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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 Two Pierpont Circle
other names/site number William Washington Gordon, III House

2. Location

street & number 2 Pierpont Circle
city, town Savannah (n/a) vicinity of
county Chatham code GA 051
state Georgia code GA zip code 31404

(n/a) not for publication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	2	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	1
objects	0	0
total	2	1

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

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.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

2/15/90
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer,
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 Amy Federman 4/4/90
 - determined eligible for the National Register _____
 - determined not eligible for the National Register _____
 - removed from the National Register _____
 - other, explain: _____
 - see continuation sheet _____
- _____
Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC:single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC:single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Federal Revival

Materials:

foundation brick
walls brick
roof asphalt
other

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The W. W. Gordon, III House, known as "Two Pierpont Circle," is a two-story, brick-veneered, Federal Revival house built in 1920. The property is located two miles southeast of downtown Savannah in an early to mid-20th century residential suburb. The five-bay, symmetrical front facade has a central entrance emphasized by a one-story portico and flanked by double-hung windows set within shallow segmental arches. The columned portico has a large entablature with projecting cornice and a paneled balustrade above that forms a second-floor balcony. A matching cornice and paneled balustrade encircle the eave line and hide the building's low roof (photographs 1,2,5). A one-story screened porch and sunroom are attached to one side (photographs 3,4). The interior has a central hall floor plan and retains its Federal Revival style mantels, stairway, wood moldings and paneling.

The interior arrangement of the space is essentially two rooms deep with a side sun porch and screen porch (photograph 12). The interior craftsmanship includes deep molded trim around windows and doors, seven recessed double built-in book shelves, and raised wood panels beneath every window. The doglegged staircase located in the central hall features turned and tapered balustrades, a curved handrail, and a scrolled bracket pattern on the side of each step (photograph 8). The stairway landing includes a large round arch window (photograph 13).

Each of the seven fireplace mantels are classically designed with black marble hearths. Some feature decorative motifs of urns, brass trim and elliptical shaped geometric patterns formed by radiating lines (photographs 9,10,11,14).

The house sits on an irregular-shaped lot with grounds that were landscaped in the 1950s. The property is bordered by live oaks and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section 7

pecans (photograph 1,6,7). The house was originally of natural St. Louis yellow brick, and has been painted white. A two-car garage with an upstairs apartment is located behind the house. The garage was built at the same time as the house and is of similar design. It is connected to the primary residence by a brick bordered patio. A modern swimming pool is also located in the back yard.

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
community planning and development

Period of Significance:

1920 - 1932

Significant Dates:

1920

Significant Person(s):

n/a

Cultural Affiliation:

n/a

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Olaf Otto

National Register of Historic Places
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Section 8

Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

Two Pierpont Circle is significant under architecture and community planning and represents an excellent example of an early 20th century Federal Revival style of architecture and a type of model home used for a planned subdivision during the 1920s.

ARCHITECTURE

In the area of architecture, the house is significant as an example of the Federal Revival style popular in the early 20th century. The design is believed to have been adapted by architect Olaf Otto from the 1886 plans used by architect Detlef Lienau for the Wayne-Gordon-Low House when the third floor was added. The Federal Revival design is exemplified by the building's symmetrical design with a one-story portico featuring prominent Tuscon order columns. The portico has a large entablature with projecting cornice and a paneled balustrade forms a second floor balcony. The central entrance is flanked by double-hung 6/6 windows set within shallow segmental arched windows. The interior further illustrates the Federal Revival elements with classically designed mantels, windows and door moldings, and a decorative stairway. The one-story brick garage also built in 1920, is modest in design and features the same wide cornice line as the main house.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

In the area of community planning and development, Two Pierpont Circle is significant for its construction in 1920 as the model home for the planned residential subdivision of Gordonston. The subdivision streets were laid out, but only a few scattered houses were built there within the historic period. Pierpont Circle was the hub or focal point of the subdivision plan, and other streets extended off of it like spokes; this house, the model home, was the first structure built in the suburb and is a historic landmark for the area. W. W. Gordon, III inherited the land for the subdivision from his family's estate. He named the streets after members of his family, Kinzie and Gordon, and states such as Kentucky, Georgia, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The Gordons lived at Two Pierpont developing Gordonston until his death in March, 1932. With a lien on the property that could not be paid, Two Pierpont was sold at public sale in December, 1932. The property represents a type of model home and pattern of development used for a planned subdivision during the early 20th century.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 8

National Register Criteria

These areas of significance support the property's eligibility under National Register Criteria A and C.

Two Pierpont Circle meets Criteria A as representative of a type of model home used in an early 20th century upper-class planned development. The community, known as Gordonston, developed from 1920 into the 1930s. Pierpont Circle was the hub of this subdivision with streets extending off of it like spokes. Only a few scattered houses were developed during this timeperiod; since then, newer houses have filled in the vacant areas.

Two Pierpont Circle meets Criteria C as a excellent example of Federal Revival style architecture popular during the early 20th century. The nominated property was built in 1920 as the model home for the newly formed subdivision of Gordonston. The home was designed by Norwegian architect Olaf Otto who patterned his design from drawings used for the Federal style Wayne-Gordon-Low house in Savannah. Symmetrically designed, the house exemplifies classical detailing from its prominent one-story portico, Tuscon order columns, and projecting cornice. Interior features illustrate classical craftsmanship particularly in the fire place mantels, moldings, and staircase design. The garage reflects a trend during the early 20th century of matching outbuilding design with the primary residence.

Period of significance (justification, if applicable)

1920 - building date of the house and garage; plan developed for the Gordonston subdivision

1932 - property sold at auction

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources

Contributing

2 buildings (house and garage)

Noncontributing

1 structure (swimming pool)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Benton, Julie G. "Historic Property Information Form - Two Pierpont Circle." 1986. On file at the Department of Natural Resources.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (x) N/A

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () 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:

- (x) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 493680 Northing 3546330

Verbal Boundary Description

Two Pierpont Circle is located within the planned community of Gordonston, a subdivision of Savannah. The property boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the property's site map.

Boundary Justification

The proposed boundary follows the current and historic legal property lines.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lisa Raflo, National Register Researcher
organization Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone 404-656-2840 **date** 2/14/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Photographs _____ 1
Section number _____ Page _____

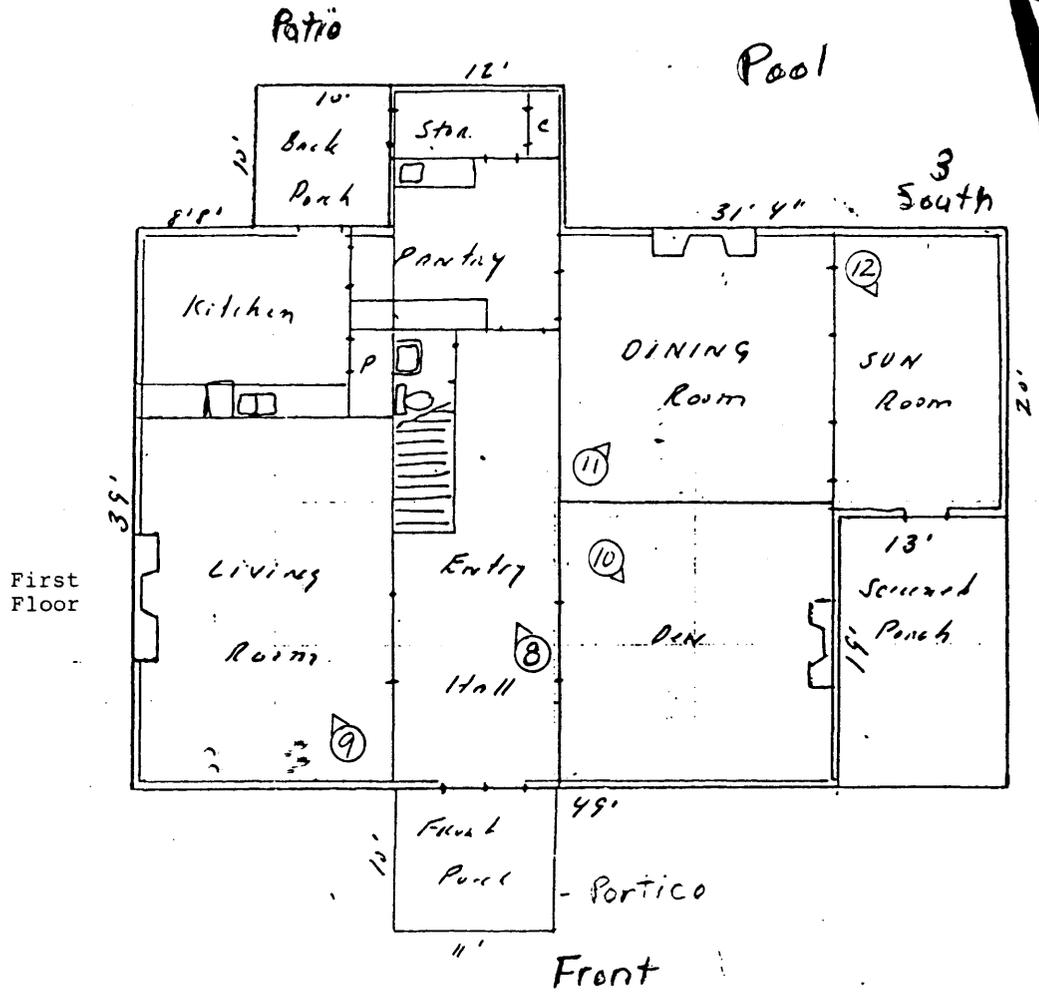
Two Pierpont Circle
Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative: Filed with the Historic Preservation Section of the
Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date: June 1989

Description:

- 1 of 14: Front and west facade view; photographer facing east.
- 2 of 14: Front facade view; photographer facing north.
- 3 of 14: Front and east facade view; photographer facing north.
- 4 of 14: East facade view; photographer facing west.
- 5 of 14: Rear facade view; photographer facing southwest.
- 6 of 14: View of back yard, pool area and garage; photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 14: View of Pierpont Circle from the portico of Two Pierpont Circle; photographer facing south.
- 8 of 14: First floor entrance hall and stairway; photographer facing northwest.
- 9 of 14: Interior view of living room, classically detailed mantelpiece; photographer facing northwest.
- 10 of 14: Interior view of den, classically detailed mantelpiece, window and door moldings; photographer facing southeast.
- 11 of 14: Interior view of dining room, classically designed fireplace; photographer facing northeast.
- 12 of 14: Interior view of sun room; photographer facing southeast.
- 13 of 14: View of dog-legged staircase; photographer facing north.
- 14 of 14: Interior view of rear bedroom; photographer facing northeast.

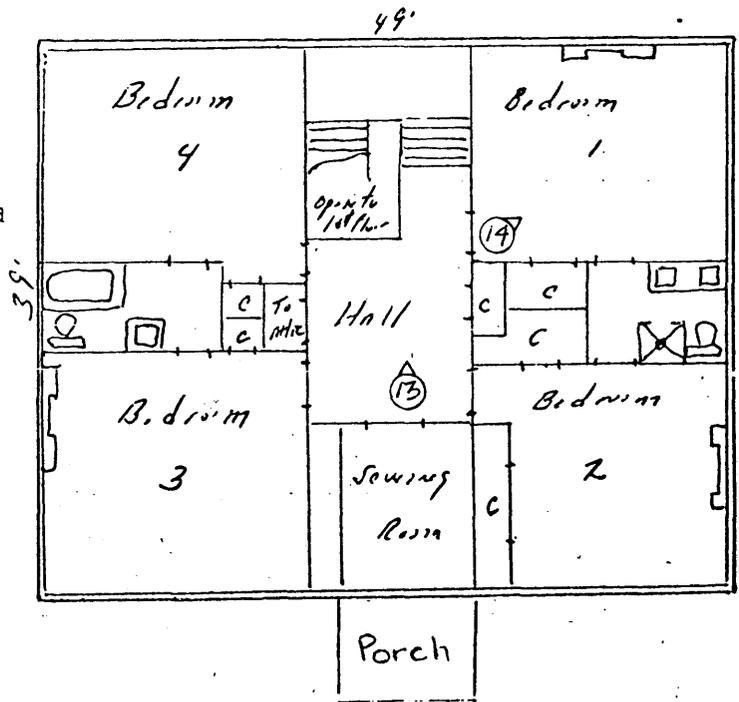
Garage Apt.

Patio



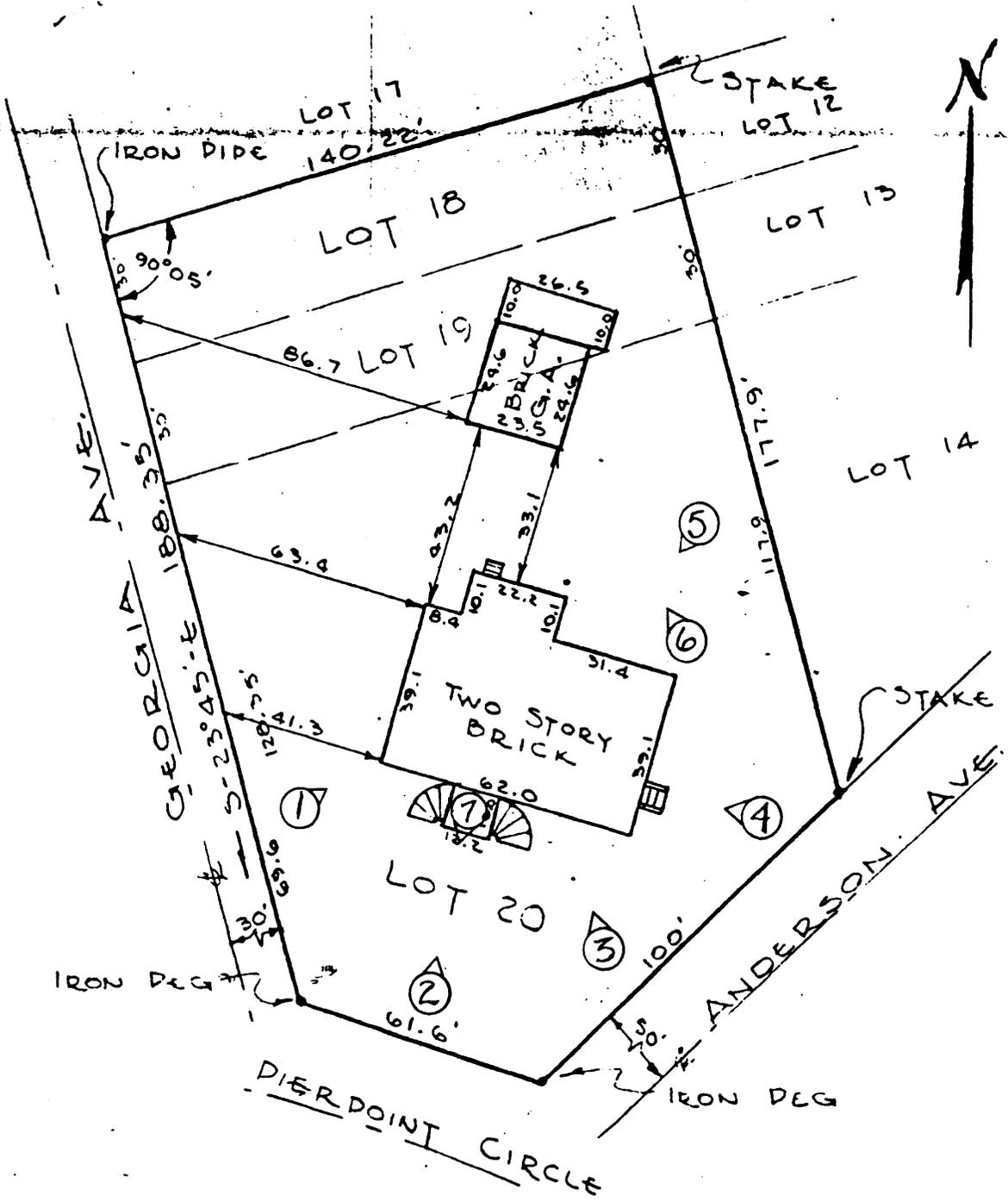
First Floor

Second Floor



Two Pierpont Circle, Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia

Floor Plans
Scale: none
Photos: indicated by 



STATE OF GEORGIA }
 CHATHAM COUNTY }

Plat of Lots 18, 19, and 20,
 Sullivan Ward, Gordonston Subdivision, located on
 the north side of Pierpont Circle between Anderson
 and Georgia Avenues, according to a map of Gordonston,
 dated April 10, 1939, recorded in Plat Record Book "B",
 folio 134, Chatham County Records.

Two Pierpont Circle, Savannah,
 Chatham County, Georgia

Plat Map
 Scale: 1" _____ 40'

Photos: indicated by

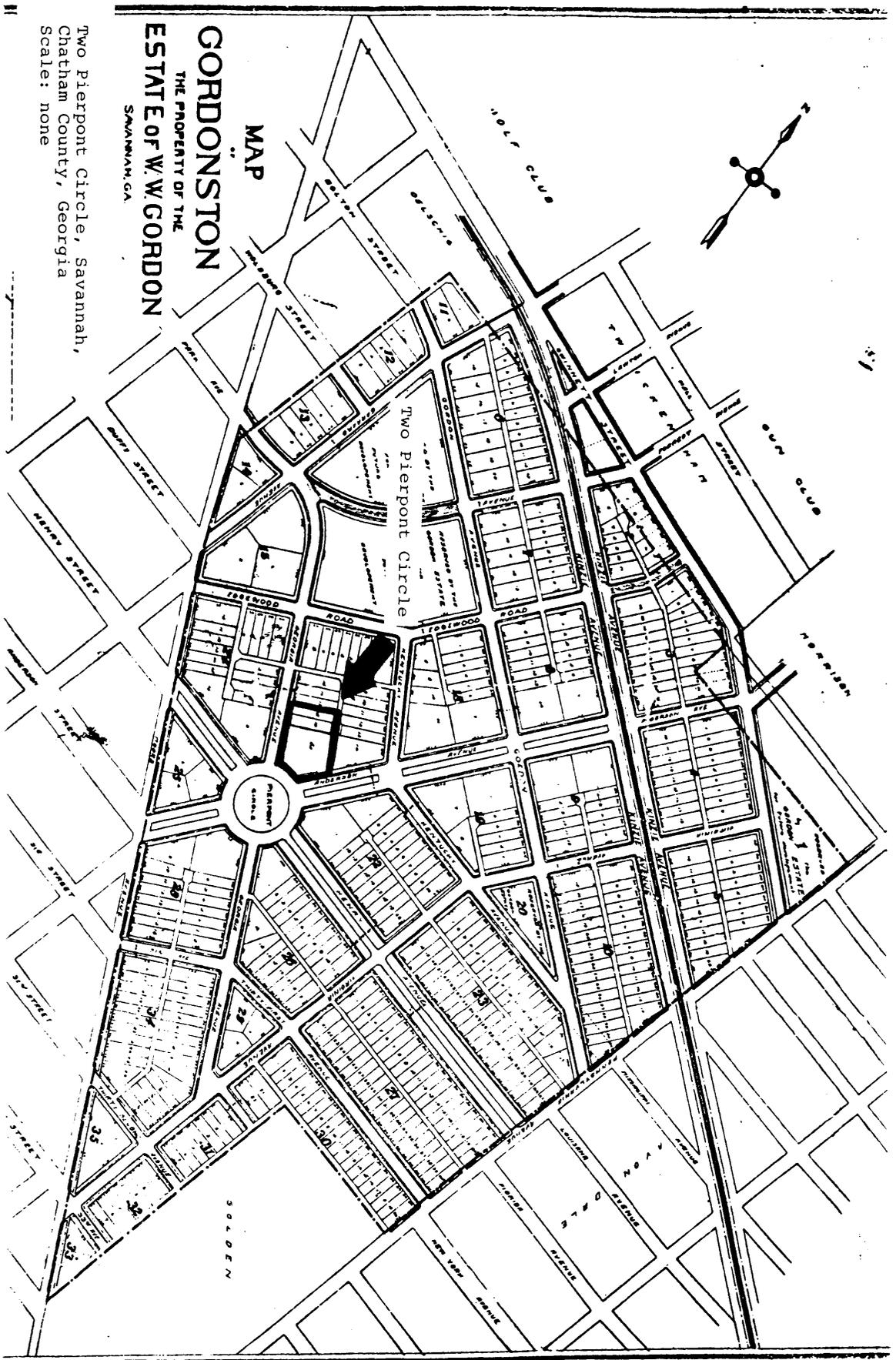
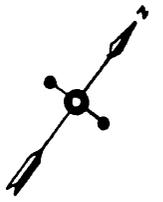
I certify that this plat is
 buildings are within the lot lines
 attachments.

Dec. 1951

WENTON, JR.

W. Thomas Jr

GORDONSTON
 Sullivan Ward
 Lts 18, 19, & 20
 Savannah, Ga.



MAP

GORDONSTON

THE PROPERTY OF THE
ESTATE OF W.W. GORDON
SAVANNAH, GA.

Two Pierpont Circle, Savannah,
Chatham County, Georgia
Scale: none