

536

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Berkeley Park Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Bellemeade Road to the north, Northside Drive to the east, the Atlanta Waterworks to the south, and Howell Mill Road to the west
city, town Atlanta () vicinity of
county Fulton code GA 121
state Georgia code GA zip code 30318

() not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

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

Category of Property:

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

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	149	83
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	149	83

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

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Richard Luce

5-5-03

Signature of certifying official

Date

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

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

Edson H. Beall *6/23/03*

for

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/SINGLE DWELLING
GOVERNMENT/FIRE STATION
RELIGION/RELIGIOUS FACILITY/CHURCH

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/SINGLE DWELLING
GOVERNMENT/FIRE STATION
RELIGION/RELIGIOUS FACILITY/CHURCH
HEALTH CARE/SANITARIUM/NURSING HOME

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/CRAFTSMAN
MODERN MOVEMENT/INTERNATIONAL
OTHER/FOLK VICTORIAN
OTHER/ENGLISH VERNACULAR REVIVAL
OTHER/GABLED ELL
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/BUNGALOW
OTHER/ENGLISH COTTAGE
OTHER/MINIMAL TRADITIONAL

Materials:

foundation Brick; Stone/Granite; Concrete
walls Wood/Weatherboard; Brick; Stone/Granite; Synthetics/Vinyl
roof Asphalt
other N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

Berkeley Park Historic District is located in Fulton County in northwest Atlanta, in an area dominated by light industrial and commercial development on Howell Mill Road and Northside Drive. The district encompasses the intact and contiguous historic residences, commercial buildings, and community landmark buildings constructed between 1920 and 1952. The neighborhood began to develop in 1921 when the area was platted for development. The neighborhood features a gridded street pattern, small lots, large mature trees, grass lawns, foundation plantings, sidewalks, and some historic granite curbing.

Most of the houses in the neighborhood are one- to one-and-a-half stories in height, with a few two-story houses also within the proposed district boundaries. The houses sit close together on small lots and share a uniform setback. The predominant architectural style represented in the district is

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

Craftsman (photographs 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 21, 26, and 28). Other styles represented in the district include Folk Victorian and English Vernacular Revival (photograph 4, foreground). The house types represented in the Berkeley Park Historic District include gabled ell, bungalow (photographs 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 21, 26, and 28), English cottage (photograph 4, foreground), minimal traditional (photographs 3, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, and 27), and central hall (photographs 1 and 10). According to Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings, a statewide context, these architectural styles and house types were popular in Georgia during the historic period.

There are commercial buildings scattered within the district along Antone Street and at the east and west ends of Bellemeade. Most of the commercial development within the district boundaries is nonhistoric, however there is one historic commercial building on Antone Street at the edge of the district (photograph 25, background).

Two community landmark buildings are located within the Berkeley Park Historic District. Underwood Methodist Church (photograph 7) was constructed in 1920, before the neighborhood was platted for development. The front-gabled building is constructed of granite and features a projecting entrance gable with a central entrance and stained glass windows. Also in the district is Atlanta Fire Department Station #23 (photograph 14). Constructed in 1948, the one-story, brick building features characteristics of the International style including the flat roof, windows flush with the outer wall, smooth, unornamented wall surfaces, and an asymmetrical façade. The building is the only example of the International style in the district and it is the last historic community landmark building constructed in the Berkeley Park neighborhood.

There is a large modern apartment complex (photograph 9, background) in the district that was constructed on historically vacant land. The complex was built in 1948 but was extensively remodeled in 1996. Several large-scale modern houses and condominium buildings (photographs 22, 23 and 26, background), also located within the district, were constructed on land where historic houses once stood.

The areas outside of the district boundaries include modern commercial and light industrial development (photographs 5, background, 6, 10, at left, 24, at right, 25, and 28, background).

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

Architecture
Community Planning and Development
Transportation

Period of Significance:

1920-1952

Significant Dates:

1920-Construction date of Underwood Methodist Church (oldest extant building)
1921-Berkeley Park subdivision platted
1948-Date of construction of Atlanta Fire Department Station #23

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Unknown

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Berkeley Park Historic District is significant in the area of architecture for its good and intact collection of historic residential and community landmark buildings. The historic residential buildings were constructed from the 1920s into the 1940s. Most of these buildings, as identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings, a statewide context, reflect the types and styles of significant houses constructed in Georgia's urban neighborhoods in the early 20th century. Architectural styles represented in the district include Folk Victorian, English Vernacular Revival, and Craftsman. House types represented in the district include gabled ell, English cottage, bungalow, and minimal traditional. The Craftsman style, referring to the exterior ornament and decoration, and the bungalow type, referring to the form and floor plan, are the most widely used in the district, and are commonly used together. Character-defining features of these houses include variety of materials, low-pitched gabled roofs, half-timbering, wide overhanging eaves with decorative brackets or braces, exposed rafter tails, porches with short square columns set on heavy masonry piers, multi-light-over-one double-hung-sash windows, and an asymmetrical, open functional floor plan. Berkeley Park is significant for its concentration of modest housing that was developed over a short period of time. This differs from other Atlanta urban neighborhoods that are larger in scale and developed from the late 19th century into the mid-20th century, and contained large, high style houses in addition to the more modest houses like those in Berkeley Park. Some of these neighborhoods are listed in the National Register of Historic Places including Inman Park Historic District, listed on July 23, 1973, Candler Park Historic District, listed on September 8, 1983, and Oakland City Historic District, listed on April 11, 2003. The district is also significant for its community landmark buildings that are represented by Underwood Methodist Church and the International-style Atlanta Fire Department Station #23.

The district is significant in the areas of community planning and development and transportation for its intact plan that was platted for development in 1921 and its proximity to an existing trolley line. Unlike other streetcar suburbs Berkeley Park was platted by an independent developer as opposed to being developed in conjunction with or by streetcar companies, which was the case with Oakland City in south Atlanta. Berkeley Park was a neighborhood developed to attract working-class white families in northwest Atlanta. The neighborhood is a residential island surrounded by nonhistoric commercial and light industrial development. Berkeley Park is also significant for the landscaped setting of the neighborhood typical of planned subdivisions in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Yards are informally landscaped with mature trees and foundation plantings some containing low granite retaining walls. Streets are lined with large mature trees that form a canopy on some streets throughout the neighborhood adding to the cohesive nature of the area.

National Register Criteria

Berkeley Park Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development and transportation for its subdivision plan laid out in 1921 and for its development as a working-class neighborhood near industrial areas in Atlanta. The district is also eligible for listing under Criterion C in the area of architecture for is

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

collection of good and intact example of early to mid-20th century house styles and types popular in Georgia during the historic period.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Berkeley Park Historic District begins in 1920, the construction date of the oldest known extant building, and ends in 1952, the end of the historic period.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

Contributing resources within the Berkeley Park Historic District include those constructed during the historic period that are significant in the areas of architecture and community planning and development. These resources include residential, commercial, and community landmark buildings such as Underwood Methodist Church and Atlanta Fire Department Station #23.

Noncontributing resources in the district are those constructed after 1952 (photographs 6, 9, 15, background, 19, 22, 23, and 24, background) and those that have lost their historic integrity due to significant alterations.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

****NOTE: The following history was compiled by Dwight Glover, President, Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association and property owner, December, 2000. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.**

The Berkeley Park neighborhood was originally part of a very large farm owned by John Whitley. Mr. Whitley obtained the land in 1835 in the original land lottery grant from the state. Jesse Wood obtained the land in 1847 from H. H. Embry. Mr. Wood immigrated to the United States with his family from Dublin, Ireland in 1800. Mr. Wood's farm stretched from Peachtree Creek to the north, Atlanta Water Works to the south, Howell Mill Road to the west to and Spring Street to the east. Mr. Wood then split the land among his sons. E.H. Wood received the land where Berkeley Park is currently located from his father Jesse in 1874. E.H. was the first minister of Peachtree Road Methodist Church. E.H. subdivided the land and began developing it in 1921.

In the 1920's Berkeley Park had just a handful of homes scattered throughout the area. At this time, the area was mostly farmland, cow pastures and meadows. With the exception of Northside Drive (from Collier Road to Bellemeade Avenue), the east end of Bellemeade Avenue and one section of Holmes Street, most of the current roads were in place. They were, however, all still dirt at the time.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Civil War historians believe that Berkeley Park was located on several trench lines that ran along Bellemeade Avenue. The spot at the corner of Bellemeade Avenue and Tallulah Street provided an excellent vantage point for soldiers to see northward due to its height. In 1993 a Berkeley Park resident using a metal detector found several Confederate bullets and a silver button from a Confederate uniform on a property on Bellemeade Avenue. The items were imbedded about 7 inches below the soil line.

In the early days of Berkeley Park families most often purchased their homes with the intent to live in them the rest of their lives. There are still have two current residents who were born and raised in our community. Ruby Parker was born in 1908 on a farm located approximately where Interstate 75 and Northside Drive currently meet, within a few feet of the boundaries of Berkeley Park. Ruby is the only current resident we have confirmed that actually attended E.P. Howell School (non-extant) that was located on Bowen Street. In addition, Katherine Kent was born in 1927 in the home in which she now resides. The house was originally owned by her grandparents, then passed down to Katherine's parents, and finally to Katherine. Three generations of both Ruby's and Katherine's families lived in Berkeley Park.

In the early part of the 1900's most residents made their living off the land, however some owned or worked in small businesses in the area. Each property had an outhouse in the back yard that was serviced by a businessman who arrived by horse and cart. The homes were heated either by wood or coal fireplaces or kerosene cook stoves and lighted by kerosene lamps. Each home had a well that provided water.

Evan P. Howell Grammar School (non-extant) was located west of the district on Bowen Street during the early 1900s. Ruby Parker, a long-time resident, recalled the principal then was Fanny Bettis. Fanny and her twin brother built identical houses across the street from each other. They were located approximately where Howell Mill and Interstate 75 currently meet. Her brother owned and operated a slaughterhouse in the area. Fanny also taught 7th grade while acting as the principal. She and her brother started the Methodist Church on DeFoods Avenue (outside the district boundaries).

In 1928 E. P. Howell Grammar School moved to Howell Mill Road and White Street (north of the district). It remained at that location until 1988 when it was demolished. Many of the residents and their children attended E.P. Howell at White Street. One of our residents remembers walking to school in the mid- 1930's. "We walked to school, rain or shine. It seemed like a very long walk but we walked with waves of kids from farther down DeFoods Avenue. There was an old lumber yard at the corner of Howell Mill Road and White Street and the Addy family lived next door." Addy's Filling Station was subsequently built on the site. On the opposite corner was the Wylie Underwood home. Mr. Underwood had a wonderful outdoor fishpond that drew the attention of E.P. Howell students.

Most residents attended the churches in the area. Each of the original churches is still serving the community to this day. These include Northside Park Baptist Church on Howell Mill Road (outside the district boundaries), which was established in 1907, and Underwood Methodist Church, which

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

was founded in 1914.

Underwood Methodist Church, located on the corner of Howell Mill Road and Holmes Street, began when a Sunday School class was started by Mrs. Byron Bettis, Sr., Mrs. M. J. Brown, Grandma Brown, Purvis Cranshaw and Claude Bennett. The first meeting was in Grandma Brown's home with ten people in attendance. The following year several places were used for meetings. During the summer of 1915, Reverend J. W. Cranshaw held a tent revival on the corner of Howell Mill Road and Ridgeway Avenue. The ladies of the church brought an old organ to the meeting and services began. The idea to organize a church with regular services was sparked during this revival. The first church was constructed on DeFours Avenue, across from Springer Street. It had a dirt floor with sawdust on the ground, rough benches, kerosene lamps, and a platform for the choir. The church continued to grow and in 1917 Reverend M. L. Underwood became pastor. The members decided if a lot could be secured they would build a "real" church. A lot at the corner of Holmes Street and Howell Mill Road was purchased and a new church was built in 1920. The church was built of granite that was hauled from the nearby Harper's Quarry on DeFours Avenue. The total cost of the building was \$10,000 and was almost paid for by the time the building was completed. The name Underwood Methodist was in honor of Reverend Underwood. In 1938 Reverend George W. Barrett was appointed to the church. His tenure lasted eight years, the longest of any a pastor.

The businesses in the area were very different in the 1930's and 1940's than they are today. All of the businesses were small and owned by people living in the area. Some were Berkeley Park residents, like Jim Thompson who owned Thompson's Garage (non-extant) on Bellemeade Avenue, and Mr. Crane who owned Crane's Garage (non-extant) on Howell Mill Road and lived on Verner Street.

At the intersection of Howell Mill Road and Collier Road there was Springlake Pharmacy (non-extant) and Sill's Grocery (non-extant) in the 1940's. Sometime in the 1950's the Springer Grocery (non-extant) was built at this corner. One of our Berkeley Park residents, Ed McGill, managed the Springer Grocery store. Another resident, James DuBose, owned a barbershop close to this intersection. This intersection was also the end of the streetcar line. At the time, Berkeley Park and surrounding areas were considered rural.

After World War I, in the 1930's and 1940's, a number of additional homes were built in Berkeley Park. Many of the owners of these and the existing homes worked for Seaboard Railroad. Some other residents worked for Atlantic Steel, some were small business owners, and some were employed by other businesses located nearby. Almost all the women worked during these years. They worked in businesses downtown, local eateries, and businesses nearby.

Seaboard Railroad was first located on old Chattahoochee Avenue, then called Howell Yards. The restaurant at the railroad was referred to as "The Grab". The men working at Seaboard relied on the Grab (non-extant) for their frequent snacks, lunches and dinners that were literally "grabbed" as quick as the train schedules would allow. There were also rooms to be rented for overnight runs, and a company store that sold food, clothes, shoes and many other items which the employees could not

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

afford without the ability to charge towards their paycheck.

There was a time when locals were allowed to fish in the lakes of the Atlanta Water Works. There was a bandstand by the lakes that was frequented for picnics and musical programs.

The streetcars that ran along Howell Mill Road and Northside Drive were vastly used by Berkeley Park residents during the 1920's through April 19, 1949, when the last car operated. Georgia Power owned the streetcars and they were operated by the Carmen Union. When the car reached the end of the line at Collier Road, the "motorman" would reverse the seats and the steering column.

The Atlanta Stock Yards and White Provision Company were located at Brady Avenue and Howell Mill Road (south of the district). A resident recalls, "this was the area from which all the Atlanta livestock were taken from the railroad on the back side of the buildings on Brady Avenue and the front of White Provision Company. The streetcar had to switch tracks at this location and sometimes wait while the cows, horses and pigs were herded across the street."

In the late 1940's, and early 1950's some of the streets looked very different than today. Howell Mill Road was mostly lined with homes and Interstate 75 did not exist. When Interstate 75 was constructed, many homes and at least two streets, Kilgore Street and Holly Street, were demolished to make way for the interstate.

In the early 1940's Berkeley Park had its first volunteer fire department. Bill Springer, of Springer's Grocery, contributed a truck, some hoses, and brooms to the cause. The truck was parked behind Crane's Garage when not in use. Then in 1948, a fire station, Engine 23, was built on Howell Mill Road. It was originally part of the Fulton County Fire Department. On January 1, 1952, it became part of the City of Atlanta Fire Department. The current building is the original structure. In November, 1994, the city closed the station due to lack of funding. The first President of the Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association, Gwen Langston, was responsible for lobbying the city to reopen the station, which occurred September 18, 1997.

Over a six-months period, each of these residents has shared the following memories of their lives in Berkeley Park.

Anderson, Katie: (resident since 1929) Katie and her husband were already living in Berkeley Park when they built their current home in 1950. There was an alley running along the side of their home. Bellemeade Avenue was dirt and gravel. Katie remembers many rides on the streetcar, catching the car at Howell Mill Road. Both of her children attended E.P. Howell School. Her husband, J.P., worked and retired with Seaboard Railroad as a switchman. They both were born in White County, Georgia. Her children played ball on Howell Mill Road because there were few cars. Katie remembers shopping at the Springer grocery store on the corner of Howell Mill and Bellemeade and Mr. Water's store.

Black, Clyde and M.P.: (residents since 1936) Their first home was 6 Tallulah Street in 1936, which

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

is now a multi-family house for Georgia Tech students. They purchased their current home in 1942. Clyde and M.P. were born in Colbert, Georgia. Clyde canned a lot of her foods before moving to Atlanta. When her neighbors observed her moving the barrels of canned foods into their home they thought they were barrels of flour and were laughing at how much flour she had moved with her. Clyde remembers how quiet Antone Street was around 1942, "the children on Antone Street would play in the street". M.P. (Paul) worked for the Simmons Bed Company on Jones Avenue and retired after 39 years of employment there. In 1938 Clyde went to work at Stone Baking Company. They have three daughters and one son, who all attended E.P. Howell School. A neighbor remembers Clyde's good deeds, "Every time I came home with a new baby, Mrs. Clyde Black was always there with a roast, or cake and a willing hand. She is the best neighbor anyone could ever have".

Boggs, Irene: (resident since 1954) Irene was born in Dallas, Georgia and her husband, W.D. "Dee" grew up around Howell Mill Road. Irene and Dee purchased their home in 1954. Dee owned and operated the service station at Howell Mill Road and Collier Road for over 35 years. Irene and Willie Mae DuBose are sisters, and both are current residents of Berkeley Park. In addition Irene's son, Don also lives in Berkeley Park. Irene has two sons who played marbles in their front yard and camped in tents in the back yard. One of Berkeley Park resident's attended Northside Park Baptist Church and remembers the day Dee was baptized, "Dee joined the church on Easter Sunday, May, 1977. Knowing that he had a heart condition, and climbing the stairs of the church would be risky, he insisted on being baptized, and he was. Then, as he was going back down the steps after being baptized, he had a heart attack, and died".

DuBose, Willie Mae: (resident since 1955) Willie Mae and her husband, James purchased their home in 1955. They had two children, a son and a daughter. James was a barber at a shop on Howell Mill Road and Collier Road and he always walked to work. Next door to the barbershop was the service station that was owned by Dee Boggs, who is the husband of Willie Mae's sister, Irene. Willie Mae is from Dallas, Georgia and James is from South Carolina.

Fritz, Mildred and Walter: (resident since 1962) Mildred and Walter purchased their home in 1962. They have two children, a son and daughter. Walter retired from the Mason Dixon Truck Lines. Mildred worked for Rushton Doll Company for 23 years and then Flight Installation in Marietta for 17 years. Mildred is from Atlanta and Walter is from North Carolina.

Garmon, Verdal: (resident since 1947) Verdal and her husband, Frank, built their home in 1947. Frank's brother-in-law, Mr. Williamson was the builder. The area around their home was mostly wooded with a few cow pastures mixed in, including where Howell Mill Ridge Apartments are currently located. They were hooked up to the city sewer system in 1955, the same year the roads were paved. Edgar Garmon, Frank's brother, lived across the street. Verdal is from Dawson County and came to Atlanta in 1943. Verdal and Frank both worked at Fulton Bag Cotton Mill for 39 years, until it closed in 1973. They made tent cloth and uniform materials at the mill.

Green, Margaret: (resident since 1966) Margaret grew up off Lynburg Drive and attended old E. River School and North Fulton. She and her husband, John married in 1937 and moved to Berkeley

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Park in 1966. They owned Green Bag Company, which made and sold different types of burlap and cotton bags. Later John worked at B&H Boiler Works for over 40 years. John was born on Marietta Street at Fort Hood Place. Another existing resident remembers John very well and recalled that "it is highly unlikely you would ever meet a man as happy, smiling, honestly glad to greet you, as Johnny Green!" Margaret worked for Elliott's Business Machines for 18 years, which later changed names to Dymo, located on Antone Street in Berkeley Park. She still works as a bookkeeper for her son, Eddie Green, who is also a resident of Berkeley Park.

Green, Eddie: (resident since 1971) Eddie's father, John did some business with a fellow named Obar Hawkins. Obar built most of the steps and chimneys on Berkeley Avenue. Eddie can remember playing on Berkeley Avenue, while his father was conducting business with Obar, when he was between the ages of five and eight years. Eddie's family lived on a dairy farm off DeFours Ferry. He rode the streetcar frequently and attended E.P. Howell School. Eddie remembers when a section of Collier Road that was west of Howell Mill Road was still a dirt road. When it would rain, the road would wash out.

Gregory, Dorothy: (resident since 1941) Dorothy's husband was in World War II. He was in the 10th Mountain Division in Italy. His parents lived next door to their home, which was built in 1940. Mr. Gregory and his father owned and operated a plumbing company from their home. The Gregory's built a fishpond at the back door. Once, the city's water main broke, increasing the water level in the creek at the back of their property and flooding their fish pond and yard.

Kent, Katherine: (resident since 1927) Katherine was born in her existing home at 800 Holmes Street. It was first owned by her grandparents and then her parents. Her grandparents purchased the lot in 1910 for \$750, paying \$10 down and \$10 per month. Her father, Robert William Kent worked with Davison Paxon. Katherine attended E.P. Howell School and never married. Katherine worked at Davidson Paxon, (later purchased by Macy's) and then worked at Butterick Fashion Marketing for over 37 years.

Lanier, Johnnie: (resident since 1949) Johnnie grew up in this area and attended Rossville School off of Moores Mill Road. Johnnie and her husband, Aaron, purchased their home in 1949. They are the original owners of the home. Apparently their lot was used as a dumpsite before their home was built, since it was sloping down a hill, people could just throw their debris down the hill. Aaron worked for Seaboard Railroad for 37 years. He often walked to work. A lot of the employees ate at a restaurant called the "Comic" where Johnnie worked for 12 years. Johnnie has a son who attended E.P. Howell School.

Langston, Gwen: (resident since 1961) Gwen was born and raised around the Georgia Institute of Technology (northeast of the district). She visited friends that lived in Berkeley Park. When Gwen was six years old her family purchased a home on DeFours. Gwen attended E.P. Howell and then West Fulton, which brings to mind one of her first memories of the streetcars. "We would walk from our house on DeFours Avenue to the corner of Howell Mill Road to catch the streetcar for wherever we wanted to go. We did not have an automobile and this was our only mode of transportation. I

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

suppose at times we looked like a line of ducks as we walked the distance." When Gwen married her husband, Bill they also lived for about 17 years on DeFoor's. In 1961 they purchased a home at 708 Berkeley Avenue, which they resided in for 12 years before purchasing their current home at 810 Berkeley Avenue. Bill worked and retired with Seaboard Railroad. Gwen and their two children often used the train for trips to a variety of places.

Massey, Philip: (resident since 1959) Philip lived at 793 Berkeley as a teenager. Philip remembers a baseball diamond, they call it the "Red Diamond", where the Antone Street Tigers played ball. It occupied an area near Berkeley Avenue and Antone Street. Philip attended E.P. Howell School and Fulton High. He often rode the streetcars and remembers watching the trolley conductor reverse the seats and steering column at the end of the line at Collier Road. The fare was \$.10 for adults and \$.05 for school children. Philip's father was in car sales. Philip worked for Keen Edge Company (extant), a hardware store on Edgewood for 36 years. It is still there today. He purchased his present home in 1959. One of the members of Northside Park Baptist Church remembers Philip, "After Sunday School I would run up to the Choir room to visit a great man, Philip Massey. I would tell him about the past week's events and give him the pictures I made that morning in Sunday School. Philip would always give me money for the church collection."

McGill, Ed and Willie: (resident since 1958) Ed and Willie purchased their current home in 1958. Ed worked in the retail grocer business. He worked at Piggly Wiggly and also managed the Springer Grocery store at the corner of Howell Mill Road and Collier Road from 1960 to 1973 (after Mr. Springer had passed away). Ed also managed several smaller stores in Atlanta over the years. Ed was born in Decatur, Georgia and Willie was born in Gilmore County, Georgia.

McKenzie, Katie: (resident since 1962) Katie was born in Summerville, Georgia and her husband, Taylor Conley, "Shorty", was born in Trion, Georgia. Katie's parents were farmers. In 1960 Katie and Shorty purchased their present home, which was built in the 1940's. Conley's uncle lived in Grant Park (northwest of the district) and encouraged them to move into the area. Katie and Conley have a son. Conley worked Seaboard Railroad and retired from there after 34 years. Katie remembers "Conley would run his hunting dogs on the land where the Castlegate Hotel and Interstate 75 are now located". She also remembers, "the old wooden streetcars on Howell Mill Road and the old water tank at the railroad yard on Chattahoochee Avenue." When Conley first went to work for the railroad he made \$.36 per hour, \$85 per month. Katie worked at several places, Automatic Spooler, Nurser Bra Plant, Sun Halter Plant, and Dymo Industrial and Fulton Bag Cotton Mill. Katie made \$15 a week at the Fulton Bag Cotton Mill in 1941.

Parker, Ruby: (resident since 1958) Three generations of Ruby's family lived in Berkeley Park. Ruby was born and raised on a farm that was within several yards of Berkeley Park, approximately where Interstate 75 and Northside Drive exist today. Ruby's father, Edward Born grew and sold vegetables to the local grocers, including Springer Grocery. He delivered his goods with a mule and horse. Ruby had 12 siblings and she attended the original Evan P. Howell Grammar School on Bowen Street, on the west side of Howell Mill Road. Ruby remembers Mrs. Spencer, who owned a large farm that occupied an area that today would be the corner of Bellemeade Avenue, west of

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Howell Mill Road. This was before 1928, when Evan P. Howell was built. Mrs. Spencer would not allow the city to cut a road through her land, so people would drive their cars or horses through her land to get between what is now a section of Northside Drive and Bellemeade Avenue, in order to access Howell Mill Road. Mrs. Spencer's farmhouse was located at what would today be the corner of Northside Drive and Bellemeade Avenue. James Edwards, Ruby's husband, worked for and retired from Gaylord Paper Company. Ruby worked for the Marietta Bomber Plant assisting in assembling airplanes during World War II.

Thompson, Mattie: (resident since 1927) Mattie met her husband, Jim, in the neighborhood. Mattie, her mother, and sister moved from Cumming, Georgia to Bellemeade Avenue. After Mattie and Jim were married, they purchased their current home in 1936. Jim worked for Atlantic Steel and later owned and operated Thompson's Garage on Bellemeade Avenue, with two of his brothers. Mattie later started her own business from her home making exquisite custom made draperies.

Wigley, Alma: (resident since 1942) Alma and her husband, Berlin, purchased their home in 1942. Tallulah was a dirt road at the time and they thought themselves to be living in the country then. They had electricity, but they did not have indoor plumbing or gas. They had a wood stove and a coal heater. They had a well on the back porch for drawing water. They had hogs and chickens in the back yard. Alma is from Gwinnett County and Berlin is from Dallas, Georgia. Alma worked at Montags, a paper company located downtown where the Omni Hotel is currently located. Berlin worked at the Murray Shell Company and then King Plow.

9. Major Bibliographic References

- Anderson, Katie. Resident. Interview by Tom Hawley, February, 1999.
- Atlanta City Council Meeting minutes, 1942.
- Atlanta City Directory, 1924.
- Atlas of Fulton County Land Districts, 1930.
- Black, Clyde and M.P. Residents. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Boggs, Irene. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- DuBose, Willie Mae. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Fritz, Mildred and Walter. Residents. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Garmon, Verdal. Resident. Interview by Dwight Glover, February, 1999.
- Garrett, Franklin M. Atlanta and Environs 2 vols. New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1954.
- Glover, Dwight. Historic Property Information Form. December, 2000. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. With Supplemental information.
- Green, Eddie. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Green, Margaret. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Gregory, Dorothy. Resident. Interview by Dwight Glover, February, 1999.
- Kent, Katherine. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Lanier, Johnnie. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Langston, Gwen. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Massey, Philip. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- McGill, Ed and Willie. Residents. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- McKenzie, Katie. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Parker, Ruby. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott, February, 1999.
- Thompson, Mattie. Resident. Interview by Linda Alcott. February, 1999.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Wigley, Alma. Resident. Interview by Dwight Glover, February, 1999.

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

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**
date issued:
- previously listed in the National Register**
- previously determined eligible by the National Register**
- designated a National Historic Landmark**
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #**
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #**

Primary location of additional data:

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

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

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 57 acres

UTM References

A)	Zone 16	Easting 739800	Northing 3743098
B)	Zone 16	Easting 739812	Northing 3742534
C)	Zone 16	Easting 739190	Northing 3742530
D)	Zone 16	Easting 739178	Northing 3743086

Verbal Boundary Description

The proposed boundary of the Berkeley Park Historic District is indicated on the attached map by a heavy black line.

Boundary Justification

The proposed boundary of the Berkeley Park Historic District includes the intact and contiguous historic residential and community landmark resources associated with the development of the Berkeley Park neighborhood. The residential neighborhood is surrounded by nonhistoric commercial and light-industrial development.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Holly L. Anderson, National Register Historian
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** May 1, 2003
e-mail holly_anderson@dnr.state.ga.us

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

name/title Dwight Glover, President
organization Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association
mailing address 777 Forrest Avenue, N.W.
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30318-7617
telephone (404)351-0640
e-mail

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

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Dwight Glover, President
organization (if applicable) Berkeley Park Neighborhood Association
mailing address 777 Forrest Avenue, N.W.
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30318-7617
e-mail (optional)

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Berkeley Park Historic District
City or Vicinity: Atlanta
County: Fulton
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: July, 2002

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 28


1. Verner Street; photographer facing southwest.
2. Bellemeade Avenue; photographer facing west.
3. Bellemeade Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
4. Corner of Bellemeade Avenue and Buchanan Street; photographer facing west.
5. Bellemeade Avenue; photographer facing west.
6. Bellemeade Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
7. Underwood Methodist Church, Howell Mill Road; photographer facing southeast.
8. Holmes Street; photographer facing east.
9. Corner of Holmes Street and Buchanan Street; photographer facing southeast.
10. Corner of Howell Mill Road and Verner Street; photographer facing north.
11. Verner Street; photographer facing southwest.
12. Antone Street; photographer facing northwest.
13. Antone Street; photographer facing west.
14. Atlanta Fire Department Station #23, Howell Mill Road; photographer facing southeast.
15. Berkeley Avenue; photographer facing northwest.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

16. Berkeley Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
17. Berkeley Avenue; photographer facing southwest.
18. Forrest Street; photographer facing northwest.
19. Forrest Street; photographer facing west.
20. Berkeley Avenue; photographer facing southeast.
21. Berkeley Avenue; photographer facing west.
22. Antone Street; photographer facing southwest.
23. Antone Street; photographer facing northwest.
24. Antone Street; photographer facing southwest.
25. Antone Street; photographer facing southwest.
26. Holmes Street; photographer facing northwest.
27. Corner of Tallulah Street and Holmes Street; photographer facing southwest.
28. Holmes Street; photographer facing southwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

Berkeley Park Historic District
 Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia
 National Register Boundary: 
 Contributing Resources: ●
 Noncontributing Resources: ○
 Vacant Lots: ∇
 Photograph Direction/Number: ①
 Scale: 1" = approximately 250'
 North: ↑

