| NPS Form 10-900<br>United States Department of the Interior<br>Mational Park Service | RECEIVED 2280 | 331<br>OMB No. 1024-0018 |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|
| NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTO   |               | FORM                     |

MATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 COLLEGE PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT other names/site number N/A

#### 2. Location

# street & number

Within the College Park city limits, either side of Main Street: Vesta Ave. on the north, Yale Ave. on the south, Madison Street on the east, Harris St. and Washington Road on the west.

city, town College Park county FULTON code GA 121 state Georgia code GA zip code 30337 (N/A) vicinity of

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

**Ownership of Property:** 

- (X) private
- (X) public-local
- () public-state
- (X) **public-federal**

**Category of Property** 

() building(s)

- (X) district
- () site
- () structure
- () **object**

Number of Resources within Property:

|            | Contributing | Noncontributing |     |
|------------|--------------|-----------------|-----|
| buildings  | 842          | :               | 328 |
| sites      | 5            |                 | 0   |
| structures | 1            |                 | 0   |
| objects    | 5            |                 | 6   |
| total      | 853          |                 | 334 |

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

# 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signa

Mark R. Edwards 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

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

Date

5 1996 NOV Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

# 6. Function or Use

# Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single family DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling COMMERCE/TRADE/business; specialty store; warehouse SOCIAL/meeting hall; clubhouse GOVERNMENT/post office EDUCATION/school RELIGION/religious facility; church-related residence FUNERARY/cemetery RECREATION and CULTURE/auditorium; playing field; outdoor recreation; monument/marker; work of art LANDSCAPE/park; plaza; TRANSPORTATION/rail-related

# Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single family DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling COMMERCE/TRADE/business; specialty store; warehouse; restaurant; professional; financial institution SOCIAL/meeting hall; clubhouse GOVERNMENT/post office; city hall; fire station; government office; EDUCATION/school; library; education-related RELIGION/religious facility; church-related residence FUNERARY/cemetery RECREATION and CULTURE/auditorium; playing field; outdoor recreation; monument/marker; work of art LANDSCAPE/park; plaza; street furniture/object TRANSPORTATION/rail-related

# 7. Description

# Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival; Classical Revival; Tudor Revival; Spanish Colonial Revival; LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Bungalow/Craftsman

# Materials:

| foundation | concrete, stone, brick     |
|------------|----------------------------|
| walls      | brick, wood, stone, stucco |
| roof       | asphalt, tile, metal       |
| other      | n/a                        |

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

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#### <u>Summary Description:</u>

The College Park Historic District comprises the historic core of the City of College Park. It includes the town's commercial center, city government complex, and the historical portions of the city's residential areas. There are a number of historic landscape features including two historic parks and several historic monuments. The district is bisected by the historic transportation corridor which includes the historic railroad depot. The district includes a number of community buildings: the College Park Woman's Clubhouse, the U. S. Post Office, three schools, the city auditorium, and several churches. Part of the College Park Cemetery is also included. The city's two commercial strips are included with their variety of one-and twostory, brick commercial buildings. The houses represent a myriad of architectural styles from the late 1890s through the 1940s, including: Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Craftsman, and several revival styles, including Dutch Colonial, Spanish Colonial, and Georgian. The houses are wood frame, brick, stucco, and stone, and various combinations thereof. Landscape features include those that remain from the Cox College site (now the city government complex) at the core of the city, and the results of the efforts of Mrs. Oscar Palmour whose landscape plans survive. These features include landscaped medians and community parks, and curbed streets with wide sidewalks that are bordered by oak and dogwood trees. Changes to the district are due to rapid growth and encroachments on the borders of the district, most prominently that of Hartsfield International Airport on the south side and the interstate highway system on the same side. Other boundaries are: on the west, Harris Drive, and Washington Road, adjacent to nonhistoric residential areas, the northern and northeastern boundary is Vesta Avenue, and on the east, Madison Street.

## **Overview:**

The College Park Historic District comprises the historic core, or approximately 25% of the current area of the City of College Park, population 20,465. This suburban town, planned around two educational institutions in the 1890s, is located eight miles south of Atlanta and adjoins the city of East Point on the north. It includes parts of land lots 159, 160, 161, and 162 in the 14th district of Fulton County. The district encompasses the town's commercial center, city government complex and the historical portion of the city's residential district. The district has several historic landscape features, an historic transportation corridor-including one historic railroad depot, two historic parks, several historic monuments, an historic post office, an historic woman's clubhouse, three historic schools, an historic

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auditorium, and several historic churches. The district is surrounded by and bordered by part of the College Park Cemetery, Hartsfield International Airport, and more recent commercial and residential development, some of which is within the city limits of College Park, but adjacent to the City of East Point.

# Plan Features:

Overall, the College Park Historic District embodies planning and development features which reflect the principles and concepts developed by the syndicate of businessmen who founded the town of College Park (originally known as Manchester) and specifically by Dr. Charles Cox who desired that the town possess an academic atmosphere. These ideas have guided the development of the historic district which includes a commercial center, governmental and residential centers, as well as planned streetscapes--all linked by commuter, vehicular and pedestrian transportation systems.

The transportation corridor, vital to the commercial district, runs north-south through the district. It consists of two tree-lined historic roadways, East Main Street and West Main Street, which are part of U.S. Highway 29, and are separated by landscaped medians, sidewalks and the other two components of the transportation corridor, the modern MARTA rapid transit line and the historic CSX railroad lines.

The commercial center is located on West Main Street in a northsouth direction for approximately three miles. It consists of a relatively small number of businesses built from the early 1900's to the early 1930's with a scattering of later development. Businesses include professional practices; hardware, feed, drug, grocery, clothing, furniture, and variety stores; and dry cleaning establishments. The commercial center bisects the residential section today as it did in the formative days of the city.

The city is laid out in a north/south, east/west grid. The College Park Historic District extends from Vesta Avenue on the north, to West Yale Avenue on the south, to Madison Street and the city cemetery on the east and Harris Drive and Washington Road on the west. The oldest and some of the largest houses in the district are clustered within a one mile radius along the railroad near Main Street. These houses, with Southern Military Academy (later known as Georgia Military Academy and now Woodward Academy) and Cox College as their nuclei, date from the 1890's. A second thrust of development occurred from 1905 to the late 1920's, with a third thrust from the 1930's to the mid 1940's.

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West of the commercial center, occupying most of the land in the district, is the larger of the two historic residential sections of the community. Single-family suburban homes on landscaped lots predominate in the area. The majority of the originally platted residential lots in this part of the city were developed by the early 1930's.

East of the commercial district is the older historic residential section. The City of Atlanta has acquired much of the original property, on the south and east, for airport expansion, however many large houses and bungalows remain. A large number of the properties are rental. Others have been restored and are in excellent condition. Several of these restored dwellings are occupied by family members of the original owners.

# Description of Architectural Features:

The two residential sections are laid out in a grid pattern. The majority of the lots are small (75' x 150') and rectangular. The houses have consistent setbacks and include small one-story cottages, large Victorian mansions, and a variety of middle-class houses of various styles: Craftsman, English Tudor, Dutch Colonial, Spanish Colonial Revival, Federal Revival, Colonial Revival, Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, High Victorian Eclectic, and rustic log cabins. The houses date from 1882 to 1946 and are wood frame, brick, stucco, and stone with combinations thereof.

The architectural classification of the commercial buildings is generally Italianate with brick and wood construction. These are set in linear clusters along West Main Street. These buildings are mostly one-story attached with several multiple story and free standing buildings.

There are a variety of community landmark buildings within the district representing different architectural styles. The College Park First United Methodist Church is historic and is a two-story, Greek Revival-style church in temple form built in the 1930s. The United States Post Office (1937) is a one-story, brick, Neo-Classical Revival building which includes its original lobby space, woodwork, doorways, and tile floor, and an original 1938 mural.

There are four historic schools: Longino Elementary, a one-story, brick, Colonial Revival-style building from the 1920s; Richardson Elementary School, a two-story, brick, Jacobethan Revival-style building started in 1914; S.R.Young School, a one-story, brick, Colonial Revival-style building c. 1927; and McClarin High School

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(formerly College Park High School) begun in 1942, completed in 1948, is brick and in the International Style.

The Atlanta and West Point Passenger Depot (1917) is a one-story, brick building with overhanging roof. The College Park Woman's Clubhouse (1921) is a one-story, brick, Colonial Revival-style building built to be a clubhouse. The City Auditorium (1941) was designed by Burge and Stevens in the Stripped Classical style and is still used for its original purpose. The Pure Oil Station on West Main St., now an antiques business, was built c. 1927 using that company's newly-created corporate motif of the English Cottage Style.

## Description of Landscape Features:

Historic landscape features in the College Park Historic District were formulated by Dr. Charles Cox, president of Cox College, in 1896. Many original plantings remain in the historic district and continue to be used as a guide for new and replacement planting. Mrs. Oscar Palmour continued Dr. Cox's tradition through the 1920's. The archives of the College Park Historical Society house several of her landscape plans. Planned landscape features are located throughout the community and tie directly to the street plan of the residential area. These include a series of landscaped medians, a one-block-long park-like expanse at the city government complex, and two large community parks edged by a series of large oak trees. The curbed streets have wide sidewalks and are bordered north/south by oak and white dogwood trees, and east/west by white and pink dogwood trees. Front yards throughout the district are landscaped with broad lawns, shade trees, shrubbery and flower gardens. Many properties in the district contain rock gardens and fish ponds. Stone and/or brick walls with ivy accents are prevalent.

The City Government Complex now occupies part of the former site of Cox College. On this land are the non-historic city hall, public library, and other buildings, the historic (1940) city auditorium and the McClarin High School (c.1942-1948). On the east sides or fronts of several of these buildings are three monuments. In front of city hall is the original marble cornerstone for Cox College with a sundial on top and two adjacent benches. It was dedicated in 1949. In front of the public library is a "Flame of Freedom" which originally had three benches around it. It was dedicated in 1969. In front of the City Auditorium is the monument to World War II veterans. This monument includes a pond and fountain. It was dedicated in 1948.

The College Park Woman's Club Monument, c. 1921, is on the east side of town across from the First Baptist Church at East Main St. It

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is a marble monument with a bronze plaque honoring those men who died in World War One and further inscriptions in honor of others who served from College Park. There are three marble benches and a landscaped setting.

The Woodward Academy Campus (formerly Georgia Military Academy) consists of a large city block on the east side of town. Due to major remodeling of the surviving "older" buildings and the large number of modern buildings, almost the entire campus within the city block is considered non-contributing. The entrance gate c. 1935 and several of its monuments on the entrance road are some of the few remaining historic features. Many other houses and buildings owned and used by the school and located elsewhere within the historic district are considered historic and contributing. The school retains and occupies the historic tract of land where the campus originated in the 1890s.

No formal archaeological investigation has been done within the district. The site of the original Cox College campus, part of which is now the city government complex, would be the most obvious area with archaeological potential.

The College Park Historic District remains the historic core of a viable city whose citizens continue to work and inhabit the large number of historic buildings located therein. The historic district is bordered on some areas by property, either modern industrial or cleared by the airport's intrusion into the city, that will never be historic; on some borders by parts of the City of East Point and which will be considered for National Register listing within that city; and mainly on the west by areas that are non-contributing and non-historic only due to age, and which will be analyzed for historic/contributing status when they, as a group, reach the appropriate age.

| 8. Statement of Significance   |
|--|
| Certifying official has considered the significance of this property<br>in relation to other properties: |
| () nationally () statewide (X) locally   |
| Applicable National Register Criteria:   |
| (X) <b>A</b> () <b>B</b> (X) <b>C</b> () <b>D</b>  |
| Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): (X) N/A  |
| ()A ()B ()C ()D ()E ()F ()G  |
| Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):  |
| Architecture<br>Community Planning and Development<br>Education  |
| Landscape Architecture.  |
| Period of Significance:  |
| 1891-1946  |
| Significant Dates:   |
| 1891, 1895, 1896   |
| Significant Person(s):   |
| N/A  |
| Cultural Affiliation:  |
| N/A  |
| Architect(s)/Builder(s):   |
| Burge and Stevens<br>Chase, William J. J.<br>Cox, William S.<br>Wilburn, Leila Ross                      |
|  |

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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 College Park Historic District represents the intact historic core of the community of College Park including its historic commercial and residential development, transportation corridor, planning and landscape features, and community landmark buildings.

The College Park Historic District is significant in <u>architecture</u> because it contains hundreds of good examples of historic residential properties that represent almost all of the major styles of architecture from the 1890s through the 1940s, including Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Craftsman, Georgian Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival, and Dutch Colonial Revival, among others. These houses retain most of their major features, workmanship and details.

The district also includes important historic community buildings including many brick commercial buildings. There are several churches along East and West Main Street, but only the College Park First United Methodist Church is historic and is a two-story, Greek Revivalstyle church in temple form built in the 1930s. The United States Post Office (1937) is a good example of a one-story, brick, Neo-Classical Revival-style building which includes its original lobby space, woodwork, doorways, and tile floor, and an especially important original 1938 mural by Jack McMillen.

There are three historic schools all of which are good, surviving examples of the early 20th-century educational building programs in Georgia: Longino Elementary, a one-story, brick, Colonial Revivalstyle building from the 1920s; Richardson Elementary School, a twostory, brick, Jacobethan Revival-style building started in 1914; and S.R.Young School, a one-story, brick, Colonial Revival-style building c. 1927, designed by William J. J. Chase, a noted school architect.

The Atlanta and West Point Passenger Depot (1917), a one-story, brick building with overhanging roof, is a good example of a functional building which retains its distinctive features that make it a noticeable railroad building. The College Park Woman's Clubhouse (1921) is a one-story, brick, Colonial Revival-style building built to be a clubhouse and which retains all of its original materials. The City Auditorium (1941) was designed by Burge and Stevens in the Stripped Classical style, and is an excellent example of that style and the work of that firm, one of Atlanta's continuing premier firms.

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The Pure Oil Station on West Main St., now an antiques business, was built c. 1927 using that company's newly created corporate motif of the English Cottage style. It is an important example of the use of corporate architectural designs to establish product recognition.

The district is significant in community planning and development because the city of College Park was a planned community which began as "Manchester" in 1890, when 900 acres of rural land along the railroad were purchased by a group of Atlanta businessmen who first envisioned an industrial city, thus the name. It was incorporated in 1891 as Manchester. Early on, the directors of the Manchester organizing company began negotiations for a college and a military school. In 1892, after it was announced that while Southern Female College (later Cox College) of LaGrange would not be moving to Manchester, the directors decided to start their own school, Southern Baptist Female College. With word that a college was coming in April, 1892, a contest was held to rename Manchester, and "College Park" was chosen that summer. The official renaming did not occur until 1895, by which time Dr. Charles Cox (1864-1905), had moved his institution from LaGrange into the Southern Baptist Female College Building, in the center of town, and renamed it Cox College. Dr. Cox, a dendrologist, then petitioned the city to rename the streets. Those east to west were named for colleges: Rugby, Cambridge, Yale, etc., while those north and south were named for famous people: Washington, Jefferson, Madison, etc. Still other streets were named for famous local men. Two residential areas developed, each associated with the two major schools in town. On the west side of the railroad, around the woman's school (Cox College, now gone), and around the men's school (now Woodward Academy) on the east side. Local development was planned on a grid pattern, which still survives, centered around the central transportation corridor which was first the railroad-the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, later including a trolley line and now the MARTA rapid transit line, as well as East and West Main Streets.

The district is significant in <u>education</u> because it became "College Park" due to the presence of Cox College and the influence of Dr. Charles Cox on the city's growth, street naming, and landscaping. While the college's main building is gone, the open space it occupied is still the center of town, containing the City Government Complex containing the non-historic city hall, library, and the historic city auditorium, among others, as well as a number of monuments. Georgia Military Academy (now Woodward Academy) was also a very important part of the city's educational heritage and still is a viable part of the city, although most of the historic campus buildings have been altered or replaced. Many of the city's oldest surviving historic houses were built for faculty members of the two schools.

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The district is also significant in <u>landscape architecture</u> because Dr. Charles Cox, founder of Cox College, was also a dendrologist and established a city-wide planting scheme that has been continued today. He set out the oaks and dogwoods that created the beautiful street settings. Mrs. Oscar Palmour (nee Mary Louise Crenshaw, 1881-1958), of College Park, who was president of the Garden Clubs of Georgia, and the College Park Garden Club did individual planting guides and drawings for private homes based on the work of Dr. Cox. A body of these records remain as proof of their efforts. As part of their efforts, two city parks, Barrett Park and Zupp Park, remain as public spaces. There is a significant landscaped park and monument in the College Park Woman's Club Monument, c.1921, on East Main St. It is within a landscaped setting and includes a marble monument and three benches.

# National Register Criteria

The College Park Historic District meets National Register Criterion A because the nomination includes resources from all elements and facets of a city's history, roughly its first fifty years, 1891-1946, and includes historic resources representing educational, governmental, religious, and personal aspects of the lives of the citizens. The district thus represents, for this one city, all aspects of the broad patterns of American history.

The district further meets criterion C, because it contains a large variety of historic resources reflecting good architectural examples of private homes designed in various major styles, such as Queen Anne, and Spanish Colonial Revival, as well as a large number of Craftsman/Bungalow dwellings. The three historic school buildings are good examples of those types of functional buildings. Many of the houses and the schools, as well as the churches, were designed by known architects whose works have been previously recognized, including Leila Ross Wilburn, Atlanta's only female architect for nearly fifty years, and William J.J. Chase, noted for his school designs. The large number of houses with their connected landscaping and tree-lined streets are, as a body, a major statement to the results of planned town and civic development as reflected in the efforts of Dr. Charles Cox and Mrs. Oscar Palmour, who worked toward first the establishment of the town plan and its plantings, and later toward private residential plantings and landscaping.

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## Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

## **Period** of significance (justification)

The period runs from the incorporation of the town of Manchester in 1891, through the re-incorporation as College Park (in 1895) and official renaming of the city as College Park (1896), until to the end of the historic period, 1946.

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

Contributing: TOTAL 853

Buildings: 842

Sites: 5 --This includes two historic public parks, the open space/public space around the City Government Complex which was the site of Cox College, the City Cemetery, and the Parade Ground at Woodward Academy.

Structures: 1--This is the Entrance Archway to Woodward Academy.

Objects: 5--This includes the Woman's Club World War One Monument (c.1921); the Cox College Cornerstone Monument at City Hall (c. 1940); and three at Woodward Academy: those honoring World War One veterans, the 1924 stone with cannon monument, and the 1928 monument also with cannons.

Non-contributing: TOTAL: 334 These are properties which are either totally non-historic or intrusive, or those that are not yet fifty years old.

Buildings: 328

Sites: none.

Structures: none.

Objects: 6--This includes 4 at Woodward Academy: the statue of Robert W. Woodruff; the Korean War Veterans (Post 1961) Monument; a 1984 monument; and the World War II Veterans Monument; as well as two on the City Government Complex grounds: the World War II Veterans Monument (c.1948) and The Flame of Freedom (c. 1969).

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Parking Lots and vacant properties are not counted at all in this nomination.

# Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

NOTE: The following historical narrative, prepared by the College Park Historic Neighborhood Association, has been edited to conform to National Register standards and wording, but is otherwise as presented. While arranged by areas of significance, it is, in essence, the overview historical narrative of the City of College Park. Some additional facts have been added or clarified.

## Summary Overview:

The College Park Historic District, developed between 1891 and 1946, is one of the few documented examples of a Georgia town planned around academic institutions. The district comprises and encompasses the most intact historically developed portion of the planned community and includes representations of significant historic design characteristics. Its distinctly planned commercial and residential zones are separated, yet linked, by the central transportation corridor. Historic recreational facilities are planned into the community with a vehicular and pedestrian circulation system for both the commercial and residential zones. Both the circulation system and recreational facilities have distinctive period landscape treatments throughout the community.

The College Park Historic District contains excellent intact examples of late 19th century and early to mid 20th century residential and commercial architecture. Represented are small onestory cottages, large Victorian-era mansions, and houses built in the Craftsman, English Tudor, Dutch Colonial, Spanish Colonial Revival, Federal Revival, Colonial Revival, and Queen Anne styles, or which exemplify the High Victorian Eclectic type of house.

Each historic feature is a singular, yet integral part of the larger plan. The historic district provides an eclectic setting in which the architecture and landscape compliment each other while continuing to maintain the planning principles and concepts developed by the "founding Fathers" who sought to establish a town with an academic atmosphere. Significant to the district is the community stability as evidenced by many descendants of original owners occupying family homes and other descendants residing in the district. A large portion of the current community is involved in academia, the arts, and the professions. Historic significance in the areas of community planning and development, landscape architecture, and

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architecture supports National Register eligibility in terms of National Register Criteria for Evaluation "A" and "C".

## Community Planning and Development:

In 1821, five counties were created by the Georgia General Assembly from the Creek Indian cession and were divided into land districts. This considerable body of land which had been neutral ground between the Creek and Cherokee Indians was sparsely occupied. The Georgia General Assembly of 1822 created DeKalb County out of one of the original five counties. DeKalb County included the future locations of College Park, and the contiguous cities of Atlanta, East Point and Hapeville. Fulton County, created in 1853 out of DeKalb, now includes these cities.

The first mentioned land owner in the College Park area was Alexander Ratteree who settled in the 1830's and who has descendants continuing to reside in the Historic District today. In 1855, there were only two houses in what is now College Park. These homes were owned by Alexander Ratteree and W. N. McConnell, who were listed in a Georgia gazetteer as farmers. In the 1860's, Confederate fortification lines for the defense of Atlanta ran through what was to become the Southern Military Academy (now Woodward Academy) Campus. The number of homes in the College Park community, then known as Atlantic City, had increased to five.

Before 1890, the Atlanta and West Point Railroad line had been laid through this area.

On June 15, 1890, the Atlanta Constitution announced the birth of the suburban town that would eventually became College Park. The article described the purchase of 900 acres of land on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, one half mile south of East Point and extending nearly three miles along the rail line. The Atlanta syndicate of businessmen who purchased the land named it Manchester, hoping it would become an industrial city, like its English namesake. On October 5, 1891, the City of Manchester was chartered and incorporated by the Georgia General Assembly and included land lots 159, 160, 161, and 162 in the 14th district of Fulton County. The Act of Incorporation stated that the government of the town should be vested in a mayor and four councilmen. This arrangement continues today in the government of College Park. While the Manchester Company had negotiated to have Dr. Charles Cox move his Southern Female College from LaGrange to Manchester, negotiations fell through and were cancelled when LaGrange convinced Dr. Cox to stay. Since Manchester was booming with anticipation that a college would be built there, the directors of the

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company decided to create their own college. By April 21, 1892, the directors announced that they would create their own college, Southern Baptist Female College. Shortly thereafter, Mr. L. W. Stanton received a grant of 25 acres and \$5500 from the Manchester Land Company to build Southern Baptist Female College. The design by F. L. Rosseau, a noted architect of Birmingham, Alabama, was similar to ones he had designed for two female colleges in Alabama. Rosseau later lived in College Park. The 200-room building was the largest educational institutional building in the South. Dr. Robert Crenshaw of College Park founded in Atlanta, during this time period, the Atlanta Dental School which ultimately became Emory University School of Dentistry.

Manchester became a United States Post Office on January 4, 1893, with David U. Sloan as first postmaster. The first church organized in 1894 by Reverend J. W. G. Watkins was the First Methodist Church. The church's congregation continues as an active participant in the religious life of historic College Park today as College Park First United Methodist Church, a historic building. Descendants of Reverend Watkins occupy his home on East Rugby Avenue.

In May, 1895, the <u>Southern Cultivator and Industrial Journal</u> printed the following: "In less than three years, Manchester is already an educational center and an ideal place of residence. Probably the most attractive feature of the place is the Southern Baptist College for Girls. Rev. J. B. Hawthorne is President, and Mr. L. Stanton, Business Manager. A military college has been completed, but as yet not open." George C. Looney, co-President of the Southern Baptist College, and Dr. J. B. Hawthorne established Southern Military Academy.

Finally, in 1895, the Southern Baptist Female College, which had hit hard times, was transferred to Dr. Charles Cox and the school's name changed to Cox College. Dr. Cox, with whom the Manchester company had negotiated in 1892, was finally ready to leave LaGrange and move to Manchester, soon to be College Park. Dr. Cox, and his father before him, had been president of the Southern Female College, in La Grange. With Dr. Cox decision to move the institution to Manchester, the college split, with part remaining in LaGrange and part being moved to College Park. The institution which remained in LaGrange retained the name Southern Female College and lasted until 1917-1918 under other ownership and management. The part which Dr. Cox brought to College Park was thereafter known as Cox Female College or plainly Cox College. Dr. Cox moved his school into the Southern Baptist College Building had been completed by this time. Dr. Cox brought with him some 8,000 museum specimens, 5,000 books, laboratory equipment and 45 pianos to the future College Park. Cox College became a center for literary programs, concerts, operas, and May Day festivities. Cox

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College had departments of music, painting, and elocution, and offered a Bachelor of Arts degree, and in 1900 had 200 students.

From May through July, 1892, a contest was held via the Atlanta newspapers to rename Manchester, population 100, with the prize being a choice lot in the city. About 8,000 names were submitted and the lot was deeded to Mrs. Mary Malinda Gordon Roper, of LaGrange, a first cousin of Dr. Cox, and the only sister of General John B. Gordon (1832-1904), former Georgia governor and United States Senator from Georgia. Mrs. Roper's letter, which was published in the <u>Atlanta</u> <u>Constitution</u> on June 24, 1892, was dated May 16, LaGrange, Georgia:

"I would like to suggest what I consider a beautiful, appropriate and suggestive name for your promising town. None of the names so far seem to me to be sufficiently suggestive. "Attica", though a pretty name, means nothing to the average ear. You need a name that will be suggestive to every one of colleges and culture and at the same time of green trees, flowers and fresh air. From this standpoint the name I wish to suggest seems to me to be an ideal one--College Park."

With the new name being chosen in 1892, it was still several years before the town's name was officially changed. The Georgia General Assembly passed a law changing the name of Manchester to College Park which was approved on December 16, 1895. On January 29, 1896, the city was officially proclaimed "College Park" to reflect the educational facilities and fine residences.

The same year, Dr. Charles Cox asked the mayor and the city council for the privilege of renaming the streets. Avenues laid out east to west were named for famous colleges: Rugby, Mercer, Cambridge, Yale, Harvard, Oxford, Princeton, et cetera. The streets which ran north to south were named for famous men: Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, Lee, Napoleon, et cetera. Other streets were named for outstanding local men: J. Matt Walker, first Mayor of College Park; J. B. Hawthorne, President of Southern Baptist College; I. C. McCrory, owner of one of the first general stores; Eugene Blalock, President of the New Manchester Land Company; and David U. Sloan, first Postmaster.

In 1897, Southern Military Academy, which had struggled for survival, was closed after two years and sold. Some residents of the community persuaded Colonel J. C. Woodward (1866-1939) former president of the Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, to open the Georgia Military Academy on the site in 1900. It became a boy's preparatory military school. Today, known as Woodward Academy, it is the largest private school (in terms of enrollment) in the continental United States and one of the most highly regarded. Many Georgia

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Military Academy graduates, such as Robert W. Woodruff of the Coca-Cola Company, have made important contributions to business and the larger Atlanta community. Other graduates have become generals, admirals, national political figures, congressmen, senators, successful businessmen, and professional practitioners.

In 1902, the Georgia Railway and Electric Company made extensions from Atlanta to supply needed trolley service to the suburbs and outlying areas, including College Park, population 517. In 1908, John Temple Graves (1856-1925), a College Park resident, ran for Vice President of the United States. He had served as editor of the <u>Atlanta Georgian</u> and the <u>New York American</u>. Mrs. Oscar Palmour (1881-1958), nee Mary Louise Crenshaw, organized the first metropolitan Atlanta garden club in College Park during 1909. She later went on to become the president of the Garden Clubs of Georgia and chairman of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. For her work with garden clubs, she had an exhibition chrysanthemum named for her in 1954, the "Mary Palmour".

In 1913, the <u>College Park Herald</u> was first printed. This monthly newspaper began as a small church bulletin of the College Park Presbyterian Church and evolved into a fully developed town newspaper. In 1914, the <u>College Park Herald</u> combined with the <u>East Point News</u> to form the <u>South Fulton News Herald</u>. Prior to the purchase of the first fire engine in 1915, a bucket brigade of volunteer firemen answered fire calls.

A new brick and stone railroad depot was built on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad at West Main Street and Harvard Avenue in 1917. This depot, in good condition today, continues in service. S. R. Young and C. A. Wickersham, residents of College Park, served as presidents of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, whose trains ran along the rail line in the middle of town.

The City of College Park's involvement in World War One was marked in 1921 by the erection by the College Park Woman's Club of a marble monument at East Main Street and Hawthorne Avenue. It honors all who served from College Park as well as those who died. Another monument honoring World War One involvement is on the Woodward Academy Campus.

Air transportation has been and remains an important part of College Park since the city adjoins Hartsfield International Airport, one of the two largest airports in the United States. This airport, originally known as Candler Field and the Atlanta Municipal Airport, was established in 1922. That same year, the Woman's Club, which began as the College Park Literature Group, erected a brick and columned building at West Main Street and West Rugby Avenue on property donated by A. Woods White, a College Park resident who founded the Bank of

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Georgia. The club remains active today. During the 1925 holiday season College Park, population 3,622, hosted the first large outdoor electrically lighted Christmas display in the Atlanta area.

A new Post Office building was built at the present location on West Main Street in 1937. Within the post office a mural was placed in 1938 featuring the arrival of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad to what is now College Park around 1890. It was painted by Jack McMillen and is one of only a few dozen that survive in Georgia. The supervising architect for the post office was Louis A. Simon. The first trackless trolley service was established June 27, 1937 on the East Point-College Park line.

Cox College continued as a viable institution after the death of Dr. Charles C. Cox in 1905. His brother, William S. Cox (1862-1930s), assumed control of the college and remained so until it closed in the 1930s. William S. Cox had been the supervising architect for the completion of the Cox College main building in 1895 and for other campus buildings. The Cox College property remained in the family until 1940, when the last family member to own it sold it jointly to the city and county. The college buildings were then torn down. The marble cornerstone of the school's main building rests today, with a sundial on top, in front of the modern city hall as a monument to the college. It was unveiled in 1949.

In 1940, the City of College Park, population 8,213, and the Fulton County Board of Education purchased the Cox College campus including the existing buildings. The buildings were demolished and replaced by a twenty-eight-acre Community Center Complex. Also, in 1940 the first six firemen were hired on a permanent basis. The City Auditorium was built in 1941 on the college site. In this building, designed by the noted Atlanta firm of Burge and Stevens, the city continues to host civic and cultural events. In front of the auditorium is a monument to the city's World War II veterans. It was dedicated in 1948.

Among the city's many community organizations were the College Park Woman's Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, Masonic Orders, Eastern Star, Lion's Club, Rotary Club, Boy and Girl Scout Troops, and Campfire Girls. Georgia College Presidents often gathered at Georgia Military Academy for their annual meeting. Visitors to the area have included Presidents Calvin Coolidge and Franklin Roosevelt, Charles Lindbergh, as well as many national and foreign dignitaries who enrolled sons in Georgia Military Academy.

Landscape Architecture:

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Historic landscape features in the College Park Historic District were developed by Dr. Charles Carson Cox (1864-1905), a dendrologist, in 1896. The city government has diligently maintained the planned character and appearance of the community through a combination of public works programs and land use regulations. Many of the original plantings remain in the historic district--some marked with plaques denoting species and date. Dr. Cox's ideas continue to be used as a guide for new and replacement planting.

The original plantings which include canopied oaks and flowering dogwoods are intermixed along the wide, curbed streets in a distinctive pattern. Mrs. Oscar Palmour (1881-1958) and the College Park Garden Club, originally known as the Chrysanthemum Club, did individual planting guides and drawings for private homes based on the previous work of Dr. Cox and the influence of Frederick Law Olmsted.

The linear park along West Main Street which connects the city government complex: city hall, library, city auditorium and McClarin High School, features large oak and magnolia trees which soften the brick and concrete construction. This park-like area enhances the aesthetics of the city and provides a location for the Fall Festival, Little League celebrations and other community gatherings.

Barrett Park, which adjoins Longino School, contains modern lighted tennis courts, playground equipment, a field used for Little League and soccer, and picnic spots. Oak, maple, dogwood and pine trees outline its open area. Neighborhood and community groups utilize the park for athletic, recreational and social activities.

Zupp Park, on Adams Street in the southeastern portion of the historic district and formerly named Peter Pan Park, is landscaped with oak, magnolia and dogwood trees. The park which adjoins S. R. Young School has ball fields, picnic shelters and playground equipment. Zupp Park is consistent with the overall design of the Barrett Park on West Rugby Avenue in the western area of the district.

Along the three miles of East and West Main Streets, Bradford pears, poplars, forsythias, evergreens and a variety of low-growing and flowering shrubs provide an ornamental and sound buffer between the rail lines and the roadways. Brick-edged sidewalks, period lighting and park benches with appropriate evergreen and flowering plantings line the streets in the commercial district.

Historic front yard landscaping, consisting of broad expanses of lawn and informal arrangement of oaks and ornamental trees, shrubbery and flower gardens, is found throughout the district. This correlates to the original ideas of Dr. Cox and Mrs. Palmour. National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## Architecture:

As quoted in the <u>Atlanta Journal</u> in 1897: "The social life of the town is its especial charm. Everybody belongs to the four hundred, nobody is a "purse-proud plutocrat", and nobody is the victim of "dire poverty." No invidious social distinctions are drawn, and none will be, as long as the present high personnel of the community continues, with every man a gentleman and every woman a lady." This view is reflected in the variety of architectural types and sizes of the homes.

In terms of historic architecture, the College Park Historic District is significant for its intact representative examples of late-19th century and early-to-mid 20th century building styles in commercial, residential, civic, religious, and educational structures. Many builders and architects worked in College Park, including William S. Cox, an 1886 graduate of Cornell University School of Architecture who designed large Victorian-era mansions, and William E. Moreland, who designed and built a strip of commercial buildings between West Rugby Avenue and West Mercer Avenue, as well as individual residences. Other architects and builders included Leila Ross Wilburn, William O. Alexander, James O. Carter, William B. Corley, Cornelius Gates, Cornelius Gibbs, Louis Warlick, and William Hubbard. Many designs were taken from numerous architectural pattern books of the period.

Building materials were purchased from local College Park lumber and supply companies. Wood, stone, brick, stucco and combinations of the same are found on the exterior construction. Interior trim is generally oak with oak and heart of pine flooring. Walls are of lath and plaster. Most homes have basements which housed coal burning furnaces and laundry facilities. Fireplaces, many of which are also coal burning, are common. Local craftsmen and carpenters did the majority of the fabrication on the commercial and residential properties.

Late Victorian houses with their large porches, gabled roofs and turrets predate most of the district's homes. Architectural styles were used in the design of a range of houses from small one-story cottages, to large Victorian mansions. The most prevalent styles were Craftsman, English Tudor, Dutch Colonial, Spanish Colonial Revival, Federal Revival, Colonial Revival, and Queen Anne. True eclecticism is evident throughout the residential section.

The community landmark buildings also reflect various styles. The First Methodist Church (now College Park First United Methodist

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Church) is an example of Greek Revival style with its temple form. The commercial buildings are of the Italianate type and other with brick/wood construction.

Three of four schools, all named for College Park Board of Education members, built by the early 1920's remain: George F. Longino School, Alonzo Richardson High School (by 1914) and Samuel R. Young School (c. 1927). Longino School on West Mercer Avenue is in renovation for use by the current owner, Woodward Academy. Richardson School on Temple Avenue, built by 1914, is used as a nursing home. Young School, built c. 1927 and designed by William J. J. Chase, and currently vacant, is the property of the City of College Park. Woodward Academy owns three historic structures on East Rugby Avenuethe Alumni Building also known as the Lyle House, The Oaks (1939) which is the president's home, and the Willingham House. The arched entryway gate (c.1935) to the Academy and several monuments are historic also. Several of the monuments commemorate cadets who served in 20th century wars: World Wars One and Two, Korea and Vietnam.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () previously listed in the National Register

(X) previously determined eligible by the National Register U.S.Post Office

- () designated a National Historic Landmark
- () recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

() recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

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Primary location of additional data: (X) State historic preservation office ( ) Other State Agency ( ) Federal agency ( ) Local government ( ) University (X) Other, Specify Repository: College Park Historical Society collection, College Park, GA
Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): Acreage of Property approx. 605 acres.

# UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 734470 Northing 3728200

- B) Z16 E737800 N3728270
- C) Z16 E737800 N3726300
- D) Z16 E734520 N3726230

## Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated/proposed boundary encompasses all the contiguous historic resources within the city limits of College Park. The boundary is marked on the accompanying map based on the city tax maps. Where the boundary of the district is a street, the boundary is determined to go to the edge of the pavement and include the front yards, sidewalks and curbs. National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## Boundary Justification

The nominated property, as mentioned above, is the intact historic core within the city limits of the City of College Park, and is bordered by non-historic or intrusive areas outside the boundaries.

The boundary of the College Park Historic District circumscribes the historic core of the planned community and constitutes approximately 25% of the city. The boundary is drawn to scale by a heavy black line on the enclosed map. Within the boundary lies the most intact portion of College Park as it developed from 1891 to 1946 and all existing representations of the historically significant planning, landscaping, and architectural features. These historic features mesh to form interrelationships which create the historic character, appearance, and ambience of College Park. The district is bounded by the College Park Cemetery on the east, Hartsfield International Airport and the interstate highway on the east and southeast, and more recent commercial and residential development on the west and southwest. On the north, is the city limits which adjoins East Point city limits and other industrial intrusions.

The eastern boundary along Madison Street, the northern boundary at Vesta Avenue, the western boundary of Washington Road, and the southern boundary along West Yale Avenue were selected because they were original or current city limits. None of the historic district extends beyond the current city limits of College Park.

#### 11. Form Prepared By

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organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of
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street & number 57 Forsyth St., N.W., Suite 500
city or town Atlanta state Georgia zip code 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 date October 15, 1996

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

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Photographs

Name of Property:College Park Historic DistrictCity or Vicinity:College ParkCounty:FultonState:GeorgiaPhotographer:James R. LockhartNegative Filed:Georgia Department of Natural ResourcesDate Photographed:August, 1996

#### Description of Photograph(s):

The photographs are organized and marked on the accompanying tax maps starting on the west side, beginning at the south end of the district.

The west side of the district is covered by photographs numbered 1 through 39. They run from the southeastern portion of the west side of town and end up at the northwestern side.

1 of 71: Southern end of West Main St.; photographer facing northwest.

2 of 71: West Main St. at Columbia; photographer facing northwest.

3 of 71: Railroad depot and down Harvard Ave.; photographer facing west.

4 of 71: West Main St. at Harvard Ave.; photographer facing southwest.

5 of 71: Former service station; photographer facing west.

6 of 71: College St. at Harvard Ave; photographer facing southwest.

7 of 71: City Auditorium (1941); photographer facing northwest.

8 of 71: McClarin High School; photographer facing northwest.

9 of 71: Palmour House; photographer facing west.

10 of 71: John Calvin Ave. at College St.; photographer facing northwest.

11 of 71: Hemphill St.; photographer facing northwest.

12 of 71: Virginia Ave.; photographer facing southwest.

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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# Photographs

| 13 of 71: Hemphill St. at Cambridge Ave.; photographer facing south.  |  |
|---|--|
| 14 of 71: Cambridge Ave.; photographer facing northwest.  |  |
| 15 of 71: Church on Cambridge Ave.; photographer facing southwest.  |  |
| 16 of 71: 2086 Rugby Ave. House/Block; photographer facing southwest.   |  |
| 17 of 71: Barrett Park; photographer facing northeast.  |  |
| 18 of 71: Rugby Ave.; photographer facing southwest.  |  |
| 19 of 71: College St. and Rugby Ave.; photographer facing southwest.  |  |
| 20 of 71: Hemphill St. and Rugby Ave.; photographer facing southwest.   |  |
| 21 of 71: Rugby Ave. and White St.; photographer facing northwest.  |  |
| 22 of 71: Commercial strip on West Main St.; photographer facing northwest.   |  |
| 23 of 71: College Park Woman's Clubhouse; photographer facing southwest.  |  |
| 24 of 71: Walker Ave. at Reed St.; photographer facing southwest.   |  |
| 25 of 71: Walker Ave.; photographer facing southwest.   |  |
| 26 of 71: Walker Ave. at Conley St.; photographer facing southwest.   |  |
| 27 of 71: Longino Elementary School; photographer facing east.  |  |
| 28 of 71: Mercer Ave.; photographer facing northeast.   |  |
|   |  |
| 29 of 71: Mercer Ave.; photographer facing northwest.   |  |
| 29 of 71: Mercer Ave.; photographer facing northwest.<br>30 of 71: College St. at Mercer Ave.; photographer facing south. |  |
|   |  |
| 30 of 71: College St. at Mercer Ave.; photographer facing south.  |  |
| 30 of 71: College St. at Mercer Ave.; photographer facing south.<br>31 of 71: Mercer Ave.; photographer facing southwest. |  |

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Photographs

35 of 71: Lyle Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 36 of 71: Vesta Ave. at Lowe St.; photographer facing southwest. 37 of 71: Lyle Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 38 of 71: Lyle Ave. at Victoria St.; photographer facing southwest. 39 of 71: Lyle Ave. ; photographer facing northeast. Photographs 40 through 71 cover the east side of the district, starting at the south end of the east side of town. They end at the northeast corner of the district. 40 of 71: College Park First United Methodist Church on East Main St. ; photographer facing northeast. 41 of 71: Princeton Ave. at Washington St. ; photographer facing south. 42 of 71: Richardson School; photographer facing northwest. 43 of 71: Temple Ave. at Lee St.; photographer facing northeast. 44 of 71: Temple Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 45 of 71: S.R.Young School; photographer facing northeast. 46 of 71: Temple Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 47 of 71: College Park Cemetery; photographer facing northwest. 48 of 71: College Park Cemetery, entrance gates; photographer facing southwest. 49 of 71: Hawthorne Ave.; photographer facing southeast. 50 of 71: 1694 Hawthorne Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 51 of 71: Hawthorne Ave. at Lee St.; photographer facing northwest. 52 of 71: First Baptist Church; photographer facing southeast. 53 of 71: College Park Woman's Club Marker, WWI Veterans; photographer facing south.

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#### Photographs

54 of 71: East Main St. at John Calvin; photographer facing southwest. 55 of 71: John Calvin Ave. at Jackson St.; photographer facing northwest. 56 of 71: Virginia Ave. at Lee St.; photographer facing northeast. 57 of 71: St. John's Episcopal Church; photographer facing northeast. 58 of 71: Hardin Ave. at Lee St.; photographer facing northwest. 59 of 71: Hardin Ave.; photographer facing north. 60 of 71: Cambridge Ave. at Madison St.; photographer facing southwest. 61 of 71: Cambridge Ave.; photographer facing southwest. 62 of 71: East Main St. at Rugby Ave.; photographer facing northeast. 63 of 71: Rugby Ave. at Lee St. (Alumni House); photographer facing northwest. 64 of 71: Rugby Ave. at Jackson St., Entrance Gates to Woodward Academy (Georgia Military Academy); photographer facing east. 65 of 71: Walker Ave. at Myrtle St.; photographer facing west. 66 of 71: Mercer Ave. at Madison St.; photographer facing northwest. 67 of 71: Mercer Ave. at Adams St.; photographer facing northeast. 68 of 71: Mercer Ave., near E. Main St.; photographer facing southeast. 69 of 71: Church on Myrtle Lane; photographer facing southwest. 70 of 71: Madison St.; photographer facing northwest. 71 of 71: Dogwood St.; photographer facing northwest.

