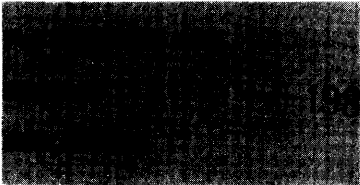


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Cameron Court (DIST)

and/or common same

2. Location E of Atlanta at Braircliff Rd.

street & number Cameron Court N/A not for publication

city, town Atlanta *vic.* vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Georgia code 013 county DeKalb code 089

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners (23)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number DeKalb County Courthouse

city, town Decatur state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Structures Field Survey:
DeKalb County, Georgia has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975-1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Cameron Court is a small single-family residential subdivision dating from the mid to late 1920's. It is located in the midst of a vast early twentieth century suburban area, some three miles northeast of downtown Atlanta. Cameron Court lies just beyond the western edge of Druid Hills, a nationally significant suburban development originally planned by Frederick Law Olmsted.

Cameron Court consists of a single short cul-de-sac street running eastward from Briarcliff Road, a major metropolitan-area thoroughfare. The street follows a gently meandering course across gradually sloping terrain. Small, uniform, rectangular shaped lots, measuring only fifty feet by one hundred and fifty feet, line both sides of the street; an additional three lots front on Briarcliff Road. Houses are situated near the front center of these lots. The houses are relatively small one and one-and-a-half story detached single-family dwellings. They were built in the mid to late 1920's. Predominant architectural styles are Craftsman/Bungalow, Spanish Mission, Tudor, and Colonial. Exterior walls are veneered in either brick or stucco, with wood detailing. Original tiles or slates remain on many roofs; others are covered with replacement asphalt shingles. Recessed porches, bracketed pediments, half timbering, and exposed rafter ends or boxed cornices are characteristic architectural details. The houses are uniformly sized, share a common setback line, and stand relatively close together, creating an almost rowhouse-like effect along the street. Front yards are informally landscaped with trees, shrubbery, lawn, and hedges, and they blend together to create a relatively uniform streetscape. The street itself is lined with sidewalks and bordered by curbs. Stone gateposts stand to either side of the Briarcliff Road entrance to the subdivision.

Non-contributing properties

There are no non-contributing properties in the Cameron Court historic district. A few houses have been remodeled on the exterior and/or the interior, but none so extensively as to have lost its identity as a historic structure. One vacant lot, which was never built upon, is located at the extreme eastern end of the subdivision.

Boundaries

Boundaries for the Cameron Court historic district coincide with the historic platted limits of the Cameron Court subdivision. They circumscribe an intact historic suburban residential development. North of the historic district are early to mid twentieth century suburban houses built after, and independently of Cameron Court. To the east and south is the Druid Hills subdivision. West of Cameron Court, across Briarcliff Road, are much larger historic houses and large-scale, multi-family residential complexes.

Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in February 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the district. No significant changes have taken place since then.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Other 8-12-83

Specific dates 1925 **Builder/Architect** H.W. Nicholes (Nichols)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Cameron Court is an excellent intact example of a small, early twentieth century suburban residential subdivision. It features an array of revival and eclectic domestic architecture in an appropriately landscaped setting. Its cul-de-sac street represents the earliest documented use of this ubiquitous suburban planning feature in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Cameron Court was developed by H.W. Nicholes (Nichols), a prominent early twentieth century suburban builder in the Atlanta area. These areas of significance support National Register eligibility under criteria A and C.

In terms of community planning and development, Cameron Court is significant as a small but excellent intact example of an early twentieth century suburban residential subdivision, one of several in Atlanta that represent local and national trends in the suburban development of the period. Its characteristic features include an array of detached single-family houses and informally landscaped front yards. The meandering alignment of the street represents the prevailing taste for irregular, curvilinear street layouts. Its cul-de-sac represents the earliest documented use of this ubiquitous suburban planning feature in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Like many other suburban developments of the time, Cameron Court was laid out all at one time and developed during a relatively short time, largely under the auspices of a single developer, and judging from the uniform quality of the results, according to a master plan that must have governed land use, house size and value, setback lines, and overall design. It was developed during the hey-day of early twentieth century suburban development in Atlanta, during the years when a rapidly growing Atlanta was emerging as a major Southern metropolis. Sustained high demand for middle-class, single-family housing made possible not only large scale suburban developments such as Druid Hills, Ansley Park, Atkins Park, Peachtree Heights, Brookwood Hills (all listed in the National Register of Historic Places) but also small scale developments like Cameron Court. Cameron Court was laid out and at least half developed in the mid 1920's by H.W. Nicholes (Nichols), a prominent Atlanta-area suburban developer who was active in the adjacent Druid Hills development and in the nearby Atkins Park. In these other developments, Nicholes was responsible only for building houses; in Cameron Court, however, he was responsible for planning and developing the subdivision as a whole as well as for building at least half of the houses. It is interesting to note that Cameron Court was developed on land reserved earlier by Joel Hurt, the original developer of Druid Hills, for himself, but upon which he never built. It is also interesting to note that Nicholes used lots in Cameron Court as a staging ground for construction materials in the mid 1920's when he was working in Druid Hills and Atkins Park as well as in Cameron Court. Nicholes filed for bankruptcy in 1926, when Cameron Court was half completed - it is not known whether Cameron Court forced him into bankruptcy or was seen by him as a last resort measure to maintain solvency - and the subdivision was completed according to Nicholes' plan by several builders during the next few years.

(CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lichtenstein, Marshall, et. al., "Preliminary National Historic Register Application for Cameron Court Subdivision," September 22, 1980 (on file at the Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta).

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 6 acres (estimated)

Quadrangle name Northeast Atlanta, GA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6
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7	4	6	2	6	0
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3	7	4	1	2	3	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification Boundary is described by a heavy black line on the accompanying sketch map and is justified in Section 7.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, Natonal Register Coordinator

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources

date August 12, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 8/17/82

For HCRS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

9/30/82

Alma Myers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

In terms of architecture, Cameron Court is significant for its collection of modestly-sized single-family houses. These houses represent the prevailing design principles and construction practices of early twentieth century domestic suburban architecture. Excellent example of revival styles such as Colonial, Tudor, and Spanish Mission, and of then-comtemporary styles such as Craftsman/Bungalow, are present in the district. Such houses are commonly associated with early twentieth century suburban architecture in Atlanta and elsewhere. They exhibit such characteristic early twentieth century building materials as brick, stucco, tile, slate, and half timbering, and they illustrate early twentieth century construction methods, particularly the balloon frame with veneer. Individually and collectively they maintain a high degree of integrity, which makes their architectural value all the more pronounced. Because of the apparently strict design controls under which they were produced, they relate well to one another in terms of size, massing, siting, materials, and detailing. At least half of the houses were built by prominent Atlanta-area suburban developer H.W. Nicholes (Nichols) (See above). It is interesting to note that many of these modestly-sized houses are similar in design to their much longer counterparts in the adjacent Druid Hills development and in fact were built out of the very same high quality building materials that went into Nicholes' Druid Hills houses.

In terms of landscape architecture, Cameron Court is significant for its informally landscaped front yards, its sidewalks, and its street curbs, all characteristic features of early twentieth century suburban landscaping. Front yards informally landscaped with trees, lawn, and shrubbery, blending together to create a park-like impression along the street, are among the great achievements in early twentieth century American landscape gardening, and Cameron Court is a good albeit modest example of this common but characteristic landscaping feature in this type of development. The stone gateposts at the Briarcliff entrance to Cameron Court, similar to but smaller than those of the nearby and slightly earlier Atkins Park, are distinctive landscaping features.