of Cleveland, Ohio.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The contributing buildings within the district date from the district's period of significance and retain their historic integrity. The noncontributing buildings within the district were either built outside of the period of significance or are historic properties that have lost their historic significance through alterations and/or additions. Wildwood Park is the one contributing site in the district. The property originally was used for servicing the trolley line and later was used as a neighborhood park during the historic period. The one contributing structure in the district is the historic windmill associated with the Rufus Jones House. The contributing and noncontributing classifications are based on documentation provided by the consultants, and the resources were evaluated by members of the Georgia Historic Preservation Division's Survey and National Register staff on October 18, 2000.

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Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following historical narrative was prepared by John Lupold, of the Department of History, Columbus State University. "Village of Wynnton Historic District," draft <u>National</u> <u>Register of Historic Places Form</u>, April 14, 2000. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

The history of the built-environment in the Wynnton area of Columbus stretches over a span of 170 years and through several periods of growth. Initially, Wynnton developed as an area of elite, antebellum estates with a small commercial center. By the turn of the 19th century, Wynnton Road had become the city's most prestigious row of mansions. By about 1890, streetcars serviced the area, and families who inherited the antebellum estates began subdividing their property into smaller lots. The resulting suburban neighborhoods developed for Columbus' upper- and middle-class residents. The Wynnton Village Historic District has survived as a unified, viable neighborhood that is viewed as a very desirable place to live and where there is a strong sense of community.

Antebellum Period

The early history of Wynnton was shaped by its geography and by the significance of Columbus as an urban center. When Columbus was created in 1828 by the Georgia legislature, who realized the economic potential of the Chattahoochee River. The legislature suspended the normal practice of land ownership by lottery, and instead, the state sold lots at auction. In the case of Columbus, five square miles known as the Coweta Reserve were withdrawn from the lottery. Within that tract were the town lots on the west near the river; east of which were two strips of five- and ten-acre lots. The remainder of the land farther to the east was divided into 100-acre lots. The Wynnton area would develop from the larger lots.

The economic potential of Columbus attracted wealthy men eager to invest in the new town, including planters, lawyers, merchants, and bankers, most of who were engaged in land speculation. Lots in the Wynnton area changed hands numerous times before houses appeared in the area. By the late 1830s, several of Columbus' entrepreneurs built estates on the salubrious hill east of the frontier town. Wynnton was located on a bluff immediately east of the city overlooking the river valley, and since higher elevation was considered healthier and less prone to mosquitoes, the area quickly attracted residents. The men who bought the 100-acre lots and built in the area continued to engage in land speculation. Most of the property owners built their large houses surrounded by several acres and then sold the remaining land. Within the Wynnton Village Historic District, the two early landholders who played important roles were John Banks and John Woolfolk.

John Banks (1797-1870), a prominent lawyer originally from Elbert County, Georgia, served in the Georgia militia during the First Seminole War (1818) and was later elected to the state legislature from Augusta. Perhaps because of his service, Governor George M. Troup appointed Banks to accompanying General Lafayette during his triumphal tour of the U.S. Therefore, in 1825, John Banks and his future neighbor, Seaborn Jones, served as aides-de-camp to Lafayette and accompanied him from Milledgeville in Baldwin County to the banks of the Chattahoochee River.

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Both Jones and Banks, apparently impressed by the potential of Georgia's western frontier, returned and built their estates to the east of downtown Columbus.

John Banks returned to Muscogee County in February 1836, bringing his wife Sarah and their large family.¹⁰ Banks purchased 265 acres, the major portion of Land Lots 72, 73, and 77 from Samuel Koockogee, who acquired the property in the original auctions. Banks built his house slightly west of where his three lots intersect. The house stood at the end of a long drive leading from Wynnton Road, and red cedar trees lined the drive with elms forming a second row behind the cedars. This picturesque allee gave the house its name, The Cedars.

The estate was not a working plantation. On a daily basis, Banks rode or was driven by a servant into Columbus to pursue his diverse business interests in law, banking, commerce, and manufacturing. He became one of the more prominent lawyers in the region and served as president of the Howard Factory, a cotton mill, located on the river in downtown Columbus. In addition, Banks had investments as a planter with three large working plantations in Alabama and Stewart County, Georgia, with approximately 10,000 acres and 200 slaves, 27 of who were house servants at The Cedars.¹¹

His neighbor and the owner of another 100-acre lot was John Woolfolk (1781-1861), a Virginia native who was raised in Augusta, Georgia. Woolfolk sent his nephew, Sowell Woolfolk,¹² to find land near Columbus where John Woolfolk could relocate his slaves.¹³ Purmadus Reynolds, the original purchaser, sold Land Lot 59 to Sowell, who in turn transferred it to his uncle. This land lot was immediately west of John Banks' lot 72. Described in contemporary terms, the Woolfolk property was bounded on the east by 18th Avenue, on the west by 13th Avenue, on the north by the bottom boundary of the DeLaunay Place subdivision, and the southern boundary included the south side of Wynnton Road. Woolfolk and Banks agreed that Wynnton Road, rather than the lot lines, was the boundary between their properties.¹⁴

The Wynnton property represented only a small portion of Woolfolk's landholdings in the area. To the south of Columbus, Sowell, acting as an agent for his uncle, acquired thousands of acres of fertile land along both sides of the river.¹⁵ After he moved to Muscogee County, John Woolfolk

15 The names of his rural plantations south of Columbus were used to identify features of the Chattahoochee: Woolfolk's Bend and Jenny's Island. His land later known as the Bussey Plantation became the main post area of Fort Benning.

¹⁰ John and Sarah Banks had twelve children. There were nine sons, five of whom were killed in the Civil War.

¹¹ John Banks became as renowned for his benevolence as for his business acumen. During his lifetime, Banks gave upwards of \$50,000 to charity. See Georgia Butt Young, compiler, *Gleanings and Character Sketches* (privately published).

¹² Sowell, by 1832, was a state senator and a brigadier general in the Georgia militia, but in that year Joseph T. Camp, a young lawyer, killed him in a duel. The duel was held on Creek Indian (or federal) land in Alabama beyond the reach of Georgia law.

¹³ Etta Blanchard Worsley, Columbus on the Chattahoochee, Columbus, 1951.

¹⁴ Communication with John M. Sheftall.

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quickly became a prominent citizen, being elected to the state legislature in 1832. Initially, Woolfolk may have lived in town or on his rural property, but he chose to build his primary residence in Wynnton (circa 1840) where every Sunday morning he could join his peers in the procession of elegant carriages that traveled into Columbus.¹⁶ By 1860, Woolfolk owned 180 slaves and nearly all of them worked his lands down the river. Woolfolk's Wynnton property was not a working farm and the 400 bales of ginned cotton he produced in 1860 were produced on his rural farms. However, Woolfolk did sell one product from his Wynnton estate—water. In 1847, John Woolfolk signed an agreement with Sutton and Alfred Iverson to allow them to distribute water from a spring on his property. They were allowed to sell the water to Columbus-ites for 30 years in exchange for monthly rent and two hydrants on his property.¹⁷

In 1857, John Woolfolk sold 30-acres of Land Lot 59 to Joel Early Hurt for \$5,500.¹⁸ The property became the antebellum Dinglewood Estate (National Register listed on February 1, 1972), and later in the 20th century was also subdivided (see Dinglewood Historic District listed in the National Register on November 21, 2001). In a similar fashion, John Banks had begun selling his land almost immediately after he purchased it. Between 1836 and 1859, Banks sold ten tracts on Wynnton Road. He also granted land to Wynnton Academy (built in 1843 and within the Wynnton Village Historic District) and sold about eight acres east of the school to Moses Butt, his brother-in-law. Butt built a house there by 1840. By 1860, only the land between the present Peacock and Forest avenues remained as the front portion of The Cedars.

The Village of Wynnton

In 1860 the U.S. Census ranked Wynnton as the 15th largest town in Georgia with a population of 1,497 people (633 whites, 13 free blacks, and 851 slaves). The census taker created larger boundaries for Wynnton than most residents would have recognized. It included all the suburban areas to the east and north of the city and extended into the Rose Hill district.

By 1860, however, Wynnton was more than just a collection of estates; it was a village with a diverse population, its own institutions, and a sense of community. Middle-class white families also lived there; they were lawyers, merchants, carpenters, other artisans, and even small farmers. Five free blacks families—Fords, Ennises, Williams, and two sets of Joneses—along with three other free blacks-Maurier Adams, Jim Webb, and Mary Clark—lived in Wynnton in 1860. The strong sense of community that existed in Wynnton by 1860 was evidenced by the creation of the Wynnton

¹⁶ A. C. Flewellen's remembered the procession as it returned from church. "The retinue was so extended that the head of the column reached the summit [of Wynn's hill] before the rear vehicle had commenced the ascent. The carriages were virtual chariots, while each vehicle was lustrous with paint and gilt, and horses vied in blood and trappings." Quoted by Loretto Chappell in the Centennial Issue of the *Columbus Enquirer-Sun*.

¹⁷ In addition, Sutton and Iverson had to agree to place hydrants at six properties in Columbus, and to replace the timber pipes with stone when they rotted. Muscogee County Deed Book C, 753. A better known site, which supplied water to Columbus, was Leonard's Spring about a mile north of Woolfolk's land.

¹⁸ Muscogee County Deed Book V, 172.

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Academy. In 1843, the first trustees, John Banks, James M. Chambers, Van Leonard, A. H. Flewellen, and William L. Wynn, built Wynnton Academy. They purchased ten acres from John Banks for \$1,000 in 1843¹⁹ and built a brick school,²⁰ which opened in June of 1843 with J. M. Goodale as the teacher. Originally, six acres were set aside for the male academy and four acres for a female academy. The girl's school, however, was built about three blocks to the north at the later site of the John F. Flournoy house (school no longer extant). By the end of the 19th century, the Wynnton Academy had both male and female students. During the last three decades of the 19th century, Wynnton probably changed very little. Even though the textile mills of Columbus were booming along the Chattahoochee by the 1870s and in the old East Commons by the 1880s, Wynnton, in a manner similar to other areas of post-Civil War Georgia, experienced limited growth until the last decade of the 19th century.

Streetcars

Change came with the arrival of the streetcar, c.1890. The Peacock family sold a strip of land in front of The Cedars to be used as a right of way by the Columbus Railroad Company. The Wynnton Academy used the new trolley as a means of recruiting students from Columbus. The academy's 1890-91 catalogue boasted that the school offered "all the advantages of the city, while every temptation has been removed. There is not a saloon within a mile and a half of the grounds." Two childhood friends, who were Wynnton natives and Wynnton Academy graduates, John Francis Flournoy and Louis Ford Garrard, played important roles in creating the forces that began changing Wynnton in the 1890s. Flournov and Garrard created the Muscogee Real Estate Company that developed a large tract of land in the areas of East Highlands, Weracoba, and Wynnton east of downtown Columbus. They also created Wildwood Park (1890) as a destination for their trolley cars. They bought and electrified the Columbus [streetcar] Railroad Company, and developed a route through the Wynnton area. The streetcar traveled up Wynn's hill,²¹ traversed the north side of Wynnton Road, then turned north beyond Wynnton School, and traveled northward on Wildwood Avenue, past Flournov's house on its way to Wildwood Park and back to Columbus. The national economy crashed in 1893, followed by a severe depression, so few enterprises expanded during that period. By 1898, prosperity reappeared nationwide and for the first time since 1861 reached into the South.

¹⁹ Muscogee County Deed Book C, 58,.

²⁰ The red brick schoolhouse, which today serves as the Wynnton Elementary School Library, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

²¹ The rails did not come directly up the hill on what is now Wynnton Road. The route started to the south of Wynnton road and angled across the hill, as it gained elevation. The tracks crossed Wynnton Road at the point where the present road (in 2000) exits from the Bradley Library. The streetcar would then follow the road in front of the library traveling from south to the north (the opposite direction from traffic in 2000) and then climb the hill along the route of what is now Buena Vista Road and connect with Wynnton Road at what is now the intersection of those two roads.

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A Neighborhood of Columbus' Elite

Wynnton Road displayed this new prosperity, as it became the Columbus' row of monumental mansions. The Wynn House was moved closer to the road and acquired a new pediment with a fanlight, and the Miller-Bradley House, a Tuscan Revival-style villa, served as another anchor for the beginning of the row of mansions (see Wynn's Hill-Overlook-Oak Circle Historic District, Muscogee County, Georgia). A Neoclassical facade was added to the Shepherd home (between Gordon Avenue and Peachtree Drive on the south side—outside of the district) as other new houses appeared. Along Wynnton Road within the Wynnton Village Historic District, E. P. Owsley acquired the strip of land that John M. Flournov had purchased from Banks in 1843. By the time Owsley purchased the tract, the Flournov house had burned.²² Probably by 1910, Owsley built an impressive Neoclassical Revival-style home with six Corinthian columns supporting a full-width. monumental porch (no longer extant). Unlike the original Flournoy house or other antebellum estates, this house was built close to the road. Another factor in the rapid growth of the Wynnton area may have been the fire of 1912 that destroyed 42 homes in downtown Columbus. The fire destroyed all the houses on the east side of 5th Avenue between 11th and 12th Streets and all of the buildings on the block bounded by 4th and 5th avenues and 12th and 13th streets. An oral tradition in Columbus, conveyed by Miss Loretto Lamar Chappell, the longtime public librarian and an astute local historian, maintained that people moved to Wynnton because of this major fire. One member of the Columbus elite who lost his house in the conflagration was Frederick B. Gordon, the president of Columbus Manufacturing. He moved into the antebellum Dawson House and renamed it Gordonido (located in the Wynn's Hill-Overlook-Oak Circle Historic District, Muscogee County, Georgia).²³ The fire might have been an early impetus to move out of downtown, but the trend continued for almost three more decades. Houses were built or refurbished along Wynnton Road through the 1930s. As important as the row of mansions were to the appearance of Wynnton Road, the streets full of houses behind them is what created the neighborhoods and preserved the sense of community in the area. The heart of Wynnton was and remains the streetcar and automobile suburbs developed from the 1890s through the 1940s.

Suburban Development

While the streetcars brought new commuters to the ridge on Wynn's Hill, the automobile would be much more important in moving people into the area. The process of creating new subdivisions and platting the land (shown below according to the plat dates) began in the district in 1893 and continued until about 1930. The following are a list of subdivisions in the Wynnton Village Historic District:

Little Wynnton Survey (1893) developed by Judge William Little Randolph Terrace (1907) developed by Charles D. Woodruff &, later, by W. E. Curry

Wynnton Village Historic District, Columbus, Muscogee County, Georgia

²² John F. Flournoy, "Columbus Homes, Stores and Scenes of The Long Ago."

²³ At least three other people of the 53 fire victims identified by the newspaper in 1912 lived on Wynnton Road by the late 1920s: Frank A. Philips at 1905 Wynnton Road, Samuel R. Quincy at 1407 Wynnton Road, and Annie K. Woolfolk at 1916 Wynnton Road. Three others lived in other areas of Wynnton.

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Wynnton Place (1908) by John Flournoy's Muscogee Real Estate Company Wynnton Heights (1910) developed by Hezekiah Land east side of Cedar Avenue (1915) developed by Lloyd Bowers west side of Cedar Avenue (1921) developed by Peacock & Dimon family members Chambers (15th Street) and adjoining Forest Avenue (early 1920s) by various individuals Wooten Place or Forest Court (1923) by a Wooten family member

J. M. Baird (1924 & 1937) developed by Baird Owsley Park (1925) developed by Park Place Realty & Improvement Company Edgewood Heights (1925) developed by M. L. & A. B. Wade Boulevard Terrace (1928) developed by Hezekiah Land DeLaunay land immediately east of Wildwood Avenue (c.1930) developed by Mrs. Andrew Prather and Mrs. Cliff Johnson

Economic forces fueled suburban development in Wynnton in the 1920s and 1930s. The general prosperity of the 1920s expanded the size of the middle class, who had more money to invest in homes. Columbus' economy diversified with new industries such as Tom's Peanuts and Nehi soda. The establishment of Fort Benning as permanent post was also an important factor in continuing growth in Columbus. The primary mission of Fort Benning was training infantry officers, who spent at least a year in school there. Housing demands for officers became an important spur to real estate development in the Wynnton area. The geography of Columbus made Wynnton a logical choice for middle-class suburban residents. Fort Benning occupied the land south of the city. West of the river was Phenix City, Alabama, which still functioned as a mill village for the Eagle & Phenix Mills. Directly north of Columbus were four large textile mills and mill villages. Therefore, new upper- and middle-class suburbs could only develop to the northeast or east of downtown. Wynnton competed with the Rose Hill area, an older Victorian suburb, just northeast of downtown. The small suburb of Waverly Terrace (1906), which is now a historic district, was an extension of Rose Hill. By the 1920s, however, Wynnton was booming, and the area in the proximity of Rose Hill and Waverly Terrace-know as Jordan-Johnson-did not begin really developing until the late 1930s and 1940s. Wynnton started as and remained a more prestigious neighborhood, probably because of its antebellum reputation and because of the success of its promoters. Additionally, in 1925 the Columbus city limits were expanded to include the Wynnton area, ending a controversy that had raged since the 1890s over whether to include the area, and a viaduct was constructed over the rail yard so commuters did not have cross ten sets of tracts.

Another factor in the growth of the Wynnton area involved education. As a result of the lobbying efforts of John Flournoy, Columbus High School moved from its downtown location to the eastern portion of Wildwood Park. A property owner in Rose Hill had offered to give the city a location for the relocated high school, but after extended debate, the school board decided (six to five) to reject the offer of free land in Rose Hill. They opted instead to buy 36 acres of Wildwood Park for \$65,000. Again by a close vote (three to two), the city commissioners supported the decision of the school board. The opponents of the Wildwood site started a petition drive and forced a referendum on the

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location of the school in December of 1924. The Wildwood faction won a close and hotly contested election, probably the city's first where voters received free automobile rides to the courthouse.²⁴ Moving the high school to the Wynnton area enhanced the land values and prestige of the Weracoba/Wynnton area. The school attendance line between Columbus High and Jordan Vocational High School, which was later built in the Jordan-Johnson area, defined Columbus' real estate in terms of social and economic class. The school attendance boundary (along Talbotton and Warm Spring roads) was also the boundary between a more blue-collar neighborhood to the west and the more middle- and upper-class neighborhoods to the east. The other major educational change was the conversion of Wynnton School from a private to a public institution. In 1925 the school still operated as Wynnton Academy. Its trustees had just completed a \$70,000 expansion in 1919, and 1923.²⁵ The city school board assumed the debt when it acquired the school. As a public institution, Wynnton School (as it was renamed) served as a major attraction for families moving to the suburbs in the 1920s and 1930s.

With inclusion into the city limits, easier access to downtown, and the city's best public schools, the population in the Wynnton Village Historic District boomed. All of the subdivisions experienced growth as all the available lots were filled. Of the 13 subdivisions and areas within the district (listed above), perhaps four started as streetcar suburbs. The remaining six were automobile suburbs with driveways, porte-cocheres, and garages constructed from the beginning.

Little's Survey Subdivision

The first planned subdivision within the Wynnton Village Historic District, Little's Survey, encompassed the property around the Woolfolk House. The subdivision dates from 1893 and probably ranks as the second planned Columbus suburb, coming a few years after John Flournoy's East Highlands (1886), which involved a much larger tract.²⁶ Judge William A. Little and his wife Jennie acquired the property from John Woolfolk's granddaughter, Margaret C. Dozier, in 1883. By this time the Woolfolk estate had dwindled to 20 acres, for which the Littles paid \$6,120.²⁷ The Littles carved the land at the top of the hill between 16th Avenue and 18th Avenue into 14 large lots. Between 1893 and 1904, Rufus Jones and M. J. C. Pollard purchased most of the lots the Little's Survey with prices ranging between \$1,000 and \$1,850.²⁸ Jones and Pollard, who were both in the

²⁴The Flournoy Realty Company retained the remaining nine acres and later created Wildwood Park subdivision there. The city purchased the 36 acres of land in three separate tracts in December 19, 1924. Deed Book 70, pages 298 & 303; Deed Book 71, page 64.

²⁵ See the architecture section for more information about this expansion.

²⁶ See the Hillcrest-Wildwood Circle Historic District, Muscogee County, Georgia, National Register nomination for a description of this subdivision.

²⁷ The estate had passed to Dozier from her mother Cornelia Walker who had inherited it from her father, John Woolfolk. Will of John Woolfolk, Clerk of Probate Court and Muscogee County Deed Book W, 357-58.

²⁸ On one occasion, Judge Little entered into an agreement with Rufus Jones whereby Jones was to "build and construct for Little a five room cottage, servants' house, fencing, gate, etc., and furnish all materials" in exchange for lots 13 and 14 in Little's Wynnton Survey. See Muscogee County Deed Book QQ, 413.

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lumber and construction business, built speculation houses on these lots. Although the lots in Little's Survey were smaller than the earlier antebellum parcels, they were larger than the later subdivision lots. The owners of the houses were fairly affluent and tended to be professionals—a physician, a sales manager for the Lummus Cotton Ginning Company, and a vice president of Eagle and Phenix Mills. Rufus Jones, who actually developed much of the subdivision, built his house at the corner of Wynnton and 16th Avenue. His neighbor, Turner E. Berry, was the original owner of the house at 1617 Wynnton Road and president of the Muscogee Oil Company; Berry's son, a physician, continued to live there throughout his life. In the 1920s, Julian and Julia Harris lived at 1603 12th Street. They edited the *Columbus Enquirer-Sun*, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1926 for attacking the Ku Klux Klan.

The character of the subdivision began to shift to multi-family dwellings as early as the 1920s when Minnie J. Flournoy purchased the Woolfolk house and converted it into the Colonial Apartments. Over the course of the next two decades, many of the neighborhood's large lots were infilled with apartment buildings, and the stately homes were carved into apartments.²⁹ The real shift came in the late 1930s and early 1940s as Fort Benning boomed at the beginning of World War II. Because of its location near Wynnton Road and because the Little's Survey contained larger houses and more apartments developed here than in other areas of the district.

Randolph Terrace Subdivision

In 1907 the strip of land on the eastern side of 18th Avenue (then known as Marion Avenue) between 12th (Jackson) and 13th streets was subdivided into relatively narrow lots, presumably by Charles B. Woodruff. There were a total of 21 lots, either 40 or 50 feet wide and 117 feet deep.³⁰ The wider lots were located at the south end of the development near the top of the ridge. The smaller lots were to the north on what was a steep slope down to Weracoba Creek. Randolph Terrace was probably envisioned as a streetcar suburb and designed to attract people of more modest means than the residents of the neighboring Little's Survey.

Charles B. Woodruff sold 11 lots to seven people by 1918, but they were slow to build on the property, which seemed to parallel the pattern of Flournoy's Wynnton Place subdivision where few houses appeared until after World War I. As late as 1925, only five houses were built in Randolph Terrace. One of the earliest residents was N. J. Hamer who moved into his New South cottage (1212 18th Street) about 1913. His relocation might have been motivated by the 1912 fire in downtown Columbus, since he was boarding on 3rd Avenue when the fire occurred. The sloping terrain of Randolph Terrace probably inhibited growth of the neighborhood. W. E. Curry, who lived in the subdivision, redeveloped the southern portion of Randolph Terrace. In 1920, he purchased ten lots (#10-19) and mortgaged them, but the resale of the lots proceeded slowly. Several of the houses in the subdivision date from the late 1930s to the 1940s.

²⁹ Comparison of Sanborn Maps from 1929 and 1951.

³⁰ Muscogee County Deed Book MM, 258.

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Wynnton Place Subdivision

As the streetcar line running north on Wildwood Avenue approached what is now the intersection with 17th Street, the tracks jogged westward through what is now a park and proceeded northward on what was then Wildwood Drive (now Forest Avenue). The shift in the line allowed the trolley to run beside the eastern edge of Wildwood Park and stop there at one of the park stations. Across the street, the Wynnton Place subdivision started as a streetcar suburb from land owned by John Flournoy's firm, the Muscogee Real Estate Company. In 1907, John's brother Josiah Flournoy, who drew most of the company's early plats, laid out 48 lots in two full blocks between Forest Avenue (then Wildwood Drive) and Wildwood Avenue (then Chatham Drive).³¹ This property was originally part of Flournoy's East Highlands subdivision (second addition), which was delineated in the 1880s but was never developed until it was replatted for this new subdivision. The plat listed Zachery and Raymond as the developers but only three lots passed from Muscogee Real Estate to R. Y. Zachery and N. C. Raymond. Most of the remaining lots were sold directly from the Muscogee Real Estate to an individual property owner.

The size of the lots (50 feet by 150 feet) indicates that the developers conceived of relatively modest houses. The first two houses in Wynnton Place, which faced Wildwood Park, were of a larger scale than their later neighbors. The 1910 one-and-a-half-story Georgian Cottage with Corinthian columns at 1700 Forest Avenue occupied two lots, which were sold in 1910. The adjacent house, 1710 Forest Avenue was of similar style but slightly smaller and presumably built at about the same time. It occupied a lot and a half, and its original owner Gertrude P. Fraser and her husband lived there from 1910 until the 1950s. Illustrative of how slowly the area developed, the remaining eleven lots along Forest Avenue sold between 1911 and 1913, but almost four decades passed before houses were built on all of them. The houses include two Craftsman bungalows by 1923, another three by 1925, and two more by 1929. Fred Woolard built four brick, hip roof houses with minimal detailing on two lots just north of Sonora Street.³² Another house, 1714 Forest Avenue, was built shortly after 1950. The initial design of the neighborhood created a back alley for all the lots, but only the one between Troup and Sonora streets is still accessible.

The east side of the block facing Wildwood Avenue followed a similar development pattern to the houses facing Forest Avenue. Most lots on Wildwood Avenue were sold by 1913, but houses appeared more slowly. By 1923 at least four Craftsman bungalows were built, and by 1929, eleven similar bungalows were built. The two brick-and-stucco houses (1913 & 1915 Wildwood Avenue) were built in 1950. Shortly after 1950, a house at 1711 Forest Avenue was built to complete the subdivision.

³¹ Only 30 lots are included in the district. In more detail terms, Wynnton Place was bounded by Chatham Drive (row Wildwood Avenue) on the east, Wildwood Drive (now Forest Avenue and Seventeenth Street) on the west and south, and Leonard Street on the north, and intersected by Carter (now Troup) and Sonora Streets. Chatham might have been named in honor of the Savannah investors in Flournoy's company.

^{32 1818 &}amp; 1822 Forest Avenue and 1913 & 1915 Wildwood Avenue. This information came from Daisy Tucker, an original owner of one of these houses. Her husband, Cliff, served as editor of the <u>Columbus Enquirer</u> and Daisy ran the newspaper's library for years. Daisy was interviewed by Carolyn G. Wilkes in May 1993.

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The occupations of the original residents along Forest and Wildwood avenues in the Wynnton Place subdivision reveal a middle-class neighborhood with furniture and grocery storeowners, hairdressers, a railroad engineer, a stenographer, and grocery store clerks.³³ The neighborhood has changed very little since the 1950s. Many of the families have continued to live in these houses through two generations Wynnton Heights Subdivision

Another early streetcar development in the district is the Wynnton Heights subdivision located east of the Randolph Terrance subdivision. All of the lots in Wynnton Heights lay on elevated land, close to the streetcar line. Martha D. Flournoy, John F. Flournoy's grandmother, owned the land that became Wynnton Heights. Charles W. Munro acquired the property after her death in 1879. Munro lived in the area about 1900,³⁴ and even though his name is perpetuated on a street name, he represents a developer who failed or lost interest in real estate. Munro purchased two pieces of Banks-Peacock land (the western half of what became the Peacock Woods and Dimon Circle outside of the district) in 1876 and 1880. A c.1910 real estate map shows subdivided lots bearing Munro's name, but the land was subdivided again before it sold. Hezekiah Land, an active developer in this area, bought a 12-acre tract from Munro and created Wynnton Heights in 1910 (in this district). The ell-shaped subdivision was one block wide at Wynnton Road between Munro and Eberhart avenues and then ran north and west along Hill Street.

The Wynnton Heights subdivision developed quickly, perhaps because of its proximity to the streetcar line on Wynnton Road. Forty-seven of the 52 lots were sold between 1910 and 1919.³⁵ The average lot was 50 feet wide and 160 feet deep and cost about \$500. Homeowners in this subdivision had occupations ranging from train conductor to bank vice-president as well as accountants, lawyers, realtors, and several employees of Kirven's department store. On average most of the homes have only had two to three owners. Through the 1950s, widows and children succeeded the original owners. Family members, such as the Pease brothers, tended to live close to each other within the neighborhood.³⁶ B. Ed Johnson who served as mayor of Columbus in the 1960s lived at 1204 Munro Avenue for 20 years. The house had been the home of his wife's family from 1921 until the late 1940s.

The Wynnton Heights subdivision retains its early 20th -century character, and some of the best examples of Craftsman-style bungalows within the district are found here.

³³ Polk's City Directories, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1928, 1934, 1937, 1940, 1945.

³⁴ Circa 1900 newspaper sketch map of Wynnton and Weracoba. Wynnton Materials, Lupold Collection, CSU Archives.

³⁵ Index to Muscogee County Deed Book L.

³⁶ Widowed sisters lived close to one another and Jack J. Pease and his brother, Leonard, both lived on Munro Avenue for many years. Owen Edge, a prominent realtor, owned two houses, one on Munro and another on Eberhart, which backed up to each other. According to Mrs. Lucile Ogie, Owen lived on Munro Avenue and his wife in the house on Eberhart. Interviews of Denise Stansell with Lucille Ogie, Jack Jenkins, and Peggy Pease Jenkins, Summer 1999. Denise Stansell, "Wynnton Heights," Student Paper, Summer 1999, in Wyrnton—Weracoba materials, Lupold Collection, CSU Archives.

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The Front Property of The Cedars

The development of the property on either side of The Cedars' driveway (now Cedar Street) was done in parcels by various people, including members of the Peacock and Dimon families. The development necessitated the creation of more roads. First, Forest Avenue was built from Wynnton Road to 17th Street, following the eastern boundary of the original Banks property. In 1909, John B. and James G. Peacock received the southern portion of the land between Peacock and Cedar avenues. Development of this tract required more roads. In 1909, 13th Street between Eberhart and Peacock avenues as well as Peacock Avenue were created. In 1916, Cedar Avenue became a public road and 13th Street was extended between Peacock and Cedar avenues. The last extension of 13th Street between Cedar and Forest Avenues was opened in 1925.

The Peacock brothers platted their lots shortly after 1909, but their property did not begin selling until the late 1910s. The Peacock-Dimon family sold the tract between Cedar and Forest avenues to Lloyd Bowers, Jr., who was very active in transforming the larger Wynnton area. He had helped to create the Columbus Country Club in 1909 and later developed DeLaunay Place, St. Elmo Park, and Overlook subdivisions (all outside of the district). His company, the Columbus Investment Company, played an important role in financing home sales in the area. Houses in this development were built in the early 1920s and are generally Craftsman bungalows. Doctors, lawyers, judges, business owners, and the Muscogee County sheriff lived on Cedar Avenue in the early years. Richard Hecht, a Columbus architect who moved to 1220 Cedar Avenue in 1922 as a child, remembers an almost idyllic neighborhood with redheaded woodpeckers flying in and out of the cedar trees. His mother resisted moving there from downtown because it was out in the country. Since Cedar Avenue only went to the Dimon's house, The Cedars, the dirt street was the kids' playground and ball field. The Dimons still had cows along Forest Avenue, and Hecht remembers one mother sending her son and Hecht to fetch a pitcher of fresh milk from the Dimons.

15th Street (Chambers Street)

To the east of the original Banks property was a strip of land between Forest and Wildwood avenues reaching from 13th to 17th streets that lay between two major subdivisions: Peacock Woods and Wildwood Circle (both of which are historic districts and outside of the Wynnton Village Historic District). During the 1970s and 1980s major portions of these blocks were razed to make way for apartments and condominiums. Only two islands of historic buildings survive in the area between Forest and Wildwood avenues from Forest Court to 15th Street. Along narrow 15th Street, 12 historic houses form an ell with five adjoining buildings along Forest Avenue to constitute the Fifteenth (Chambers) Street portion of the district. The origin of Chambers Street remains a mystery. Although never included within a subdivision, the land was part of the holdings of John Flournoy's Muscogee Real Estate Company.³⁷ Circa 1900, the company sold tracts for individual houses facing Wildwood Avenue and Forest Avenue, which was created along the eastern edge of the Banks-Peacock-Dimon

³⁷ This property was part of the Second Addition of East Highlands in Flournoy's original 1880s plan, but the name never came into general usage.

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land in 1902. Because the distance between Forest and Wildwood Avenue was longer than a single block, these elongated, narrow lots created unused land behind the houses. Apparently Chambers Street was created by the Muscogee Real Estate Company and named for James Chambers, who had an antebellum estate here (no longer extant). However, the firm did not delineate lots, build, or finance houses as it did in later subdivisions. The property on Chambers Street was sold as large lots. Even though the Muscogee Real Estate Company specified that houses must be worth at least \$1,500 in value and made the usual stipulations about race and liquor in the deeds, the subsequent owners apparently divided their property into smaller parcels. The larger corner lots facing Wildwood and Forest avenues were the most significant tracts where large houses were built (no longer extant). Craftsman bungalows were built on the smaller lots facing Chambers Street in 1923 and 1925. Between 1927 and 1928, Chambers Street was renamed 15th Street.

Forest Court

In 1923, members of the Wooten family platted a ten lot subdivision known as Wooten Place. The street was subsequently known as Wooten Court, 16th Street, and finally Forest Court. All of the lots sold in 1923 and 1924, apparently, to builders or speculators, since none of these names appear as original owners. There were three houses standing or almost completed when this small subdivision was platted, and it took almost 25 years before all the lots facing Forest Court were occupied.

J. M. Baird Subdivision

The triangular piece of land bounded by Wynnton Road, Peacock Avenue, 13th Street, and Eberhart Avenue comprises the J.M. Baird subdivision. J.M. Baird purchased the property from Inez Eberhart Graves for \$30,000 in 1919, which included the antebellum Iverson-Troup-Bond-Eberhart House.³⁸ Architect T. Firth Lockwood remodeled the house for Baird in 1925 and added a Colonial Revivalstyle facade to the front of the antebellum home. Baird subdivided the land around the house into 12 lots and began selling them by 1922. The first development involved the northern half of the property. In April 1922, Baird sold lot number nine (1253 Peacock Avenue) for one dollar to J. H. Howard, the president of Philips Coal and Wood Yard. Howard agreed to build a residence worth \$10,000 and not to erect any wooden fences on the property. Howard built a Mediterranean-style house that set the tone for the architecture of this part of the district. Rather than bungalows, Baird's lots were filled with Colonial Revival, English Vernacular Revival, and other eclectic styles. A. N. Dykes, a physician, purchased the large lot at the apex of the triangle that faced 13th Street in 1924 for \$3,500 and built a large, two-story, eclectic-styled house. The apartment buildings in the Baird subdivision also reflect popular revival styles of the period including the Tudor Revival-style apartments at 13th Street and Peacock Avenue. In 1932, J. M. Baird developed the southern half of his property. Unfortunately, his house and the remainder of the homes built in that area have been

³⁸ Alfred Iverson bought the property from John Banks in 1841 for \$1,252; it then passed to the Troup family at an unknown date, to James Bond (as "twelve acres in the village of Wynnton") for \$1,100 in 1868; to Jeannie D. Little for \$2,250 in 1875, to Samuel Eberhart in 1879 for \$3,500. Muscogee County Deed Book B, 225; Book N, 538-39; Book Q, 389-90; Book T, 29; Book 28, 216; & 549.

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destroyed except for the McCoy-Buck House, Wimbledon, which is now a Burger King. The adjacent three English Vernacular Revival-style houses at 2043 & 2047 Wynnton and 1211 Peacock were developed earlier by J. G. Pekor, who lived in one of the houses.³⁹

Owsley Park

E. P. Owsley acquired the strip of land that John M. Flournoy had purchased from Banks in 1843. By the time Owsley purchased the tract, the Flournoy house had burned.⁴⁰ Probably by 1910, Owsley built an impressive Neoclassical-style house with six Corinthian columns supporting a full-width, monumental porch (no longer extant). Unlike earlier suburban estates in the area, this house was built fairly close to Wynnton Road, so that it could be seen from the road. Wynnton Road had become the city's most prestigious address by 1910.

By 1925, Owsley sold the back portion of his property, a pecan orchard and pasture, which became Owsley Park. Park Place Realty & Improvement Company developed the neighborhood. A new Owsley Avenue bisected the property connecting 12th and 13th streets, and 82 small lots, 25 feet wide, were delineated along both sides of the street. The median construction age of 1940 illustrates how late this area was developed and how its character changed over time. Some of the early buildings were designed as duplexes, while some of the later ones, farther to the north or down the hill, were larger and more spacious. Some of the last houses built in the subdivision facing 12th Street were duplexes or rental houses. The Park Place Apartments were built in 1949 on the land where the Owsley House once stood.

Edgewood Heights

The development of Edgewood Heights illustrates how slowly some of these subdivisions developed. The selling and building of this small eight-lot subdivision spanned a period of 20 years. M. L. Wade and A. B. Wade began selling lots in 1925. Two of the lots faced 13th Street with the other six lots around the corner along the west side of Gurr Avenue as it ascends up the hill toward Hill Street. The lots on Gurr Avenue were built on first. Two brick English Vernacular Revival-style cottages at 1249 and 1257 Hill Street were designed by architect T. Firth Lockwood and built by Charles W. Campbell. The larger, more expensive 13th Street lots were developed last. The two-story Colonial Revival-style house at 1904 13th Street was built in 1940 and included a garage apartment that illustrates the impact of Fort Benning on this area. The pre-World War II "Preparedness Campaign" would increase the number of personnel at Fort Benning almost a year before Pearl Harbor. The remaining 13th Street house appeared about 1945. Over the years the residents of this subdivision have included a jeweler, a physician, army officers, teachers, managers, and pharmacists.

40 John F. Flournoy, "Columbus Homes, Stores and Scenes of The Long Ago."

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Boulevard Terrace

Hezekiah Land, who earlier created the Wynnton Heights subdivision, later developed the last fullscale subdivision within the district, Boulevard Terrace, in 1928. The subdivision is at the western side of the Wynnton Village Historic District and consists of the northern portion of the land containing Woolfolk's house, between the Little's Survey subdivision and Weracoba Creek at the bottom of the hill. Hezekiah Land platted 24 lots in the area, all but three of which were filled by 1950. The homes had to have a minimum cost of \$4,000. Even though homes were built on Richard Street as early as 1928 and on Boulevard Street by 1931, most of the houses date from the late 1930s and early 1940s. Stylistically, the houses show their later origins, with fewer Craftsman- and more Colonial Revival- and English Vernacular Revival-style details. In 1940, in keeping with the trends throughout the Wynnton Village Historic District, J. R. Youman built a large brick, Colonial Revival-style apartment house on the corner of Boulevard Street and 16th Avenue.

DeLaunay Land

To the east of Wynnton School on the east side of Wildwood Avenue is the eastern-most historic subdivision in the historic district. The property, labeled as DeLaunay on real estate maps, was developed by the descendants of Pauline de Launay.⁴¹ Mrs. Andrew Prather and Mrs. Cliff Johnson built four brick, Colonial Revival-style houses here in 1936, and the historic Pure Oil gas station was built on their land at the same time.

By 1940, over 90% of the lots in the Wynnton Village Historic District were filled with homes, primarily single family dwellings but also some duplexes and apartments. In general, the district has maintained its historic character with erosion only along its edges. The Wynnton Village Historic District has withstood the two most powerful forces for change: the commercial development along Wynnton Road and the intrusion of larger late 20th-century apartment complexes along 13th Street. The nomination of the Wynnton Village Historic District will encourage the stabilization of the neighborhood and the preservation of its historic resources.

⁴¹ This land, about seven acres, passed from John Banks to his brother-in-law Moses Butt, who then sold it to Sims Banks, the son of John and Sarah Banks. Sims married Pauline de Launay, and after they got a divorce, Pauline took back her maiden name and received title to this land. Pauline's and Sims's daughter, Mrs. Lucy Banks Shepherd, inherited the land. She and her husband, Andrew H. Shepherd, lived for a time in the old Butt House (before constructing a larger, more fashionable house on Wynnton Road) and passed the land to their daughters, Mrs. Andrew Prather and Mrs. Cliff Johnson.

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Oral History Interviews

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Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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Plats

Boulevard Terrace - Deed Book 74, Folio 515.

J. M. Baird – surveyed by G. N. Mitcham in June 1931; Deed Book 52, Folio 54.

Little's Wynnton Survey – Deed Book GG, Folio 44.

Owsley Park - Deed Book 72, Folio 552.

Pauline DeLaunay - Deed Book EE, Folio 138.

Peacock Property Wynnton - Deed Book 7, Folio 484.

Peacock Woods - Deed Book 40, Folio 530."

Randolph Terrace – surveyed by B. K. Scott in May 1907; Deed Book YY, Folio 443.

Wynnton Place – surveyed by Josiah Flournoy in October 1908; Plat Book 27, Folio 114; Deed Book 2, Folio 537.

Wynnton Heights – surveyed by Josiah Flournoy in January 1910; Deed Book 5, Folio 96; Deed Book 78, Folio 157.

Student Papers

The following papers are filed in the Weracoba – Wynnton Materials, Lupold Collection, Columbus State University Archives unless otherwise noted.

Campbell, Wanda, "Chambers - Fifteenth Street", Summer 1999.

Eberhardt, Janis & Susan Hamby. "A Short History of Wynnton Heights." Student Paper, Columbus College, 1989. In Columbus College Collection, CCA.

Heard, Linda, "Edgewood Heights", Summer 1999.

Norman, Jeremy, "J. M. Baird", Summer 1999.

Rogers, Michael, "Peacock Estate on Wynnton", Summer 1999.

Smith, Smith, "Boulevard and Randolph Terrace", Summer 1999.

Stansell, Denise, "Wynnton Heights", Summer 1999.

Warmack, Elena and Jason Wilson, "Owsley Park", Summer 1999.

White, Caroline K. "A Brief History of Wynnton Road from the late 1880s to the Late 1920s:

Emphasizing the First Businesses." Student Paper, Columbus College, 1989, 11p. In Columbus College Collection, CCA.

Wilkes, Carolyn G. "Wynnton Place," Summer 1993.

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): () 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:
- (X) previously listed in the National Register: Th

The Cedars Woolfolk, John W., House Wynnton Academy

- () 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:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

ME-C-1370 -1375 ME-C-1379 - 1386 ME-C-1420 - 1422 ME-C-1436 - 1439 ME-C-1467 - 1475 ME-C-1493 - 1494 ME-C-1508 - 1509 ME-C-1513 - 1515 ME-C-1577 - 1585 ME-C-1589 - 1593 ME-C-1621 - 1630 ME-C-1658 - 1663 ME-C-1675 - 1686 ME-C-2145 - 2162

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 133 acres (acreage estimator).

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A)	16	690839	3594230
B)	16	691446	3595360
C)	16	691950	3594250
D)	16	690899	3593846

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached tax map drawn with a heavy black line, drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the intact, historic, and contiguous resources associated with the development of Wynnton Village along the trolley line.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Gretchen A. Brock/National Register Coordinator
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 156 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 101
city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 date April 7, 2005
e-mail gretchen brock@dnr.state.ga.us

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

name/title Christi Commander, Carolyn Smith, and John Lupold organization Department of History, Columbus State University mailing address Columbus State University city or town Columbus state Georgia zip code 31907 telephone (706) 568-2263 e-mail N/A

- () property owner
- () consultant
- () regional development center preservation planner
- (X) other: faculty, students, and staff of the Department of History, Columbus State University

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Virginia Peebles, Executive Director organization (if applicable) Historic Columbus Foundation mailing address PO Box 5312 city or town Columbus state Georgia zip code 31906 e-mail (optional) N/A NPS Form 10-900-a United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Photographs

Name of Property:	Wynnton Village Historic District
City or Vicinity:	Columbus
County:	Muscogee
State:	Georgia
Photographer:	James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed:	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed:	December 2000

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 49

- 1. Wynnton Academy, 2303 Wynnton Road; photographer facing northwest.
- 2. Gas station, corner of Wynnton Road and Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 3. 1243 and 1247 Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 4. 2200 block of 14th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 5. 2200 block of 15th Street; photographer facing west.
- 6. 2223 15th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 7. 1521 Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing west.
- 8. 1539 Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 9. Temple Israel, Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 10. Park; photographer facing southwest.
- 11. 1710 Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 12. 1700 block Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 13. 1800 block Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
- 14. 1909 Wildwood Avenue; photographer facing south.
- 15. 1818 and 1822 Forest Avenue; photographer facing north.

Photographs

- 16. 1700 block Forest Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 17. Corner of Forest Avenue and Forest Court; photographer facing northeast.
- 18. Forest Court; photographer facing west.
- 19. 1200 block Forest Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 20. 1243 Forest Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 21. Corner of Wynnton Road and Forest Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 22. Corner of Wynnton Road and Cedar Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 23. Cedar Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 24. The Cedars; photographer facing north.
- 25. 13th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 26. 1200 block of Peacock Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 27. 2047 Wynnton Road; photographer facing northwest.
- 28. 2033 Wynnton Road; photographer facing northeast.
- 29. 2001 Eberhart Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 30. Eberhart Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 31. 1233 Munro Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 32. 1223 Munro Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
- 33. 1222 Munro Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 34. 1204 Munroe Avenue; photographer facing northeast.
- 35. 1919 12th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 36. 1905 12th Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 37. 1201 Owsley Avenue; photographer facing northwest.

Photographs

- 38. 1227 Owsley Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 39. 1905 Hill Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 40. 1257 and 1259 Owsley Avenue; photographer facing north.
- 41. 1713 18th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 42. 1603 Richard Street; photographer northeast.
- 43. 1601 12th Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 44. John W. Woolfolk House, 1615 12th Street; photographer facing northeast.
- 45. 1201 12th Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 46. 1601 Wynnton Road; photographer facing northeast.
- 46A and 46B. Windmill and barn at 1601 Wynnton Road; photographers facing east.
- 47. 1719 12th Street; photographer facing northeast.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)