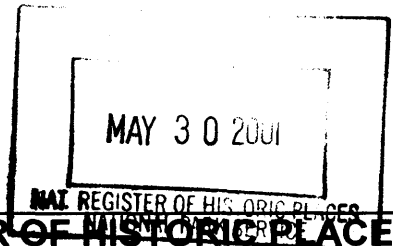


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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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 Collins Avenue Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Collins Avenue
city, town Acworth (N/A) vicinity of
county Cobb code GA 067
state Georgia code GA zip code 30101
(N/A) not for publication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	8	3
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	8	3

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 Claws
Signature of certifying official

5-3-01
Date

for W. Ray Luce, Division Director and
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

Elson H. Beall 7-5-01

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

[Signature]
Keeper of the National Register

Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman
OTHER: Folk Victorian

Materials:

foundation	BRICK
walls	WOOD/weatherboard SYNTHETICS/vinyl
roof	ASPHALT
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Collins Avenue Historic District is located in the small city of Acworth in the northwest portion of Cobb County, Georgia. The district includes the portion of Collins Avenue south of Main Street and the railroad and north of West Lakeshore Drive. The Collins Avenue Historic District consists of historic residences located along a roughly north-south residential street, Collins Avenue. The street has been isolated from a larger neighborhood due to the construction of Georgia State Route 92 to the west, a large parking lot to the southeast, nonhistoric development along North Main Street to the north, and nonhistoric development to the south along West Lakeshore Drive.

The Collins Avenue Historic District is comprised of historic one- to two-story, frame houses. The oldest residence within the district is the Collins House, located at the far southern end of Collins Avenue, constructed c.1840 and formerly associated with a 200- to 300-acre farm. Following the incorporation of Acworth in 1860, the district area was subdivided and developed as a residential neighborhood.

The Collins Avenue Historic District experienced two periods of development after it was subdivided. The first period, c.1879 to c.1906, is represented by popular suburban architectural types including the New South house, New South cottage, and Queen Anne cottage with Folk Victorian-style features. All but one of the residences built during this period are located towards the southern end of Collins Avenue (near the intersection with West Lakeshore Drive). The residences are located

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Section 7--Description

near the road and feature large mature trees and foundation plantings. The McMillan House, built c.1897, is located towards the northern end of Collins Avenue and was moved to that location in the early 1980s. Historically, the house was located near the southern end of Collins Avenue. The second period, during 1928, is primarily represented by the bungalow architectural type with Craftsman-style features. The residences built during this period are located toward the middle and northern end of Collins Avenue. The residences are set back from the road and feature large hardwood trees, foundation plantings, and flowerbeds.

Constructed c.1840, the Collins House (4591 Collins Avenue) was the first house built in the district and was part of a 200- to 300-acre farm (photographs 11 and 12). The frame, central hall-type house features a side gable roof, two exterior end chimneys, cornice with cornice returns, corner boards, sidelights, and six-over-six double-hung windows. The shed-roof porch features chamfered square posts with scrollwork and a decorative balustrade. The house was later enlarged with additions to the rear.

The McMillan House, located at 4671 Collins Avenue, was constructed c.1879 for James Wilson McMillan who operated the McMillan Brothers mercantile store in Acworth (photograph 1). The frame, two-story New South-type house with Folk Victorian elements features a projecting one-story bay with first floor bay window, front doorway with transom, one-over-one double-hung windows, and cornice with cornice returns. The house also features a one-story wrap porch with chamfered square posts and a small porch on the second floor with scrollwork, chamfered square posts and balustrade. The house was moved from its original location just south of the house at 5069 North Main Street to its present location in the early 1980s. Owned by the Acworth Baptist Church for a number of years and used for church functions, the house was slated for demolition by the church for a parking lot. The house was moved to its present location and rehabilitated.

The D. H. Collins House, located at 4624 Collins Avenue, was constructed c.1892 for another member of the extended Collins family (photographs 9 and 10). The frame, one-story Queen Anne cottage-type house features Folk Victorian details including a wrap porch with chamfered square posts and scrollwork, turned balustrade, and wide cornice. Changes to the house include a later front shed dormer and an addition to the rear.

Located at 4623 Collins Avenue, the McCall House is a New South cottage with Folk Victorian details and was constructed c.1906 (photograph 6). The house features a wrap porch with columns, cornice, window and door surrounds, hip roof with multiple gables, and two interior chimneys.

The remaining four historic, contributing houses in the district were constructed in 1928 on land owned by the nearby Unique Knitting Company for employees of the company. The Kienel House, located at 4652 Collins Avenue, was constructed in 1928 for Frederick J. Kienel, secretary and general manager of the Unique Knitting Company (photograph 3). The Craftsman-style bungalow

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was designed by combining two plans, numbers 354 and 355, from Atlanta-based architect Leila Ross Wilburn's pattern book Ideal Homes of Today. The one-and-a-half-story side-gable bungalow features a recessed corner porch with square post, a shed-roof front stoop with curved supports, exposed rafter ends, an interior chimney, and wide eaves. The house also features Craftsman-style windows, door, and sidelights.

Located at 4662 Collins Avenue, the Loudon House was constructed in 1928 for George Loudon, department head for Unique Knitting Company (photograph 2). Similar to the Kienel House, this house was also designed by combining plans numbered 354 and 355 from Leila Ross Wilburn's Ideal Homes of Today. The one-and-a-half-story side-gable bungalow features a recessed corner porch with square posts, a shed-roof front stoop with curved supports and square posts, exposed rafter ends, and wide eaves. The house also features Craftsman-style windows, door, and sidelights.

The Wendhotz House, located at 4640 Collins Avenue, was constructed in 1928 for Mike Wendhotz, vice president of the Unique Knitting Company (photograph 4, note photograph is from the rear of the property). The one-and-a-half-story, Craftsman-style bungalow features a wrap porch with square posts, exposed rafter ends, wide eaves, and Craftsman-style windows. The rear porch and addition appear to have been later alterations.

Also constructed in 1928 for a member of the Unique Knitting Company, the Craftsman-style bungalow located at 5069 North Main Street has had several nonhistoric alterations but retains its overall bungalow form and Craftsman details (photograph 5). The one-and-a-half story bungalow features wide eaves and Craftsman-style windows. Nonhistoric alterations include the porte cochere, enclosing the front porch, vinyl siding, and a nonhistoric entrance from the porte cochere.

The two noncontributing houses are located at 4611 (photograph 7) and 4588 (c.1960) Collins Avenue. Both were constructed after the period of significance.

The landscaping in the district is informal with mature trees, shrubs, and foundation plantings. Collins Avenue is a narrow, residential street without curbing.

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
OTHER: Women's History

Period of Significance:

c.1840-1928

Significant Dates:

c.1840 – construction of the Collins House

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Wilburn, Leila Ross - architect

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

Located south of Main Street and the railroad in Acworth, the Collins Avenue Historic District is a district consisting of several intact, historic residences along the northern portion of Collins Avenue.

The Collins Avenue Historic District is significant in the area of architecture for its good examples of residential resources built from the mid-19th to the early 20th century. The district contains examples of common house types and styles constructed in Georgia during the mid-19th through early 20th

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

centuries as identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings. The significant types represented within the district include central-hall, Queen Anne cottage, New South cottage, New South house, and bungalow. The significant styles represented within the district include Folk Victorian and Craftsman. The collection of resources within the district represent over 80 years of residential development in the district from the Collins House, a c.1840 central hall-type house, to the McCall House, a c.1906 New South cottage with Folk Victorian detailing, and finally the collection of four 1928 Craftsman bungalows.

The earliest period of development in the district dates from c.1840 through c.1906. The c.1840 Collins House is a good example of a central-hall cottage with its shed-roof porch with chamfered square posts, scrollwork and a decorative balustrade. The McMillan House is a good example of a New South-type house with Folk Victorian elements featuring a projecting one-story bay, transom, a one-story wrap porch with chamfered square posts, and a small porch on the second floor with scrollwork, chamfered square posts and balustrade. The district also contains a good example of a New South cottage with Folk Victorian details. The McCall House was constructed c.1906 and features a wrap porch with columns, cornice, window and door surrounds, and two interior chimneys.

The second period of development in the district corresponds to the purchase of land by the Unique Knitting Company in 1927 for the construction of four houses. Constructed in 1928, the houses are good examples of Craftsman-style bungalow, and two of the houses were based on patterns designed by Atlanta-based architect Leila Ross Wilburn. The houses both retain their bungalow form and Craftsman details including exposed rafters, Craftsman-style windows and doors, and wide eaves.

The Collins Avenue Historic District is significant in the area of architecture and women's history for its association with Leila Ross Wilburn (1885-1967), an Atlanta-based architect. Two houses within the district, the Kienel House at 4652 Collins Avenue and the Loudon House at 4662 Collins Avenue, are based on the combined designs of patterns numbered 354 and 355 from Wilburn's pattern book Ideal Homes of Today.

Born in Macon, Georgia in 1885, Leila Ross Wilburn moved with her family to Atlanta in the 1890s. From 1902 to 1904, Wilburn studied at Agnes Scott Institute (now Agnes Scott College). From 1906 to 1908, Wilburn served as an apprentice draftsman for the architect firm of Benjamin R. Padgett. Wilburn opened her own architectural office in Atlanta in 1909 and exclusively designed residential properties. In 1915, Wilburn listed herself in the Atlanta City Directory as a "scientific designer of artistic bungalows".

In 1914, Wilburn published her first pattern book, Southern Homes and Bungalows; she published six other books before her death in 1967. As a plan book architect, Wilburn concentrated her efforts on design, releasing her from the usual architect's duties of consultation with owner, supervision of

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contractors, and day-to-day operations. For a brief period, Wilburn worked as a civilian engineering department draftsman for the War Department, first in 1918 at Fort McPherson in Atlanta and later during World War II in Tampa, Florida and Washington, D.C. Wilburn was the earliest known woman architect in Georgia to participate in the war effort.

Wilburn was one of only two women architects (the other being Henrietta Dozier) practicing in Atlanta during the period 1895-1920. Wilburn never joined the American Institute of Architects, and during a 1924 interview for the Atlanta Journal, she noted a distinct distain for women assistants who “[sit] around waiting to be told what to do.” Ideal Homes of Today is noted by Wilburn as her “third large plan book and...by far the best” with the comment that she had “personally designed each house.”

Wilburn’s architectural designs can be found throughout Atlanta from the high-profile apartment buildings along Ponce de Leon Avenue in Midtown to modest bungalows in Decatur and other in-town neighborhoods. Wilburn’s designs are also found in 34 other Georgia communities and five states including Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Michigan. The two bungalows located in the Collins Avenue Historic District at 4652 Collins Avenue and 4662 Collins Avenue are representative of Wilburn’s small house designs with their bungalow form and simple Craftsman details. Wilburn was a proponent of the minimal house philosophy popular in the early 20th century, which emphasized a simplified, small house form and uniformity in plan and appearance. Wilburn’s pattern-book houses are generally one- or two-story houses designed in the Craftsman or Colonial Revival styles. Three houses types are emphasized in her pattern books—bungalows, colonial homes, and ranches.

National Register Criteria

The Collins Avenue Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with women’s history in Georgia. Two of the houses within the district were based on pattern book designs by Leila Ross Wilburn, one of Atlanta’s first women architects. The district is eligible for listing under Criterion C for its good collection of intact, residential resources constructed from c.1840 to 1928.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the Collins House in c.1840 and ends with the construction of the four houses by the Unique Knitting Company in 1928.

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Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The contributing resources in the Collins Avenue Historic District are the eight intact, historic residential resources. There are two noncontributing, nonhistoric houses in the district and one noncontributing, nonhistoric large apartment/garage located at 5069 North Main Street.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

Note: The following historical narrative was prepared by historic preservation consultant Robin Hubbell, Atlanta, Georgia. "Collins Avenue Historic District," draft National Register of Historic Places Form, September 2, 1997. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Collins Avenue Historic District flanks the boundaries of Land Lots 32 and 33 in the city of Acworth in the northwestern corner of Cobb County. In December 1832, Cherokee County was split into ten counties, one of which was Cobb. The county's first town and county seat, Marietta, was founded in 1834. In 1836, the Georgia Legislature authorized the Western and Atlantic Railroad to run from Terminus (now Atlanta) to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Construction began on the railroad that same year, and by 1842, it ran as far north as Northcutt Station (now Acworth), named after Alexander Northcutt, the first stationmaster. Northcutt was an early settler of Acworth who drew Land Lot 30 in the 20th Land District in the northwest portion of Cobb County and moved to the area from Marietta in 1835.

In 1843, Joseph L. Gregg, a United States Army Engineering Corps civil engineer working as the field engineer in grading the railroad route, renamed the town from Northcutt to Acworth after his hometown in New Hampshire.

The Collins Avenue Historic District developed as Acworth grew. The district's first house (the Collins House) was built between 1840 and 1850 and is noted as being part of a 200- to 300-acre farm. As Acworth began as a primarily agricultural community, the Collins Avenue district's initial construction thus mirrors the development of Acworth itself.

Acworth was incorporated in 1860 with corporate limits extending a half-mile in each direction from the Western and Atlantic railroad station. Acworth was reincorporated in 1870, and in 1903, it was officially incorporated as the city of Acworth.

From its time as Northcutt Station until the beginning of the Civil War, Acworth served as a trade area for local farmers. The railroad's construction was served as a tool for the development of Acworth, and Acworth officials gave special dispensation to industries willing to locate along the railroad frontage.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Cobb County was a major theater during the Civil War. With the major north-south railroad line to Atlanta running straight through the county, Cobb County saw many battles. Included in the more noteworthy events in Acworth during the war was the "Great Locomotive Chase." The train The General was stolen south of Acworth in Kennesaw and the chase led straight through the town, ending much further north in Ringgold. After the fall of Chattanooga in 1863, Sherman's troops made their way to Atlanta. In June 1864, Acworth's occupation by Sherman and his troops began. They used many of Acworth's buildings as hospitals. Upon their move south to Kennesaw in November 1864, Sherman's troops burned most of Acworth's buildings. The Collins House was one of only a few houses in Acworth to survive Sherman's troops.

While damaged, Acworth did experience recovery and growth after the war. By the 1880s, cotton fueled the local economy. This local prosperity led to the demand for and subsequent establishment of several businesses including the McMillan Brothers store and J.F. Collins and Sons store. These stores and others served Acworth's residents as well as those in the surrounding rural area. Downtown Acworth experienced most of its growth from 1890 to 1920.

Present-day West Lakeshore Drive used to be known as Collins Farm Road. Two of the next houses to be built in the district were the Victorian-era c.1892 D.H. Collins House (4624 Collins Avenue) and c.1906 McCall House (4623 Collins Avenue), which were constructed to the north and east of the c.1840 Collins House. These homes and the c.1879 McMillan House were part of the growth of a merchant and professional class in Acworth.

In 1926, Frederick J. Kienel came to Georgia looking for a site to relocate his father Jacob Kienel's knitting and hosiery business from Philadelphia. According to family history, Kienel wanted to relocate the Unique Knitting Company because of labor problems in the north. Acworth was supposedly not Kienel's first choice for a new location. To enhance the deal, the Acworth Board of Trade purchased property north of Collins Avenue (not in the district) and in turn, sold the land to Unique Knitting Company for "one dollar and other considerations." The Unique Knitting Company was established in Acworth in 1927 and was a great boon to the city's economy. The company operated from 1927 to 1982 and was one of the city's two main employers.

Property on the southeast side of Collins Avenue was purchased by the company for houses for its employees. Four houses in the district were built in 1928 for Frederick J. Kienel, the company's secretary and general manager, and other employees of the Unique Knitting Company. The houses include the Kienel House at 4652 Collins Avenue, the Wendhotlz House at 4640 Collins Avenue constructed for Mike Wendhotlz the company's vice-president, the Loudon House at 4662 Collins Avenue constructed for George Loudon the company's department head, and a house at 5069 North Main Street.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

The last houses in the district were constructed after the historic period and are located at 4611 Collins Avenue and 4588 Collins Avenue.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Carrie Dyer Women's Club. Acworth, Georgia from Cherokee County to Suburbia. Acworth, GA: Star Printing Co., 1976.

Cobb County, Georgia, Deed Books.

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

Hubbell, Robin. "Collins Avenue Historic District," draft National Register of Historic Places Form, September 2, 1997. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Jennings, Jan. "Leila Ross Wilburn: Plan-Book Architect." Women's Art Journal, Vol. 1, No. 10 Spring/Summer 1989, p. 10-16.

_____. "An Architecture Bigger Than Georgia: Leila Ross Wilburn, Plan Book Architect." Paper presented to the Southeast Society for Architectural Historians, October 1987. On file at the Atlanta History Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

Smith, Susan Hunter. "Women Architects in Atlanta." The Atlanta Historical Journal, Vol. 23, No. 4 Winter 1979-1980, p. 90-94.

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

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**
date issued:
- 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:

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

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

CO-AC-1	CO-AC-44	CO-AC-49
CO-AC-31	CO-AC-45	CO-AC-50
CO-AC-43	CO-AC-48	

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 15 acres.

UTM References

A)	Zone 16	Easting 713563	Northing 3771938
B)	Zone 16	Easting 713686	Northing 3771865
C)	Zone 16	Easting 713567	Northing 3771657
D)	Zone 16	Easting 713369	Northing 3771675

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary of the Collins Avenue Historic District is indicated with a heavy black line on the attached tax map.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary includes the intact historic residential resources associated with the development of the Collins Avenue Historic District.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Gretchen B. Kinnard/National Register Coordinator
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
street & number 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** March 28, 2001

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

name/title Robin Hubbell/Principal
organization Community Preservation Partners
street and number 2625 Piedmont Road, Suite 56213
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30324
telephone (404)572-1232

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

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

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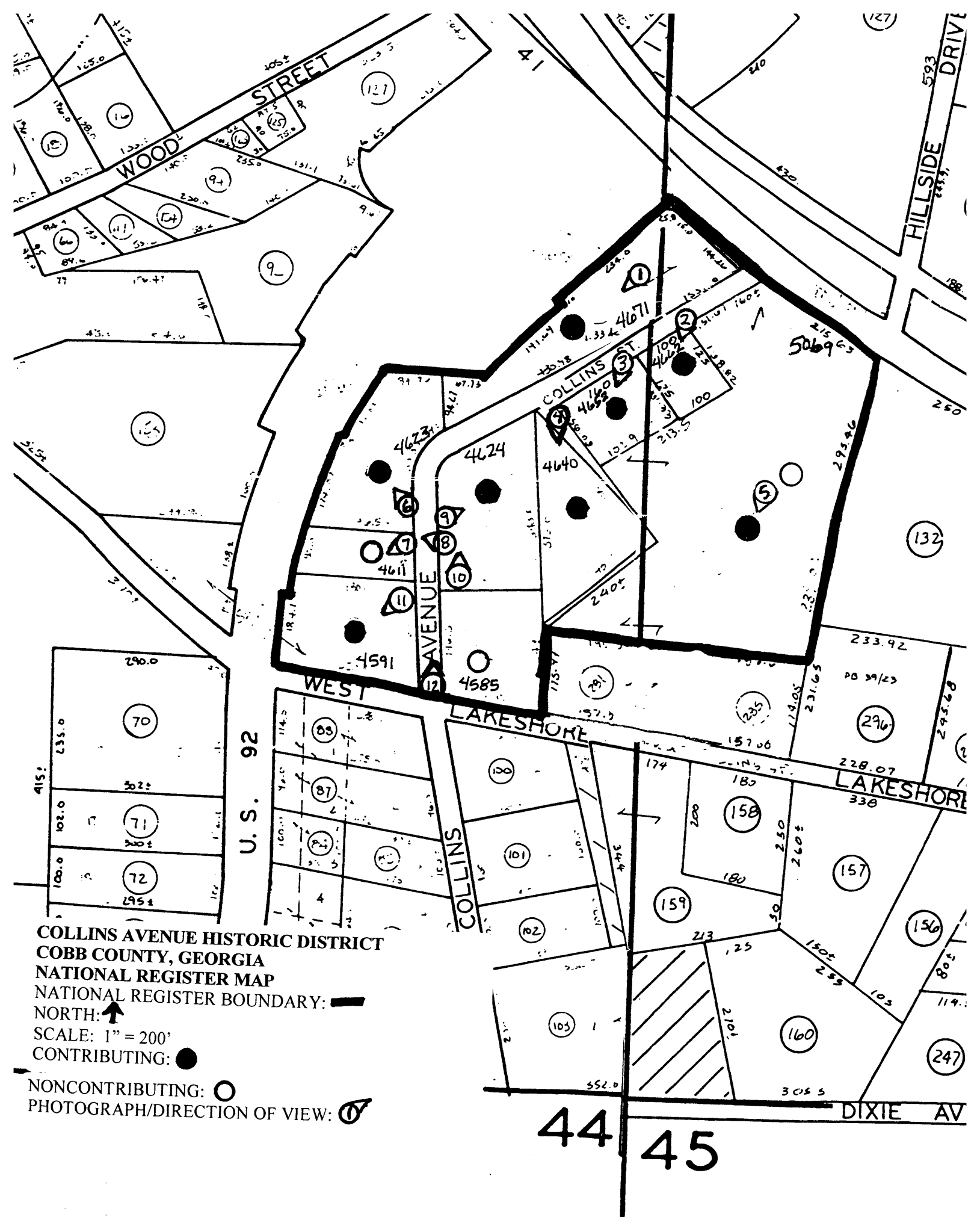
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Photographs

Name of Property: Collins Avenue Historic District
City or Vicinity: Acworth
County: Cobb
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: July 1998

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 12: 4671 Collins Avenue, McMillan House; photographer facing southwest.
- 2 of 12: 4662 Collins Avenue, Louden House; photographer facing southwest.
- 3 of 12: 4652 Collins Avenue, Kienel House; photographer facing southwest.
- 4 of 12: 4640 Collins Avenue; Wendholtz House; photographer facing south.
- 5 of 12: 5069 North Main Street; photographer facing south.
- 6 of 12: 4623 Collins Avenue, McCall House; photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 12: 4611 Collins Avenue, noncontributing; photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 12: 4611 (noncontributing) and 4623 Collins Avenue (McCall House); photographer facing west.
- 9 of 12: 4624 Collins Avenue, D.H. Collins House; photographer facing northeast.
- 10 of 12: 4624 Collins Avenue, D.H. Collins House; photographer facing north.
- 11 of 12: 4591 Collins Avenue, Collins House; photographer facing southwest.
- 12 of 12: 4591 Collins Avenue (Collins House) and street view; photographer facing north.



COLLINS AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA

NATIONAL REGISTER MAP

NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY: **—**

NORTH: **↑**

SCALE: 1" = 200'

CONTRIBUTING: ●

NONCONTRIBUTING: ○

PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: **↻**

44 45