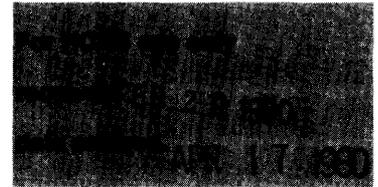


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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



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

**1. Name**

historic Jeremiah S. Gilbert House

and/or common Gilbert House

**2. Location**

street & number 2238 Perkerson Road, S.W. not for publication

city, town Atlanta vicinity of congressional district 5th - Wyche Fowler, Jr.

state Georgia code 013 county Fulton code 121

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Bureau of Parks and Recreation contact: Ms. Geraldine Elder, Commissioner  
City of Atlanta Bureau of Parks and Recreation

street & number 260 Central Avenue, S.W. City of Atlanta

city, town Atlanta vicinity of state Georgia 30303

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Fulton County Courthouse

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title (1) Category One List of Historic Sites, Structures, and Districts  
(2) Historic Structures Field Survey: has this property been determined eligible? yes  no

date (1) January 16, 1978 Fulton County  
(2) January 1976 state (2) county (1) local

depository for survey records (1) Atlanta Urban Design Commission  
(2) Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources

city, town (1) Atlanta  
(2) Atlanta state (1) Georgia  
(2) Georgia

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# 7. Description

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

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Jeremiah S. Gilbert House is a two-story farmhouse that is located in Southwest Atlanta on Perkerson Road. The nominated property includes the Gilbert House, three outbuildings, and 11.3 acres of land.

The Gilbert House is a two-story farmhouse of a concrete-like masonry and weatherboard construction. The first-floor exterior walls are constructed of fieldstone and rubble and a mortar of clay and sand. The second-floor exterior walls are constructed of weatherboard. The shed-type dormer roof was added in the 1930s. The front facade of the Gilbert House has been stuccoed. The porch on the front facade is probably original, with minor changes in the porch columns and the screens. The Gilbert House has two end interior chimneys. A one-story weatherboard addition is located on the rear of the structure. A pantry and screened porch are located in the addition. Bricks surround the door and window openings and the lintels are of unplanned wood. The windows have been boarded up to prevent entry.

The interior of the Gilbert House displays a traditional floor plan: four-over-four with central stair hall. Corner fireplaces are located in each room, with the exception of the kitchen fireplace, which has been sealed. Originally, the upstairs of the Gilbert House had two large rooms, but the Gilbert family enlarged the upstairs in the 1930s and created four rooms and a cedar closet. The ornamentation throughout the house reflects the remodeling that the Gilbert family undertook in the 1930s.

The Gilbert House is located on a slight rise of cleared land. Although the land is largely wooded, the area immediately surrounding the house has been cleared. Large trees and shrubbery provide the landscaping. A stone retaining wall is located in front of the house. A semi-circular driveway leads to the house.

There are three outbuildings located on the nominated property. Northeast of the Gilbert House are the well house and a storage/toolhouse structure. Constructed of vertical weatherboard, the structures are believed to have been built in the 1930s. The garage, located southeast of the Gilbert House, is of similar construction and age.

# 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates**    c. 1866                      **Builder/Architect**    Jeremiah S. Gilbert

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Jeremiah S. Gilbert House is significant to the architectural and local history of Atlanta. The Gilbert House is one of few structures in Southwest Atlanta of the Reconstruction era to survive urban growth. It reflects building techniques of Atlanta after the Civil War. Members of the Gilbert family were prominent members of Atlanta society.

The Gilbert House is significant to the architectural history of Atlanta. One of few structures of the Reconstruction era to survive twentieth-century development, the Gilbert House employs a distinctive form of building technology. Due to scarce building supplies, a loss in transportation and commerce, and the rapid rebuilding of Atlanta after the Civil War, Jeremiah Gilbert determined to build his house out of materials found on his farm. He constructed the exterior walls of fieldstone and a mortar-like substance of clay and sand. He constructed the walls in wooden forms twelve inches at a time until the "mortar" dried. This method was advocated by Orson S. Fowler in 1853 in The Octagon House: A Home For All. He says, "I should temper clay, just as I would to make brick, and then mingle in stones, large and small, with this clay, or else lay them in, as the clay is shoveled into the wall."

Another example of rural building techniques is found in the wooden lintels over the windows located in the screened porch on the rear of the house. Rough, irregular pieces of wood serve as the lintels. Fowler again stresses the use of materials found on the building site: "... any piece of timber, or stick of wood, even, thrown across the top, will serve every practical purpose." The Gilbert House serves as an example of how rural Georgians had to compensate due to the expense and scarcity of building supplies after the Civil War.

Jeremiah S. Gilbert (1839-1932) was the son of an early settler of Fulton County, William Gilbert (ca. 1807-1864). William was the first physician in Fulton County and served as a member of the Georgia General Assembly in 1843. Jeremiah's grandfather, Charner Humphries (1795-1855), owned and operated the first-known inn in the area, Whitehall. After acquiring 500 acres of land from his father on January 7, 1861, Jeremiah married Sarah Matilda Perkerson, an early settler of Fulton County and the county's second sheriff. The land had been previously owned by Jeremiah's grandfather, Charner Humphries. It is believed that the couple settled in a small log cabin, but it is not known who built the cabin or when it was built. In October, 1861, Gilbert enlisted in one of the first companies to organize in Georgia to defend the Confederacy, the

[continued]

(6)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

[See continuation sheet.]

# 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property 11.3

Quadrangle name Southwest Atlanta, Ga.

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A	1 6	7 3 9 9 2 0	3 7 3 1 1 6 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C	1 6	7 4 0 1 0 0	3 7 3 0 7 6 0
E			
G			

B	1 6	7 4 0 1 0 0	3 7 3 1 1 6 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D	1 6	7 3 9 9 7 0	3 7 3 0 7 6 0
F			
H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification**

Boundaries are indicated by heavy black line on the enclosed Cadastral Map, Sheet Number 14-102.

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kacy Ginn, National Register Researcher  
 organization Historic Preservation Section/ Department of Natural Resources date February 11, 1980  
 street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. telephone (404) 656-2840  
 city or town Atlanta state Georgia

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon  
 Elizabeth A. Lyon date 2/14/80  
 title Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
W. Ray Juice date 4/17/80  
 Keeper of the National Register  
 Attest: W. A. Dubois date 4/15/80  
 Chief of Registration

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

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



Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

Third Regiment Georgia State Troops. Serving the duration of the war, Gilbert returned to Atlanta to find his home destroyed by Union troops. This is when he began the construction of the house that exists today. He established and operated a farm on the property surrounding the farmhouse. A successful farmer, Gilbert contributed to the growth of the developing community, and on many occasions related stories of Reconstruction in Atlanta to historians and interested neighbors. His recollections have proven invaluable concerning the growth of Atlanta during several periods of history.

After Jeremiah Gilbert's death in 1932, the farmhouse and surrounding property were willed to his daughter, Annie Belle, a school teacher. Annie Belle and Gussie, her sister, continued to live in the farmhouse until 1968. Jeremiah's sons, William, Hugh, and Jeremiah Otis, visited their birthplace often. William was a prominent surgeon and physician in Atlanta, while Jeremiah Otis practiced dentistry in Atlanta, also. Hugh served as the tax assessor for Fulton County for twenty years. The property remained in the Gilbert family until the City of Atlanta purchased the property from Jeremiah's granddaughters in 1971. The house has remained vacant since that time. The City of Atlanta utilizes a portion of the land as Avery Park, a neighborhood recreational area.

No formal archaeology has been reported for the Jeremiah S. Gilbert House. An archaeological report would be useful in determining developmental periods of the Gilbert family property as well as information concerning activities that occurred on the Gilbert property.

(S)

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

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



Continuation sheet

Bibliography

Item number 9

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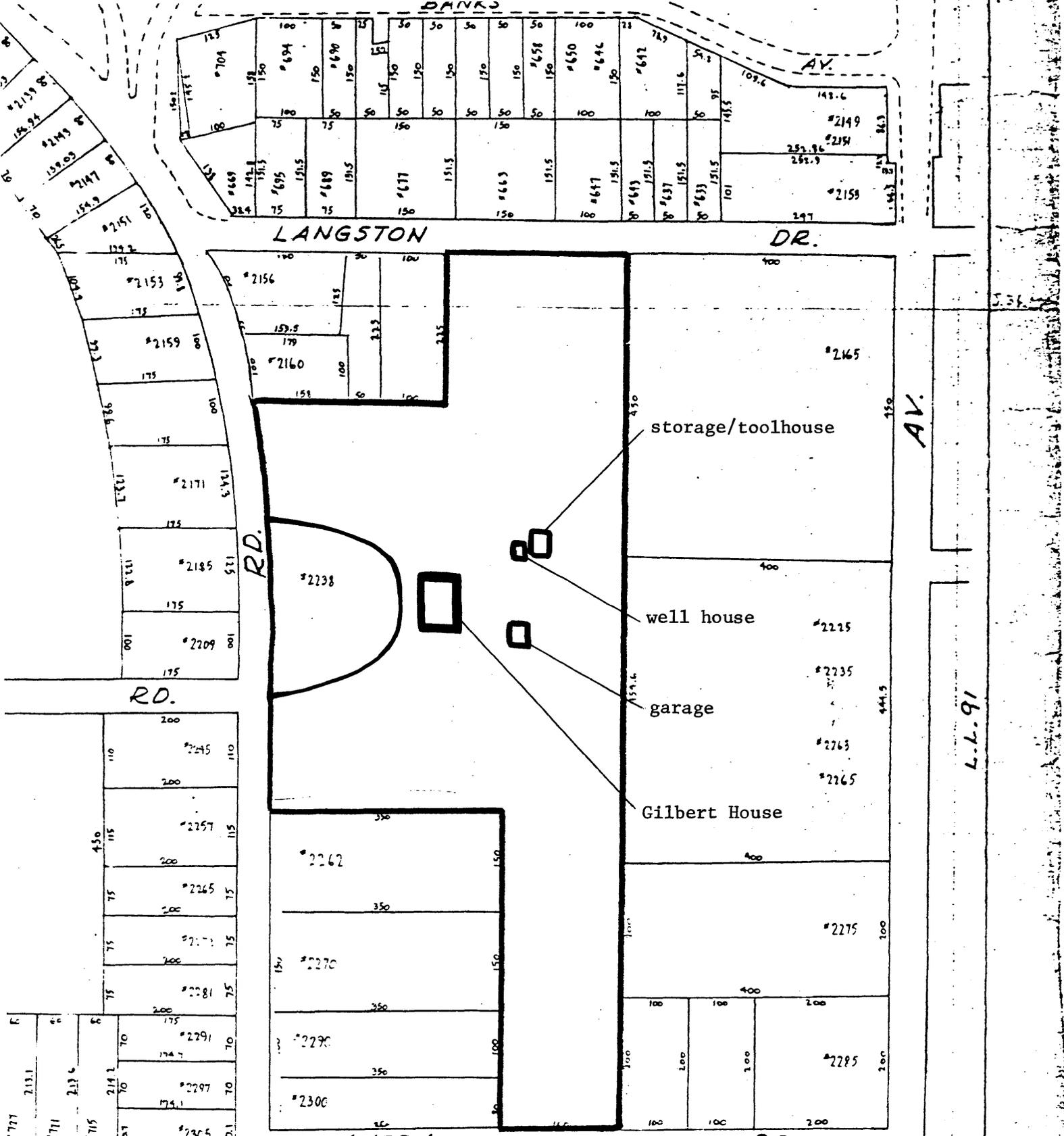
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JEREMIAH S. GILBERT HOUSE  
 Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia  
 Cadastral Map, Sheet Number 14-102  
 North ↑  
 Scale: 1" = 200'

Boundaries are indicated by heavy black line.

FEB 20 1980

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