

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97000621                      Date Listed: 2/25/99

West End Historic District                      Fulton              GEORGIA  
Property Name                                      County              State

N/A  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

3/9/99  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

"1830s" (the date of the first settlement in the West End) is deleted as a significant date, because the period of significance does not begin until 1859, the date of the earliest surviving resource.

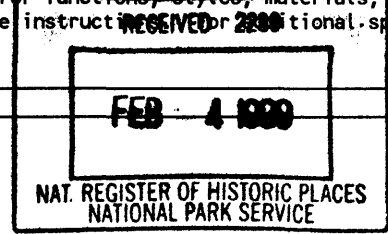
DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

Regub 97-621

**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 WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT  
other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number In the southwest section of the city of Atlanta, Fulton County, in an area roughly bounded by Interstate 20 to the north, Lee Street to the east, White Street to the south, and Langhorn Street to the west.

city, town Atlanta (N/A) vicinity of  
county Fulton code GA 121  
state Georgia code GA zip code 30310

(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	776	151
sites	1	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	777	151

**Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:**  
Joel Chandler Harris House/The Wren's Nest (NHL)

**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.

Richard E. Coover  
Signature of certifying official

1-22-99  
Date

*for*

W. Ray Luce  
Interim Division Director and  
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
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain:
- see continuation sheet

Mark M. Wray 2/25/99

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*for* \_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register Date

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## **6. Function or Use**

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### **Historic Functions:**

DOMESTIC/single dwelling; multiple dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/business; specialty store  
EDUCATION/school  
RELIGION/religious facility; church-related residence  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater; museum; outdoor recreation  
LANDSCAPE/park

### **Current Functions:**

DOMESTIC/single dwelling; multiple dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/business; specialty store  
EDUCATION/school  
RELIGION/religious facility; church-related residence  
RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater; museum; outdoor recreation  
LANDSCAPE/park

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## **7. Description**

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### **Architectural Classification:**

LATE VICTORIAN/ Queen Anne  
LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Gothic Revival  
LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman  
MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco  
MODERN MOVEMENT/International Style  
MODERN MOVEMENT/Other  
OTHER: Folk Victorian  
OTHER: American Foursquare  
OTHER: 20th Century Commercial

### **Materials:**

**foundation** brick; concrete block  
**walls** wood frame; brick; stucco  
**roof** asphalt shingles  
**other** N/A

### **Description of present and historic physical appearance:**

#### Overview

West End Historic District is an urban neighborhood located southwest of downtown Atlanta. The district includes the intact and contiguous historic residential, commercial, and community resources that make up the West End neighborhood. West End is a large and intact residential area with a number of community resources scattered throughout and with a concentrated linear commercial core along Ralph David Abernathy

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Boulevard. The neighborhood is located along its main thoroughfare, Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard (formerly Lickskillet Road, Sandtown Road, and Gordon Street; hereafter, referred to as RDA Boulevard), which runs through the district's center in an east-west direction.

The large majority of buildings in the district are houses constructed from about 1870 into the 1930s. These houses are a rich mixture of architectural styles and house types built from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries. Styles include Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Stick, Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, Neoclassical Revival, and Craftsman. The house types included within the district are gabled-ell cottages and houses, Queen Anne cottages, New South cottages, American Foursquare, and bungalow. The Craftsman-style bungalow is the most numerous throughout the district with all four types of bungalows represented: gabled front, hipped roof, side gabled, and cross gable. Also within the district are several multi-family dwellings consisting of duplexes and small apartment buildings.

Community landmark buildings found throughout the neighborhood include several historic churches, such as the 1911 Gothic Revival-style St. Anthony's Catholic Church with the Art Deco-influenced education building, the 1950 Gothic Revival-style Emmanuel Lutheran Church, and the 1952 Colonial Revival-style West End Baptist Church and 1951 education building. The Romanesque Revival-style Joseph E. Brown High School was constructed in 1923 and designed by Pringle and Smith Architects with a 1929 addition designed by G. Lloyd Preacher.

The neighborhood's historic commercial area is concentrated along RDA Boulevard cutting through the center of the district. It includes blocks of attached masonry commercial buildings constructed during the early 20th century in the 20th-Century Commercial style featuring simple brick detailing, flat roof, and large display windows and 1940s commercial buildings constructed in the Stripped Classical and International styles.

### Historical Overview

The area now known as West End began developing in 1830 and was known as the village of "White Hall" after a tavern in the area which was painted white. By 1835, the intersection of RDA Boulevard and Lee Street existed and became the center of "White Hall." This intersection is considered the oldest in Atlanta. Thus began RDA Boulevard's long history of being the commercial core of the area. Due to the continuing commercial redevelopment, this intersection could not be included in the boundaries of the West End Historic District which is just west of the intersection. The Western and Atlantic Railroad came through the area in 1837 and the Macon and Western

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Railroad came through the area in 1846 which also spurred development in the area and the rise of Atlanta as a major transportation hub. These lines ran south, east, and west of the district. Besides the actual alignment of these streets and railroad, there are no known historic resources dating from this early period.

Starting in 1855, George Washington Adair and other developers began to buy property in the area and subdivide it for development. In 1868, developers changed the name of White Hall to the more "fashionable" West End (named after London's theater district). At the same time West End was incorporated as an independent city. Dating from this period are the original portion of the Hammonds House (1859) and the Wren's Nest (1867).

In 1871, G. W. Adair and Richard Peters, owners of the Atlanta Street Railroad Company, brought Atlanta's first horse-drawn trolley line to the area via Whitehall Street, anticipating and promoting the development of Mr. Adair's property. The development of West End was a part of Atlanta's post-Civil War boosterism efforts to become the "New South" and to redefine itself. Its developers promoted the area as an upper-middle class suburb for white southerners. This was done by naming the streets after prominent Southerners (i.e., Lee, Ashby, Gordon, and Lawton), excluding the black areas in the north from the town limits, providing public transportation, and excluding manufacturing facilities. This was followed by the construction of a passenger depot on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad and the Macon and Western Railroad. The West End and Atlanta Street Railway Company, a competitor of Adair's company, expanded its line in 1884 along Lucile Avenue to Gordon Road and out to Westview Cemetery. As promoted by the Adair Realty Company and others, this area was becoming a white middle- and upper-class suburb with easy access to Atlanta. In 1894 the area was annexed into the rapidly growing city of Atlanta, becoming Atlanta's Seventh Ward.

West End developed first along RDA Boulevard and Lee Street during the mid-1800s. Although sparsely developed until the mid-1880s, there were estates, commercial properties, and smaller dwellings located on RDA Boulevard running west from Lee Street. By the turn of the century, the streets perpendicular to RDA Boulevard had been developed into residential areas. Evans, Ashby, Gordon, and Lee Streets and Oglethorpe Avenue were developed in a grid-iron pattern with small lots containing one- and two-story Victorian-style houses. The rest of West End developed to the north, south, and west in the 1910s and 1920s, with slightly larger lots on a grid-iron pattern, into a large bungalow suburb. It was also during this time when several of the large estates were subdivided and developed. From the 1928 U.S.G.S. topographical map of Atlanta, West End appears to be fully developed.

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Due to the economic depression of the 1930s followed by World War II, building construction appears to have slowed considerably from c.1930 to c.1945, with the only major building constructed being the 1931 Stripped Classical-style Southern Bell Company for the Raymond Exchange on RDA Boulevard (one of several Southern Bell Company buildings constructed during this period in Atlanta). After the end of the World War II, construction began again along RDA Boulevard. Older commercial and some residential buildings were torn down and replaced by more modern brick one-story, freestanding buildings with flat roofs, glass storefronts, and little or no detailing. The Art Deco-style Gordon Street Motion Picture Theater and the adjacent International-style commercial and professional building were both built during this period. This "face lift" of RDA Boulevard continued until the early 1950s when financial investment into the neighborhood ended and both suburbanization and "white flight" began, a trend which was happening in intown neighborhoods throughout Atlanta and the South. In 1952 the West End Baptist Church, designed by Nashville, Tennessee, architect Thomas W. Gardner, was completed. This building represents the last major financial investment into West End as a white neighborhood. This date also corresponds with the Atlanta Board of Realtors 1952 unofficial designation of certain neighborhoods as "white" or "black." The so-called color line was Ashby Street and West End was the only white neighborhood west of the color line designated for white residents--a designation that would not be sustained with the advent of black settlement in the area.

By the mid-1960s, the once-white suburb was on its way to becoming a majority black neighborhood. A recipient of federal Urban Renewal monies, West End once again was transformed in the late 1960s. Interstate I-20 was constructed north of RDA Boulevard which separated the northern portion of West End (including the historically black Atlanta University campus and black residential areas) from the south with hundreds of buildings being lost between. According to Ronald H. Bayor in Race and the Shaping of Twentieth-Century Atlanta, the building of the interstates to separate black and white areas was one way to carry on legalized segregation of neighborhoods. As a part of this mid-1960s urban redevelopment project, several parks were constructed including West End Park. West End Mall was built in the eastern part of the district at the historic intersection of Lee Street and RDA Boulevard. During the 1970s and 1980s modern commercial development followed the construction of the interstate and the mall.

Today, the historic neighborhood consists of approximately fifty blocks bounded by Interstate 20 on the north, Ashby Street on the east, the Seaboard Railroad tracks and White Street on the south running diagonal to Langhorn Street on the West. The southern and western boundaries are generally the same as during the historic

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period with the railroad tracks still serving as boundaries. Unfortunately, due to the commercial development which has happened in the last thirty years, the eastern portion of West End on RDA Boulevard between Ashby and White Hall Streets is not included in these boundaries. This includes the intersection of Lee Street and RDA Boulevard which started the development of Whitehall which ultimately became West End.

Within the district, RDA Boulevard does have a high number of noncontributing resources. These resources are either nonhistoric or have been altered extensively. One of these altered buildings includes the former Gordon Street Motion Picture Theater which is now the Shrine of the Madonna. However, RDA Boulevard has always served the area as a linear commercial core with its buildings and appearance being constantly upgraded and modernized since its development from an Indian trail to a main thoroughfare from the 1830s to the present.

**NOTE:** The following abbreviated description is based on the draft prepared by Karl Webster Barnes, "West End Historic District," Historic Property Information Form, January 1, 1994.

Architectural Description

While pockets of similar residential structures exist throughout West End, most streets show a rich mixture of architectural styles such as Queen Anne, Stick Style, Folk Victorian, Colonial Revival, Neoclassical Revival and Craftsman and house types such as gabled ell, New South, Queen Anne, American Foursquare, and Bungalow. The houses are primarily constructed of wood with some of brick.

The Victorian Era, the period from 1860-1890, was one of rapid industrialization. The growth of the railroads led to dramatic changes in American house design and construction. There was a uniform demand for first-class houses in the West End. Many of the existing houses are examples of fine Victorian architecture. The Victorian houses in West End, during this period of 1860-1900, comprise the following styles: Queen Anne, Shingle, Stick and Folk Victorian. Craftsman and Bungalow houses are the most numerous and represent West End's largest growth period from the 1910s to c.1930.

Landscape Description

The landscaping within the district includes contiguous wooded back yards creating a semblance of an urban forest, tree-lined streets, terraced yards with some brick, stone, or concrete retaining walls, tree-shaded informally landscaped front yards, several historic



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sidewalks with hexagonal pavers, and lawn curbs around edges of the front yards, driveways, and walks. Most of these landscape features are representative of the "New South" or "Craftsman" forms of landscaping as identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings.

The two historic house museums within the district are the 1867 Joel Chandler Harris "Wren's Nest" museum at 1050 RDA Boulevard and the 1859 Hammond House at 503 Peeples Street, Fulton County's African-American museum.

For over sixty years, Howell Park at 999 RDA Boulevard, named in honor of former mayor and resident of West End--Evan P. Howell--was the only park in West End. Originally a part of his residential estate, the Park came into being after Mr. Howell's death when friend acquired the land and donated to the City in 1905. Currently, Howell Park and Playground are in operation at the corner of RDA Boulevard and Peeples Street and are a contributing site to the district. The original home, the "Woodlawn," is still in existence at Howell Park Place. It is now an apartment building. During the West End Urban Renewal projects, two new public parks came into being in the West End. These noncontributing parks are the West End Park at Lawton and Oak Streets and the Rose Circle Park at Rose Circle and Ashby Street.

There are no known archaeological resources within the West End Historic District; however, there have been no archaeological tests conducted to confirm or deny this.

**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  
Commerce  
Community Planning and Development

**Period of Significance:**

1859-1952

**Significant Dates:**

1830s-first settlement in West End (White Hall)  
1868-West End was incorporated.  
1894-West End was annexed into the City of Atlanta.

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

Mr. G. W. Adair - builder  
Mr. Charner Humphries - builder  
Mr. George P. Humphries - architect  
Thomas W. Gardner - architect  
Pringle and Smith - architectural firm  
G. Lloyd Preacher - architect

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

**Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)**

The West End Historic District is the intact historic residential, commercial, and community development that forms Atlanta's West End neighborhood. The district is significant in terms of architecture, commerce, and community planning and development.

The district is significant in architecture for its large, diverse, and very intact collection of residential buildings constructed largely from the 1870s into the 1940s. These houses are good examples of the wide variety of residential styles and types constructed in Georgia cities during this mid-19th- to mid-20th-century period as identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Setting. Significant house styles are the Queen Anne, Stick Style, Folk Victorian, Colonial Revival, Neoclassical Revival and Craftsman styles. The important house types are the gabled ell, New South, Queen Anne, American Foursquare, and bungalow. The most predominant house found throughout the district is the Craftsman-style bungalow.

The Craftsman style was the most popular early-20th century style in Georgia. Although found in conjunction with a variety of house types such as the American Foursquare and apartment houses in West End, it is most commonly associated with the bungalow, as within the West End Historic District. The four types of bungalows found within the district include the front gabled, side gabled, cross gabled, and hipped roof, which are identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Setting as significant house types. The bungalow-type house was popular throughout Georgia from 1900 to 1930 in both urban and rural areas.

Victorian-era styles are also well-represented throughout the district with the Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, and Stick styles, which are identified in Georgia's Living Places as significant styles. Due to technological advances such as balloon framing, house construction and their styles became more complex. No longer was everything rectangular, understated, or classically influenced. This change in architectural style is well demonstrated in the West End Historic District especially with the Queen Anne style, the most popular of the 19th-century styles in Georgia. Within the district there are several high-style examples of the Queen Anne style including the National Historic Landmark Joel Chandler Harris House which has irregular massing, elaborate woodwork, multi-paned windows, and shingle work, all characteristic of the Queen Anne style.

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The district is also significant for its early 20th-century attached masonry commercial buildings which are good examples of the types of buildings constructed throughout Georgia for commercial use. The later Stripped Classical-style commercial storefronts, with their brick suggestion of pilasters and their simple cornices, have understated classical detailing underlying an otherwise unadorned building as seen on the Lucile Avenue commercial building. These buildings represent a transition between classically influenced architecture with pediments and pilasters and modern architecture which is characterized by plain wall surfaces and no stylistic detailing. The even-more-modest 20th-century commercial-style buildings have little or no detailing--essentially just a shoebox shape, and one to two stories.

Additionally the district has architectural significance for its historic community landmark buildings located throughout the neighborhood. These buildings are good examples of late-19th-century community landmark buildings reflecting the Gothic Revival, Romanesque Revival, and Art Deco styles. The 1911 St. Anthony's Catholic Church is a good example of an Art Deco-influenced education building and the 1923 Joseph E. Brown High School represents the Romanesque Revival-style with its arched first floor openings and decorative cornice. The West End Baptist Church (1952) is a good example of high-style Colonial Revival-style institutional buildings with its massive portico, round columns, and quoins.

The district is significant in commerce for its historic commercial area that served the commercial needs of the West End neighborhood represented by the intact commercial buildings. The commercial area has historically been concentrated at the intersection of RDA Boulevard and Lee Street and expanded westward along RDA Boulevard as the community grew. This linear commercial strip was a major force in the neighborhood's development, as evidenced by the active community role of the West End Businessmen's Association since 1927. There are other smaller neighborhood-oriented commercial areas throughout the district such as the one on Lucile Avenue. The commercial buildings housed stores, restaurants, and professional offices, and still do today.

The district is significant in community planning and development for the historic development of West End from a small crossroads community into a major residential suburb of Atlanta. West End's development began in the 1830s with the small settlement of White Hall at the important crossroads of White Hall (now Lee Street) and Sandtown Roads (later Gordon Street, now Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard). These two country roads and their intersection formed the framework for the subsequent development of the neighborhood. Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard continues to be the major east-west street through the

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district and has served as the commercial and institutional "spine" of the district throughout its history; its slightly curving alignment, made more obvious by the subsequent gridiron street pattern on either side of it, reflects its origins as one of the earliest country roads in the area. The Macon and Western Railroad came through the area in the 1840s and established an important transportation link with Atlanta approximately two miles to the northeast. This rail line and the industrial development associated with it form the eastern boundary of the West End historic district today. West End was incorporated in 1868. In the 1870s and 1880s, the area was promoted and began to develop as an ideal streetcar suburb with gridiron subdivisions along the major streets and trolley lines. It was annexed into Atlanta in 1894 and grew into a large white, middle-class neighborhood. Its greatest period of growth was from the 1890s into c.1930. Overall, West End is a good example of the pattern of growth and development that characterized metro-Atlanta area expansion in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Its intact street patterns, house lots, and parks all represent the historic development of the West End neighborhood.

**National Register Criteria**

The West End Historic District is eligible under National Register Criterion A for its association with the growth and development of the Atlanta metropolitan area from the mid-19th century through the mid-20th century. It reflects various important stages of development including origins as a crossroads community, growth as an independent city, development and incorporation into the city of Atlanta as a major streetcar suburb, the Great Depression and post-World War II recovery, and finally the beginning of suburbanization and white flight in the early 1950s. Aspects of this pattern of development is seen in other intown Atlanta neighborhoods, notably Candler Park and Midtown. The West End Historic District is eligible under National Register Criterion C for its good and intact collection of residential, commercial, and community landmark buildings representing a variety of architectural styles and types popular from the 1850s to the 1950s.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

See Period of Significance Justification below.

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**Period of Significance (justification)**

West End first developed in the 1830s as the village of White Hall. This early settlement took place along the earliest country roads in the area, two of which remain today as principal streets forming a major intersection just east of the historic district: White Hall Road (now Lee Street) and Sandtown Roads (later Gordon Street, now Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard). These two country roads and their intersection formed the framework for the subsequent development of the neighborhood. However, no buildings remain from this early period. Therefore, the period of significance begins with the 1859 construction of the original portion of the Hammonds House at the corner of Peeples and Oak Streets. The period of significance ends with 1952 marking the end of the historic development which began in the 1800s. The ending date corresponds with the dedication of the West End Baptist Church in 1952 which marks the last major financial investment into West End as a white middle-class neighborhood. Shortly afterward, drastic social changes in the neighborhood including "white flight" ushered in a new, modern period of the neighborhood's development into a majority black neighborhood. Following the guidance of *National Register Bulletin 22: Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years*, the date of 1952 represents the discrete ending date of West End's historic development period. Further following *National Register Bulletin 22*, the character of the West End's historic resources is clearly defined and assessed, specific resources in West End date from the discrete period of significance between 1859 and 1952, and the majority of the properties in the West End Historic District are over 50 years old (*National Register Bulletin 22*, page 10).

**Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

The contributing resources include the resources which retain their historic integrity and were built within the period of significance, 1859-1952. These resources include 777 buildings and one site (Howell Park). The 151 noncontributing resources include the buildings which have been substantially altered or were built outside the period of significance. The street pattern, including the principal east-west and north-south streets as well as later infill gridiron subdivisions, contributes to the historic character of the district but has not been counted; similarly, the historic landscape features in the residential sections of the district contribute to its historic character but have not been individually counted.

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**Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)**

NOTE: The following developmental history is based on the draft prepared by Karl Webster Barnes, "West End Historic District," Historic Property Information Form, January 1, 1994.

**INTRODUCTION**

It would be difficult to find a neighborhood more closely linked to Atlanta's historical development than the West End Historic District of Atlanta. In general terms, West End exemplifies both the planned and unplanned aspects of urbanization and suburbanization in the United States. From a frontier outpost in the 1830s, the district evolved into an independent political entity closely linked by rail and roads to its neighbor Atlanta. In 1894, West End became Atlanta's Seventh Ward, following two decades of planned suburbanization, upon incorporation into the City of Atlanta.

In this century, West End has endured many changes in its metamorphosis to a "center city" neighborhood while retaining its own distinctive character and vitality. West End evolved from a southern Anglo-Saxon community that literally excluded its northern section because it contained African-Americans to a community that embraces diversity. The neighborhood's diversity is appreciated both by adaptation and participation in change and by its citizens' recognition of the District's special history.

There are four underlining elements that are visible throughout West End's history and development. They are topography, tracks, politics and race.

**EARLY HISTORY (1835 - 1865)**

Before the settling of North Georgia, there was an important Creek Village on the banks of the Chattahoochee known as Standing Peachtree. Around 1733, Georgia was the home of the Creek Indian and the Cherokee Indian tribes. Creek tribes occupied most of middle and southern Georgia, while the Cherokee tribes lived in the uplands and mountains of northern Georgia. The State of Georgia acquired Indian lands from 1821 to 1835 and had the Federal government forcibly remove all remaining Indians (around the Chattahoochee River area) to the lands west of the Mississippi River by 1838. This included the Whitehall area.

Around 1830, there was not much in the Atlanta area. The Hardy Ivy family's log cabin was near what is now Courtland and Ellis Streets, a farm belonging to Ivy's brother-in-law was in the area of the old

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Sears store on Ponce de Leon, and a few miles east was the little town of Decatur, countyseat of DeKalb County. West of Ivy's cabin was the combination tavern and post office at a crossroads called White Hall (in DeKalb County at that time, as Fulton County came into existence in 1853).

The backbone for almost all urban development has been transportation and West End is no exception. Before there was a West End or an Atlanta, the area was a crossroads community. Newnan Road connected Newnan to Decatur and Lawrenceville, all countyseats. Crossing this road was the Sandtown Road going west to an Indian town of that name. Near this junction around 1830, Charner Humphries established an inn/tavern that came to be known as Whitehall due to the then unusual fact that it had a coat of white paint when most other buildings were of washed or natural wood. The route between Humphries' tavern and the soon to be established settlement of Terminus (later Marthasville, and still later Atlanta) became Whitehall Road. In the other direction from Whitehall Tavern, present day RDA Boulevard (formerly Gordon Road) passed the Five Notch Trading Post of another early entrepreneur and eventually led to ferry crossings over the Chattahoochee River, thus acquiring the pre-Civil War name of Greens' and Howell's Ferry Road. Greens' Ferry (now Westview) still runs north of West End, and Humphries Street is northeast of the Spelman College Campus.

Mr. Humphries catered to almost all the needs of his rural, backwoods community. His tavern/inn not only provided a place to eat and drink, it was also a post office, stagecoach stop, and general meeting place. Other nineteenth-century Southern passions for horses and gambling were satisfied by a racetrack slightly north of Whitehall. Following Humphries' death in 1855, the racetrack was sold and the land was used for a militia garrison, site for a Confederate cartridge factory, McPherson Barracks for Federal troops after the Civil War, and then a part of the campus of Spelman College. The latter two uses tended to separate the former racetrack area from the predominantly southern Anglo-Saxon West End, but the connection was never severed entirely. Although it would change dramatically over the next several decades, approximately half of the 1870 population of West End was black. The presence of northern soldiers nearby and later the establishment of a college for blacks created, at first, a safe haven for blacks and then a center for an emerging black middle class. The growth of what was to become Atlanta University and African-American neighborhoods north of West End was to have significant consequences after 1950.

The West End settlement began in the midst of Georgia's and the South's antebellum culture, a culture which included slavery. In Georgia, slavery was more widespread in the coastal and cotton belt areas of the state, but also as far north as what became Metro-



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Atlanta. It was felt that agriculture, especially cotton, was impractical in Georgia without the system of 'economic bondage' that was slavery. Georgia became an exporter/producer of slavery. Slavery and the plantation system only delayed and insulated Georgia (and the South) from three great shaping forces of the 19th century: urbanization, industrialization and migration.

During the Civil War, Atlanta (name changed from Marthasville in 1845), with its rapidly expanding industrial base, had the greatest growth of all Georgia cities. Atlanta's population doubled because it was a major destination for refugee planters and their slaves. Atlanta also became a center for wandering slaves. Both these influences eventually impacted the West End area.

Also, during the Civil War, RDA Boulevard, known then as Lickskillet Road, was important strategically to the defense of Atlanta in 1864. Even more important was the Macon and Western Railroad (subsequently absorbed into the Central of Georgia) which passed directly east of the Whitehall Tavern site. Major Confederate breastworks were constructed along what came to be Lee Street to protect these avenues into Atlanta. On July 28, 1864, Confederate General Stephen Lee and General A. P. Stewart left the West End area in an unsuccessful attempt to break through Union lines at Ezra Church in the vicinity of West View Cemetery. The result of the Battle of Ezra Church was the further encirclement of Atlanta by Union forces and the eventual capture of the City.

**POST WAR (1865-1895)**

As already mentioned, the end of the war and the period of reconstruction of Georgia meant Federal troops were stationed at McPherson Barracks. Entrepreneurs soon made West End a "recreation" area again. As an unincorporated town, the area had no city whiskey licenses, city taxes or police to enforce order. Soon there were seven bar rooms established to provide for the soldiers and the old Whitehall section became notorious. To gain some control of their community, residents sought and received a charter of incorporation from the state in 1868. McPherson Barracks and the African-American sanctuary around the old racetrack were specifically excluded from the new town. The leaders of West End set about instituting liquor licenses and arrests of drunk or rowdy individuals.

West End promoters saw the potential for suburban development with their community so close to the reviving Atlanta of the late 1860s. Commuter passes were available on the Macon and Western Railroad for daily (and lunch time) travel into the city. The primary promoter of West End was George Washington Adair, an Atlanta businessman since

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before the Civil War when he had engaged in slave trading, among other ventures. During most of the war, he published an Atlanta newspaper that was avidly pro-South. In the last year of fighting with Union forces approaching Atlanta, he became an aide to General Nathan Forrest with the rank of colonel, leaving his wife and children in Atlanta to brave General William Sherman's army alone. In 1865, Adair was an Atlanta City Councilman and a delegate to the State Constitutional Convention--and, most importantly for West End, he formed the Adair Realty Company. G. W. Adair, his descendants, and the company he founded have influenced the growth of Atlanta to this day.

In the decades following the Civil War, Adair bought large plots of land in West End and eventually moved there. Along with fellow developers John Thrasher and Thomas Alexander, he subdivided and promoted the newly incorporated town as the ideal suburb of Atlanta. They also changed the name of the area on October 10, 1868, from the unofficial "Whitehall," to the more formal West End, after the "fashionable" theater district in London, England.

One part of their efforts to attract Southern Anglo-Saxon middle- to upper-class residents was the naming of streets after prominent Southerners. Lee Street was named for the Stephen Lee, resident of Tennessee and subsequent Commander-in-Chief of the United Confederate Veterans. The last-mentioned post was previously held by General John B. Gordon (Gordon Street, now RDA Boulevard), one of the major Georgia generals of the war. After 1865, Gordon amassed and lost fortunes serving as president of the Georgia Pacific Railroad, governor (1886-1890), and United States senator. The main thoroughfare in West End was named for him [it is now Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard, named after the mid-20th century preacher and Civil Rights leader]. Ashby Street was named for Brigadier General Turner Ashby, who was killed in 1862 but whose regiment of cavalry fought in the battles around Atlanta. General Alexander R. Lawton (Lawton Street) was from Savannah and attended West Point and Harvard Law School. Before the Civil War, he was a state senator and president of the Augusta and Savannah Railroad. Successful as a soldier, he eventually became Quartermaster General of the Confederacy. As a lawyer after 1865, he became president of the American Bar Association and ambassador to the Austro-Hungarian Empire under President Grover Cleveland.

It is not completely clear how other street names were selected, but many of them are very familiar. Hammond and Norcross are names of prominent Atlantans of the period and Grady Place refers to Henry Grady, New South spokesman and probably the best known Atlanta booster. Howell Place obviously refers to Evan Howell, Atlanta mayor and owner of The Atlanta Constitution, and Uncle Remus Avenue (now

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Lawton Place) was obviously in honor of Joel Chandler Harris. Both Howell and Harris were prominent residents of West End. Porter Street may well have been named for Confederate veteran and Atlanta resident James H. Porter who died in 1897. He was extremely wealthy as president of Merchants Bank and politically prominent as evidenced by his wife's hosting of a grand reception for Mrs. Grover Cleveland on her visit with the President in 1887. Oglethorpe Avenue could have been named for the founder of Georgia or for the Oglethorpe Light Infantry, one of the first companies of Georgia troops to fight in the Civil War. Hopkins and Peeples Streets could have been named for John Hopkins and Cincinnatus Peeples, two Reconstruction era judges in Atlanta. Peeples was appointed Atlanta Circuit Judge in 1877 but had previously been a supporter of Ben Hill and a nominee for United States senator in 1866. Hopkins, who lived from 1828 to 1912, was Superior Court Judge for Fulton, DeKalb and Clayton Counties (1872 - 1878) and is credited with "cleaning up" a crime-ridden Atlanta. In 1895, he chaired the committee to revise the Georgia Penal Code, performing the same task again in 1910. He also served as president of the Atlanta Bar Association (1891) and chaired a Bi-racial Committee of 100 for nominating candidates for city elections. He spoke forcefully against lynching and for a woman's right to be a lawyer. Writing in Leslie's Weekly, Hopkins gave his solution for lynching: "If prosecution and conviction of lynchers do not occur within a limited time, make the county liable to a fine of \$10,000 payable into the common - school fund." In a newspaper article, he called on the Georgia Bar Association to admit women as lawyers:

The delightful poetic sentiment about "lovely woman" and her protection in the home is all very nice as a sentiment. But there are multitudes of women, who have no home except that which they themselves make and maintain .... If a woman can gain an honorable independence by practicing law, I say it is a shame to shut her out of it.

One source states that White Street was named for Charlie White who lived in the area before the street was cut. Porter Street was renamed Lucile Avenue in 1894 in honor of Lucile Smith, daughter of Burgess Smith, West End city councilman and owner of the Southern School Book Depository. On a final and curious note, the only reference to an Eggleston (with two "g"s) for the time period is Colonel B. B. Eggleston of the First Ohio Cavalry, who received the surrender of Atlanta on May 3, 1865, and was appointed provost-marshal of the city.

G. W. Adair, however, did more for West End and his own financial well-being than buy land for development and name streets. In 1870, he joined with Richard Peters to form the Atlanta Street Railway and thus provide trolley access to their holdings outside Atlanta city limits.

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The West End line followed Whitehall to Lee Street and out Gordon Street, now RDA Boulevard, eventually going all the way to West View Cemetery (incorporated in 1884). The intersection of Lee and Gordon (RDA Boulevard) was subdivided for commercial sale, setting the pattern for most later development. All development came to a virtual standstill, however, in the 1870s due to national economic depressions and Adair even had to declare bankruptcy in 1877.

This was a temporary setback for both Adair and West End. Prosperity returned to the nation in the 1880s and Adair recouped his fortune. West End became more and more fashionable. A competing trolley line, the West End and Atlanta Street Railway, branched out from downtown and along Porter Street (Lucile Avenue). Many prominent individuals began to move to the area after 1900 including the already mentioned Evan P. Howell, whose ten-acre estate became Howell Park (corner of RDA Boulevard and Peoples Street) after his death in 1905. E. P. Howell, former Mayor of Atlanta and owner of "The Constitution" newspaper, also lived in West End. Howell's will bequeathed to West End a large tract of land that he directed be used only to display the beauty of the acreage. The land became known as Howell Park, and exists today.

Other important Georgians moving to West End were former governor James Milton Smith (1872-77), John Conley (son of Governor Benjamin Conley), Atlanta mayor Dennis Hammond, Thomas Stokes (founding partner of Davison's Department Store), L. Z. Rosser (president of the Atlanta Board of Education), J. P. Allen (clothing store owner), T. D. Longino (medical doctor and alderman), J. N. McEachern (insurance executive), and authors such as Frank L. Stanton, Madge Bigham (Sunny Elephant) and Joel Chandler Harris.

Down Gordon Street (now RDA Boulevard) from E. P. Howell was Joel Chandler Harris' house, the Wren's Nest, which stood on a five-acre lot, previously called the Broomhead property. Harris was known for the publication of the Uncle Remus and Critters tales. The stories, usually humorous in nature, related to incidents that were told to Harris by slaves when he was a boy working as an apprentice on a rural farm in Georgia. Harris lived at the "Wren's Nest" until his death in 1908 and was nationally and internationally recognized for his Uncle Remus stories. Both during his life and up to the present, Harris has perhaps been West End's most famous resident. He attracted such figures as President Theodore Roosevelt and Andrew Carnegie to Atlanta, the former returning after Harris' death to lecture for the Uncle Remus Memorial Association. The "Wren's Nest" has remained a memorial to Harris and his activities, including the organizational meeting for the future St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church in 1902. St. Anthony's Church had its beginning in a meeting of Catholic ladies

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at the home of Mrs. Joel Chandler Harris in 1902. A Sunday School was held in the Harris home with Miss Lillian Harris as teacher. This led to the establishment of St. Anthony's Church. Services were first held in a frame building, and eventually the present structure was erected. The Parish school was built later. J. C. Harris is also known for the hiding of African-Americans in his basement of the Wren's Nest during the Atlanta race riots of 1906. The wedding reception for Ralph David Abernathy's younger daughter was also held at the "Wren's Nest." In 1978, the home was dedicated as a National Historic Landmark, having been so designated by the National Park Service in 1962; and in 1989, it was designated a "Landmark Building" by the City of Atlanta's Urban Design Commission. In 1993, the Wren's Nest received recognition from the City of Atlanta's Urban Design Commission for its recent restoration and rehabilitation.

Joel Chandler Harris commuted each work day to Atlanta via the trolley and undoubtedly typifies the activities of other prominent West End residents when the municipality was both growing in population and at the same time being engulfed by its larger neighbor. Infrastructure (paved streets, sewer lines, schools) and services (police and fire protection) were increasingly needed. At the same time, West End lacked the commercial and manufacturing bases necessary to provide adequate tax revenues. This became even more of a problem after the massive economic depression of 1893. In addition, the destruction of three homes by fire about this same time demonstrated the dire need for a fire department, a fact brought very close to home when fire insurance rates for the largely residential West End went up dramatically as a result. As a consequence of these needs and events, the citizens of West End voted for annexation to Atlanta in 1894 with guarantees regarding local liquor prohibition (established in West End in 1890) and a certain degree of autonomy as the Seventh Ward.

**FROM POST WAR TO THE END OF WORLD WAR II (1895 - 1945)**

From 1894-95 to 1930, West End grew rapidly in population and prosperity. An examination of building permits for Peeples, Gordon [later RDA Boulevard], Lee, and Lawton Streets shows a large number of single-family residences being built and increasing commercial buildings and churches going up along Gordon [RDA Boulevard] and at the long-established business district at Gordon [RDA Boulevard] and Lee. The private homes were generally modest in size and price, with few being designed by any of the major residential architects active at the time. The exceptions for the streets listed above were a two-story frame house at 127 (subsequently 1017) Gordon [RDA Boulevard] Street designed in 1900 by the major architect Gottfried Norrman, and an 1898 residence at 155 (subsequently 567) Peeples Street by the major Atlanta firm of Bruce and Morgan. The new residents increased

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the population from 7,132 in 1910 to 22,882 by 1930, with a general decline in the number of black residents to only fifteen percent in the latter year.

As with most Atlanta-area neighborhoods and communities, starting around 1900, race became even more of an issue than it had been. Although West End did not participate directly in the Atlanta Race Riot of 1906, Joel Chandler Harris gave protective shelter at the Wren's Nest to a number of black men and women.

Racial segregation was evident despite a large black population just north of West End around Atlanta University and was due largely to restrictive zoning ordinances passed in the 1920s and the use of violence against blacks who began to move into the north Ashby Street area. Segregation was to remain the rule until the late 1960s and was even somewhat formalized in an agreement between white residents and the black Empire Real Estate Board (representing black realtors and developers) in 1952. Their agreement established guarantees that West End would remain white, stating, "While this Board is not setting up any property line or zoning area for Negro expansion, in the spirit of good will and public relations, in cooperation with the people of West End, this agreement is being made for the time being ...."

National and local prosperity and the mobility created by the automobile in the 1920s helped West End continue to grow. Approximately fifty businesses were now clustered at Gordon [RDA Boulevard] and Lee with branches of Sears, Firestone, Piggly Wiggly, and Goodyear. Churches and schools increased to serve the growing population. The present St. Anthony's Church was built in 1923 (a rectory and school were later added) with A. Ten Eyck Brown as architect and stained glass windows imported from Germany. Brown is well known as the architect of the Municipal Market (1923) on Edgewood Avenue, the YMCA at formerly at 145 Luckie Street, Fulton County Courthouse (1911-14), the original Federal Reserve Building (1918-21) (no longer extant), and the United States Post Office Annex (1931-33).

Schools began to dot West End, the largest being the 1923 Joseph E. Brown High School at Peeples and Beecher. Originally a junior high school, Brown became a high school in 1947 and has remained so to this day. It was named for one of Georgia's and Atlanta's most powerful political and business leaders. Joseph Emerson Brown rose from poverty in north Georgia to attend Yale Law School. Returning to Georgia, he served as a superior court judge, state senator, and governor (1857-1865). Following the Civil War, he supported reconstruction and thus was appointed chief justice of the state's Supreme Court (1868-70). Combining mutually profitable careers in business and politics, Brown

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was president of the leasing company for Georgia's state-owned railroad, the Western and Atlantic, and was a United States senator (1880-90). He invested heavily and successfully in Atlanta businesses and real estate, owning an entire block of the downtown business district. The Romanesque Revival-style school named after Brown was constructed in 1924 as part of a city-wide school bond construction program. The architects for the school were the prominent Atlanta firm of Pringle and Smith. Founded in 1922, the firm designed many widely recognized buildings in Atlanta and the Southeast before its dissolution in 1934. Traditional and Beaux-Arts elements were characteristic of the firm's earlier commercial buildings, such as the Cox-Carlton Hotel of 1926 and the "Byzantine"-style Rhodes-Haverty Building of 1929. However, in the W. E. Orr Doctors and William-Oliver buildings of 1930, Pringle and Smith incorporated the bolder, modernistic elements of the Art Deco style. A 1929 addition to the school was designed by another significant southeastern architect, G. Lloyd Preacher, who designed Atlanta's City Hall in 1930. In 1961, the school named for Joseph E. Brown became one of the first Atlanta schools to be integrated.

**MODERN HISTORY (1945 - 1996)**

After 1930, West End was an aging, but still vital, Atlanta community. This vitality is most clearly evident in the West End Businessmen's Association. The West End Businessmen's Association was established in 1927 with 10 businessmen. By the 1950s it had grown to include 400 businessmen. It had grown with West End and had been responsible for many of the section's programs.

Mr. Matthews, Vice President of the First National Bank of Atlanta, and manager of its West End branch, was one of the first ten men who believed that the section needed an active businessmen's group.

Not all of the Association's work was geared towards the promotion of commerce and industry. West End's homes, churches and schools and the cultural aspects of community life played an important part in the group's activities. The Association also fostered a real estate loan movement of national importance. In 1937, the Association pushed for extension of Title I of the National Housing Act providing for home modernization loans, and in subsequent decades (1950s and 1960s) for economic accessibility and population stabilization, including segregation. With the group's support, Gordon Street (RDA Boulevard) was widened in the 1960s.

In 1937, the Association initiated a nationwide movement for the reenactment of Title I of the National Housing Act, which provided for "home modernization loans." The West End Businessmen's Association

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included Frank G. Etheridge, a member of the Atlanta Housing Authority. Mr. Etheridge was instrumental in guiding the Atlanta Housing Authority to choose the Ashby Street/Sells Avenue in the northern portion of West End (well outside of the historic district) as the site for the J. C. Harris Public Housing Project in the mid-1950s. The Project served as an additional buffer between West End proper and the African-American population north of West End Avenue.

The Businessmen's group membership was drawn from the entire southwest section of the city, but centered around the Gordon(RDA Boulevard)/Lee Street shopping district. Thirty million in retail sales was noted in West End in 1951, quotes the Atlanta Journal and the Atlanta Constitution on January 27, 1952.

The same Association that trail blazed through the 1930s was just as prevalent in the 1950s and 1960s.

The Association began three expansive projects in the 1950s to stem the exodus of West End citizens to the suburbs. These projects were completed in the 1960s and 1970s and included: Interstate 20, Urban Renewal, and the West End Mall. Although plans were designed to make West End more competitive with the surrounding metropolitan suburbs, the realities of the plans were designed to stem the exodus of Atlanta's white citizens from southwest Atlanta.

Mr. Edgar Schurkraft, a West End florist, is the father of West End urban redevelopment--a \$14,000,000, 675-acre urban redevelopment project. West End is the only section of Atlanta to ever ask for urban renewal. The total project included the purchase of 103.1 acres (in and outside of district boundaries) to redevelop which included the razing of mostly residential and some commercial buildings. Within the district, J. E. Brown High School and Peoples Street School were enlarged and two new parks were created, and I-20 was constructed which bisected the neighborhood (this district includes the southern, intact portion of West End).

Despite all the redevelopment efforts occurring in the mid 1960s-1970s, suburbanization intensified and "white flight" continued. The mass exodus left the area to suffer economically and socially. With this change, drastic measures would be necessary to recapture what had been lost in West End.

Running the interstate highway through the northern tip of the community was a move to create greater accessibility to the area's business district (three entrances and exit ramps - more than any other neighborhood on I-20). However, other people believed that the route of the highway was designed to divide the area along color



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lines. The northern edge of West End became a haven for African-Americans of all walks of life, especially those associated with the Atlanta University Center, which is composed of Clark - Atlanta University, Spelman College, Morehouse College and Morris Brown College.

Interstate 20 was built across West End's northern fringe and portions of the old business district, along with large amounts of residential housing, were demolished in favor of a shopping mall development, completed in 1973. The accessibility of the West End Mall, at the intersection of Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Lee Street, was later augmented by part of the city's latest transportation system, a MARTA rapid-rail station, across Lee Street on the east side. The West End Businessmen's Association obviously was successful in many areas, but it failed in stopping "white flight" and the movement of blacks into the community. By 1976, West End was eighty-six percent black.

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of pride and interest in West End by its residents. The West Hunter Street Baptist Church moved its congregation to the former West End Baptist Church building on RDA Boulevard in 1972. The West Hunter Street Baptist Church congregation has been one of Atlanta's leading black churches for decades. Starting in 1961 the West Hunter Street Baptist Church was led by the Reverend Ralph David Abernathy. Jesse Jackson came to West End to speak at the opening of the new church. A close friend and confidante of Martin Luther King, Jr., Abernathy participated in most of the civil rights campaigns of the 1960s and 1970s and succeeded King as president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In honor of his nationally recognized contributions to the civil rights movement, Gordon Street was renamed Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard in 1991.

The neighborhood residents formed the West End Neighborhood Development, Inc. (WEND), in 1974, with the goal of improving the socioeconomic position of their community and its residents. In order to increase awareness of the West End neighborhood, WEND has sponsored a tour of homes, a yearly festival in Howell Park, and a driving tour booklet highlighting neighborhood homes, cultural and religious centers, along with this National Register nomination.

The Hammonds House, a gallery and resource center for African-American art, is the architectural and artistic legacy of the late Dr. Otis Thrash Hammonds, a prominent Atlanta physician. The Queen Anne-style house with Eastlake detailing was once the home of the author Ms. Madge Bigham. Dr. Hammonds renovated the structure and filled it with his notable collection of African-American art and 19th century

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antiques. Upon his death in 1985, the house and collection were purchased by Fulton County and subsequently opened to the public.

A recent report sponsored by WEND, states "As West End was once described as one of Atlanta's most socially diverse and culturally rich communities, it is again returning to the tradition of its past, as it relates to the regenerating of community value and revitalization." WEND is the sponsor of this nomination and was responsible for helping to conduct a survey of the neighborhood and preparing the nomination materials.

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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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: Joel Chandler Harris House, NHL
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark: Joel Chandler Harris House
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government: City of Atlanta, Urban Design Commission
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

n/a

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#### 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 333 acres (acreage estimator)

#### UTM References

- A) Zone 16 Easting 738010 Northing 3736800
- B) Zone 16 Easting 738980 Northing 3736260
- C) Zone 16 Easting 739300 Northing 3735010
- D) Zone 16 Easting 737860 Northing 3736100
- E) Zone 16 Easting 737860 Northing 3736600

#### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is indicated on the attached tax maps with a heavy black line, drawn to scale.

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**Boundary Justification**

The proposed boundaries encompass the intact and contiguous historic resources of the West End neighborhood on the south side of Interstate 20. The historic neighborhood consists of approximately fifty blocks bounded by Interstate 20 on the north, Ashby Street on the east, the Seaboard Railroad tracks and White Street on the south running diagonal to Langhorn Street on the West. The southern and western boundaries are generally the same as during the historic period with the railroad tracks still serving as boundaries. Unfortunately, due to the commercial development which has happened in the last thirty years, the eastern portion of West End on RDA Boulevard between Ashby and White Hall Streets is not included in these boundaries. This includes the intersection of Lee Street and RDA Boulevard which started the development of Whitehall which ultimately became West End.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian  
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**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** January 20, 1999

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)**

**name/title** Karl Webster Barnes  
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**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30310  
**telephone** 404-758-4891

- consultant**  
 **regional development center preservation planner**  
 **other:**

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

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Photographs

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**Name of Property:** WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT  
**City or Vicinity:** ATLANTA  
**County:** FULTON  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** December, 1996

**Description of Photograph(s):**

- 1 of 48: West side of Hopkins Street, between Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Oak street; photographer facing northwest.
- 2 of 48: Northwest corner of Hopkins and Oak Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 3 of 48: Northwest corner of Hopkins Street and Lucile Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 48: Northwest corner of Hopkins and Greenwich Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 5 of 48: North side of Sells Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 6 of 48: West side of Atwood, south of Oak Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 48: West side of Atwood, south of Lucile Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 8 of 48: Northwest corner of Atwood and Greenwich Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 9 of 48: Southwest corner of the intersection Holderness and Oak Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 10 of 48: West side of Holderness Street, south of Lucile Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 11 of 48: North side of Greenwich Street, between Langhorn and Hopkins Streets; photographer facing northeast.

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**Photographs**

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- 12 of 48: North side of Lucile Avenue, between Langhorn and Hopkins Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 13 of 48: North side of Lucile Avenue, between Hopkins and Atwood Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 14 of 48: North side of Lucile Avenue, between Atwood and Holderness Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 15 of 48: Attached commercial buildings, north side of Lucile Avenue, between Holderness Street and Dargan Place; photographer facing northwest.
- 16 of 48: Non-contributing West End Park surrounded by Oak Street, Lawton Street, Lucile Avenue and Dargan Place; photographer facing northwest.
- 17 of 48: Hammonds House Museum on the right, north side of the district, northwest corner of Peoples Street and Oak Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 18 of 48: Northwest corner of Oak and Culberson Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 19 of 48: North side of Oak Street, between Atwood and Holderness Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 20 of 48: North side of Oak Street, between Hopkins and Atwood Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 21 of 48: West End Church of Christ, north side of Gordon/RDA Boulevard, between Hopkins and Atwood Streets at the western edge of district; photographer facing northwest.
- 22 of 48: Northwest corner of Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Atwood Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 23 of 48: Southern Bell Company, northwest corner of Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Holderness Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 24 of 48: Wren's Nest on Gordon/RDA Boulevard; photographer facing southwest.
- 25 of 48: St. Anthony's Church, southwest corner of Ashby Street and Gordon/RDA Boulevard; photographer facing southwest.

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Photographs

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- 26 of 48: Formerly the Gordon Street Motion Picture Theater, Noncontributing, Southeast corner of Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Gordon Place; photographer facing southeast.
- 27 of 48: St. Anthony's Education Building on left, north side of Gordon/RDA Boulevard, near Peeples Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 28 of 48: Outside of district, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, southwest corner of Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Lee Street; photographer facing southwest.
- 29 of 48: North side of Rose Circle, between Ashby and Lee Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 30 of 48: White Street Park, intersection of Rose Circle and White Streets; photographer facing northeast.
- 31 of 48: Northwest corner of Ashby and White Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 32 of 48: North side of White Street, between Ashby and Lee Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 33 of 48: North side of Beecher Street, between Ashby and Lee Streets, east side of district; photographer facing northeast.
- 34 of 48: Northwest corner of Beecher and Azalia Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 35 of 48: Joseph E. Brown High School, at the northwest corner of Peeples and White Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 36 of 48: West side of Peeples between Oglethorpe Avenue and Mathews Street; photographer facing northwest.
- 37 of 48: Northwest corner of Peeples Street and Oglethorpe Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 38 of 48: Northwest corner of Mathews and Lawton Streets; photographer facing northwest.
- 39 of 48: Northwest corner of Lawton Street and Oglethorpe Avenue; photographer facing northwest.



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**Photographs**

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- 40 of 48: North side of Oglethorpe Avenue, between Queen and Lawton Streets; photographer facing northeast.
- 41 of 48: West side of Grady Place; photographer facing northwest.
- 42 of 48: West side of Holderness Street, south side of Gordon/RDA Boulevard; photographer facing northwest.
- 43 of 48: West side of Holderness Street, south side of Gordon/RDA Boulevard; photographer facing northwest.
- 44 of 48: West side of Atwood Street, south of Gordon/RDA Boulevard; photographer facing northwest.
- 45 of 48: North side of Oglethorpe Avenue, between Peeples Street and Gordon Place; photographer facing northwest.
- 46 of 48: West side of Ashby Street, between Mathews Street and Oglethorpe Avenue; photographer facing northwest.
- 47 of 48: West side of Culberson Street, between Gordon/RDA Boulevard and Oak Street; photographer northwest.
- 48 of 48: East side of Langhorn Street at Latham Street; photographer facing east.

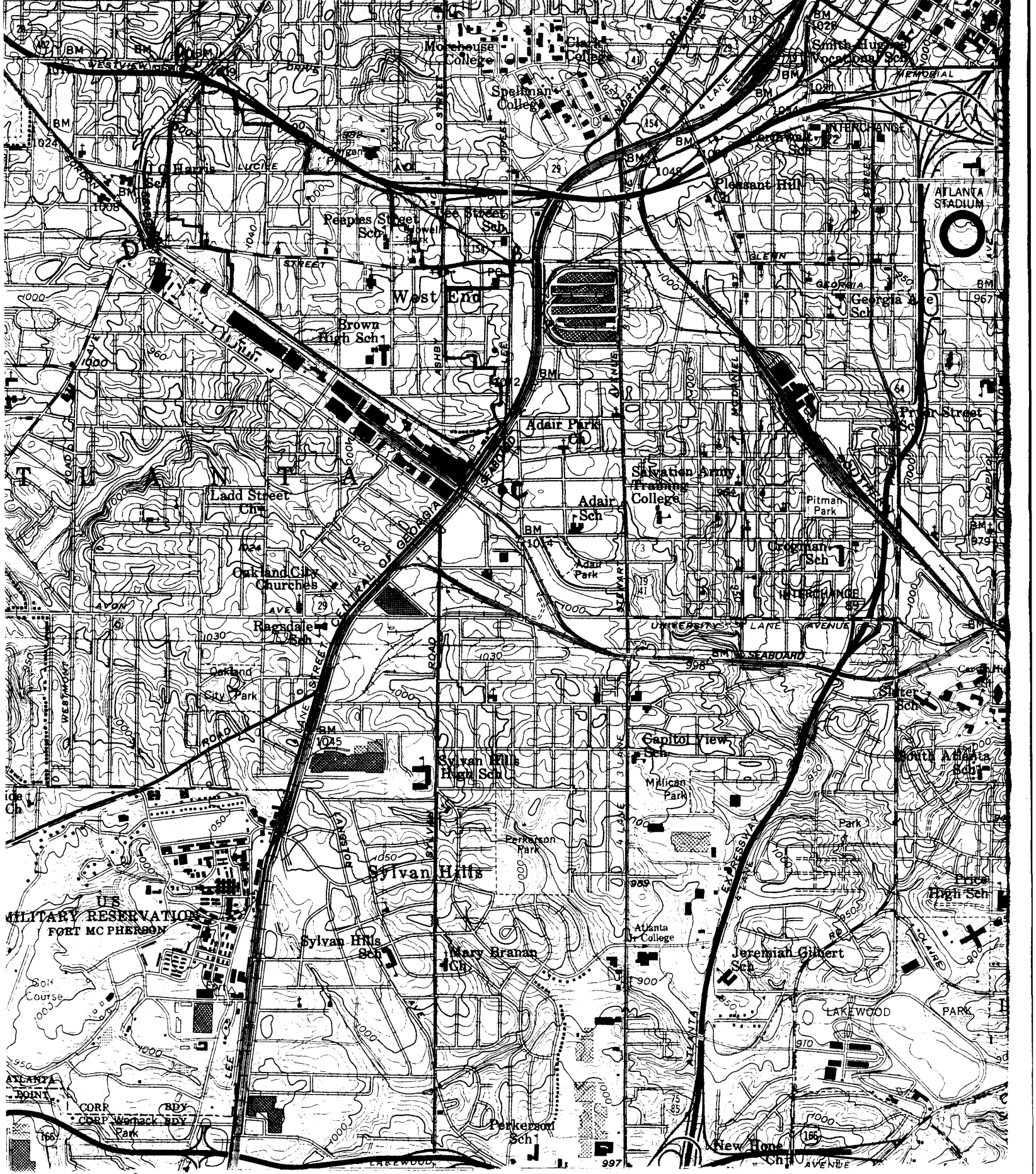
# WESTEND HISTORIC DISTRICT



SOUTHWEST AT

29 7.5 MINUTE SE  
1.9 MI. TO U.S. 78 & 278  
430 000 FEET

INTERSTATE 285  
4151 IV SW  
NORTHWEST ATLANTA) 738 | 739 25' | 1.5 MI. TO U.S. 78 & 278 | 741



US  
MILITARY RESERVATION  
FORT MC PHERSON

ATLANTA  
STADIUM

ATLANTA  
POINT  
CORP  
CORP Wornack Bldg  
Park

New Hope  
Sch