

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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JUL 11 1978

DATE ENTERED

OCT 10 1978

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

Wood Avenue Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

see continuation sheet

*N. Wood Ave roughly bounded by 7th Ave
and Hawthorne Sts.*

CITY, TOWN

Florence

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Alabama

CODE

01

COUNTY

Lauderdale

CODE

077 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

 IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

 YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

see continuation sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lauderdale County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Florence

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Lambeth House (9)
Historic American Buildings Survey--Sample House (11)

DATE

1930

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE 1926
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		Rogers-Koonce House (1)

moved from 426 N. Wood Ave.

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stretching four blocks along one of Florence's oldest streets, the Wood Avenue Historic District contains 55 structures dating from around 1830 to the present. It derives its character from the large collection of upper-middle class homes built between 1880 and 1930, during which time Florence experienced two major periods of economic growth. In addition, two structures--the Sample House (11) and the Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9)--are listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey. The district consists primarily of 1- and 2-story frame and brick houses, which are evenly spaced along a tree-lined street and collectively maintain a "neighborhood" appearance. Located in the center of an architecturally and historically significant area--Sannoner Historic District (NRHP, 1-1-76), Walnut Street Historic District (NRHP, 12-12-76), Wesleyan Hall (NRHP, 6-20-74), and Wilson Park Complex (nominated to NRHP, 5-10-78)--the Wood Avenue District is in immediate danger of encroachment by the University of North Alabama which borders it on the northwest.

Only five structures in the district were built during the antebellum period, and most of these have been altered. They range from the very plain Sample House (11), originally a two-room log cabin built around 1830, to the more refined Federal-influenced Pope's Tavern (9). Though the other three--Wood-Robinson (44), Mitchell-Redd (28), and Crow-Pickett (8) houses--retain their basic shape, they bear several alterations and additions from later dates.

Around 26% of the district structures were built between 1874 and 1900, the first major period of economic growth, with all of these being of the popular Victorian style. The most elaborate are five Queen Anne homes, characterized by an abundance of shingled siding, turned and carved ornament, and towers or turrets. Fine examples of this style are the Leftwich-Dillard-Mann (49) and Reisman-Coffee-Looft (48) houses. Though most other structures of the period are not quite as elaborate, several of them incorporate a modest number of Queen Anne elements, as seen in the small turret of the DesPrez-Herndon House (35), and in the shingled siding and carved gable-end panels of the Rogers-Koonce (1) and Howell (5) houses. Except for the May-Wilson House (22), remodeled in the Georgian Revival style after a fire in the 1930's, all the homes of this period have remained basically unchanged. Several have undergone recent renovations, and they are generally in good condition.

Around the turn of the century, the city's economy stabilized, but construction along Wood Avenue continued at a rapid rate. Around 27% of the structures in the district date from 1901 to 1920. A few modest Victorian homes were built in the early 1900's, and a few Georgian Revival structures began to emerge around 1915. Dominating the group, though, are a large number of smaller Bungalow style homes. In structures such as the King (18) and O'Steen (43) houses, traces of the Victorian and Georgian Revival, respectively, are mixed with the overall bungalow effect. Others, like the Sockwell (27) and Ware-Wade (47) houses, are good examples of the true Bungalow style.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

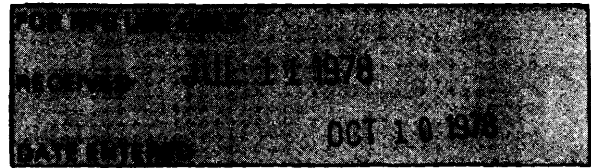
ITEM NUMBER 2 PAGE 1

423-801 (except 643) North Wood Avenue
203-219 Hermitage Drive
438 Seminary Street
6 and 110 Hawthorne Street

North Wood Avenue, roughly bounded by Tuscaloosa and Hawthorne streets.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

4

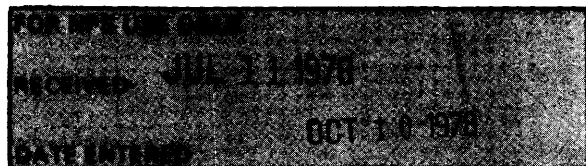
PAGE

1

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>✓ 1. Merwin T. Koonce
423 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 2. Mrs. Jerome Carter
425 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 3. Phillip Beasley
433 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>4. A. J. Darby
441 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>5. Ida Landers
443 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>6. Florence Clinic
416 Seminary Street
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>7. Mrs. Leila B. McClure
216 Hermitage Drive
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 8. Dr. John R. Rice
438 North Seminary Street
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 9. City of Florence
P. O. Box 98
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 10. Hughes Estate
c/o Mr. Frank Donilon
Accountant
170 5th Street
Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674</p> | <p>11. Hughes Estate
c/o Mr. Frank Donilon
Accountant
170 5th Street
Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674</p> <p>12. Dr. Robert O. Rausch
P. O. Box 2439
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>✓ 13. Hughes Estate
c/o Mr. Frank Donilon
Accountant
170 5th Street
Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674</p> <p>14. Barry Broach
509 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>15. Joel Bank
513 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>16. Nettie Duncan
517 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>17. Leroy S. Doster, Jr.
601 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>18. Mrs. Theo King
615 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> <p>19. same as #18</p> <p>20. Sammy H. Thompson
619 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama</p> |
|--|--|

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 2

21. Edythe Edwards
629 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

22. Joe Wilson
639 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

23. Roy Skipworth
663 North Wood Avenue

vacant lot
corner of North Wood Avenue and
Morrison Avenue
University of North Alabama
Florence, Alabama

24. Dr. Thomas L. Bennet
725 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

25. Kenneth Darby
729 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

26. H. Grady Richards
733 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

27. Hollis Sockwell
741 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

28. U. O. Redd
747 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

29. Elmo S. Wilson
755 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

30. Mims Rogers
6 Hawthorne Street
Florence, Alabama

31. Robert A. Lott
801 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

32. Audrey Christian
110 Hawthorne Street
Florence, Alabama

33. Campus View Apartments
c/o J. C. Collum
117 North Sequoia Blvd.
Florence, Alabama

34. Joe S. Redd
750 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

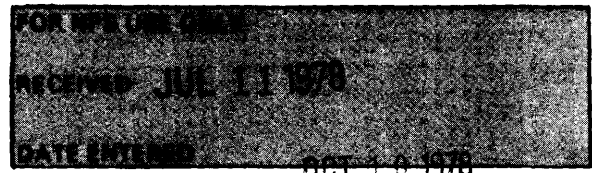
35. Dr. Harry V. Herndon
740 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

36. Dr. J. D. McCown
730 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

37. Arnold Estate
724 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

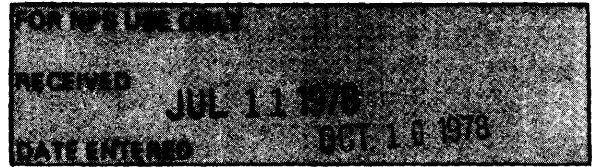
PAGE 3

- | | |
|--|--|
| 38. Margaret Darby
714 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 48. Theodore Looft
618 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 39. First Christian Church
700 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 49. William F. Mann
612 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 40. Baptist Student Union
670 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 50. Wood Avenue Apartments
604 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 41. Mary L. Sharp
658 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 51. Mrs. H. T. Ferguson
512 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 42. Euel L. Colburn
652 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 52. Miss Edith A. McKelvey
460 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 43. D. C. O'Steen
646 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 53. Elizabeth Gerber
444 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 44. John A. Robinson
640 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 54. Ruth Matthews
438 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 45. Georgia B. Small
634 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | 55. Dr. Donald P. Leslie
426 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama |
| 46. Homer England
630 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | |
| 47. Julian Wade
626 North Wood Avenue
Florence, Alabama | |

FLORENCE, ALABAMA ZIP CODE IS 35630.

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

7

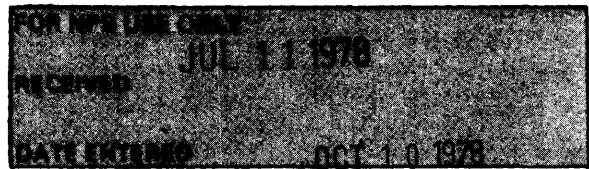
PAGE

1

In the 1920's Florence entered a second period of economic expansion, and Wood Avenue began its final phase of major construction. Building during the decade consisted of several small bungalows and a greater number of Revival style homes, which together constitute approximately 26% of the district structures. The Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55), in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, and the Harlan-Darby Tudor cottage (25) depict the variety of styles which were popular at the time. More popular, though, was the handsome Georgian Revival style, and three such structures--the Redd-Gerber (53), Arnold-Gerber (37), and Kernahan-Bennett (24) houses--are among the highlights of the district. Characterizing the style are the pedimented porticoes, hipped roofs, and symmetrical facades.

By 1930, the district was almost filled in, so only 7 of the 55 structures were built after this date. Four of these--three homes and a church--are traditionally styled and blend well with the older houses. Three contemporary structures, or approximately 5%, do intrude, but they do not destroy the character of the district. The boundaries were limited on the south by existing historic districts and determined on the north by a break-up of the concentration of late-19th and early 20th century homes. As a whole, the district is in good structural condition.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

1. Rogers-Koonce House (423 North Wood Avenue): c. late 1890's; Queen Anne influence; 2 stories with 1-story wing on north, beveled and shingled siding, multi-gabled roof, 1-story L-shaped porch with clusters of wooden box columns; moved from 426 North Wood Avenue in 1926.
2. Carter House (425 North Wood Avenue): 1918; Georgian Revival; 2 stories, beveled siding, hipped roof, exterior end chimney, 1-story central portico with clustered box columns and balustraded roof, exposed rafters; one of first pre-fabricated structures in Lauderdale County, contractor: Montgomery Ward.
3. Cromwell-Beasley House (433 North Wood Avenue): 1915; Bungaloid; 1½ stories, combination brick and frame siding, gabled roof with flared eaves, center gabled dormer, full-width porch with slender box columns, off-center interior chimney; shed-roof porch added on rear, corbeled cap removed from chimney; built by Florence Lumber Company.
4. Darby House (411 North Wood Avenue): 1926; Bungaloid; 1½ stories, brick, cross-gabled roof, wide front porch with brick piers and box columns; built by Florence Lumber Company.
5. Howell House (443 North Wood Avenue): c. 1890's; Victorian; 2 stories, multi-gabled and hipped roof, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with slender wooden box columns, segmental arches and ornamental brackets decorate porch eaves.
6. Hughes House (449 North Wood Avenue): c. 1890; Victorian; 2 stories, L-shaped, beveled siding, double-gabled roof, 2-story porch with slender Ionic columns, 2/2 sash windows.
7. McClure-Sims House (216 Hermitage Drive): c. 1925; Bungaloid; 1-story, frame, gabled roof, small gabled porch.
8. Crow-Pickett House (438 North Seminary Street): 1833; 1½ stories, brick faced with stucco, gabled roof, center dormer originally 3 separate dormers, 1-story central portico with fluted Doric columns supporting balustraded balcony; eight fireplaces removed, central hall partitioned, 1-story addition on rear, exterior stair added.

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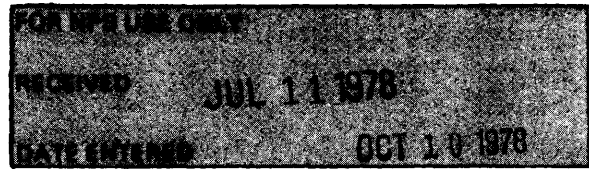
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

9. Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (203 Hermitage Drive): c. 1840; Federal influence; 1½ stories, brick, gabled roof, full-width veranda with wooden Doric box columns, 7-bay facade, double-leaf paneled door surrounded by transom and side lights, dentiled brick cornice, five chimneys; listed on Historic American Buildings Survey (1933).
11. Sample House (219 Hermitage Drive): nucleus is c. 1829 log cabin; clapboard siding, central hall, side bay and rear ell added c. 1844; structure heavily damaged by 1976 fire, subsequently demolished except for log nucleus and ell.
12. Jackson House (502 North Wood Avenue): late 1920's; Bungaloid; 1 story, brick and shingled, gabled roof, full-width porch with exposed rafters along roof, square brick columns.
13. Hughes House (505 North Wood Avenue): c. late 1920's; Georgian Revival influence; 2 stories, brick, pyramidal roof, 1-story porch on north, 1-story wing on south, 1-story portico with paired Doric columns, flat brick arch above windows.
14. Price-Broach House (509 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; Bungaloid; 2 stories, brick, low-pitched pyramidal roof with center hipped dormer, 1-story porch with rough-cut stone pillars, 1 exterior end chimney, exposed rafters.
15. Irvine-Bank House (513 North Wood Avenue): c. 1905; Victorian; 2 stories, beveled siding, combination gabled and hipped roof, 1-story porch with slender Roman Doric columns, dentiled and bracketed cornice.
16. Duncan House (517 North Wood Avenue): 1905; Victorian, 2 stories, beveled siding, combination gabled and hipped roof, L-shaped porch with pairs of box columns, modillioned porch cornice, 2nd floor Palladian window; rear wing and basement added.
17. Ashcraft-Doster House (601 North Wood Avenue): 1915; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, rough-cut stone siding, hipped roof with center Palladian dormer window, 5 bays, 1-story pedimented portico with slender Doric columns, 2 exterior end chimneys, 1-story wing on south; back porch and sleeping porch enclosed.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

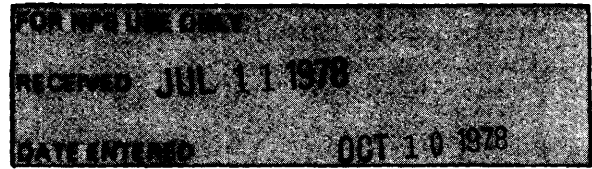
ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 4

18. King House (609 North Wood Avenue): 1916; 1½ stories, beveled siding, steeply-pitched combination gabled and hipped roof, center and side dormer, full-width porch with rusticated concrete block columns.
19. Shepard House (615 North Wood Avenue): 1916; Bungalow; 1½ stories, brick, low-pitched combination gabled and hipped roof, center hipped dormer, full-width porch with brick pillars.
20. Thompson House (619 North Wood Avenue): 1925; Georgian Revival influence; 2½ stories, brick, pyramidal roof with center hipped dormer, 3-bay facade with paired windows, full-width 1-story porch with brick pillars.
21. Wood-Frison House (629 North Wood Avenue): 1889; Victorian; 2½ stories, frame, combination pyramidal and gabled roof, L-shaped porch with wooden box columns and truncated hipped roof, bay windows below each gable end, scroll brackets support overhand of gable.
22. May-Wilson House (639 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; remodeled in Georgian Revival style c. 1925; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, 2nd floor center pavilion, gabled attic vents, 3-bay facade, 1-story balustraded portico with clustered fluted Doric columns, bracketed cornice.
23. Pennington-Skipworth House (663 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Bungalow; 1½ stories, gabled roof, facade faced with stucco, hipped-roof porch with stuccoed pillars, shed-roof dormer, hipped roof octagonal bay, exposed rafters.
24. Kernahan-Bennett House (725 North Wood Avenue): 1928; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, hipped roof with center hipped dormer, 1-story central pedimented portico with clustered fluted Doric columns, 1-story porch attached on south, dentiled and bracketed cornice, Palladian window above pediment, fanlight and sidelights surround entrance.
25. Harlan-Darby House (729 North Wood Avenue): 1923; Tudor cottage; 1½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, shed-roof dormer, brick and stucco siding with exposed beams, casement windows, Tudor chimney.
26. Hubbard-Richards House (733 North Wood Avenue): 1917; Bungalow; 2½ stories, low-pitched hipped roof, center hipped dormer, beveled siding, 2 interior chimneys, 1-story porch with box columns and brick piers, 6/1 sash windows.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 5

27. Sockwell House (741 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1½ stories, cross-gabled roof with overhanging eaves, moderate Western Stick Style trim, brick veneer with shingled gable ends; two rooms added on rear c. 1938.
28. Mitchell-Redd House (747 North Wood Avenue): c. 1836; originally two-room central hall plan, north and south wings added prior to 1882, rear wing added after 1882, 1 story, beveled siding, hipped roof, two interior chimneys, porch enclosed in 1958 to connect rear wing to main structure.
29. Harris-Rogers-Wilson House (755 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Georgian Revival influence; 2 stories, brick veneer, hipped roof covered with tile, two end interior chimneys, 1-story porch and carport flanking main structure, 1-story portico with clustered Doric columns, bracketed cornice; built by Florence Lumber Company.
30. Flagg-Rogers House (6 Hawthorne Street): 1926; Georgian Revival influence result of renovation (date unknown); 2 stories, brick veneer, gabled roof, reverse-curve pediment and sidelights surround door, two exterior end chimneys, flanking wings added (date unknown).
31. Watson-Gilbert-Lott House (801 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Victorian, 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with slender Roman Doric columns, kitchen and 3 baths added 1917.
32. Christian House (110 Hawthorne Street): 1923; 1 story, gabled roof with off-center cross gable, exterior chimney on facade, beveled siding, small overhanging pediment above door.
33. Waits House (754 North Wood Avenue): c. 1901; 2 stories, multi-gabled roof, shingled siding; rear addition (date unknown), interior divided into apartments in 1963.
35. DesPrez-Herndon House (740 North Wood Avenue): 1896; Queen Anne influence; 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, half-octagonal dormer, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, 2 corbeled chimneys, large porch added on north side.
36. Mitchell-McCown House (730 North Wood Avenue): 1911; Bungalow; 1½ stories, frame, gabled roof, twin-gabled center dormer, full-width porch with brick pillars, two interior chimneys, back porch enclosed, new back porch added.

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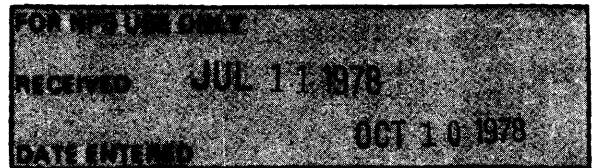
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 6

37. Arnold-Gerber House (724 North Wood Avenue): 1930; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, brick veneer, gabled roof, 3 gabled dormers, 2 exterior corbeled chimneys, 1-story porch with balustraded balcony attached on south, 1-story pedimented portico, lead-glass fanlight and sidelights surround door, modillioned cornice, tile roof.
38. Darby House (714 North Wood Avenue): c. 1884-1890; Queen Anne; 1½ stories, shingled and beveled siding, multi-gabled roof, pyramidal tower, 1-story porch with moderate Eastlake trim; side porch enclosed 1956; 1-story structure on rear of property erected 1951.
41. Smith House (658 North Wood Avenue): 1889; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, square and octagonal towers, L-shaped porch with slender box columns, shingle and weatherboard siding, cresting along ridge of roof, flat-headed sash windows, metal roof.
42. Hall-Westmoreland-Colburn House (652 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, multigabled roof, square tower with pyramidal roof, 3/4 width-porch with moderate Eastlake trim, weatherboard siding, metal roof.
43. O'Steen House (646 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, shed-roof attic vent, full-width porch partially screened, brick pillars, two interior chimneys.
44. Wood-Robinson House (640 North Wood Avenue): c. 1845; 1½ stories, central hall plan, 5 bays, gabled roof, two exterior end chimneys, shed-roof porch with Victorian trim added, flat-headed windows with plain surround, double doors with transom and sidelights, one-story wing attached on south.
45. Sommers-Negley-Small House (634 North Wood Avenue): 1875; Victorian; 1½ stories, gabled roof, side gabled dormers, hipped-roof porch with slender Doric columns and box cornice, decorative bargeboard on gable end.
47. Ware-Wade House (626 North Wood Avenue): 1916; Bungalow; 1 story, gabled roof, shed-roof dormer, two interior chimneys, exposed rafters, beveled siding, full-width porch with rubble piers; built by Florence Lumber Company.
48. Reisman-Coffee-Looft House (618 North Wood Avenue): c. 1890; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination pyramidal and gabled roof, weatherboard and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, square tower.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

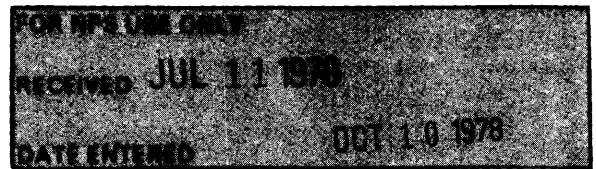
ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

49. Leftwich-Dillard-Mann House (612 North Wood Avenue): 1888; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination truncated-hipped and gabled roof, octagonal cupola, beveled siding, metal roof, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, flat-headed sash windows, one interior chimney; restoration underway.
52. McKelvey House (460 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Victorian; 2 stories, beveled siding, pyramidal roof with cross gables, L-shaped porch with clusters of slender Ionic columns, flat-headed sash windows, rear addition.
53. Redd-Gerber House (444 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, brick, hipped roof with cross gables, 2-story elliptical portico with heavy fluted Ionic columns supporting oversized entablature, wrought iron balustrade, 3 bays, flat-headed paired windows, fanlight and sidelights surround single-leaf door.
54. Matthews House (438 North Wood Avenue): c. 1902; Queen Anne influence; 1 story, beveled and shingled siding, combination hipped and multi-gabled roof, corbeled interior chimney, L-shaped porch with slender fluted Ionic columns, corner bay, flat-roof wing added on north.
55. Rogers-Rosenbaum House (426 North Wood Avenue): 1926; Spanish Colonial Revival; 2 stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, tile roof, 1-story wing on north end, 1-story portico with modified-Corinthian arcade, wrought iron balustrade, 2 interior end chimneys, paired windows, arched doorway, brick faced with stucco.

NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURES

34. Redd House (750 North Wood Avenue): 1946; 1½ stories, gabled roof, 3 gabled dormers, carport attached at north end, brick veneer, full-width porch with slender fluted Doric columns supporting balustraded entablature, two end interior chimneys.
39. First Christian Church (700 North Wood Avenue): 1950; Gothic influence; brick, traditional longitudinal plan with projecting eaves, slender arched windows along nave, stepped buttresses.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 8

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- 46. England House (630 North Wood Avenue): 1946; 1 story, gabled roof, brick veneer, L-shaped, half-width porch.
 - 51. Ferguson House (512 North Wood Avenue): 1956; 1 story, hipped-gable roof with center gabled dormer, L-shaped porch, brick veneer.

INTRUSIVE STRUCTURES

- 10. Radio-T.V. Hospital (215 Hermitage Drive): c. 1935; contemporary; 1 story, brick, large display window.
- 40. Baptist Student Center (670 North Wood Avenue): 1967; contemporary; 1 story, brick, flat-roof, recessed porch with square columns.
- 50. Wood Avenue Apartments (604 North Wood Avenue): 1963; contemporary; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wood Avenue Historic District contains 55 structures including the most fashionable residences built during two major periods of Florence's economic growth. Primarily developed between the 1880's and 1930, the district contains a number of modest Victorian, Bungalow, and Revival style homes, but it is most noted for its fine collection of elaborate Queen Anne and handsome Georgian Revival structures. The individual civic, social, and economic achievements of the district's upper and middle class residents both drew from and contributed to the rapid industrial and urban development of the region during these five decades.

In the town's early years, the most fashionable residential area lay a few blocks westward (Sannoner Historic District--NRHP, 1-1-76), closer to the commercial area. The city had been surveyed in 1818 by Ferdinand Sannoner for the Cypress Land Company, but few structures were built as far from the center of town as Wood Avenue (then known as Market Street). Only five antebellum structures remain along Wood Avenue, two of which--the Sample House (11) and Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9)--are listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey. They range from the simple two-room log Sample House (11) to the still modest Crow-Pickett (8) and Mitchell-Redd (28) houses. In later years these were to become the homes of such prominent local leaders as Colonel Richard O. Pickett, attorney and State Legislator, and Judge J. J. Mitchell, probate judge, publisher of the Florence Gazette, and organizer of the county's first social welfare program.

Another early structure, Pope's Tavern (9), derives its name from a state coach inn and tavern erected on the site in 1811 by Leroy Pope. The present structure, built around 1840, was the home of J. C. Gookin, a wholesale merchant. During the Civil War it was used as a Confederate hospital. In 1872 it was purchased by the Lambeth family, who occupied it until 1968 when the City of Florence bought it for use as a museum.

In the years following the Civil War, Florence suffered the general economic deprivation of the region, and construction was minimal. Prosperity began to return by the early 1880's, as evidenced by the three-fold increase in population during the decade. Completion of a canal project on the Muscle Shoals of the Tennessee River in 1889 made the area especially attractive to new business and industry and sparked the first major economic boom. George Goethals, chief engineer of the project and later famous for his construction of the Panama Canal, resided in the Wood-Frison House (21) while he worked in Florence.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beasley, Philip. Personal communication, Jan.-June, 1978.

Lott, Kathleen. Personal inspection and historical research, Jan.-June, 1978.

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 25 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Florence Quadrangle 7.5 Minute Series QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A 16	437980	3852210	B 16	438120	3851670
C 16	438300	3851400	D 16	438120	3851320
E 16	438040	3851460	F 16	437810	3852040
G 16	437800	3852100	H 16	437880	3852180

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet.

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

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director and Sally Moore

ORGANIZATION

Alabama Historical Commission

DATE

July 6, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

725 Monroe Street

TELEPHONE

(205) 832-6621

CITY OR TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama 36130

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Milo B. Howard Jr.

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

July 10, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *William Belmont*

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

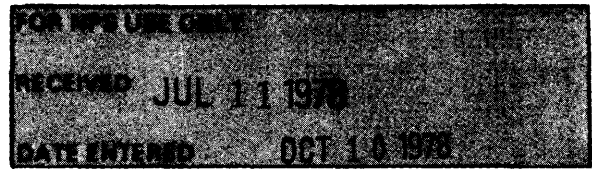
10/10/78

DATE

Oct 4, 1978

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

At the time of this first boom period, the city's most fashionable residential area had already been filled in, so the new upper and middle classes moved eastward to Wood Avenue to build their homes. Fourteen structures dating from 1874 to 1900 remain in the district and depict various elements of the popular Victorian style. Prominent merchants and landholders were responsible for the construction of the elaborate Queen Anne homes such as the Smith (41), Hall-Westmoreland-Colburn (42), and Reisman-Coffee-Looft (48) houses. More common, though, were the less ornate Victorian homes such as the Rogers-Koonce (1), DesPrez-Herndon (35), and McKelvey (52) houses. Dr. Louis DesPrez, an early physician in the area; T. M. Rogers, founder of the Rogers Department Store; and Harold May, editor of the Florence Times, were among the business and professional men who built homes on Wood Avenue in this style.

After two decades of accelerated growth, Florence's economy stabilized around the turn of the century. Construction along Wood Avenue continued at a rapid rate, though for the most part, the new homes were of a less elaborate nature. A few Victorian structures were built in the early 1900's, but around 1915 two new styles--the Bungalow and Georgian Revival--began to emerge. At least five bungalows, dating into the 1920's were built by the Florence Lumber Company, a business started in 1912 by Uhlán O. Redd, a resident of the district. Though most of the early bungalows depict only influences of the style, the 1916 Ware-Wade House (47) is a good example of a true Bungalow style structure. Interestingly, when this house was being planned, the neighbors drew up a petition protesting its construction, arguing that its style did not conform to that of the existing structures in the neighborhood. It was completed in spite of the petition, and within the next twenty-five years bungalows became as common as the older Victorian homes.

Completion of Wilson Dam in 1926 spurred another economic boom, and many of the successful businessmen chose the handsome Georgian Revival for their homes along Wood Avenue. The style had begun to appear as early as 1915, and by the decade of the 1920's it became the most popular of the several styles--Bungalow and various Revival--of the period. Two of the particularly impressive homes were the Redd-Gerber (53) and Kernahan-Bennett (24) houses, built respectively by Uhlán O. Redd, founder of the Florence Lumber Company, and John Kernahan, a wealthy farmer. Others, however, were not as true to the style, but they were built by equally prominent people such as industrialist Jewett Flagg, owner of the Flagg-Rogers House (30).

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Though construction in the 1920's was dominated by the Georgian Revival, a number of bungalows also date from this period. In addition, the district contains two structures of other Revival styles--the Spanish Colonial Revival Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55) and the Tudor Cottage style Harlan-Darby House (25). Like the Georgian Revival structures, these were the homes of the business and professional elite.

By the end of the second major economic boom, the district was almost filled in, so very few structures were built after 1930. While four of the later structures blend into the district, there are three others--the Radio-T.V. Hospital (10), Wood Avenue Apartments (50), and Baptist Student Center (40)--which intrude. In spite of them, the district maintains its character of a late 19th and early 20th century upper-middle class residential area.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	OCT 10 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

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Owen, Thomas McAdory. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography.
Vol. I. Chicago: The S.J. Clark Publishing Co., 1921.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Starting at the northwest corner of the intersection of Tuscaloosa Street and Wood Avenue, proceed thence in a northwesterly direction along Wood Avenue approximately 289 feet to the southeast corner of the Rogers-Koonce House property (1), the true point of origin; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 168 feet to the rear property line of said house; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 128 feet along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 1 and 2); thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 205 feet to the northeast side of Seminary Street; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 331 feet along said street to the rear of the Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9); thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 255 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 305 feet to the southeast side of Irvine Avenue; thence in a northeasterly direction along said street approximately 20 feet; thence generally in a northwesterly direction across Irvine Avenue and along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 17-22) approximately 650 feet; thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 135 feet to the southwest side of Wood Avenue; thence along the said street approximately 190 feet; thence in a westerly direction approximately 104 feet to the rear property line of the Pennington-Skipworth House (23); thence in a northerly direction approximately 55 feet along said property line; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 40 feet to the east side of Morrison Avenue; thence in a northerly direction along Morrison Avenue and beyond to the northwest corner of the intersection of Willingham Road and Wood Avenue; thence in a westerly direction along the northern boundary of Willingham Road approximately 190 feet to the rear property line of the Kernahan-Bennett House (24); thence approximately 475 feet along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 24-28); thence in a southwesterly direction along the rear property line of the Flagg-Rogers House (30) approximately 207 feet to the northeast side of Sherrod Avenue; thence in a northwesterly direction along said street approximately 150 feet to the southeast corner of the intersection of Sherrod Avenue and Hawthorne Street; thence in a northeasterly direction along Hawthorne Street approximately 287 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 150 feet across Wood Avenue and along the rear property line of the Watson-Gilbert-Lott House (31); thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 105 feet to the western side of Wood Avenue; thence in a southeasterly direction along said street approximately 150 feet to the southwest corner of the intersection of Hawthorne Street and Wood Avenue; thence approximately 220 feet across Wood Avenue and along the southeast side of Hawthorne Street; thence along the northeast property line of the Christian House (32) and continuing in a generally southeast direction approximately 2430 feet along the rear property lines of the structures facing Wood Avenue (structures 34-55) to the eastern corner of the Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55) property; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 262 feet to the southwest side of Wood Avenue; thence in a southeasterly direction approximately 50 feet to the true point of origin.