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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 Property

historic name Emory Grove Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Centered on North Decatur Road between the CSX railroad line and the University Park-Emory Highlands-Emory Estates Historic District.

city, town Decatur (x) vicinity of
county DeKalb **code** 089
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30307

() not for publication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:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	200	13
sites	4	0
structures	1	0
objects	0	0
total	205	13

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.

W. Ray Luce 2-21-00
Signature of certifying official Date

W. Ray Luce
Director, Historic Preservation Division,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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

Elson A. Beall 3/31/00

() determined eligible for the National Register _____

() determined not eligible for the National Register _____

() removed from the National Register _____

() other, explain: _____

() see continuation sheet
Beall _____
Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

Education: school

Religion: religious facility, church school

Current Functions:

Domestic: single dwelling

Education: school

Religion: religious facility, church school

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival, Late Gothic Revival

Materials:

foundation Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Wood: weatherboard

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Emory Grove Historic District is an approximately 90-acre residential neighborhood located between Emory University and the city of Decatur. The neighborhood is organized as a series of loop roads that branch from North Decatur Road. Princeton Way, developed in 1939, loops south of North Decatur Road; Westminster Way and Edinburgh Terrace, located north of North Decatur Road, were developed in 1941. In the center of each loop road is a landscaped recreational park which is accessed by narrow paths between houses.

The neighborhood of Emory Grove is bounded on the north and east by the CSX railroad line. The south and southwest boundary is denoted by the rear lots of homes along Princeton Way. The extreme westernmost edge is the Druid Hills High School property line and the University Park-Emory Highlands-Emory Estates Historic District. The small-scale houses are built on small lots on slightly hilly terrain (photos 4 and 21-22). The subdivision is harmonious in appearance with uniform setbacks and Colonial Revival-style houses (photos 4-9). The roads are curvilinear with landscaped traffic islands at the major intersections (photos 5, 7, 11, and 23-24).

The houses were constructed in one basic residential style with several variations. This type is a one-story, or one-and-one-half-story, rectangular-shaped house with a moderate pitched, side-gabled roof, interior, central chimney, and smaller side-gabled wings (photo 6 and 19). Variations

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Section 7--Description

include front-gabled porches, dormer windows, slightly projecting front-gabled wings, and various chimney placements. Decorative trim and moldings are flat and not highly detailed. Screened porches are customarily located on the main facade. The houses are not high style but represent a minimalistic variation of traditional Colonial Revival-style design. Some houses feature gambrel roofs with broad, overhanging eaves in the Dutch Colonial Revival style (photo 22).

The material used for building Emory Grove houses was for the most part brick veneer, clapboard siding, or masonry. In many cases the brick walls are laid in Flemish bond. The roofs were originally covered with large asbestos shingles. Today, most roofs have been replaced with smaller-scale asphalt shingles. Windows throughout the historic district are both wood sash and steel casement windows. Some of the homes' screened porches have been enclosed with glass, usually in keeping with the modest style of the house, to provide additional living space.

The houses are sited with uniform setbacks, facing the winding curbed streets of Westminster Way, Edinburgh Terrace, Princeton Way, and North Decatur Road. The placement of these homes afforded the creation of three interior parks accessed by a series of narrow, mostly unpaved paths called by-ways. These by-ways are located between residential lots. Emory Grove Park, in the northeast corner of the historic district, is the most elaborate with recreational equipment, paved walks, picnic pavilion, and historic landscaping (photos 30- 31). Westminster Way Park is a broad, open field with tennis courts (photo 29), and Princeton Way Park features a baseball field (photo 28). Ball fields, playgrounds, tennis courts and picnic tables are available for neighborhood use in these parks. Various fencing types delineate the rear yards of the private properties from these common grounds. Braided wire fencing and mature shrubs and tree lines can often be found at the rear of the properties facing the interior parks. Other types of fencing can also be seen here, including chain-link and wood-plank fences.

Sidewalks exist only on North Decatur Road. Landscaped triangular-shaped traffic islands mark the major intersections. Because the subdivision was built during the rise of the automobile, driveways and garages are common to most Emory Grove houses. Some houses built after World War II do not have garages, possibly because of building supply shortages during the war.

The landscape is cultivated with mature plantings, evidence of the continuous care of homeowners for over fifty years. Dogwood, red oak, magnolia, and maple trees abound in the small front yards. Along Princeton Way retaining walls have been constructed to control the sloping topography. Nandina and hollies edge the rear lot borders. Pines tower over the houses but no trees line the streets because there are no sidewalk strips like those in the adjacent University Park-Emory Highlands-Emory Estates Historic District.

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Section 7--Description

Emory Grove includes two substantial community landmark buildings, Druid Hills High School and Emory Presbyterian Church. Both resources are located at the intersection of Haygood Drive and North Decatur Road in the northwest corner of the historic district. Druid Hills High School, built in 1928, was designed in the Colonial Revival style by the Atlanta architectural firm Ivey and Crook (photo 1). The two-story school features a five-part Palladian plan with a central pavilion surmounted by a multi-stage cupola. The side wings include many of the elements of the main block, including Flemish-bond brickwork, quoins, and ornate entrances framed in cast concrete. The symmetry of the main facade is reminiscent of Georgian Revival-style buildings.

Atlanta architects Sayward and Logan designed the Emory Presbyterian Church in 1946 (photo 2). Completed two years later, the Gothic Revival-style church is sheathed in granite with a central lancet window outlined with stone tracery. The Gothic-style main entrance is located on the side of the main building, opening to Westminster Way and the Emory Grove neighborhood. A large grassed lawn extends from the building to North Decatur Road. Mature trees surround the building.

The Emory Grove neighborhood has changed very little since its 1948 period of significance ended. The landscape has matured and some of the houses have been altered but in mostly non-obtrusive adaptations creating an architecturally consistent urban subdivision in central DeKalb County.

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
Landscape Architecture
Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance:

1928-1948.

Significant Dates:

1928 - Druid Hills High School built.
1939 - Neal Smith develops Princeton Way.
1941 - Neal Smith develops Westminster Way and Edinburgh Terrace.
1948 - Emory Presbyterian Church is completed.

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Ivey and Crook, architect.
Robert and Company, engineer.
Sayward and Logan, architect.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Emory Grove Historic District is a small, intact historic residential area that developed in suburban DeKalb County beginning with the construction of Druid Hills High School in 1928 and ending with the completion of Emory Presbyterian Church in 1948. Most of the houses in the historic district were constructed between 1939 and 1946. The district is significant under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning and development.

The historic district is significant in the area of architecture for its intact collection of residential and community landmark buildings constructed from 1928 to 1948. The majority of buildings within the historic district were built in one basic residential type with several variations. This type is a one-story, or one-and-a-half story, rectangular-shaped house with a low-pitched, side-gabled roof, interior or central chimney on the ridge line, and smaller side-gabled wings. Variations include front-gabled porches, dormer windows, slightly projecting front-gabled wings, and various chimney placements. Decorative trim and moldings are flat and not highly detailed. Screen porches are customarily located on the front side. The houses are not high style but represent a minimal traditional version of the Colonial Revival style. That is, elements of the style were applied to buildings whose forms are vaguely reminiscent of the Colonial Revival because the style was still very much popular in Georgia. Stylistic details applied to a single house type represents the broader building trend in suburban Georgia in which ornament was sacrificed by builders to save costs.

Like the neighboring University Park-Emory Highlands-Emory Estates Historic District to the west, the houses in Emory Grove were designed for middle-income families, especially faculty and staff at nearby Emory University. The houses at Emory Grove, however, are even smaller than those at University-Park-Emory Highlands-Emory-Estates because of building supply shortages associated with World War II and because the builder, Neal Smith, chose to sell more houses on smaller lots rather than fewer houses on larger lots.

Emory Grove Historic District is also significant for its community landmark buildings. The Colonial Revival-style Druid Hills High School, built in 1928, was designed by the Atlanta architectural firm of Ivey and Crook. The architect, Lewis "Buck" Crook, had served as head draftsman for Need Reid and later designed many of the buildings at Emory University. Sayward and Logan, another prominent Atlanta architectural firm, designed the Emory Presbyterian Church. Crook had designed a substantial Gothic Revival-style complex that included a larger church with a side tower, a smaller chapel, and an educational building. The chapel, the only building that was constructed, is an outstanding mid-20th-century example of the Gothic Revival style in Georgia.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

The Emory Grove Historic District is significant in the area of landscape architecture and community planning and development because its plan, developed in two phases from 1939 to 1946, features many design elements that are characteristic of neighboring University Park-Emory Highlands-Emory Estates Historic District and Druid Hills, which was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and the Olmsted Brothers. The roads were laid out with broad curves and landscaped traffic islands, which indicate the influence of the Druid Hills plan. Moreover, the neighborhood was planned with three recreational parks for the enjoyment of the residents. Built in the tradition of Olmsted, these parks continue to serve the community. Emory Grove Park, in the northeast corner of the historic district, retains a significant number of historic plantings.

In addition, the historic district is significant because its smaller lot sizes and uniform layout reflect the increased demand for moderate housing at the middle of the 20th century. West DeKalb County experienced an increase in the construction of housing to support not only those who worked four miles to the west in downtown Atlanta but also residents that worked in nearby Decatur. Emory University grew significantly during the first half of the 20th century, further establishing a need for moderately priced houses for its faculty and staff. The historic district represents the emergence of west DeKalb County and Emory University as an economic center in suburban Atlanta.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

Contributing resources in the historic district are those constructed between 1928 and 1948 that are architecturally significant, represent a historic theme associated with the historic district, and retain historic integrity. Noncontributing resources are those constructed after 1948 and those that have lost their historic integrity. The contributing structure identified in the historic district is the plan of the development. The three landscaped parks and the overall landscaping of the district are counted as contributing sites. The many historic garages throughout the district are not counted because of their small size but they nevertheless contribute.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

The Emory Grove Historic District was platted in two sections: Princeton Way, south of North Decatur Road in 1939; and Westminster Way and Edinburgh Terrace, north of North Decatur Road in 1941. The Emory Grove subdivision was built to provide an affordable neighborhood to attract families of the Emory University faculty and staff. The dense, early 1940s developmental pattern was conceived by Neal Smith, an Emory University facilities manager, and laid out by Robert and Company, an Atlanta-based engineering firm. The scale and style of the neighborhood reflected the early 20th-century movement toward period revival styles such as the English Vernacular Cottage, Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival. The inclusion of driveways and

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

garages with most houses reflects the rise of the automobile and the preference for private mobility over public transportation.

In 1934, Asa Candler, the founder of the Coca-Cola Company, owned most of the area now known as Emory Grove, according to Kauffman's Map of Atlanta. Dr. Sam Guy, head of the Chemistry Department at Emory, wanted to build houses near the university. Having married into the wealthy Candler family, he had the means to proceed with his plan. Guy hired Neal Smith, who was the head of maintenance at Emory, to build the houses. The plat maps indicate that Neal Smith was the owner and developer. Neal Smith had his office on North Decatur Road according to the 1942 Atlanta City Directory. DeKalb County plat maps indicate that the Princeton Way section was platted in 1939 and Edinburgh Terrace and Westminster Way in 1941. Both sections were platted by Robert and Company. Dr. Guy wanted the streets named after famous universities. Another contractor, Ed Gilliam, also built houses on some of the streets. It was not until just after World War II that the neighborhood was built out. The typical home cost \$7,500.

Among the most distinctive features of the subdivision are the common park areas behind the houses. The playground areas in the historic district were under the homeowners' care initially, with individual landscape responsibility falling to each neighborhood. The area garden clubs provided guidance and labor in establishing the plantings which have now matured. A victory garden was grown during the war years in the large park area in the center of Princeton Way, while post-war landscaping included playground equipment, trees, and flowering bulbs. Currently, the parks are maintained by DeKalb County.

An educational institution that later became Druid Hills High School was established in 1919 for children of Emory University personnel. There were no paved roads leading to the campus at that time, and getting children to school in Atlanta was not possible. The school was originally called the Emory Elementary School and was located in a wooden chapel on the Emory University campus. A new three-story brick school building opened as the Druid Hills School in 1928 on Haygood Drive, accommodating kindergarten through the eleventh grade. The architect for the building was the firm of Ivey and Crook, whose classical design is reflected in the traditional form of the school.

As the population of the area grew, an addition was built on the rear of the main school building in 1941 to house the gym and machine shop. Architects for the 1941 gymnasium were Bodin and Lamberson who designed many school buildings and gymnasiums in Atlanta. Later additions to the school are noncontributing. The school operated independently of the DeKalb County School System until 1947. By the mid-1950s, a neighborhood kindergarten was established in one of the homes. From there, the children went on to the Druid Hills School. With the boom in the population during the post-war years, it became clear that the school was no longer adequate. Children were

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

taught in various churches and community buildings until Fernbank Elementary School was completed in 1958. Druid Hills School then became Druid Hills High School.

In 1940, Emory Presbyterian Church began holding services and purchased the property where it now stands at the intersection of North Druid Hills Road and Haygood Drive. Ground breaking for the new church, designed by architects Sayward and Logan, was held in 1946. Sayward and Logan continued the leading Atlanta architectural firm of Edwards and Sayward, which had formed in 1912. Their best-known project was University Homes, an urban redevelopment project in Atlanta. The firm specialized in educational buildings, including Decatur projects at Agnes Scott College, Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Decatur High School.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bamby Ray Associates. National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. May 1999. On file at the Division of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia, with supplemental information.

Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings. Atlanta: Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1991.

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 90 acres

UTM References

A)	Zone 16	Easting 748450	Northing 3742670
B)	Zone 16	Easting 749300	Northing 3742670
C)	Zone 16	Easting 748110	Northing 3741990
D)	Zone 16	Easting 748190	Northing 3741980
E)	Zone 16	Easting 748390	Northing 3742500

Verbal Boundary Description

The property boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification

The Emory Grove Historic District encompasses the intact and contiguous properties associated with the development of the Emory Grove neighborhood and its community landmark buildings. The historic district retains a high level of historic integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Steven H. Moffson, Architectural Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** January 15, 1999

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

organization Bamby Ray Associates
street & number 328 7th Street, N.E.
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30308

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

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Photographs

Name of Property: Emory Grove Historic District
City or Vicinity: Decatur vicinity
County: DeKalb
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: May 1998

Description of Photograph(s):

1. Druid Hills High School, photographer facing northeast.
2. Emory Presbyterian Church, photographer facing northwest.
3. North Decatur Road, photographer facing north.
4. Westminster Way, photographer facing north.
5. Westminster Way, photographer facing northeast.
6. Westminster Way, photographer facing northeast.
7. Westminster Way, photographer facing west.
8. Westminster Way, photographer facing west.
9. Westminster Way, photographer facing northwest.
10. Westminster Way, photographer facing northwest.
11. Westminster Way, photographer facing northwest.
12. Edinburgh Terrace, photographer facing northwest.
13. Edinburgh Terrace, photographer facing northwest.
14. Edinburgh Terrace, photographer facing northwest.
15. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.

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Continuation Sheet**

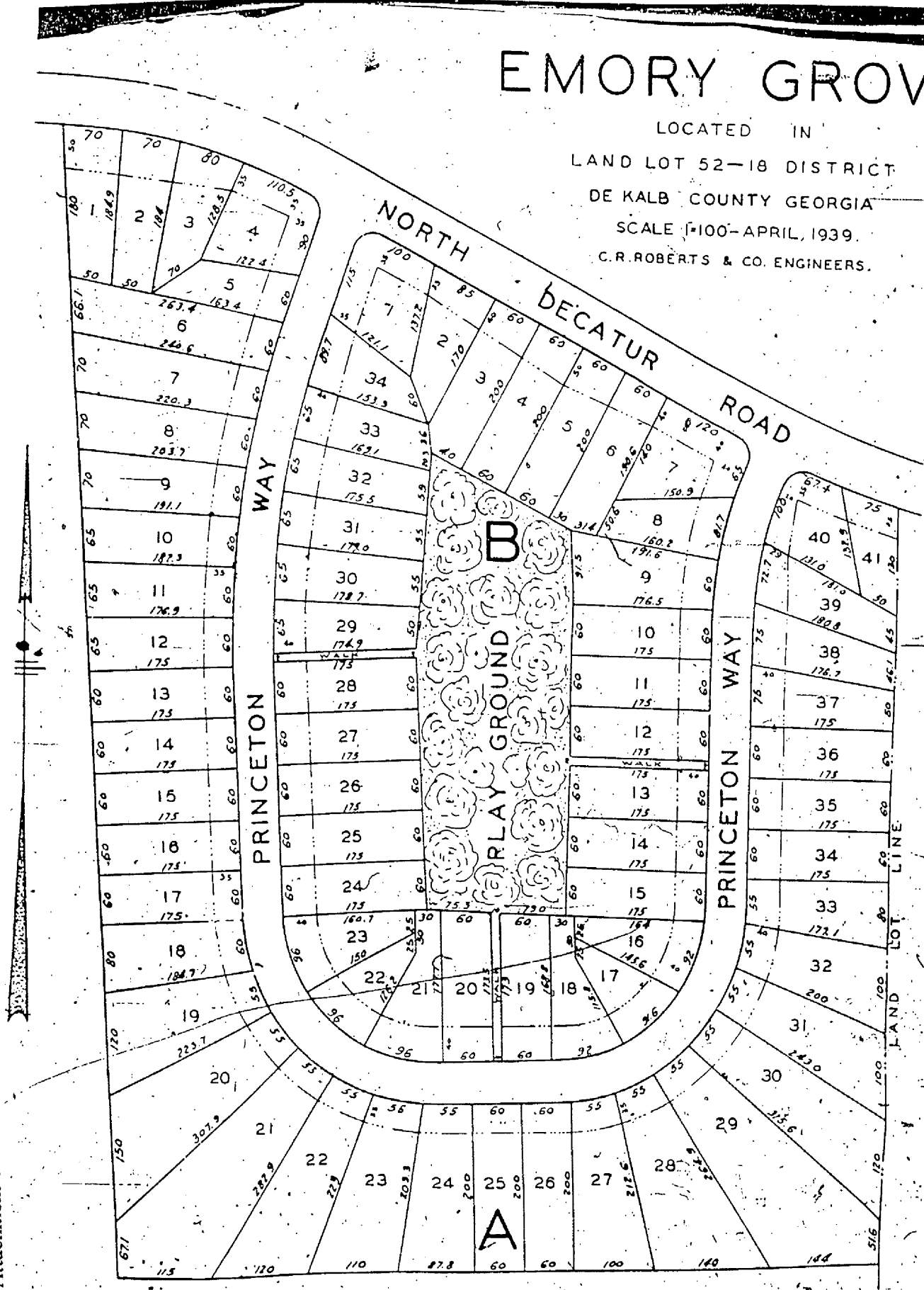
Photographs

16. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.
17. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.
18. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.
19. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.
20. North Decatur Road, photographer facing northwest.
21. Princeton Way, photographer facing south.
22. Princeton Way, photographer facing north.
23. Princeton Way, photographer facing southwest.
24. Princeton Way, photographer facing northwest.
25. Princeton Way, photographer facing northwest.
26. Princeton Way, photographer facing northwest.
27. Princeton Way, photographer facing northwest.
28. Princeton Way Park, photographer facing north.
29. Westminster Way Park, photographer facing west.
30. Emory Grove Park, photographer facing northwest.
31. Emory Grove Park, photographer facing west.

Attachment | . DeKalb County Plat Book 11, Page 131, located in the DeKalb County Courthouse, Deeds and Records, showing the 1939 plat of Emory Grove I on Princeton Way.

EMORY GROVE

LOCATED IN
LAND LOT 52-18 DISTRICT
DE KALB COUNTY GEORGIA
SCALE 1"=100'-APRIL, 1939.
C.R. ROBERTS & CO. ENGINEERS.

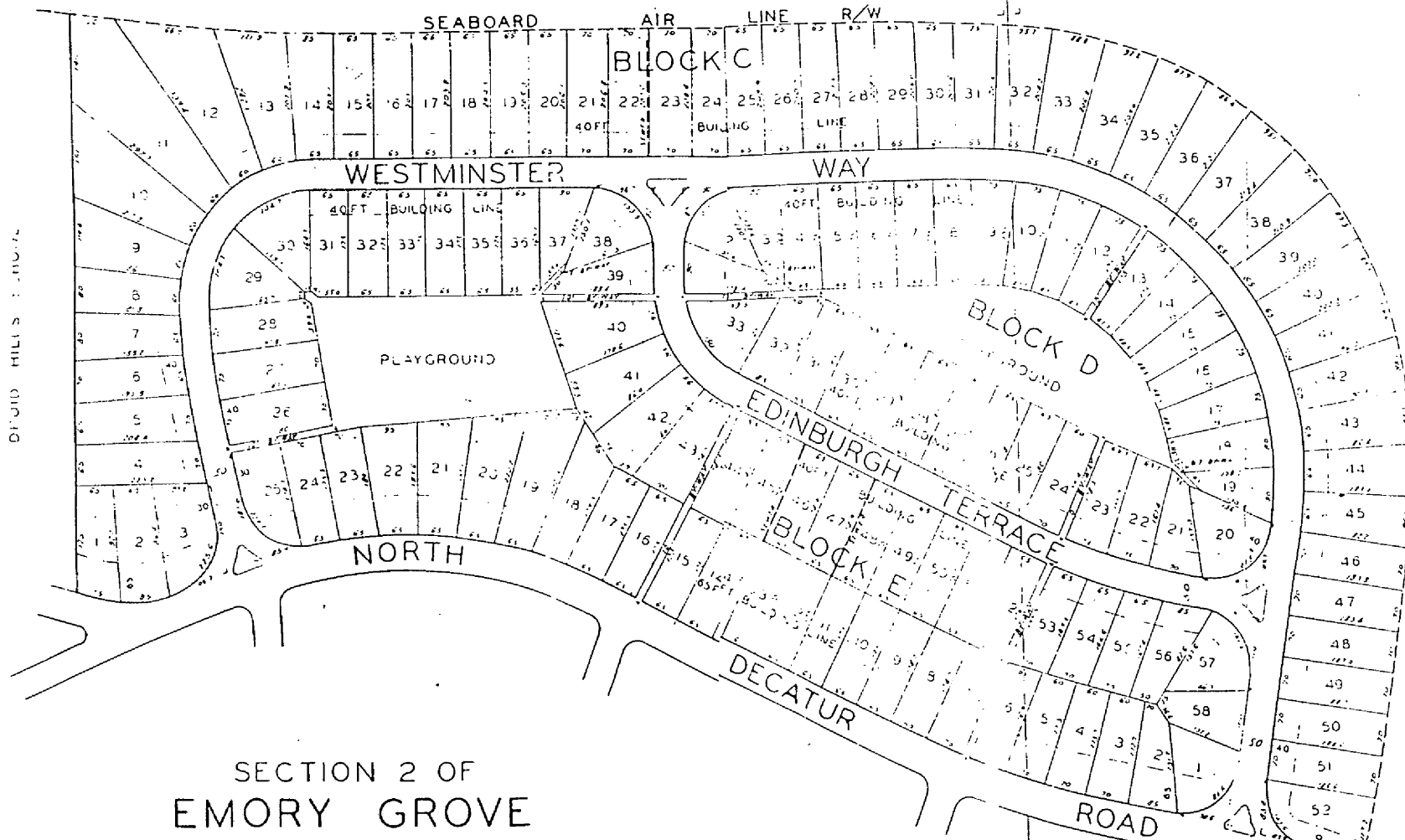


Emory Grove Historic District
Decatur vicinity, DeKalb County, Georgia
Attachment 1

Attachment 2 . DeKalb County Plat Book 12, Page 112, located in the DeKalb County Courthouse, Deeds and Records, showing the 1941 plat of Emory Grove II.

Emory Grove Historic District
 Decatur vicinity, DeKalb County, Georgia
 Attachment 2

L NEAL SMITH OWNER AND DEVELOPER
 2236 NORTH DECATUR ROAD NE CR. 2861



SECTION 2 OF
EMORY GROVE
 LAND LOTS 51-52-18 DISTRICT
 DE KALB COUNTY GEORGIA
 C.R. ROBERTS & CO. ENGINEERS.

SCALE IN FEET
 0 100 200 300 400 500

JULY 1941

This plat is hereby approved as shown as same is subject to the conditions set forth in agreement made by L. Neal Smith to the DeKalb County Deed Book 12, Page 112 & Scott Landall, Jr. Commissioner of DeKalb County at 11:00 A.M.

Recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 112

Emory Grove No. 2

At the end of its second month 14% of the lots are sold and being improved, and within 90 days all utilities will be finished.

LOTS OR HOMES FOR SALE

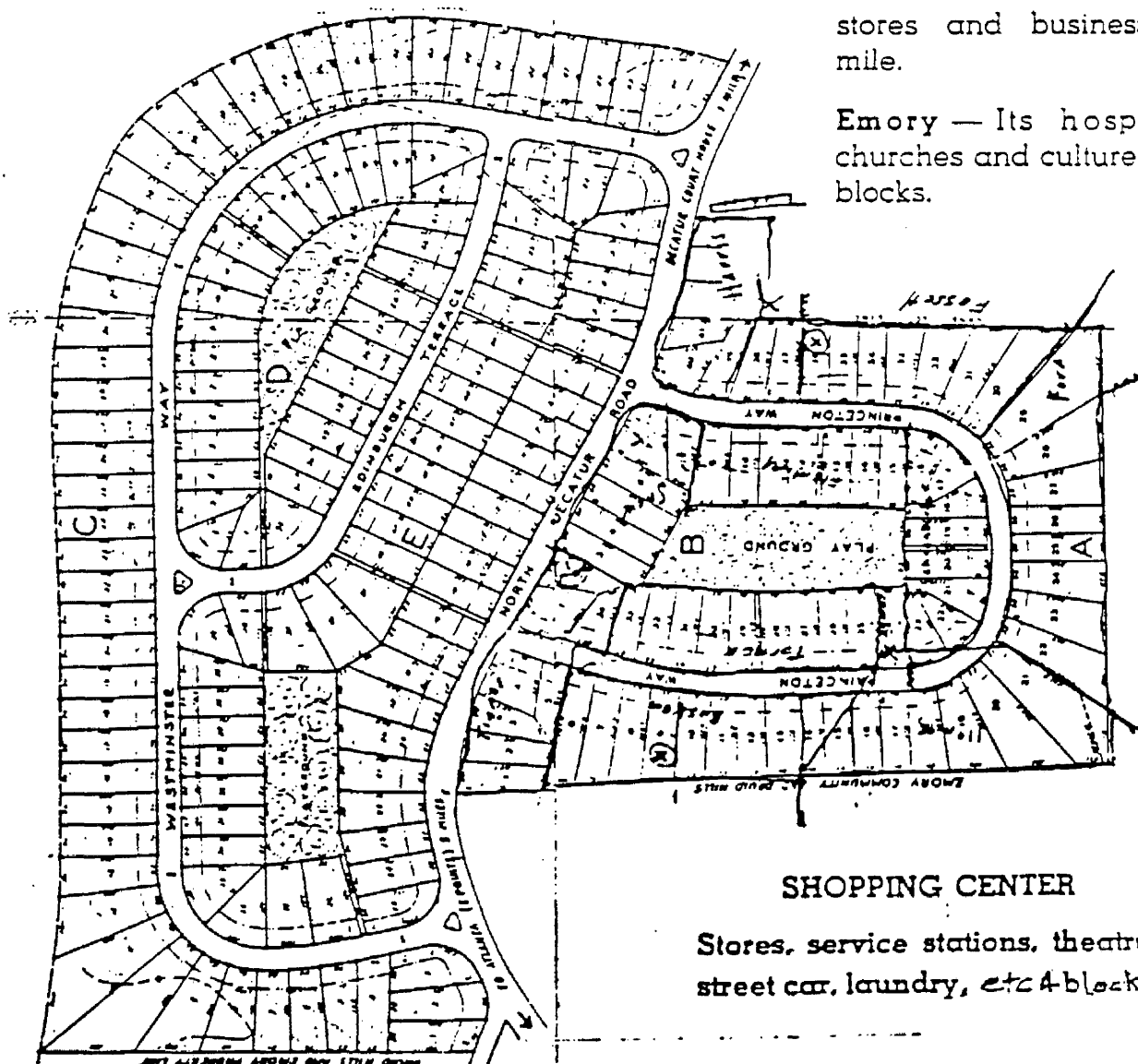
Emory Grove No. 1

At the end of its second year is now 96% developed and owner occupied.

ACCESSIBLE TO—

Decatur — Its colleges, stores and business, 1 mile.

Emory — Its hospital, churches and culture, 1 1/2 blocks.



SHOPPING CENTER

Stores, service stations, theatre, street car, laundry, etc 4 blocks.

Contributing

Noncontributing

Sites

Boundary

Emory Grove Historic District
Decatur vicinity, DeKalb County, Georgia
Sketch Map
National Register Boundary
Contributing Property
Noncontributing Property
Scale: 1"=350'
North: ↑

