

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 Newton House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 892 Prince Avenue
city, town Athens
county Clarke code GA 059
state Georgia code GA zip code 30606
() vicinity of

() not for publication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:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	2	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	2	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

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 Luce
Signature of certifying official

5-22-02
Date

for W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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

Edson H. Beall 7.11.02

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for

Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/SINGLE DWELLING

Current Functions:

HEALTH CARE/CLINIC/DOCTOR'S OFFICE

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN/QUEEN ANNE

Materials:

foundation	Brick; Concrete
walls	Wood/Weatherboard
roof	Asphalt
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Newton House is located on what was historically a major residential thoroughfare, Prince Avenue, northwest of downtown Athens. The Newton House, constructed c.1897, is set back from the edge of Prince Avenue. The Queen Anne-type house features two-and-a-half-story height, a hipped roof, square main massing with projecting gables on the front and side elevations, bay windows, one-over-one double-hung-sash windows, interior and exterior patterned chimneys, and a full-width wrap-around porch with classical columns on brick piers. A one-story rear addition was added to the central core of the house c.1918 and a second-story rear sleeping porch was added c.1926. The interior arrangement features an irregular floor plan on the first floor and a central hallway plan on the second floor. The intact historic interior details include the hardwood floors, plaster and wood walls and ceilings, beaded wainscoting, paneled and pocket doors, mantels, and built-in furniture. The remaining historic landscaping consists of the front yard, which encompasses mature trees, foundation plantings, and a grass lawn. The landscaping behind the house features a nonhistoric parking lot and a moved historic building.

The front facade (south elevation) (photographs 1 and 17) is asymmetrical. The roof features a central hipped dormer, containing a group of three small casement windows. The full facade porch has a projecting central pavilion, and wraps around the southwestern corner to connect with the building's side-gabled projections. The porch features a turned balustrade, brick piers with granite caps, and Doric columns. Columns are used singularly and in pairs. The central pavilion has a roofline balustrade and marks the entrance. The round-arched entrance includes a fully glazed door and a semicircular transom; the off-center placement of the entrance is balanced by a single window to the left and a pair of windows to the right. On the upper floor, two windows appear above the porch pavilion, and to the right, there is a cantilevered square bay with a hipped roof and a pair of windows. Decorative brackets, pilasters, and corner trim blocks with a circular motif embellish the

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

cantilevered bay. Decorative detailing includes a heavy frieze board on both house and porch, end boards, and a band of vertical board upon the lower part of the second-story.

On the east elevation (photographs 1 and 2), an exterior patterned-masonry chimney distinguishes the side gable. Circular gable vents and a heavy fascia board accent the gable end. The façade's band of vertical board wraps the southeastern corner to end at the chimney. Three pairs of windows provide light to the second-story. The first-floor has three projecting bays - a square bay on either side of a canted bay. The square bays have shed roofs while the canted bay has a hipped roof; each roof is standing-seam metal. The left square bay features a pair of windows and corner trim blocks similar to the façade's bay. On the canted bay, double-sash windows face southeast and northeast and a group of three small casement windows faces east. A single window lights the right square bay.

An irregular roof, having a gambrel-like appearance, covers the rear of the house (photograph 2). The gable-end features a heavy fascia board, a circular gable vent, and a group of three small casement windows. A substantial two-story addition appends the rear of the main house. The addition features an almost flat roof, a smaller frieze board, end board, and two exterior chimneys. The 1918 Sanborn Fire Insurance map documents the early existence of a one-story rear portion across the rear of the house, appending a kitchen, rear porch, and northwest corner room. Interior features indicate this portion is original. Currently, the first floor exterior features a slim rear door aligned with the center hall, a group of two-over-two windows, and two singular one-over-one windows. The rear door and two-over-two windows mark the enclosure of the rear porch. The 1926 Sanborn map indicates the presence of a second-story sleeping porch. On the second floor, a ribbon of windows wraps the addition's corners, where a singular double-sash one-over-one window marks the depth of the porch. The ribbon windows, originally pairs of casement windows, were replaced by metal-framed sash windows. Three pairs of the casement windows remain on the northeast corner.

On the west elevation (photograph 3), the gabled two-story projection accentuates the side gable. Windows appear singularly and in pairs, sharing the characteristics of the front facade and east elevation windows. The heavy frieze board, fascia board, and end boards are also present. Beneath the wrap of the porch, a group of casement windows are topped by square fixed windows.

On the first floor the front door leads into the front parlor (photographs 5, 6, and 7). A small sitting area (photograph 7) adjoins the front parlor. A pair of paneled pocket doors provides access to the southeast parlor, and a second pair of pocket doors separates the southeast parlor and the dining room.

On the first floor, the front parlor displays a mantelpiece with Ionic columns (photograph 6). The southeast parlor is dominated by a large mantelpiece with pilasters (photograph 5). A canted bay, a chair rail, and an elaborate mantelpiece embellish the dining room (photograph 8). The dining room's mantelpiece utilizes a beveled mirror, Roman Ionic columns, dentils, and decorative brackets. The west bedroom (photograph 9) includes a mantelpiece with decorative brackets supported by pairs of turned posts. The kitchen incorporates a large hearth, cabinetry, and a butler's window into the pantry. The main stairwell within the hallway features a prominent newel post, square line posts with

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Section 7--Description

finials, and a turned balustrade (photograph 10). The hallway chair rail continues throughout the stairwell.

The L-shaped hallway, which creates a central axis by aligning the front and rear doors, also leads to a bathroom and the west bedroom. A half-glazed door with a square transom leads from the hallway into the rear portion of the house; the door served as the rear door to the house until the rear porch was enclosed in the 1920s.

Exterior siding and four-over-four windows within the kitchen and pantry walls is further evidence of the enclosure of the rear porch between the northwest corner and the kitchen. Surrounds and baseboards within the northwest corner room, as well as the window proportion and configuration, support the conclusion that the northwest corner room was not part of the rear porch. The kitchen occupies the northeast corner of the building, adjacent to the pantry area. The stairwell to the sleeping porch (photograph 16) uses a portion of the enclosed rear porch.

The second floor is also organized around a central axis. The southwest and southeast bedrooms adjoin small passages leading to the balcony. Triple-hung-sash windows with casement screens provide ventilation through these passages. The southeast and east bedrooms share a chimneystack, and the east bedroom adjoins the northeast bedroom.

The northwest bedroom incorporates a walk-in closet, a window seat with a pair of windows, and bathroom. A second bathroom is located across the hallway, which accesses both bathrooms and the sleeping porch. The sleeping porch extends the full-width of the rear of the house and is divided by the rear staircase. The hallway door near the main staircase leads to attic stairs.

On the second floor, the southeast, southwest, and east bedrooms contain simple mantelpieces (photographs 11, 12, and 13); the southeast bedroom includes a window seat. The northeast bedroom has built-in closets that flank the chimney (photograph 14). The northwest bedroom's (photograph 15) mantelpiece, typical of second-floor mantles, is simple in design compared to the first floor mantles.

Mature trees and shrubs preserve the residential character of the property. A central walkway connects the house to the sidewalk, and decorative wing walls flank the walk's pair of curved steps. A brick retaining wall lines the drive that runs parallel to the west elevation toward the rear of the property. The 1926 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps records the presence of the garage (no longer extant) and a servant's house (Caretaker's Unit on site plan; moved from the west side of the property to the rear of the property). The servant's house (photograph 4) is a one-story building with hipped roof and clapboard exterior. A single facade door provides access. The Newton House is surrounded by nonhistoric commercial development and parking lots.

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
Education
Women's History

Period of Significance:

c.1897-1951

Significant Dates:

c.1897-Construction of the Newton House

Significant Person(s):

Catherine Newton

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Charles H. Newton, Sr.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Newton House, located at 892 Prince Avenue, is a significant Queen Anne building, associated with a prominent University of Georgia educator. The Newton House is an excellent example of the high-style residences built along what was historically a grand residential boulevard, Prince Avenue, in Athens. The Newton House is significant in the area of architecture as an excellent example of a Queen Anne-type house built in the Queen Anne style. The significant exterior character-defining features of the building include its two-and-a-half-story height, complex roof, bay windows, and patterned masonry chimneys. The significant interior character-defining features of the building include the intact floor plans, floors, ceilings, wainscoting, doors, windows, and built-in furniture. The occurrence of the Queen Anne-type house was almost limited to the residential neighborhoods of Georgia's towns and cities. The type was popular in Georgia in the 1880s and 1890s. According to *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in their Landscaped Settings*, a statewide context, the Queen Anne style was Georgia's most popular 19th-century style and was widely used all over the state from the 1880s to about 1910. The Newton House is significant in the area of women's history and education for its association to Catherine Newton. Charles Newton built his home c.1897 and lived in the house with his wife, Mary Reed Newton, their son Charles, and their four unmarried daughters: Virginia, Janet, Charlotte, and Catherine. The four daughters never married and lived in the house together until their deaths. Catherine Newton was a pioneering woman in promoting higher education and professional opportunities for women in Georgia. She graduated from the University of Georgia (UGA) in 1921, as one of seven women in her class. In 1924, Newton was the second woman to be hired to a faculty position (Home Economics) at UGA. Newton advocated the construction of the Woman's Building (later renamed Soule Hall) in the 1920s as well as the organization of the first female athletic organization, the Woman's Athletic Association, which provided funding and opportunity to women athletes at UGA.

National Register Criteria

The Newton House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with Catherine Newton, daughter of the original owner of the house, who was a prominent figure in women's education as a student and educator at the University of Georgia. It is also eligible for listing under Criterion C as an excellent example of a high-style Queen Anne house constructed during the late 19th century.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

The Newton House is eligible for listing in the Nation Register of Historic Places under Criteria Consideration B for the servant's house which was moved from the west side of the property to the rear of the property. Although the move changed the geographical relationship between the main house and the servant's house, the servant's house remains in the original backyard of the main house and in proximity to it. The servant's house is a relatively rare survivor of such historic domestic outbuildings along Prince Avenue and elsewhere in Athens.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance for the Newton House begins c.1897, the construction date of the house, and ends in 1951, the end of the historic period. During this time the house achieved its architectural significance and was directly associated with important historic events and activities in the life of Catherine Newton who lived there.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The Newton House and the servants' house are the two contributing buildings within the proposed boundary. There are no noncontributing resources on the property.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

****NOTE: The following history was compiled by Monica H. Callahan, March, 2000. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.**

The history of the Newton House reveals a 100-year ownership by a significant Athens family. Charles Newton purchased the property from E.S. Lyndon in 1897. Soon thereafter Newton built the house and lived there with his wife and five children, Charles, Virginia, Janet, Charlotte, and Catherine, until his death in the mid-1950s. At his death, his wife, Mary Reed Newton, and his daughters inherited the house. After Mary's death, the sisters established wills and endowed the survivors with the property. The sisters shared the house, affectionately labeled the "Newton Sorority House." Each of the four sisters remained single, and together they developed bonds which historians have identified as a "women's culture." Catherine Newton, the last Newton to occupy the home, was an influential woman in academia at the University of Georgia. The executor of the Newton estate sold the house in December 1996 to Timothy B. Gibson, who rehabilitated the residence for office space.

The Newton House represents the influence of women in academia at the University of Georgia. Catherine Newton served on the University of Georgia faculty in the School of Home Economics. Catherine Newton's influence and achievements as a professor in the School of Home Economics represent the efforts of 20th century women who sought admission as students and employment as professors at the University of Georgia.

The Home Economics Program, established in the College of Agriculture, provided the catalyst for women's admissions into the University of Georgia. The College served as the first Georgia public school institution that committed itself to educating women at standards equivalent to men's four-year programs. The purpose of home economics classes was to train women to instruct Georgians at county extension services and public schools of the importance of low-cost nutritional diets. Americans' increasing concerns over the health and welfare of children catapulted large numbers of women into university classes that taught dietetics, family and child welfare, nutrition, and the domestic arts. The University of Georgia's first female graduate, Mary Creswell, received a

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

baccalaureate degree with a major in nutrition, in 1919. Catherine Newton followed suit in 1921. In 1924 Catherine Newton, upon completion of a Masters of Science degree in Nutrition at Columbia University, became the second woman hired to the University faculty. As Professor of Nutrition, she served the University until her retirement in 1965.

Catherine Newton's efforts in the School of Home Economics compelled the University of Georgia to build housing, develop programs, and expand the University curriculum to include women undergraduate and graduate students. The University did not provide women with on campus housing until the 1920s when faculty members such as Catherine Newton called for a "Woman's Building" which the University constructed and later renamed Soule Hall. Women students and faculty demanded physical education programs, such as the Women's Rifle Club. In addition, Home Economics students organized the first female athlete organization, the Women's Athletic Association, which advocated funding and opportunity for women athletes.

As both a student and faculty member, Catherine Newton became directly involved in advancing women's education. When Newton entered the University as a junior in 1919, the University restricted women's admissions to home economics classes. In 1920 Newton helped establish the Homecon Club, an organization committed to social and professional advances for women in home economics. The Club adopted a song, entitled, "Glory, Glory to old Georgia" sung to the tune of "Glory, Glory Hallelujah" -- which included lines such as "higher education was not meant for men alone" and "educate our women and they'll educate our sons." Clearly, the School of Home Economics and the Homecon Club represented nascent sources of southern feminism. Catherine Newton's efforts not only influenced University administrators but also reached her students at a much more personal level. Newton's presence and guidance gave women the confidence and self-esteem necessary to graduate from a major four-year institution and embark upon careers in a newly emerging scientific field. Upon hearing of Catherine Newton's retirement in 1965, former student Francis E. Comer wrote that as a freshman at the University in the early 1920s, she was intimidated by the "many, many boys." Not just boys but also classes made Francis Comer uncomfortable in an age when few women attended public universities. "How well do I remember entering her Nutrition class," she remembered, "fearing that there was so much chemistry and technical material involved." Catherine Newton's guidance urged her to finish her studies.

Newton's classes provided women with essential knowledge in science. In her nutrition class, women dissected rats to understand the effects of vitamin deficiencies. Physiological Chemistry students examined pigs' stomachs to learn the impact of digestive juices upon the body. And in dietetics classes, Newton taught young women to develop low-cost meals for working and poor families. Students under Newton's tutelage graduated and embarked upon prestigious posts as dieticians and nutrition professors at institutions such as the Medical College of Georgia, the University of Oklahoma Medical Center, the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Army Medical Specialist Corps, and the Center for Disease Control. In an era that offered few career opportunities to women, Newton enabled her students to secure employment in both science and academia. Indeed, Catherine Newton drew her strength from her female colleagues, students, and sisters to become a pioneer for women's rights at the University of Georgia.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Athens City Directories 1889-1997, Heritage Room, Athens-Clarke County Public Library, Athens, Georgia.

Athens-Clarke County Deeds & Records, Athens-Clarke County Courthouse, Athens, Georgia.

Callahan, Monica H. Historic Property Information Form. August, 1997. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. With Supplemental information.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings. 1991.

Mize, Jessie J. The History of Home Economics of the University of Georgia. Athens: Agee Publishers, Inc., 1985.

Morgan, Julie D. "Prince-Dougherty Corridor Study." Published report, Athens-Clarke County Planning Department, 1993.

"Preservation Plan: Historic Resource Inventory and Assessment." Volume I. Athens-Clarke County, June 1996.

"A Retirement Tribute in Honor of Catherine Newton." Rare Books and Manuscripts, Hargrett Library. University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. MS 2760.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Athens, Georgia, 1885-1951. Microfilm, Georgia Reel 1; Abbeville (1368) - Athens (1377). Broadway, NY: Sanborn Map and Publishing.

Siegenthaler, Jennifer C. "Historic Resource Survey." Unpublished report, Athens-Clarke County Planning Department, 1975.

Thomas, Francis Taliaferro. A Portrait of Historic Athens & Clarke County. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1992.

Whitehead, Floy Eugenia. The Development of Home Economics at the University of Georgia. Athens: University of Georgia, 1942.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

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

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- (X) preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued
date issued: January 27, 1999
- () previously listed in the National Register
- () previously determined eligible by the National Register
- () designated a National Historic Landmark
- () recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- () recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 278907 Northing 3760324

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the proposed nomination is indicated on the attached map by a heavy black line.

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Newton House proposed National Register nomination includes the intact acreage historically associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Holly L. Anderson, National Register Historian
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 156 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 101
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** May 21, 2002
e-mail holly_anderson@mail.dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title Monica H. Callahan
organization
mailing address P.O. Box 205
city or town Athens **state** Georgia **zip code** 30603
telephone (706)543-7127
e-mail

- () **property owner**
(X) **consultant**
() **regional development center preservation planner**
() **other:**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Dr. Timothy B. Gibson
organization (if applicable)
mailing address P.O. Box 179
city or town Winterville **state** Georgia **zip code** 30683
e-mail (optional)

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Newton House
City or Vicinity: Athens
County: Clarke
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: January, 2001

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 17

1. Front (south) façade and east façade; photographer facing northwest.
2. East façade and rear (north) façade; photographer facing southwest.
3. West façade and front façade; photographer facing northeast.
4. Caretaker's Unit; photographer facing northeast.
5. Interior, first floor, front parlor into southeast parlor; photographer facing east.
6. Interior, first floor, front parlor into stair hall; photographer facing northwest.
7. Interior, first floor, front parlor into sitting area; photographer facing west.
8. Interior, first floor, dining room; photographer facing north.
9. Interior, first floor, west bedroom; photographer facing southeast.
10. Interior, first floor, stair hall into front parlor; photographer facing south.
11. Interior, second floor, southeast bedroom; photographer facing northeast.
12. Interior, second floor, southwest bedroom; photographer facing northeast.
13. Interior, second floor, east bedroom; photographer facing southeast.
14. Interior, second floor, northeast bedroom; photographer facing northeast.
15. Interior, second floor, northwest bedroom; photographer facing northwest.
16. Interior, second floor, sleeping porch; photographer facing northwest.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

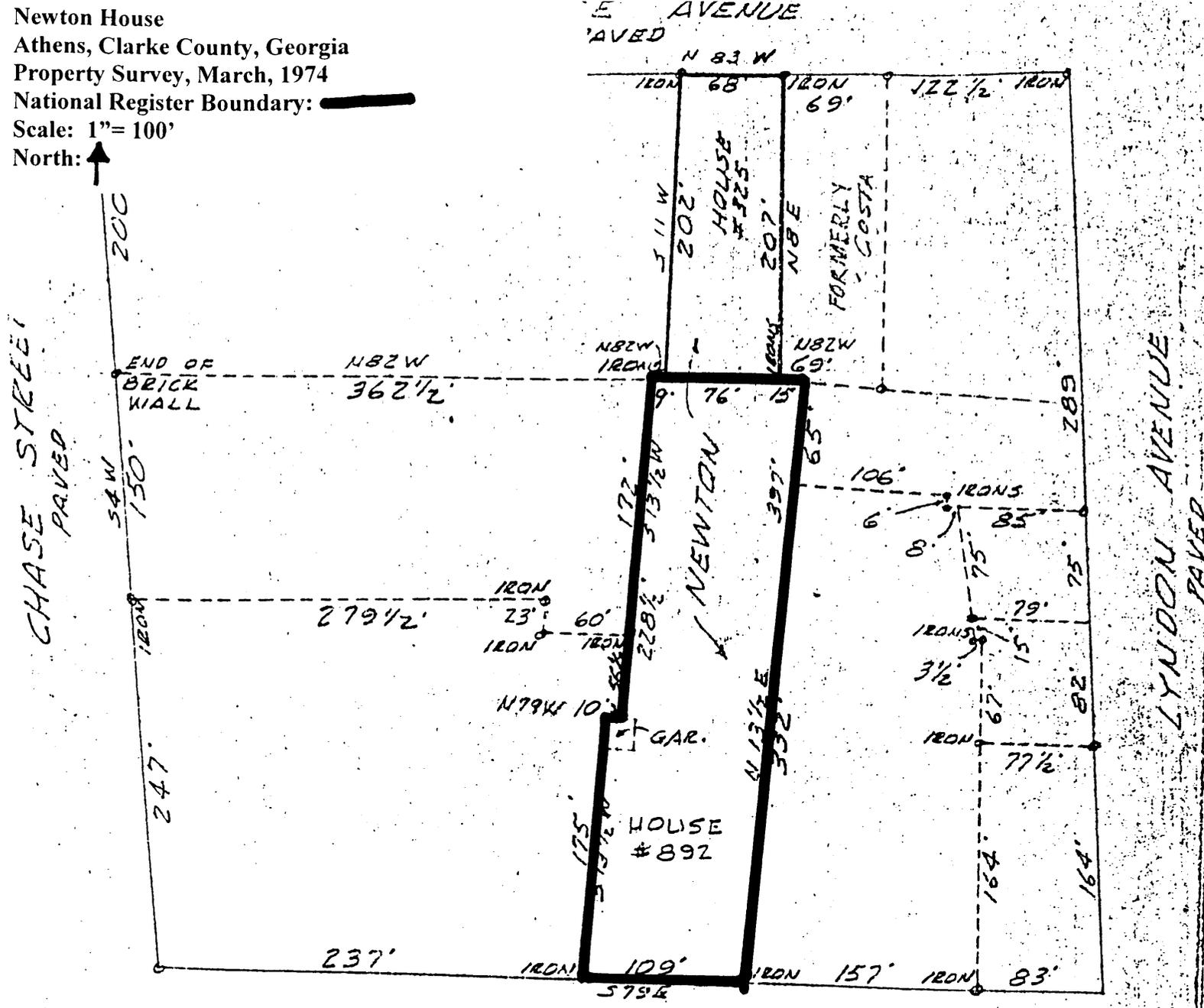
Photographs

17. Front façade; photographer facing north.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

Newton House
Athens, Clarke County, Georgia
Property Survey, March, 1974
National Register Boundary: 

Scale: 1" = 100'
North: 

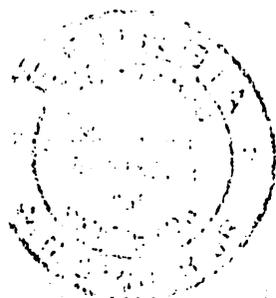


PRINCE AVENUE
PAVED

SURVEY
OF

NEWTON PROPERTY

SCALE 1" = 100' ATHENS, GEORGIA MARCH 1974
W. N. DANNER, JR., W. E. HUDSON, SURVEYORS



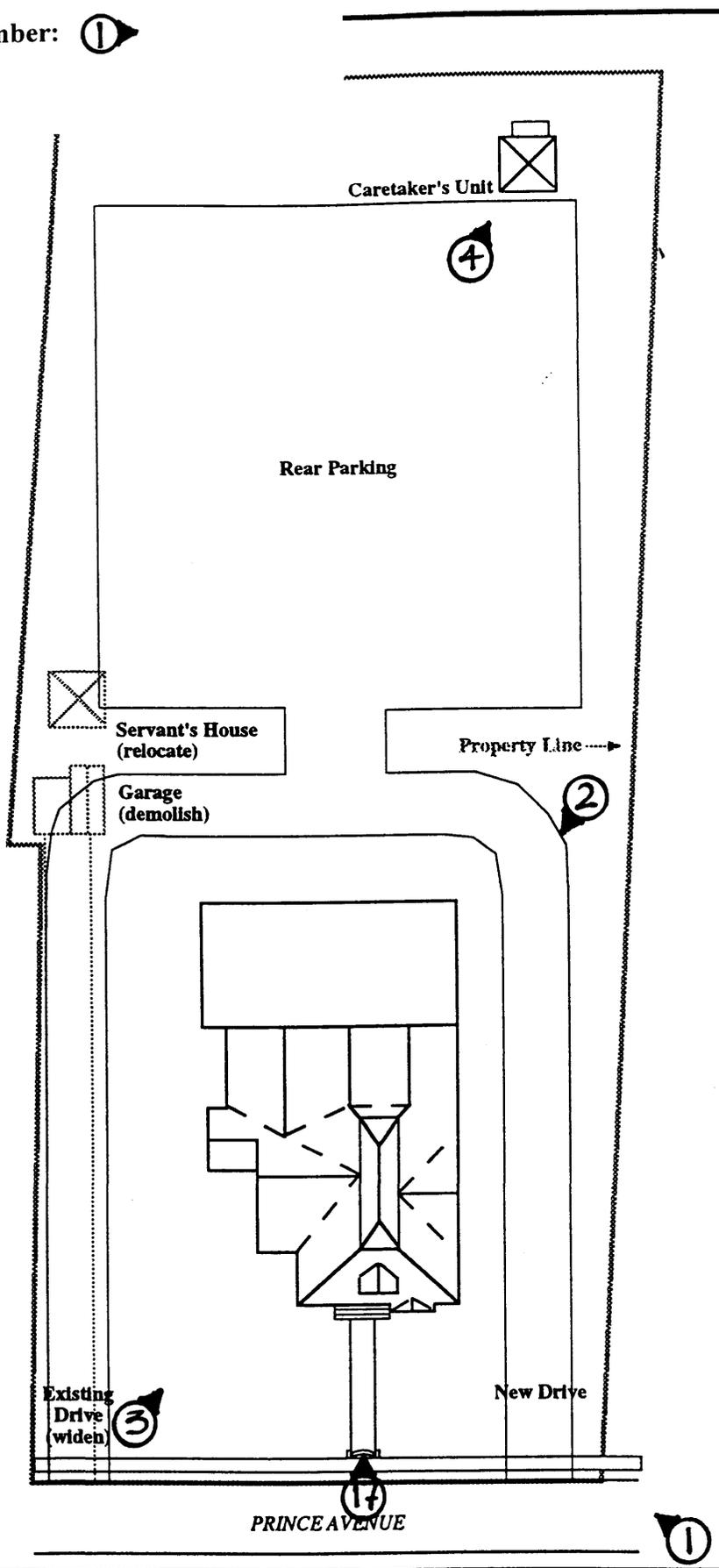
PLAT RECORDED
IN PLAT BOOK 33 PAGE 209
THIS 16 DAY OF Dec 19 96
Beverly Soper CLERK



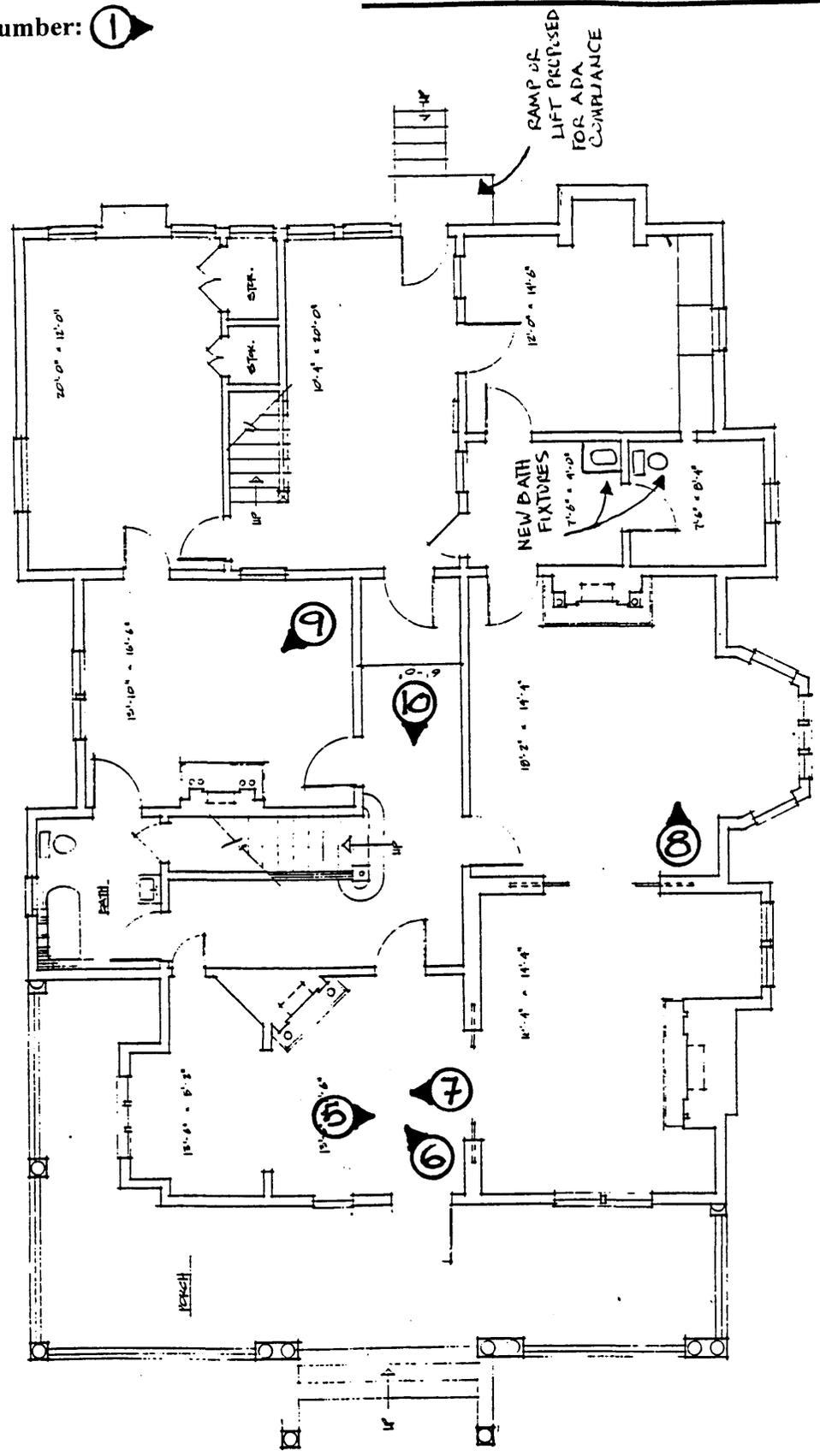
1-2417

Newton House
Athens, Clarke County, Georgia
Site Plan
Photograph Direction/Number: ①
Scale: Not to scale
North: ↑

↑
N
sketch not to scale



Newton House
Athens, Clarke County, Georgia
First Floor Plan
Photograph Direction/Number: ①
Scale: Not to scale
North: ↑



NEWTON HOUSE
892 Prince Avenue Athens, Georgia
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

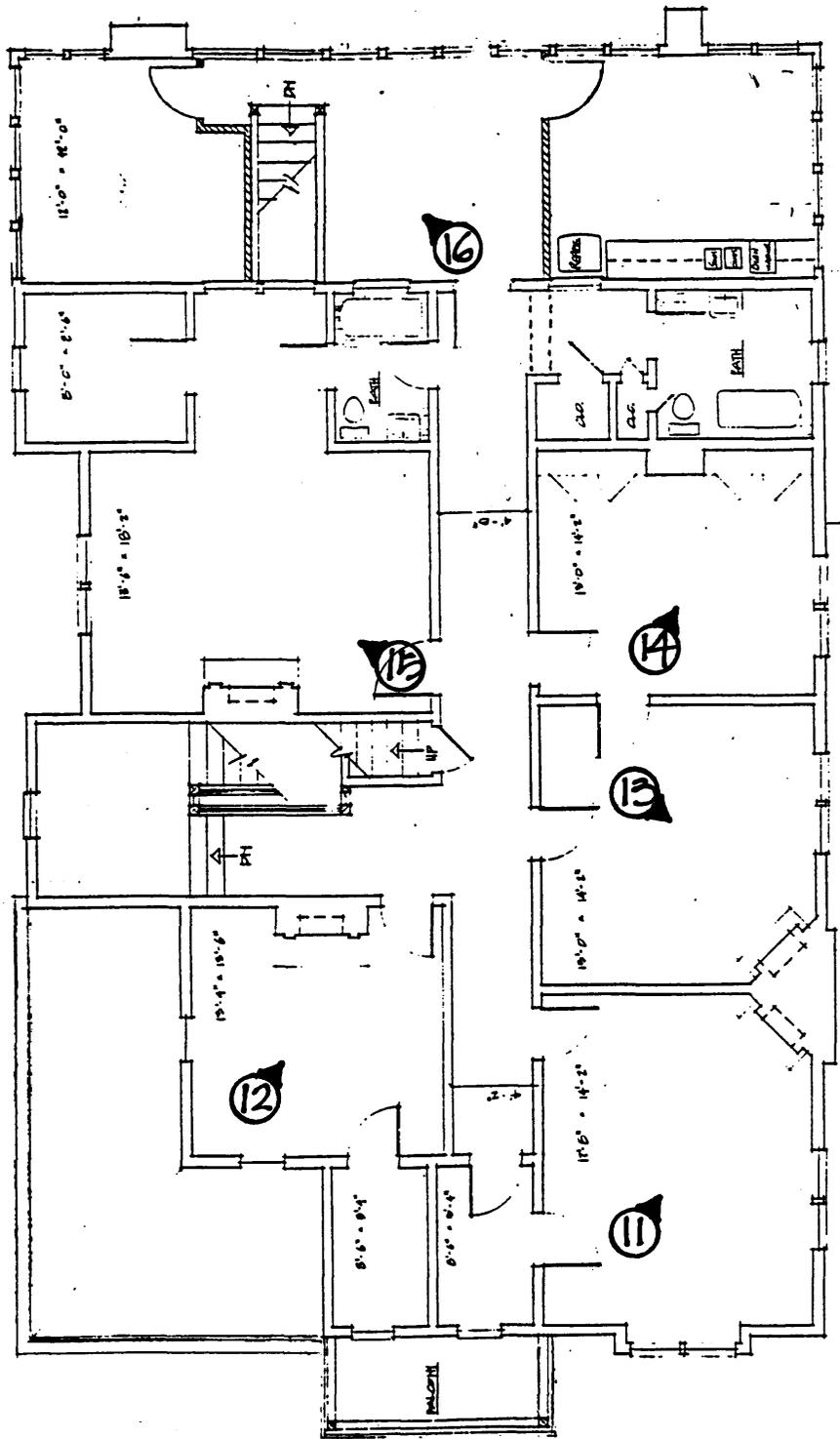
Newton House
Athens, Clarke County, Georgia

Second Floor Plan

Photograph Direction/Number: ①

Scale: Not to scale

North: ↑



Note:  - Denotes New Features
Can Be Removed AT
FUTURE DATE ...