

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0688142

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RECEIVED NOV 20 1978
DATE ENTERED JAN 8 1979

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

Robert E. (Dismukes, Sr.) House

AND/OR COMMON

Dismukes-Jarrell House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1617 Summit Drive

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Columbus

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Third - Rep. Jack Brinkley

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Muscogee

CODE

215

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. & Mrs. Harold G. Jarrell

STREET & NUMBER

1617 Summit Drive

CITY, TOWN

Columbus

VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia 31906

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Consolidated Government Center (Deed Books)

STREET & NUMBER

Tenth Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Columbus

STATE

Georgia 31901

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE (1) Historic Columbus Buildings Inventory

(2) Columbus-Muscogee County Historic Buildings Survey

DATE (1) 1967

(2) 1976

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS (1) Historic Columbus Foundation, Inc.

(2) State of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources

CITY, TOWN

(1) Columbus

STATE

(2) Atlanta

Georgia

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The appearance, present and original, of this suburban "Peacock Woods" estate has remained essentially constant since early 1926 when it was completed according to the design of the Atlanta architectural firm, Hentz, Reid, and Adler. With only minor exceptions, the entire picturesque composition, inside and out, appears as orchestrated by the late Neel Reid (1885-1926). Reid was responsible for every aspect of design, including interior decoration and landscaping (gardens and garden outbuildings). Perfectly sited on a knoll back from the street on a rolling lawn, it is the complete picture of an early-twentieth-century suburban villa in a planned garden suburb (1922), a neighborhood of curving streets, large wooded lots, and each of the houses designed according to a traditional and eclectic version of various historical styles or periods.

The house is two-story brick with a hip roof and flanking one-story wings. It is five bays wide in the central block with six-over-six lights. The windows of the wings are set in arched and recessed white panels. Two massive brick chimneys are set in the slope of the hip roof on either side. The slope of the roof ends within the bounds of the house, leaving a flat roof area on each side of the hipped portion.

James Grady, in his Architecture of Neel Reid in Georgia (1973), says: "The house was designed as a Federal building with Greek Revival details. Grady's brief description continues:

The front entrance and the garden portico have Greek Doric orders contrasted with the red brick facades. Reid may have designed the garden, but in any case the two structures that are its principal features are by him. The larger, in red brick with a pedimented, columned portico, is the servants' quarters. The small temple that forms the gazebo is charming with Tuscan columns and treillage.

Interiors are carefully detailed in Reid's personal manner. Bedroom fireplaces become interesting chimney pieces by the replacement of their simple, stock mantels in arched recesses.

Architectural attribution is no problem as this fifty-two-year-old estate is pictured and discussed on pages 142-45 of Grady's Architecture of Neel Reid in Georgia. It is listed as Reid's and his firm's, "job number 513, 1923-1924," and the whereabouts of the original tracings is given. In addition, the current owners, who maintain the property beautifully, have a set of plans in blue-print form which may be studied. Except for small variations in actual execution, the entire conception appears today as drawn with only one "alteration": The original south and north arched, open-porch pavillions have been enclosed but so carefully that the original architectural scheme of a two-story manor house block, balanced by one-story porch wings, is carefully preserved.

[continued]

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Grady, James. The Architecture of Neel Reid in Georgia. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1973.
- Mitchell, William R., Jr. Personal inspection, interviews and research, 1978.
- Peacock Woods Subdivision Plat, June, 1922.
- Shorter, Edward. Interview by Bill Mitchell, May, 1978.
- Swift, John. Interview by Bill Mitchell, May, 1978. [continued]

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY App. 1.4 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Columbus

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,6 6,9,14,4,5 3,5,9,4,8,4,5

B

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

1617 Summit Drive; 282 feet on Summit; 231.6 feet from Summit west to the back line, thence 288 feet north and 193.4 feet east back to Summit. [continued]

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William R. Mitchell, Jr., Consultant/Martha F. Norwood

ORGANIZATION

Historic Columbus Foundation, Inc./Historic Preservation Section

DATE August, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

700 Broadway/270 Washington St., S.W.

TELEPHONE

(404) 322-0756/(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

Columbus/Atlanta

STATE

Georgia 31901/30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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

Elizabeth A. Lyon

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10/13/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-8-79

ATTEST:

John H. Colmore

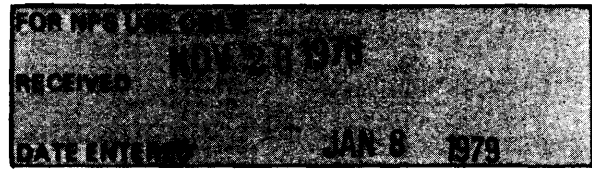
DATE

1/5/82

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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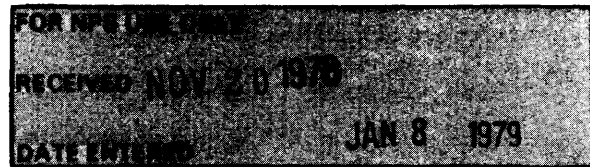


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A knowledge of comparative appearance, and original design attribution, may also be easily derived from an expert contemporary eye-witness account recently given by Edward Shorter, Director Emeritus of the Columbus Museum of Arts and Sciences. From Shorter's testimony, it is possible to say that an ailing Neel Reid came to Columbus to make an inspection early in 1926, a few months before his death. Shorter, who knew Reid and Robert Ernest Dismukes well, was present as the young architect made his final inspection, taking notes, as he was carried through the house on a stretcher. Before the year was over, Reid had died, but not before the house was finished to his specifications by an expert local builder, W.C. Whitaker.

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Architecture of Neel Reid in Georgia, gives the location of the original tracings and discusses the significance of Reid's architecture. (Grady does not attempt to tell the role of each member of the firm, but he does say:

In the early 1920s when Philip Shutze returned to Hentz, Reid and Adler ... a significant new spirit can be noticed in the firm's work.

By September of 1923, when the plans for this house are dated, Shutze was working for the firm and could have assisted Reid in some aspects of design.)

This "Peacock Woods" estate is one of Reid's last designs; indeed, it may be the final effort in which he was able personally to oversee minute details and give that complete architectural service for which Hentz, Reid and Adler were known. Grady rightly points out that such houses were "suburban villas" or "Quasi-country houses," in which the surrounding gardens and landscape were designed to complement the main house and vice versa, and in which the architect took charge of every aspect of the composition to create a picturesque "period" setting, complete in every detail. The Dismukes-Jarrell House continues to meet the criteria of the early-twentieth-century period house and to set a high standard of formal and traditional domestic architecture going back to the country villas of the Italian Renaissance, perhaps the ultimate design source for such estates.

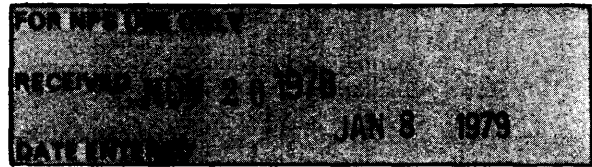
Park-like Peacock Woods was named for a local family. Begun in 1922, it was planned and developed by Flournoy Realty Company, a Columbus firm begun in 1887 by John F. Flournoy. Its rolling, tree-shaded, curving streets and large lots have created one of the most desirable residential neighborhoods -- a garden suburb -- in Columbus and especially the area immediately surrounding this house. Robert Ernest Dismukes, Sr. (1877-1943), who commissioned the house was a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School. In 1906, he married Lenora Epping Swift, whose father, George P. Swift, Jr., built the house directly across from this, at the same time.

The Dismukes-Jarrell House is singled out from its neighbors in Peacock Woods, a fine example of suburban planning, because of the beauty of its Neel Reid architecture; it exemplifies the aesthetic ideals of "creative eclecticism." (The present owners, Dr. and Mrs. Harold G. Jarrell, appreciate its beauty and maintain the estate in a style which befits its growing

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significance as a historical and cultural artifact.

Robert Ernest Dismukes served on the Columbus City Council for sixteen years and then on the City Commission for sixteen years, retiring in 1937. He practiced law in Columbus for many years, and he and his son, R.E. Dismukes, Jr., owned R.E. Dismukes Insurance Company. He was vice president of the Georgia Manufacturing Company, of which his father was the first president, and a director of the Columbus Manufacturing Company. Also, he served as chairman of the Muscogee County Democratic Executive Committee.

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Bibliography &
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9. Major Bibliographical References

(Swift owns the George Swift House, designed by T. Firth Lockwood, 1925, directly across from the Dismukes-Jarrell House, and provided the Peacock Woods plat.)

Worsley, Etta Blanchard. Columbus on the Chattahoochee. Columbus, Ga.: Columbus Office Supply Company, 1951.

10. Geographical Data - Verbal Boundary Description

(Lots 10, 11, and 12 of the original Peacock Woods layout, as shown on Muscogee County Tax Map 185, Sheet 6-K, Block B, Parcel 20, Revised April, 1978.) [See attached.]

