

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received JUL 6 1987

date entered NOV -5 1987

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

1. Name

historic None

and or common Oglethorpe Avenue Historic District

2. Location

street & number Oglethorpe Avenue N/A not for publication

city, town Athens N/A vicinity of

state Georgia code 013 county Clarke code 059

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Owners

street & number

city, town N/A vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Clarke County Courthouse

city, town Athens state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See Continuation Sheet has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 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 checked="" 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 Oglethorpe Avenue Historic District is comprised of two major areas: a major tree-shaded thoroughfare, Oglethorpe Avenue, with Victorian-era residences to the south, and the U.S. Navy Supply Corps School (formerly the State Normal School) campus to the north. The Navy School property contains a mixture of non-historic and historic institutional buildings. The historic structures date from the early 1900's and were associated with the State Normal School, which occupied this property from 1891 to 1928. These buildings are situated in an open expanse of grassed lawn with informally placed trees and shrubs. The historic residential structures also date from around the turn of the century and include a mixture of one-and two-story residences in brick and wood. There is one historic brick service station located at the intersection of Prince and Oglethorpe.

The district, characterized by gently rolling terrain, is situated on a high plain which slopes to the south. Oglethorpe Avenue, the principal street in the district, is in contrast to the grid patterns which typify the majority of Athens' streets. Oglethorpe Avenue extends at an angle to the west of Prince Avenue, (US Highway 441 and 129). Near the intersection with Prince, Oglethorpe Avenue curves rather sharply and then assumes a straight alignment. Normal Avenue intersects Oglethorpe from the south. Several private thoroughfares are contained within the Navy School campus in a grid layout. Lots along Oglethorpe and Normal Avenues are rectangular tracts of uniform sizes. The Navy School property is one large individual tract. Houses are situated in the center of their rectangular tracts at similar setbacks to the avenues. Buildings within the former State Normal School campus are oriented to the interior roads or Oglethorpe Avenue with the exception of the Winnie Davis Hall, which faces Prince Avenue.

The district is comprised primarily of early twentieth-century dwellings, institutional structures, and one service station. Styles represented within the district include Victorian eclectic, Neoclassical, Bungalow, and Craftsman.

Victorian eclectic residences in the district are one-and two-story dwellings of frame construction with gabled or hipped roofs. These structures feature one-story front porches, which in many cases wrap-around the structures, decorative porch posts, balustrades, and attic vents, 1/1 windows, and interior chimneys. An elaborate Victorian eclectic structure in the district is 245 Oglethorpe, the G.E. Deadwyler Residence. This structure is a one-story frame dwelling with a high hipped roof covered in fish scale-shaped composition shingles and two gables facing the street which contain diamond shaped attic vents. The one-story front porch contains Neoclassical detailing. An unusual feature is the dentil molding that decorates the eaves of the structure. Two other important Victorian eclectic dwellings, now part of the Navy School holdings, are the Cobb House and the President's Cottage of the former State Normal School. The Cobb House, built in 1909, is a large, two-story, late Victorian-era house. The stuccoed exterior contains paired double-hung 2/2 windows. The entrance is highlighted by a fanlight and sidelights. The one-story wraparound veranda is supported by square columns on brick piers. The veranda roof is hipped with a central shallow pediment over the entrance. The President's Cottage, built in 1897, is a large, irregularly massed, two-story dwelling of frame construction with multiple roof shapes.

7/6/87

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   6   Page   2  

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Representation in Existing Surveys

1. Historic Structures Field Survey: Clarke County, Georgia

date: 1975

x- state

depository: Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia

2. National Register of Historic Places (Carnegie Library on State Normal School Campu

date: November 11, 1975

x- Federal

depository: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

3. Determination of Eligibility (State Normal School Historic District)

date: June 23, 1983

x-Federal

depository: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior Washington, D.C.

7/6/87

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

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The Craftsman dwellings in the district are typically one-and-one-half story structures in a variety of materials including wood, brick, stucco, or rock with gabled roofs and wide, bracketed eaves. Roofs are usually covered in composition shingles, but one structure features a tiled roof. An elaborate example of this style is 347 Oglethorpe, the H.H. Jackson residence. This structure is a one-and-one-half story dwelling of rock and stucco and features a gabled roof with wide, bracketed eaves and a porte cochere. Bungalow design in the district is characterized by small, brick dwellings with shallow gables oriented toward the avenues. Houses located on Normal Avenue are of smaller scale and less elaborately detailed than the structures on Oglethorpe Avenue. There is also one historic service station within the district at the south side of the Oglethorpe/Prince intersection. It is brick with a tile roof.

Neoclassical design in the district is represented by several of the institutional buildings. The five historic institutional structures on the former State Normal School Campus in the district include: Winnie Davis Hall, Pound Hall, The Carnegie Library, Rhodes Hall, and Miller Hall.

Winnie Davis Hall, built in 1902, is a two-story yellow brick, Neoclassical building with a monumental Ionic portico supported by marble columns. A less elaborate three-story rear wing, also of yellow brick, creates a T-shape plan. The interior has been altered with carpeted floors, a drop ceiling and paneling in a few rooms, but much of the original woodwork and plaster walls remain.

Rhodes Hall, built in 1906 as a Dining Hall, is a large, T-shaped, red brick building with two stories and a basement. A long, one-story veranda stretches across the facade and is supported by Ionic columns with classical entablature. The veranda rests on brick piers with an arched foundation enclosed with wooden lattice. The structure features shallow-arched, 4/4, double-hung windows grouped in pairs and a parapet capped with stone and a simple classical cornice with dentils. There is a one-story wing to the rear which has been extended with a modern addition.

Carnegie Library, built in 1910, is a one-story, yellow brick structure of Neoclassical design. It features a recessed portico at the entrance flanked by fluted Doric columns and topped by a pediment, which is part of the elaborate cornice that encircles the building. The double entrance doors of glass are topped with a hood with scroll supports and are framed with a grouping of five windows. Detailing includes brick pilasters and decorative brick insets beneath the windows.

Pound Hall, built 1917, is a two-story, Neoclassical building of yellow brick with limestone trim. A two-story, recessed portico contains two stone Ionic columns which divide the space into three bays. Ionic pilasters frame the outer edge of the two outside bays. The recessed portico contains multi-paned glass doors set in pairs in each bay. Doors set on center are capped with a trabeated transom and classical entablature. Doors within the side bays contain transoms only.

Miller Hall, built 1917, is a two-story red brick dormitory with brick quoins and recessed brick panels between the floors. The structure features an H plan with

7/6/87

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

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two parallel wings, containing the dormitory rooms, connected by a lobby and stairhall. A wide, one-story veranda with Tuscan columns and a balustrade with turned posts stretches between the dormitory wings on the front of the building. The lobby of the building has a central stair with symmetrical, divided flights. The interior has been altered with linoleum tile floors and drop ceilings, but much of the original woodwork and plaster walls remain. The building is now undergoing rehabilitation.

The service station, situated at the southeast corner of the intersection of Oglethorpe and Prince Avenue, is a one-story brick structure with a tile roof. The roof extends beyond the front facade to create a shelter for the former gas tanks. The structure has been adaptively reused as a bakery.

Landscape elements within residential areas of the district consist primarily of informally placed trees, foundation shrub plantings, and grassed lawns. The grassed areas blend together between individual properties to create a continuous lawn. Low shrub hedges in some cases are used at property lines. Low shrubs, such as boxwoods, and ground covers are used to line walkways. Oglethorpe Avenue does not have formal street tree plantings, but the abundance of trees in the front yards of the residences give the avenue its tree-shaded character. Streetscape features on Oglethorpe include a street surface of asphalt, granite curbing, and a concrete sidewalk (south side only). There is a narrow grass strip between the curbing and sidewalk which is the location for utility poles. There are various types of walkways (bricks, concrete, gravel, and concrete stepping stones) which connect the residences to the sidewalk. In the absence of a sidewalk on Normal Avenue, the grassed lawns extend to the curbing, which is concrete in this area.

The landscaping within the Normal School campus is largely informal and consists of large mature plantings of oak and dogwood as well as numerous plants used around the foundation of the buildings and as hedges. The parade grounds in front of Miller Hall adjacent to Oglethorpe are shaded by large oaks planted at regular intervals. Oglethorpe Avenue on the north side is edged by a planting of mature oaks as well as a large privet hedge in several areas. There is a plaza entrance between Winnie Davis Hall and Prince Avenue. This plaza features a brick paved walkway the width of the building. A small landscaped park/sitting area is situated directly west of the Carnegie Library. Azaleas and dogwoods are featured in this area with seasonal flower plantings. Another important landscape element within the Normal School grounds are the pairs of brick entrance posts. There are four pairs of these posts at the following locations: (1) Buck Road entrance, (2) Prince/Oglethorpe intersection, (3) Prince Avenue entrance to the Winnie Davis Plaza, and (4) one located between (2) and (3) on Prince Avenue, which features a sweeping brick wall as part of the post arrangements. The posts of yellow brick, painted red, are square with insets and have concrete bases, concrete caps, and iron decoration. Originally the posts contained "acorn" lights at the top. The entrance posts at the Oglethorpe/Prince intersection are the most elaborate and include a low curved wall of brick between the large posts and brick steps flanked by low brick posts in the center. The curved wall originally contained a sign "State Normal School."

7/6/87

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number   7   Page   4  

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Changes to the district since the historic period on Oglethorpe Avenue have included the infill of newer residential structures on lots not developed in the historic period and the alteration of several of the historic structures between Prince Avenue and Orr Street. Changes to the former State Normal School campus by the U.S. Navy have included the demolition of several historic institutional buildings and the subsequent infill with contemporary structures.

# 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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** 1891–1932      **Builder/Architect** see below

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

### Statement of Significance

The Oglethorpe Avenue Historic District is significant in the areas of architecture and education. It is significant in architecture for its collection of turn-of-the-century Victorian eclectic and early 20th-century craftsman style residences as well as for the Neoclassical styled buildings on the former State Normal School campus, including works of known architects Charles S. Peabody of New York for the Carnegie Library, Charles E. Choate of Augusta for Winnie Davis Hall, Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta for Rhodes Hall, and A.F. Wysong of West Virginia for Miller and Pound Halls. It is significant in education for containing the campus of the former State Normal School which was established in 1891, the second of four normal schools established by the State of Georgia. Its purpose was to upgrade the skills of existing educators and train new teachers, part of an overall effort to improve public education in Georgia. The normal schools provided a means for a teacher to be licensed, thus better regulating the quality of teachers.

The nominated property also has important landscape features, with park-like spaces, the parade grounds on the former campus, and the tree-lined effect of Oglethorpe Avenue. The residential part of the district once was the home of many citizens of Athens who were important to the business, social, and cultural life of the city. Houses that survive include those of land developer W.S. Holman, and Lamar Cobb, an attorney.

These areas of significance support the property's eligibility under Criteria A, for the educational significance, and under Criteria C, for the varieties of architecture and craftsmanship, as well as the work of trained architects, found within the district.

### Builder/Architect

The following architects have been identified as designing buildings within the portion of this historic district known as the former State Normal School.

Bleckley, Haralson (1870–1933)  
Atlanta, GA

Rhodes Hall  
(Source: Manufacturer's Record, April 27 1905 p, 331; July 20, 1905, p.24.)

Choate, Charles E. (1866–1929)  
Augusta, GA

Winnie Davis Hall (cornerstone)

Ludlow and Peabody  
New York, NY  
Charles S. Peabody (1880–1935)

Carnegie Library  
(Source: Manufacturer's Record, Aug. 5, 1909, p. 73.)

Wysong, A.F.  
Princeton, West Virginia

Miller Hall and Pound Hall  
(Source: Manufacturer's Record, Feb. 1, 1917, p. 81; and Feb. 15, 1917 p. 63.)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 41 acres

Quadrangle name Athens West, GA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 

1	7	2	7	8	2	1	0	3	7	6	1	2	0	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

1	7	2	7	8	0	4	0	3	7	6	0	8	3	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

1	7	2	7	7	3	4	0	3	7	6	0	3	6	0

D 


E 


F 


G 


H 


**Verbal boundary description and justification** The boundaries of the nominated property were set to include the concentration of historic residential and institutional properties centering on Oglethorpe Avenue and including those of the former State Normal School that were set by a Determination of Eligibility. The adjacent properties are non-historic or modern. The boundaries are marked on the enclosed tax map/sketch map.

List all states and counties for properties overliapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources date June 4, 1987

street & number 205 Butler Street, Room 1462 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon

Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/22/87

For NPS use only

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

Amy Schlager

date 11/5/87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources

44 - Contributing Buildings  
11 - Noncontributing Buildings

Historical Narrative

The Oglethorpe Avenue Historic District's history begins with the founding of the University of Georgia, around which the city of Athens developed. The area, acquired by the state of Georgia in 1784, had been part of Franklin County until then. Land for the university was purchased in 1801 and Athens was laid out adjacent to it. Clarke County was created in 1801 as well, although Watkinsville was made the county seat, not Athens. Athens was incorporated in 1806. In 1833, the city's first suburb, Cobbham, was created. The arrival of the railroad in 1841 added more to the city's industrial growth. The area of the nominated district was rural in the mid-1800's when it was offered for sale by William Brown in 1841. In 1860, the University of Georgia Trustees purchased 93 acres, part of which remains as the State Normal School Campus. Some were sold for private lots, while 30 acres were kept for Rock College, a high school, built on the site that would become the State Normal School, and which was then on the outer limits of Athens. Rock College was to be a preparatory school for the University of Georgia and was to be called University High School. It served as a military school during the Civil War. From 1868 to 1891, the site housed the newly-created College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, also known as the University Farm. In 1891, after a long struggle supported by the State Teachers Association, the Georgia Legislature established the State Normal School as a branch of the University of Georgia at this site, to train teachers, especially for rural areas and to improve the skills of those already teaching. It was not until 1895 that the first full-time session opened with eight resident students and fifteen town students. In 1900 there were 602 students, but by 1905 this had dropped to 466. From 1910 to 1920 they had between 600 and 750 students. The earliest buildings, including the former Rock College, do not exist. Others built from 1902 to 1917 do remain, and include Winnie Davis Hall (1902), named for the youngest daughter of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy. It was built and donated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Rhodes Hall (1906), designed by Haralson Bleckley of Atlanta, and built as a dining hall and dormitory. The Carnegie Library (1910) designed by Charles S. Peabody of New York City, and built with funds from Andrew Carnegie; Miller Hall dormitory and Pound Hall, an auditorium and classrooms; both designed in 1917 by A.F. Wysong of Princeton, West Virginia. The Presidents' Home or Cottage, built for the school in 1897, also remains.

In 1927 the name of the school was changed to the Georgia State Teachers College. After 1929 it was renamed the Coordinate College. In 1930 the Cobb Residence was purchased and added to the campus. Many campus buildings have been destroyed, with only seven historic ones, named above, remaining. For several years before 1942 the campus housed university women. Then it was leased to the U.S. Army for a training program. After World War II it returned to its use as a women's residence, and in 1953 was bought by the U.S. Navy to be the permanent location for its Supply Corps School, which still operates at this location.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   8   Page   3  

---

The remainder of the proposed district was sparseley settled before the 1891 establishment of the State Normal School. Only three individuals owned large lots in the area as late as 1904. These included W.S. Holman, J.W. Hinton, and D. Sims. The Oglethorpe Avenue area began to be thoroughly settled shortly thereafter on standard-sized lots. Residents included a variety of middle and upper class citizens who were teachers at the nearby school, farmers, merchants, salesmen, a journalist, drayman, businessmen, and several widows. The proposed district was within the Athens City Limits by 1926. The service station, within the proposed district facing Prince Avenue, is a vestige of when Prince Avenue first became a state highway. It was built between 1926-1931.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

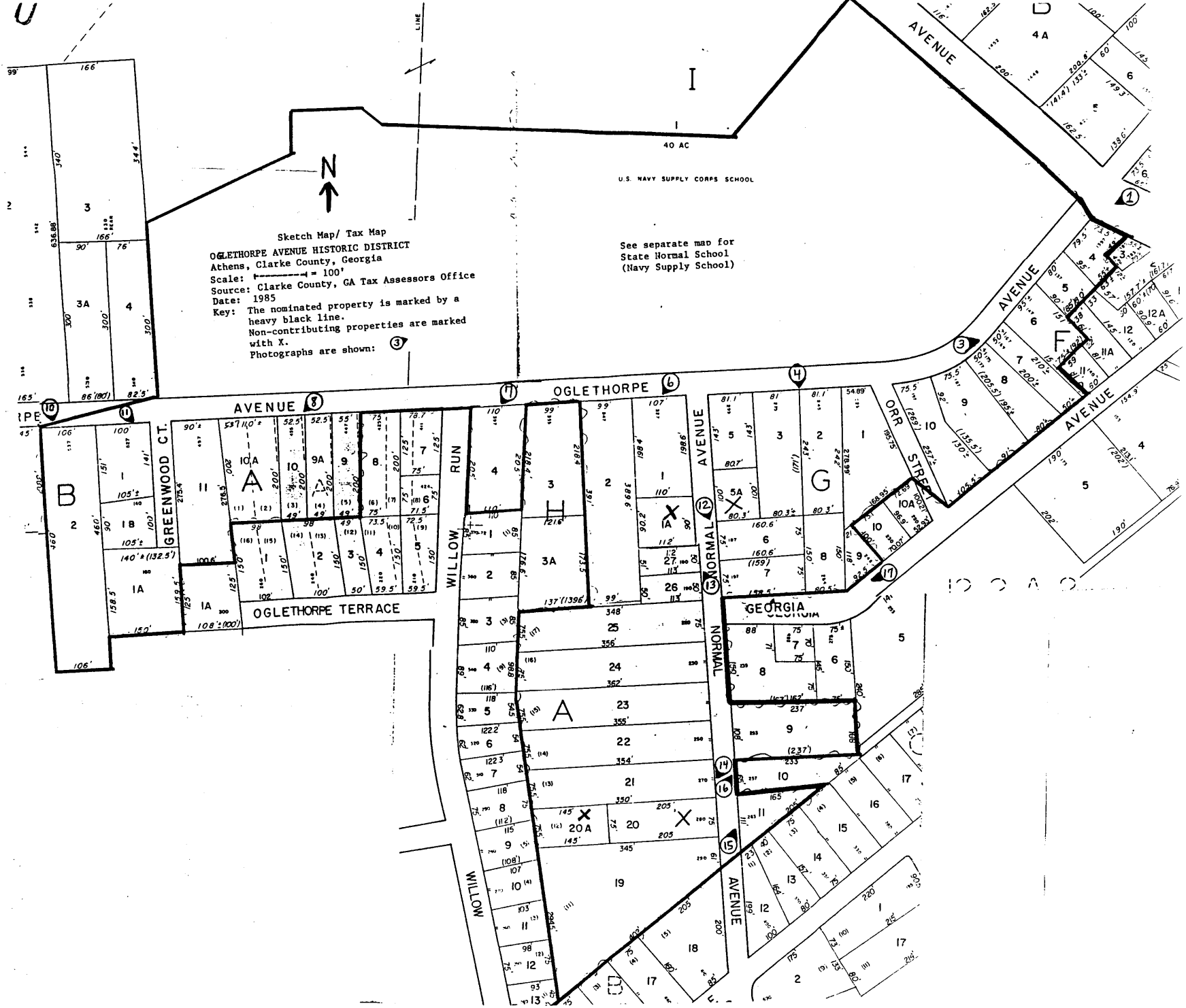
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Jaeger, Dale, consultant. "Oglethorpe Avenue Historic District." Historic District Information Form, August 15, 1985 with supplemental material. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Cole, Hal, Transportation Planner. "Request for Determination of Eligibility for the State Normal School: Historic District Information Form," Sept. 30, 1982, and related file. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sell, E.S. History of the State Normal School, Athens, Georgia (Athens, 1923).

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Sketch Map/ Tax Map  
 OGLETHORPE AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 Athens, Clarke County, Georgia  
 Scale: 1" = 100'  
 Source: Clarke County, GA Tax Assessors Office  
 Date: 1985  
 Key: The nominated property is marked by a  
 heavy black line.  
 Non-contributing properties are marked  
 with X.  
 Photographs are shown: ③

See separate map for  
 State Normal School  
 (Navy Supply School)

17/19/7