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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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

1 Name of I	Transmitt.					
1. Name of I	roperty				RECEIVED 2280	4
historic names	ne Ellis, R s/site number	lutherford and Ma Loblolly Hi	•		MAR <b>2 6</b> 2009	
2. Location						
street & nuncity, town county state  ( ) not for p	Atlanta Fulton Georgia	est Wesley Road ( ) vicinity code GA 121 code GA		30305	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
3. Classifica	ation					
Ownership o	of Property:		(	Category	y of Property:	
(x) private ( ) public-lo ( ) public-si ( ) public-fe	tate		( ( (	x) buildi ) distri ) site ) struc ) objec	ict Éture	
Number of F	Resources wit	hin Property:	Contributi	ng	<b>Noncontributing</b>	
	buildings sites structures objects total		1 0 0 0 1		2 0 0 0 2	

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

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

As the designated authority under the National Historic that this nomination meets the documentation standard Historic Places and meets the procedural and profession opinion, the property meets the National Register criterians.	s for registering properties in the National Register of onal requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my
Richard Cloves	3. (9.09 Date
Signature of certifying official  W. Ray Luce Historic Preservation Division Director Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	Date
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:  (v) entered in the National Register	Edson H. Beall 5.6.09
( ) determined eligible for the National Register	
( ) determined not eligible for the National Register	
( ) removed from the National Register	
( ) other, explain:	Λ
( ) see continuation sheet	Keeper of the National Register Date

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

#### 6. Function or Use

#### **Historic Functions:**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

**Current Functions:** 

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

## 7. Description

#### **Architectural Classification:**

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

#### **Materials:**

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other BRICK (chimney)

## Description of present and historic physical appearance:

#### SUMMARY DESCRIPTION:

Located in a residential area of Buckhead in northwest Atlanta, the Rutherford and Martha Ellis House is a one-story frame cottage with a rear ell and an enclosed side porch. The house was constructed in 1939 based on designs by the prominent Atlanta firm of Hentz, Adler & Shutze, and remains remarkably intact. Sitting on a hill far back from West Wesley Road, it is reached by a curving asphalt drive through a wooded landscape. The appearance from the front (south) façade is deceptively small and simple due to the understated Colonial Revival features, but much of the massing is to the rear. The main section of the front (excluding the side porch) is symmetrical with five bays and a central door with five-light transom and decorative pilasters. It has wood weatherboard siding, a brick foundation, and 12-over-12 double-hung windows with exterior wooden shutters. The central chimney is on the ridgeline of the steeply pitched side-gabled roof. The frontgabled porch extends forward from a side hyphen (a garage and kitchen) on the right (east) side. The porch's screening was replaced with glass in the late 1970s. The rear wing of the L-shaped house extends from behind the left (west) side, forming a cross-gabled section with another hyphen in the rear. The interior of the main section has a central hall with a stairway that leads to an upstairs bedroom under the roofline. The front rooms are a library and dining room on the east and a living room on the west. The kitchen is to the rear of the side porch. The rear ell has three bedrooms. The interior retains significant original features such as plaster walls, mahogany shelves and panels, paneled wainscoting and doors, beamed ceilings, and wood mantels and trim. Mechanical systems are in the basement. The two outbuildings are a garage and a small rear studio constructed in 1983. The large rolling city lot has informal landscaping with mature ornamental trees and shrubs, obscuring the house from the roadway.

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#### **FULL DESCRIPTION:**

The exterior of the Rutherford and Martha Ellis House is based on a historical antecedent – the relatively plain house built in 1770 for Benjamin Colby in Wiscasset, Maine. Photographs of this house, also known as the Clapp house or presently the Lilac Cottage, were published in *The White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs* in the 1920s. A revival of interest in early New England architecture flourished during this time. The south and west sides of the Ellis house are virtually identical to the Clapp house, even though the architect hired by Ellis, Philip Trammell Shutze, is better known for his Neoclassical estates and his interpretations of the Italian Baroque.

The Ellis house is an excellent example of a Colonial Revival-style residence. It is one story in height with a partially finished attic. It faces south toward West Wesley Road, but is set back approximately 450 feet on a deep narrow lot. The plan is roughly L-shaped with a rectangular main mass, a bedroom extension on the left (west) rear, and a side hyphen on the right (east) with attached garage and enclosed porch. The garage is set back and oriented to the side, and the porch extends to the front from the garage and tends to obscure it. The main section of the house has five bays with a central door flanked by two windows on each side. The foundation is continuous brick, and the siding is five-inch wood weatherboard. There is one central brick chimney on the ridgeline of the sidegabled roof. Construction photographs show that this chimney is supported by a massive arch in the basement. The side porch has a front-facing gable and the rear ell has a gable that extends laterally. Roofing consists of new asphalt shingles.

In the Ellis house, the Colonial Revival style is reflected in the simple symmetry of the main mass, the steeply pitched roof, and the 12-over-12 double-hung windows with functioning wooden shutters (photograph 1). Most windows on all sides of the house retain this form, with the exception of the large windows placed in the side porch when it was enclosed in the 1970s (photograph 3). On the front, the six-paneled wood entry door is topped by a fixed transom with five lights (photograph 23). The door surround is in the form of simple wood pilasters, which are repeated as elements in the side porch. This door is reached by a small, low, brick stoop. No dormers are visible on the front of the house, but there is one rear dormer on the main mass and two small, gabled, attic dormers on the rear ell (photographs 17 and 19). The two rear dormers were added as part of a recent (2007) rehabilitation.

Inside the front door there is a small foyer that leads back to the central hallway and also to the two front rooms, one on each side. (Photograph 9 was taken from this foyer and photograph 13 looks toward it.) The interior departs from the exterior symmetry, because the front rooms are not uniform in size, and therefore subsequent rooms do not line up, as they would in a Georgian plan house. On the west side is a large living room with the house's only fireplace (photographs 5, 6, 7, 8). Wood panels above the fireplace connect to a ceiling beam that bisects the room. There are also painted wood panels under each window at the same level as the chair railing. To the east of the foyer is the library, which features Philippine mahogany paneling and built-in bookshelves (photograph 10). The mahogany was supplied by Martha Ellis' grandfather, Jacob Fassett of Elmira, New York, who owned a lumber mill in the Philippines. Original hardware throughout the house (appropriately simple brass knobs, escutcheons, window locks, and thresholds) all came from the P. & F. Corbin Hardware

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Company. Original plaster also remains largely intact and has been recently repaired.

The central hallway is reached through a doorway from the entry foyer. It has an open staircase that is oriented from the back to the front and leads to the attic (photograph 13). The area under the roofline was constructed with one bedroom and one bathroom, but that space has recently been expanded (photographs 15 and 16). Under the staircase is a paneled door leading to the basement, which contains the mechanical equipment such as heating and cooling systems. The central hallway takes a dogleg turn and provides access to the three bedrooms and two bathrooms in the rear ell. The largest bedroom is shown in photograph 14. A small extension beyond this bedroom wing consists of dressing areas constructed in 1980.

The dining room is located behind the library and is reached by the central hallway. The door between the library and dining room (on the left in photograph 11) is not shown on the architectural drawings, but was reportedly requested by Martha Ellis. The shell-arched corner cupboards in the dining room are also not on the drawings, but are consistent with other work by Philip Trammell Shutze. They may have been part of a 1970s decorative scheme and kitchen renovation by the W. E. Brown Decorating Company. (This renovation was reportedly supervised by Shutze, who was the uncle of second owner Sarah Cates Blythe.)

The kitchen is immediately to the east of the dining room and has been renovated twice – once in the 1970s and a second time recently (2007) by the present owners. The pantry that was originally between the kitchen and the porch was removed in the 1970s. The wall that separated the kitchen/pantry area from the front porch was also removed, creating a large open area (photograph 12). The screened porch was enclosed with glass, making it part of the larger interior space. The house was built with an attached garage, which would have been a relatively new phenomenon in 1939. That garage was recently extended to the east with a small open entry portico on one side (photograph 4).

The house remains remarkably intact with only two expansions of the footprint – the garage extension on the east side and the bedroom extension on the north, as described in previous paragraphs. Roofing and mechanical systems have been upgraded or replaced over the years.

The Ellis family had a separate greenhouse built to the rear of the house. This was demolished and replaced in 1983 with a studio designed by Anthony Ames (photograph 24). The detached garage in photograph 24 is a recent (2000s) construction. The rear brick patio seen in photographs 17, 18 and 19 was completed in the early 1970s as part of landscape changes by landscape architect Dan Franklin. Another landscape designer, Julia Martin, also planned the front yard (after 1980).

The house sits on a hill to the rear of the property and is reached by a long curving driveway from West Wesley Road. The surrounding area is residential with mostly large houses and lots, but the Ellis parcel is much larger than most. The front yard of the Ellis house features rolling terrain with a mature wooded landscape in a naturalistic setting with both evergreen and deciduous trees. Ornamental trees and shrubs near the house include dogwood, crepe myrtle and tulip magnolia. Bulbs, vines and perennials are planted in surrounding garden areas.

Certifying offi properties:	cial has co	nsidered the	significance	of this prop	erty in relation	on to other
( ) nationally	( x) <b>st</b>	atewide	(x) locally			
Applicable Na	itional Regi	ister Criteria:	:			
( x) <b>A</b> (	) B	( x) <b>C</b>	( ) <b>D</b>			
Criteria Consi	iderations (	(Exceptions):	: (X) <b>N/A</b>			
( ) <b>A</b> (	) B	( ) <b>C</b>	( ) <b>D</b>	( ) <b>E</b>	( ) <b>F</b>	( ) <b>G</b>
Areas of Sign	ificance (er	nter categorie	es from instr	uctions):		
ARCHITECTU	RE					
SOCIAL HISTO	ORY					
Period of Sigr	nificance:					
1939 - 1959						
Significant Da	ites:					
1939 – constru	ction of the	house				
Significant Pe	erson(s):					
N/A						
Cultural Affilia	ation:					
N/A						
Architect(s)/B	uilder(s):					
Shutze, Philip	Trammell –	architect				
Means, James	("Jimmy") –	· draftsman				
Van Winkle and	d Company	– builders				

8. Statement of Significance

Section 8--Statement of Significance

#### Statement of significance (areas of significance)

#### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

Rutherford and Martha (Hodgson) Ellis acquired the property, which was then a larger tract of land several miles outside Atlanta city limits, in 1938. They referred to the surrounding pine forest as "Loblolly Hill." Rutherford Ellis was a successful businessman and philanthropist who worked in insurance, real estate, property management, and mortgage loans. Ellis engaged noted Atlanta architect Philip Trammell Shutze to design a house based on a Colonial cottage built in 1770 in Wiscasset, Maine. The unpretentious home design was a departure for Shutze who was famous for larger neoclassical estates. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis were active in the details of the house, such as providing Philippine mahogany for the library and erecting a greenhouse (no longer extant). The Ellis house is significant in the area of architecture at the statewide level as an excellent and intact example of the work of Hentz, Adler, & Shutze based on a renewed public enthusiasm for colonial precedents coinciding with the recent restoration of Colonial Williamsburg. It represents the work of a master melded with the desires of a client who wanted an adaptation of a house from an earlier period. Shutze was an expert at derivative detailing while also creating his own signature. The property is significant locally in the area of social history for the contributions of Rutherford Ellis to Atlanta's commercial and social life through his activities as president of Lipscomb-Ellis Company, founder of Southern General Insurance, national chairman of the American Cancer Society, member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and trustee of Trebor Foundation and Egleston Hospital, among others.

#### **DETAILED SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT:**

In the area of architecture, the significance of the Ellis house is twofold – both as an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style and as the work of a master, Philip Trammell Shutze. A new interest in America's colonial heritage grew out of the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876. By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century colonial buildings were being carefully studied for correct proportions and details. In some cases this resulted in almost exact copies, while some architects borrowed mostly details in their work. Beginning in 1915, The White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs was dominated by photographs of colonial buildings, leading to a wider understanding of early prototypes. The Ellis house is significant because its design grew directly out of one of the houses illustrated in this series - the "Clapp House" built in 1770 for Benjamin Colby in Wiscasset, Maine. (This house still exists as the Lilac Cottage antiques shop.) The Colonial Revival was very popular in Georgia from the 1890s through the 1940s and beyond. The movement gained momentum beginning in 1926 with the restoration and reconstruction of Colonial Williamsburg. For at least two more decades, interpretations of Williamsburg designs would be ubiquitous on houses, banks, and public buildings. The Ellis house reflects the Colonial Revival style through its massing, symmetry, simple classical details, and the design of windows and doors. It also reflects the understated cottages that Martha Ellis would have seen in her visits to a family home on Cape Cod. While it is not known specifically what influenced the Ellis family to choose this design, their decision fits with the predominant fashion of the time.

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By the time the Ellis family retained Philip Trammell Shutze (1890-1982) and his firm of Hentz, Adler & Shutze, the architect was already well established in his career. According to Robert M. Craig in *The New Georgia Encyclopedia*:

Philip Trammell Shutze's career as a designer emerged directly from the Atlanta architectural firm of Hentz, Reid, and Adler in Italianate and Georgian revival works of the mid-1920s. His broad training in architecture at the Georgia School of Technology, now Georgia Institute of Technology (1908-12), Columbia University (1912-13), and after he won the Rome Prize, the American Academy in Rome, Italy (1915-17, 1919-20), was punctuated by periodic experience as a draftsman for Neel Reid. The Beaux-Arts traditions that informed his education and career molded an academic architect of the first order, known during his career as America's greatest living classical architect. The Columbus native was a designer of skill, with a masterly sense of proportion and scale, and a talent seldom rivaled by his contemporaries. For forty years he designed some of Atlanta's most elegant homes and buildings.

After the death of architect Neel Reid in 1926, Philip Shutze was asked to fill his position, becoming partner in the firm, which was known as Hentz, Adler & Shutze from 1926 until 1944. After Hal Hentz retired in 1944, J. Warren Armistead became partner. In 1945 partner Adler died, and the firm became Shutze and Armistead until Armistead retired in 1950. Philip Shutze worked as a sole proprietor for a number of years, but by 1958 he retired to spend time working on his renowned collections of porcelain, antiques and rare books until his death in 1982.

The Ellis family descendents recall that Shutze was initially unenthusiastic about the project for the Colonial Revival-style house. He preferred European antecedents, and reportedly told a friend that American houses were too plain. While the Shutze name is not on the plans, this is not uncommon. According to Elizabeth Dowling in *American Classicist: The Architecture of Philip Trammell Shutze* (1989), the draftsman noted on the original plans was James ("Jimmy") Means, a talented artist who for many years worked with and developed Shutze's designs from preliminary drawings.

Although a modest home in relation to Shutze's local reputation for Beaux-Arts estates, the house has an elegant simplicity and refined design. Philip Shutze was known for designing classical homes for a wealthy clientele, mostly in the South. A clue to why he would accept the Ellis house commission is found in the following excerpt from the 1989 Masters thesis of Spencer Tunnell:

Shutze's most obvious shift is from the Italian baroque to the American Georgian. Though designs with American precedent appear early in his career, the frequency increases in the 1930s coincident with the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg. It is clear the Shutze is not merely appeasing clients whose taste he detested. Shutze's shift in preference is evident in his personal furnishings which include a significant collection of American antiques. Initially he considered these not worthy of attention, spurning them as "too plain." Shutze, coached by friends, expanded his views and found a beauty in the American vernacular promoted by Colonial Williamsburg.

The substantial shift to a preference for the colonial had reached Atlanta, and Shutze could not ignore it. One of his earliest works with an American influence was the W. H. Kiser House, also known as Knollwood, designed in 1929. That house was based on a c.1765 home in

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Stratford County, Virginia. Other Georgian or Colonial Revival houses by Shutze include the 1934 Erwin House and a 1939 house for William Healy. According to Dowling, Shutze's built work eventually leaned toward the predominant stylistic model of 18<sup>th</sup>-century American architecture.

The Ellis house is also significant in the area of <u>social history</u> for its association with the locally prominent businessman and philanthropist Rutherford Lipscomb Ellis (1904-1969). Ellis was 35 when he decided to build his house. Already successful in the insurance business, he became president of the Lipscomb-Ellis Company (formerly Lipscomb-Patillo Company) in 1938 upon the death of his uncle Rutherford Lipscomb. Ellis rapidly expanded the business to include real estate, property management, and mortgage loans. Born to a prominent family, he had attended the best schools in Atlanta, excelled in athletics, and graduated from the University of Georgia in 1925 with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism.

Rutherford Ellis was a director of a number of important companies and foundations. A member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia for 11 years, Ellis was the founder of Southern General Insurance Company and one of the founders of DeKalb County Federal Savings and Loan Association. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Piedmont Southern Life Insurance Company, Southern Mills, Inc., and the National Bank of Georgia. He was a senior warden of All Saints Episcopal Church. His civic interests included the Chamber of Commerce and the Atlanta Safety Council. He was national chairman of the American Cancer Society and a trustee of several foundations including Egleston Hospital and the Trebor Foundation. Memberships included the Piedmont Driving Club, the Capital City Club, and others.

According to a biographical sketch in Franklin Garrett's history of Atlanta, Mr. Ellis avidly pursued floriculture, and personally maintained the greenhouse at his home on West Wesley Road, operating his own tractor. He was particularly proud of his camellias, and frequently staged flower shows for his associates and friends.

## **National Register Criteria**

The Rutherford and Martha Ellis House is significant under <u>Criterion A</u> (locally) and <u>Criterion C</u> (statewide) as an excellent example of a 20<sup>th</sup>-century Colonial Revival house that was designed by the renowned Georgia firm of Hentz, Adler, & Shutze for a prominent Atlanta businessman and philanthropist.

## Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

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#### Period of significance (justification)

The house is significant from its date of construction (1939) through the end of the historic period (1959) because the original owners, Rutherford and Martha Ellis, resided in it during those years. (They remained until Rutherford Ellis' death in 1969.)

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

The house is a contributing building. The detached garage and the studio in the back yard are noncontributing buildings, because each was constructed after the period of significance.

## Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

On January 8,1821, the Creek Indians ceded the land involved in this nomination. The land was then surveyed and divided into large districts that were further divided into land lots, each containing 202.5 acres. The property that now contains the Ellis house is in Land Lot 143 of District 17. In 1822 a land lottery took place in District 17. District 17 became part of DeKalb County, which extended west to the Chattahoochee River. In 1853 DeKalb County was divided and District 17 became, and is today, part of Fulton County. District 17 remained in unincorporated Fulton County until 1952 when it became part of the city of Atlanta.

A major Indian trade route once connected the north Georgia mountains with a trading center known as Standing Peachtree. This trade route roughly followed what are now Peachtree Street and Peachtree Road. The route was important to commerce even before white settlement, and was later the main artery from downtown Atlanta to the northeast. After the land was ceded in 1821, the town and trading center was called Terminus and later Marthasville for ex-governor Wilson Lumpkin's daughter. It was renamed Atlanta in 1847, probably for the Western and Atlantic Railroad. Atlanta was designated as the Georgia capitol on April 20, 1868.

District 17 is in an area of Fulton County called Buckhead, which is about eight miles north of central Atlanta. Buckhead, once called Irbyville, was settled by Henry Irby who opened a tavern and grocery store in 1838 in an area that is roughly where Peachtree, West Paces Ferry, and Roswell roads now come together. (This "Buckhead triangle" is about one-and-a-half miles northeast of the Ellis house.) Much of the surrounding land was used for farming and timber until the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The route of nearby Peachtree Road follows a somewhat irregular north-south path along the contours of the terrain. Other trading routes in the area (such as Paces Ferry Road) once led to ferry crossings over the Chattahoochee River.

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Buckhead area was made more accessible with the installation of a trolley line, as well as the introduction and mass production of the automobile. The trolley, part of the Georgia Railway and Electric Company, extended along Peachtree Street to Buckhead in 1907. During World War I (1917), trolley service expanded to Camp Gordon at Cross Keys in the Brookhaven area, north of Buckhead. The trolley and the automobile attracted industry and business and brought new residents to Buckhead, making further development possible. The last trolley was

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removed in 1947.

Atlanta newspaper articles from 1948 and 1949 tell of significant traffic load on all surface streets leading to downtown Atlanta. Fulton County's District 17 was annexed into the city of Atlanta on January 1, 1952. The annexation of Buckhead was part of an 82-square-mile addition to the city under an initiative of Mayor William Hartsfield and city leaders that became known as the Plan of Improvement. The Plan of Improvement included recommended transportation changes. In 1952 the northern portion of the expressway connecting downtown Atlanta to Cheshire Bridge and Lenox roads in Buckhead was completed. Known as Interstate 85, this major artery extends from Virginia to Alabama, and provided nearby residents easier access to downtown Atlanta. Interstate 75 from Florida to Michigan is also easily accessible from Buckhead.

When Rutherford and Martha Ellis acquired the nominated property in 1938, it was several miles outside the Atlanta city limits and had only recently evolved into a residential area. The deep wooded tract near the intersection of Northside Drive and West Wesley Avenue had been surrounded by large estates. Residential subdivision began in 1911 with the Tuxedo Park development to the north of what would become the Ellis' property. The Peachtree Heights Park Company also developed an area that included the eastern portion of West Wesley Road. In 1926 the Haynes Manor subdivision to the south included the western part of Peachtree Battle Avenue. Most street patterns in the Buckhead suburbs tended to be curvilinear, fronted by large deep lots that retained a naturalistic landscape. Architectural styles were diverse, but many houses were large. (For a more detailed context on the development of this area, see the National Register cover document, "Historic Resources of West Paces Ferry Road," submitted in 1980 as a Multiple Resource Area.)

By 1950 the new Northside High School was built just north of the Ellis house. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for that year shows one section of dense residential development on small lots on the south side of West Wesley across from the Ellis house. The remainder of West Wesley between Northside Drive and Peachtree Road had filled in with larger homes on substantial lots in what was becoming one of Atlanta's more affluent areas. Many of the residents had moved from the older established neighborhoods of Inman Park, Druid Hills and Ansley Park.

The Ellis house has had only three owners. Rutherford Lipscomb Ellis and Martha Ellen Hodgson Ellis bought the property in 1938, and moved there the following year from their previous home in Atlanta's Ansley Park neighborhood. They hired the prominent firm of Hentz, Adler & Shutze to design the house in 1939, based on the c.1770 Colby house in Wiscasset, Maine. Martha Ellis does not recall why she chose the Colonial Revival design, but her family had roots in New England and owned property on Cape Cod. The contractor was Van Winkle and Company. Proprietor Ed Van Winkle was married to Martha Ellis' sister. Photographs from the construction show a visit from Hal Hentz of Hentz, Adler & Shutze.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis lived there with their two children, Rutherford Lipscomb, Jr., born in 1928, and Margaret, born in 1932. The Ellis family enjoyed the large grounds, and hosted gatherings for camellia lovers, including tours of the greenhouse they built in the back yard. They called the place "Loblolly Hill" referring to the surrounding pines. When Rutherford Ellis died in 1969, his widow sold

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the house to James and Sarah Cates Blythe. Mrs. Blythe was the niece of architect Philip Trammell Shutze. In the 1970s Shutze supervised a new interior decorative scheme and a remodeling of the kitchen. In 1979 Mrs. Blythe died and the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp Carr, purchased the house. The Carrs hired landscape architect Julia Martin to plan a new front yard. In 1983 they engaged architect Anthony Ames to create a separate 1,000-square-foot studio on the site of the former greenhouse.

In the 1950s Martha and Rutherford Ellis' daughter Margaret purchased property with her husband John Langford just west of her parents' house. They built their own house also in the Colonial Revival style. After her husband's death in 1969, Martha Ellis bought another house near her daughter and remained nearby, celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2005.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

- Atlanta City Directories. 1938, 1939, 1940, 1948, 1949. On file at the Atlanta History Center.
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- Dowling, Elizabeth Meredith. *American Classicist: The Architecture of Philip Trammell Shutze*. New York: Rizzoli International. 1989.
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- "Mrs. Sarah Blythe." The Atlanta Journal. 11 August 1979, p. 5c.
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- "Rutherford Ellis Rites at All Saints." The Atlanta Journal. 7 March 1969, p. 6a.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. On file at Atlanta History Center.
- Tunnell, Spencer II. "Stylistic Progression Versus Site Planning Methodology: An Analysis of the Residential Architecture of Philip Trammell Shutze." Masters thesis. University of Virginia, Charlottesville. 1989.
- Tunnell, Spencer II, and Kenneth H. Thomas. "Historic Resources of West Paces Ferry Road."

  National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form. 1980. On file at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division, Atlanta.

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Prev	ious 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 #
Prim	ary 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): N/A

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property

Approximately 3.6 acres.

**UTM References** 

Zone 16

**Easting 740106** 

Northing 3746325

## **Verbal Boundary Description**

The nominated property is marked with a heavy line, shown on the enclosed plat.

## **Boundary Justification**

The boundary is the current legal boundary, which is the remaining acreage historically associated with the house.

## 11. Form Prepared By

#### **State Historic Preservation Office**

name/title Denise Messick, Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 34 Peachtree Street, Suite 1600
city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 date February 2009
e-mail Denise.Messick@dnr.state.ga.us

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

name/title Ced Dolder (former consultant)
organization Ray & Associates
mailing address 328 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NE
city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30308
telephone (404) 607-7703
e-mail bbray57@mindspring.com

( )	property owner
(x)	consultant
( )	regional development center preservation planner
( )	other:

## **Property Owner or Contact Information**

name (property owner or contact person) Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp Carr organization (if applicable) N/A mailing address 543 West Wesley Road, NW city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30305 e-mail (optional) beauchamp.carr@woodruffcenter.org

#### **Photographs**

Name of Property: Ellis, Rutherford and Martha, House

City or Vicinity: Atlanta
County: Fulton
State: Georgia

**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart

Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources

**Date Photographed:** December 2007

## **Description of Photograph(s):**

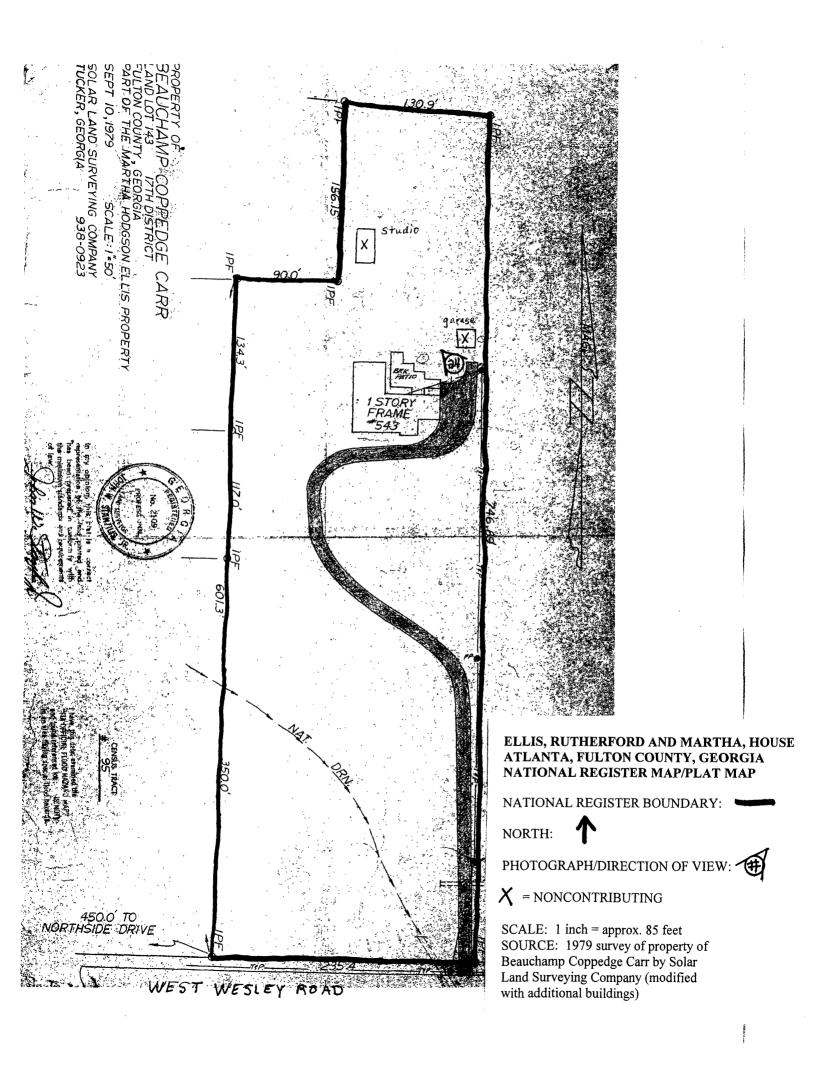
Number of photographs: 24

- 1. Front façade; photographer facing north.
- 2. Front façade and enclosed side porch; photographer facing north/northwest.
- 3. Front façade and enclosed side porch; photographer facing northwest.
- 4. East elevation and attached garage; photographer facing west.
- 5. Living room; photographer facing northeast.
- 6. Living room; photographer facing northeast.
- 7. Living room; photographer facing southeast.
- 8. Living room; photographer facing north.
- 9. Entry room, looking into living room; photographer facing west.
- 10. Library; photographer facing east.
- 11. Dining room; photographer facing west.
- 12. Enclosed porch, looking into kitchen; photographer facing north.
- 13. Central hallway and staircase; photographer facing south.
- 14. Northwest bedroom; photographer facing south.
- 15. Second floor landing; photographer facing north/northwest.
- 16. Second floor bedroom; photographer facing northwest.

#### **Photographs**

- 17. Patio and rear ell; photographer facing south/southwest.
- 18. Rear patio and backyard studio; photographer facing northwest.
- 19. Patio and rear ell; photographer facing west.
- 20. West elevation; photographer facing east.
- 21. Southwest corner of house; photographer facing northeast.
- 22. Front façade; photographer facing northwest.
- 23. Close-up of front door and windows; photographer facing north.
- 24. Rear detached garage (right) and studio (left); photographer facing north/northwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)



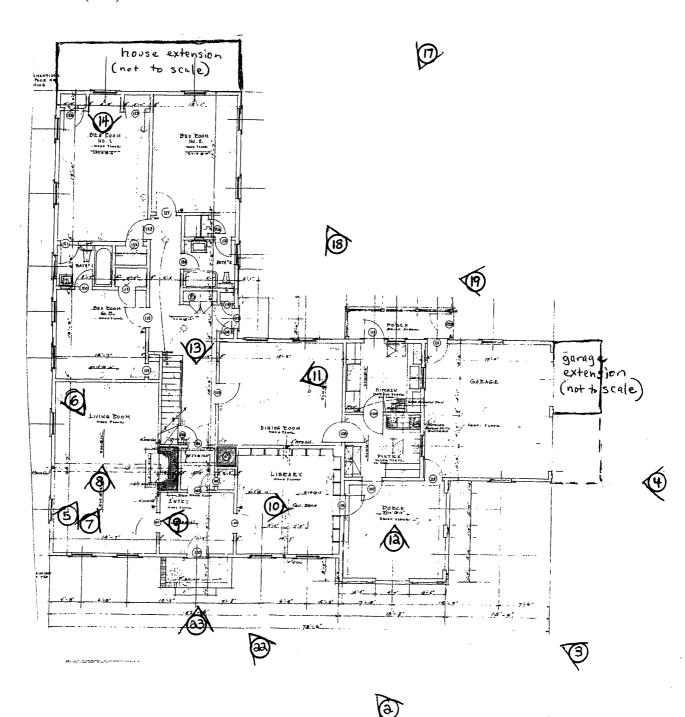
# ELLIS, RUTHERFORD AND MARTHA, HOUSE ATLANTA, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA FIRST FLOOR PLAN

NORTH:



PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW:

SCALE: 1 inch = approx. 14 feet SOURCE: Architectural drawings of Hentz, Adler & Schutze (1939)







# ELLIS, RUTHERFORD AND MARTHA, HOUSE ATLANTA, FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA SECOND FLOOR AND ROOF PLANS

NORTH:



PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW:



SCALE: 1 inch = approx. 14 feet SOURCE: Architectural drawings of Hentz, Adler & Schutze (1939)

