

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>GEORGIA</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Muscogee</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>APR 11 1972</b>	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Wynnton School Library**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**WYNNTON ACADEMY - Red Brick Schoolhouse**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**2303 Wynnton Road**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbus,**

STATE  
**Georgia**

CODE <b>13</b>	COUNTY: <b>Muscogee</b>	CODE <b>215</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition:	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Library</u>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
**City of Columbus, Georgia - Muscogee County School Board**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1200 Bradley Drive**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbus,**

STATE:  
**Georgia**

CODE  
**13**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Deed Books, Muscogee County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Courthouse Square**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbus,**

STATE:  
**Georgia**

CODE  
**13**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **4 1/2 acres**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**Historic Columbus Building Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **6-1-67** Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Historic Columbus Foundation - 716 Broadway, Columbus, Ga.  
Building Inspector's Office, City of Columbus, Ga.  
Columbus Museum of Arts & Crafts, Columbus, Ga.  
Community Development Division, City of Columbus, Ga.**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Columbus**

STATE:  
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Known as the "Red Brick Schoolhouse," the Wynnton Academy was built in 1843 as a one-room school building for boys. Now stuccoed and painted white, the building is still in use today as the Library of Wynnton School.

The door, doorknob, doorstep, and even the window panes date to 1843!

Old pictures, now on display in the school, show pictures in 1920 when the "school" was still red brick with a small porch and green shutters. The shutters have been removed, but the porch remains unaltered.

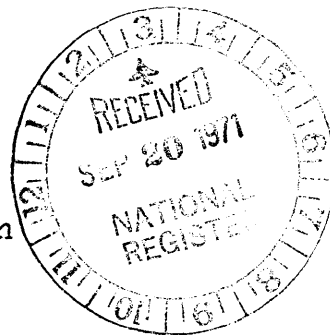
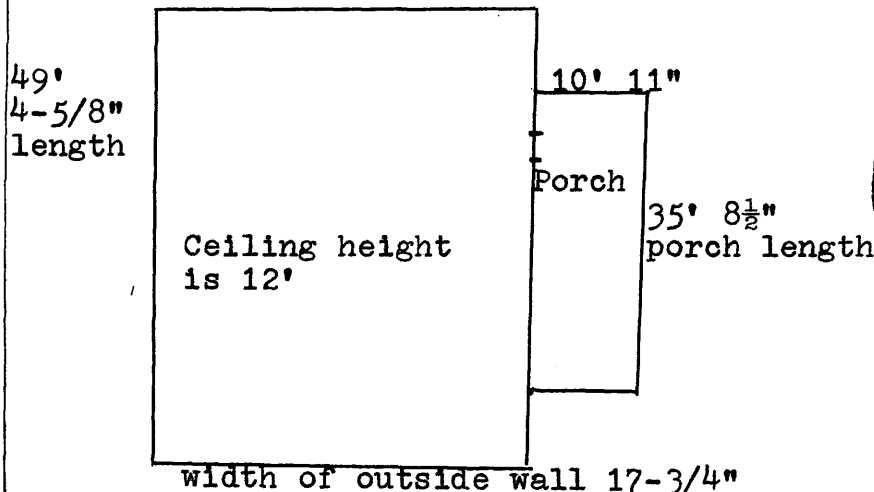
Once standing in a grove of trees, the "Red Brick Schoolhouse" is now enveloped by evergreens. It is now located between the cafeteria and classroom wing, and is hidden from Forest and Wildwood Avenues and Wynnton Road.

The "Red Brick Schoolhouse" was originally located in six acres of land and used as a Male Academy. The Female Academy was located a short distance away on a four acre tract. The two schools have all been combined together today.

The interior of the building has exposed brick walls with no paneling or plastering. A wooden partition has been erected, separating the library space from the storage space. The ornate marble mantel came from the Owsley-Shanks house on Wynnton Road. It is not considered appropriate for a pioneer one-room schoolhouse.

The words "Wynnton Academy, June 17, 1843" were carved by an unknown sculptor on the west wall. The inscription was recently painted over by a local artist, Mrs. Murphey Pound, Jr. The cornerstone, located on the east front corner of the building, reads "Wynnton Academy, erected by the citizens of Wynnton 1843."

23' 3" width



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1843**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                |              |                                     |                |                          |                 |                                     |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Aboriginal     | Education    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Prehistoric    | Engineering  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Religion/Phi-  |                          | Other (Specify) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic       | Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | losophy        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>History</u>  |                                     |
| Agriculture    | Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Science        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Art            | Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Sculpture      | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Commerce       | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Social/Human-  |                          | _____           |                                     |
| Communications | Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | itarian        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
| Conservation   | Military     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Theater        | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |
|                | Music        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____           |                                     |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The "Red Brick Schoolhouse", now the library of Wynnton School, is generally considered to be the oldest such building in continuous use as a school facility in the State of Georgia.

It opened in 1843 as the Male Academy in the section of Wynnton, City of Columbus, with the Female Academy being built nearby on the exact spot of John F. Flournoy's home. Today the school (now Wynnton School of the Muscogee County School District) encompasses all the area once used by the two schools.

Col. John Banks, who had moved to the city from Elberton, Ga. in 1836, is generally considered the town's primary proponent of education. He had many children, and he built "The Cedars", one of the city's early lovely homes, for his family; he was also eager to build a school for his children's education. Along with James M. Chambers, Van Leonard, A. H. Flewellen, and Col. Wm. L. Wynn, Col. Banks acquired 4 acres for the girls' school and six acres for the boys'.

J. M. Goodale was the first teacher of the schools, which opened on June 17, 1843. The original students lived in the Wynnton area, which was separated from the city by a large, almost impassible, swamp.

Sometime before the War-Between-the-States a Mr. John Isham came to teach at the Wynnton Male Academy. Known as a stern disciplinarian and respected as a true "gentleman and scholar" of the "old school," Mr. Isham is still spoken of with admiration and awe by ~~the~~ descendants of his students.

His school was closed during the War, but reopened immediately afterwards. An advertisement in The Columbus Daily Enquirer, September 26, 1865, announced that "Mr. John Isham will commence his school on the first Monday in October."

In the 1880's the road from town to Wynnton was improved, and more students enrolled in the academy. The school was located on the "dummy line," and students traveled there by streetcar. They all took their lunches, and enjoyed meeting the girls from the Female Academy to eat. The "Catalogue of

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Worsley, Etta Blanchard, Columbus on the Chattahoochee, Columbus, Georgia, 1951  
 Telfair, Nancy, A History of Columbus, Ga. 1828-1928, Columbus, Georgia, 1929  
 "Time and the Red Brick Schoolhouse," Sunday Ledger-Enquirer Magazine, November 29, 1964  
 Wynnton Elementary School: Evaluation and Accreditation Study, 1965-66, pages 4-5  
 Martin, John H. Columbus, Georgia 1827-1865, Thomas Gilbert, Columbus, Georgia, 1874  
 Interviews with: Miss Loretto Lamar Chappell (2-24-71)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA Sam Williams, Principal Wynnton School, 2/1971

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	32° 28' 21" N	84° 57' 36" W				
NE	32° 28' 21" N	84° 57' 29" E				
SE	32° 28' 14" S	84° 57' 30" E				
SW	32° 28' 12" S	84° 57' 33" W				

NO UTM  
CX

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Mrs. James J. W. Biggers, Jr., Executive Vice President**

ORGANIZATION: **Historic Columbus Foundation, Inc.** DATE: **3-23-71**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**716 Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus,** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name Mary Gregory Jewett

Title State Liaison Officer

Date September 13, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/72

ATTEST:  
Spredford  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date April 5/1972

Interviews: Mrs. Murphy Pound, Jr. 2/1971. ALL foregoing by Mrs. O. L. Betts, III  
 Interview: Mr. Watkins Dimon (descendant of N. O. J. Robert Parks) NPS Miss L. L. Chappell, Feb. 23, 1971

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE GEORGIA	
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(Number all entries)

WYNNTON ACADEMY (Wynnnton School Library) -STATEMENT OF  
SIGNIFICANCE - continued

Wynnnton College, Male and Female, 1890-91" points out that the college was located on the dummy line, and afforded "all the advantages of the city, while every temptation is removed. There is not a saloon within a mile and a half of the grounds."

From 1889 Mr. W. E. Meagley was principal. He lived at "Hilton", and often entertained students at parties in his historic home. Some students from smaller towns even boarded at "Hilton." During Mr. Meagley's tenure at Wynnnton, a Captain E. L. Darst was professor of Mathematics and Military, and his students used the red brick schoolhouse as an armory to store their weapons and equipment.

By 1908 the building was being used as a two-room school housing the first and second grades. Pictures on display at the school show students with their teacher, Miss Woodie Schley, and the interior of the classroom, whose focal point was the large pot-bellied stove used to heat the building. Four classrooms had been added for the upper grades by this time.

In 1925 Wynnnton was annexed to the City of Columbus, and the school became a part of the public school system. The original building served for a while as the school lunchroom (until 1948 when a large cafeteria was built.) From 1948 to the present the "red brick schoolhouse" has been the school library, housing more than 6,000 books.

Principals of Wynnnton School since 1911 have been: B. K. Scott, Miss Leila Kendrick, Miss Lottie V. Baldwin, Mr. W. E. Pafford, Mr. V. V. Morgan, Mr. Robert L. Buxton and Mr. Sam H. Williams.

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Deeds Recorded:

Wynnnton Academy Property Lot sold by John Banks to Board of Trustees of Wynnnton Academy for \$1,000. Since April 6, 1843; Recorded April 17, 1843. Deed Book C - page 58.

Wynnnton Academy to The City of Columbus for \$1.00 and other services. In consideration of the premises and the sum of \$1.00 and other valuable considerations. Sold by The Trustees of the Academy to the City of Columbus: Harry L. Williams, Josiah Flournoy, W. H. Young, N. A. Brown, S. K. Dimon, R. M. Page, H. B. Woolfolk, W. Cecil Neill, and Mrs. Bessie F. Kirven on January 2, 1925, filed; Recorded on January 3, 1925. Deed Book 56 - page 576.