

PH005 8131

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	Fulton and DeKalb
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	APR 11 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways

AND/OR HISTORIC:

same

2. LOCATION *Both sides*STREET AND NUMBER: Area immediately north and south of Ponce de Leon Avenue
between Briarcliff Road and the Seaboard Coast Line; see cont. sheet

CITY OR TOWN:

Atlanta

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

Georgia

13

~~Fulton and DeKalb Counties~~ 121&089

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Landscape</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<u>Architecture</u>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Partially City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and private owners.

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

Georgia

13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Fulton County and DeKalb County Courthouses

STREET AND NUMBER:

160 Pryor S.W. - 556 N. McDonough

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

Atlanta

Decatur

Georgia

13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Survey of Historic Sites and Districts, 1972-73

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal☐ State☐ County☒ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Advisory Committee on Landmarks and Historic

Sites of the Atlanta Civic Design Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:

City Hall - Mitchell Street

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

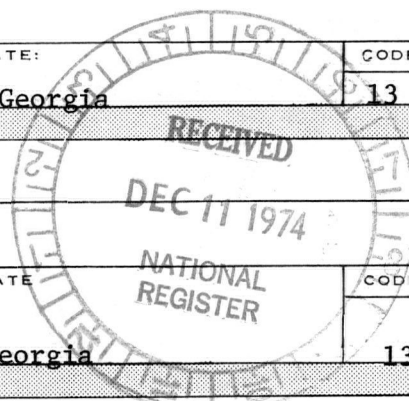
Atlanta

Georgia

13

STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	Fulton & DeKalb
ENTRY NUMBER	
DATE	APR 11 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS
called Elizabeth Macgregor, met in Fulton Co.
4-14-75
MKA

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways is the most significant portion of a large residential suburb located between Moreland Avenue and Briarcliff Road which mark the eastern boundary of Fulton County and the City of Decatur in the northeast section of the metropolitan area of Atlanta. This portion of the suburb is an area of open space and curving roadways which structures the environment of the larger residential neighborhood around it. The entrance to the neighborhood from the mixed commercial and residential area to the west is clearly marked both by the change in street pattern and the landscaped park areas. Ponce de Leon Avenue runs in a predominantly west-east direction from Briarcliff Road toward the City of Decatur. Near the eastern edge of the subdivision the avenue passes under the Seaboard Coast Line which runs north and south through the eastern portion of the original Druid Hills subdivision. Beginning at the Ponce de Leon-Briarcliff intersection a narrower roadway, Ponce de Leon South curves south of a series of small parks and extends east to Fairview Road. This curving roadway provides access to the lots which face the parks as well as forming the southern edge of the park spaces. Briarcliff and Moreland Roads form the western boundary of the area. One block south of Ponce de Leon South, Fairview Road runs easterly from Moreland Avenue for three blocks and curves to the north to intersect Ponce de Leon Avenue. Beyond this intersection a second section of Ponce de Leon South again curves south and east, around a series of parks and along residential lots to the west of Clifton Road where it once again enters Ponce de Leon Avenue. Several park spaces are included between the Ponce de Leon roadways beginning with Springdale Park between Briarcliff and Springdale Roads, and continuing through a long line of green spaces to Shadyside and Dellwood Parks east of Fairview Road. Along the northern edge of this linear parkland a strip of land bordered by trees clearly indicates the route once used by the electric street railway line which ran between Decatur and Atlanta. Beyond Dellwood Park, at the intersection of Ponce de Leon Avenue and Barton Woods Drive, a section of roadway called Ponce de Leon North, curves away from the main avenue in a northerly and then easterly direction to form the boundary of a wooded ravine, Deepdene Park. This final park space contrasts sharply with the other more open areas in its forest character and depressed topography.

Notable homes which border the Druid Hills Parks and Parkways include former James Venable, Asa G. Candler, Asa Warren Candler and Henry Heinz residences. Venable's three-story Stone Mountain granite, Jacobethan "Stonehenge" has now been adapted to a church through a stylistically sympathetic addition. Asa G. Candler's home, now St. John's Melkite Church, is a monumental, cream brick and marble Italian Renaissance revival mansion, while his son Asa Warren's two-story redbrick home further east on Ponce de Leon is Georgian Revival. This second Candler home is a two-story brick building with a central four columned portico. The Henry Heinz residence, also along the north side of Ponce de Leon Avenue, is a two-story stucco Renaissance Revival building. Along Fairview Road to the south many of the oldest homes of the subdivision in Georgian Revival and Tudor styles still stand.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1900-1915

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways are important as the only example in Atlanta and one of a few in the southeast of the work of the eminent landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Although Olmsted Brothers, sons and successors to the senior Olmsted, drew the final plans for the suburb after Olmsted's death in 1903, the senior Olmsted had provided the preliminary plan on which the suburb's design is based. This area of Druid Hills which sets the tone for the entire surrounding residential neighborhood is a clear expression of Olmsted's design concepts for parks, parkways and residential areas. It is therefore an important Atlanta example of landscape architecture whose potential contribution to the physical environment of this area of the city in which the population density is increasing is highly significant.

Planning for the area which in the early twentieth century became Druid Hills suburb began in the early 1890's as a project of the Kirkwood Land Company. Joel Hurt, by 1890 a prominent Atlanta builder and businessman, was the major figure in the company which was chartered in January, 1890. Hurt had already in the 1880's begun the development of Inman Park, Atlanta's first planned residential suburb, built the city's first electric street railway between Inman Park and the downtown area, and was planning the south's first skyscraper, the Equitable (Trust Company of Georgia Building, demolished 1971) Building which was completed in 1892. Several prominent Atlantans were original stockholders of the Kirkwood Land Company, including banker Robert Lowry, who owned a large acreage in the area to be developed. Deed records show that the large tract of over 1400 acres which would comprise the Druid Hills residential area was assembled between 1890 and 1892. Hurt originally intended to develop only 600 acres into building sites, but was gradually persuaded by the Olmsted firm to develop a plan for the entire tract.

Between 1890 and 1894 Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. who had planned parks and residential areas for so many American cities, made several visits to Atlanta for the purpose of consulting with Hurt on the plans for developing what Hurt on occasion referred to as the "ideal residential suburb". Hurt also visited the Olmsted offices in Brookline, Massachusetts during this period. By 1893 a preliminary plan for roads, parks, lakes and building sites had been drawn and submitted to the Kirkwood Land Company. One of the main features of this plan was the gently curving Ponce de Leon Parkway. Hurt had originally proposed to extend Ponce de Leon Avenue into his company's lands in a straight line as he had previously done with Edgewood Avenue into

(continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ayers, Kenneth, "Olmsted and Druid Hills", unpublished seminar paper, Emory University
 Asa Griggs Candler Papers: Business Papers, Druid Hills, Woodruff Library, Emory University
 Edge, Sarah Simms, Joel Hurt and the Development of Atlanta (Atlanta, 1955)
 Lyon, Elizabeth A.M., "Frederick Law Olmsted and Joel Hurt: Planning the Environment in Atlanta, 1890-1894, "unpublished conference paper, 1972".
 Frederick Law Olmsted and Olmsted Associates collections of the Library of Congress.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	33° 46' 33"	84° 20' 57"		0	0	0
NE	33° 46' 33"	84° 19' 00"				
SE	33° 46' 17"	84° 19' 00"				
SW	33° 46' 17"	84° 20' 57"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Approximately 250 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, Emory University

ORGANIZATION Advisory Committee for Historic Structures DATE November, 1974
Sites and Districts of the Atlanta Urban Design Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall - Mitchell Street

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE Georgia CODE 13

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name Jackson O'Neal Lamb
 Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 12-6-74

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

Robert G. R. [Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/75

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 10 1975

NW 16/748510/3740340
 SE 16/748520/3739810
 SW 16/748500/3739740
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

RECEIVED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DEC 11 1974

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

NATIONAL

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE

Georgia

COUNTY

Fulton and DeKalb

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

APR 11 1975

(Number all entries)

8. Significance continued, page 2

Inman Park, but Olmsted convinced him that it would be more natural and economical to allow the topography to determine the boulevard's route. A second feature of the original plan, which remains extant today in the structure of the landscape along Ponce de Leon Avenue, was the location of an electric street railway line in a strip of land adjacent to, rather than in the center of, the roadway. The separation of traffic modes, Olmsted advised, would not only decrease travel time to Atlanta and reduce maintenance costs, but contribute to the beauty of the area by hiding wires and poles among the trees. It was Hurt's intention in 1894 to proceed with the grading of roads and building of lakes according to the Olmsted plans, but in the wake of the Panic of 1893, the Kirkwood Land Company experienced financial difficulty. Several loans on the company property in the later 1890's and a letter to a Boston lawyer relative to money owned to the Olmsted firm record some of the problems. In addition, Hurt's numerous business activities, in particular his electric street railway company, commanded his attention.

After a settlement and sale of the street railway in 1901 allowed the repayment of some of the loans, Hurt once again turned his attention to Druid Hills. By this time Frederick Law Olmsted Sr., incapacitated by illness, had retired so that his sons and successors, Olmsted Brothers, took over the work in Druid Hills. The original 1893 plan formed the basis for consultations with Olmsted's stepson, John C. Olmsted in 1902 and 1903, and in 1905 Olmsted Brothers submitted a plan for the southern most portion of the Kirkwood Company land. This is the section bordering Ponce de Leon Avenue and includes the string of parks and open spaces between the Avenue and Ponce de Leon, North and South, which had been proposed by the senior Olmsted in the 1890's, as well as the building sites along Ponce de Leon Avenue and Fairview Road. By 1908 when Hurt sold the entire holdings of the Kirkwood Land Company for a record half-million dollars, roads had been graded, surface drainage systems completed, and parks and some building sites landscaped. A syndicate headed by Coca-Cola magnate Asa G. Candler, which organized the Druid Hills Corporation in 1909, was the purchaser. This company continued the development of the entire tract between 1910 and 1935, retaining most of the features of the Olmsted Brothers plan in the original ninety-acre section which had been begun, but making changes and modifications in the other areas of the tract. For example, neither of the lakes were built, and the size of the building lots became smaller as the development progressed. Deed restrictions that were considerably shorter than those advised by John C. Olmsted, lapsed in the late 1940's allowing land use changes in the area after that time.

Ponce de Leon Avenue, however, and the linear parkland along its picturesque route from Briarcliff Road on the west to the Seaboard Coast Line railroad tracks on the east, were developed from the Olmsted plans. The gently curved roadway carries out the senior Olmsted's belief that a natural, informal course provides a welcome contrast to the more rigid rectilinear gridiron pattern of adjacent building shapes and areas. The open spaces, from Springdale Park with its swings, slides and recreational purposes, through Shady Side and others

(continued)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Fulton and DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 11 1975	

(Number all entries)

8. Significance continued, page 3

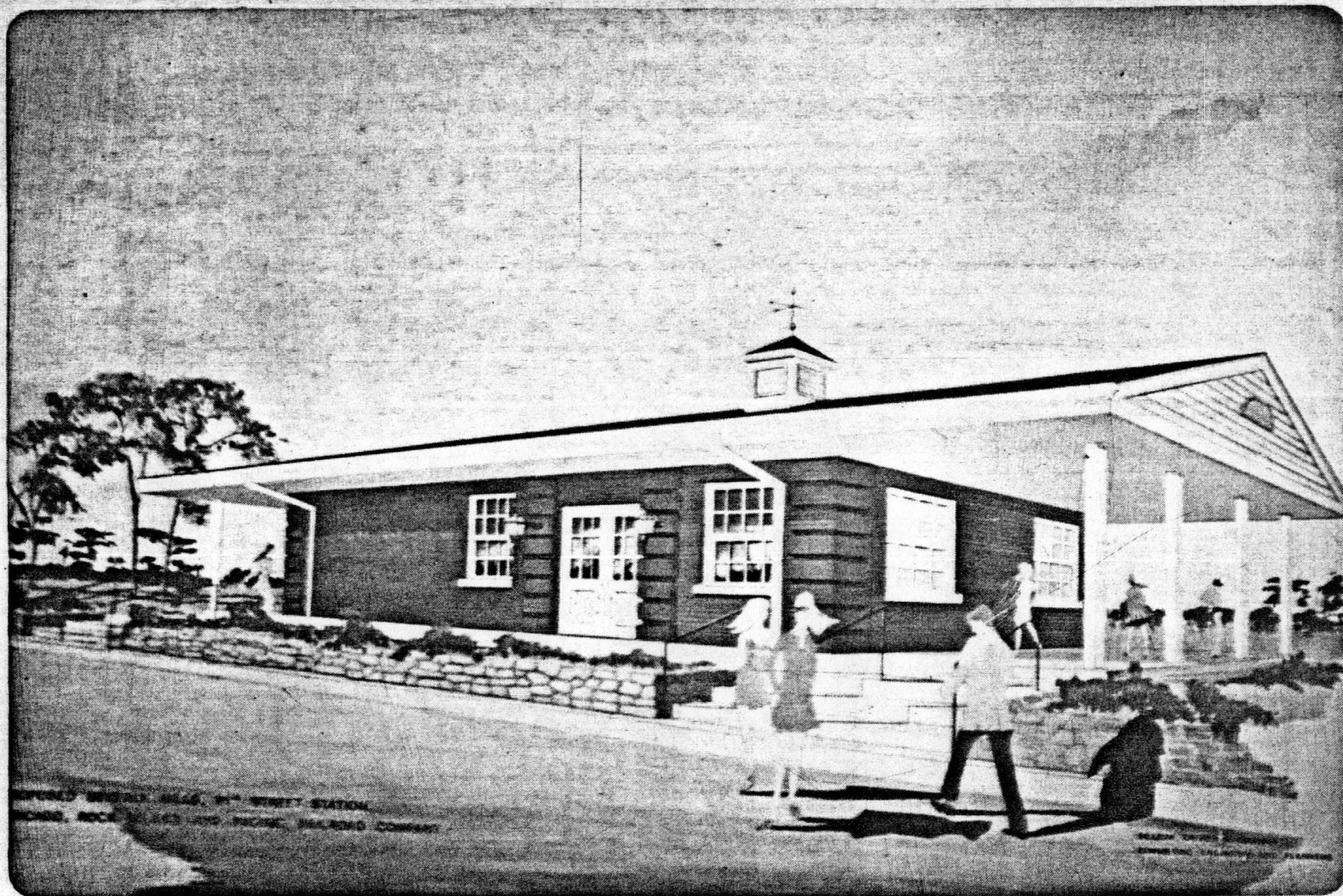
where open meadows are bordered by clumps of trees and foliage in a typical Olmsted pattern, to Deepdene Park which is a seemingly impenetrable forest, represent basic Olmsted landscape concepts. The landscaped environment and road-way pattern clearly distinguishes the Druid Hills area from the section of the city to the west. Departure from exclusively residential land use which was possible after deed restrictions lapsed in the late 1940's, has converted some of the large homes along Ponce de Leon into churches, clubs and apartment houses. Presently, now apartment and condominium developments on the large lots are increasing the population density of the area. The parks and parkways are of increased importance, therefore, to maintenance of the environment in the face of such changes, as well as to the preservation of the integrity of the larger residential neighborhood to the north which was developed in the old Kirkwood Company lands. Many older residential neighborhoods in Atlanta suggest the influence of Frederick Law Olmsted in their curving streets, occasional park spaces and landscaped lots. It is essential that the site and form of his work in the Druid Hills section of the city, which exerted influence on some of these areas, be preserved.

It should also be noted that significant examples of the work of Neel Reid, an early 20th century Atlanta architect, is found in the Druid Hills area. Noted on the sketch map is the architect's own house built in a Neo-Georgian style (1914); the Oscar Strauss tudor-style house (1917); the Walter Rich House (1913) and the Jasper Draper House (1915). Neel Reid studied at Columbia University and the Ecole de Beaux Art and with Hal Heinz and Rudolph Adler and formed one of the most noted early 20th century Renaissance Revival oriented residential architecture firms in Atlanta.

2. Location

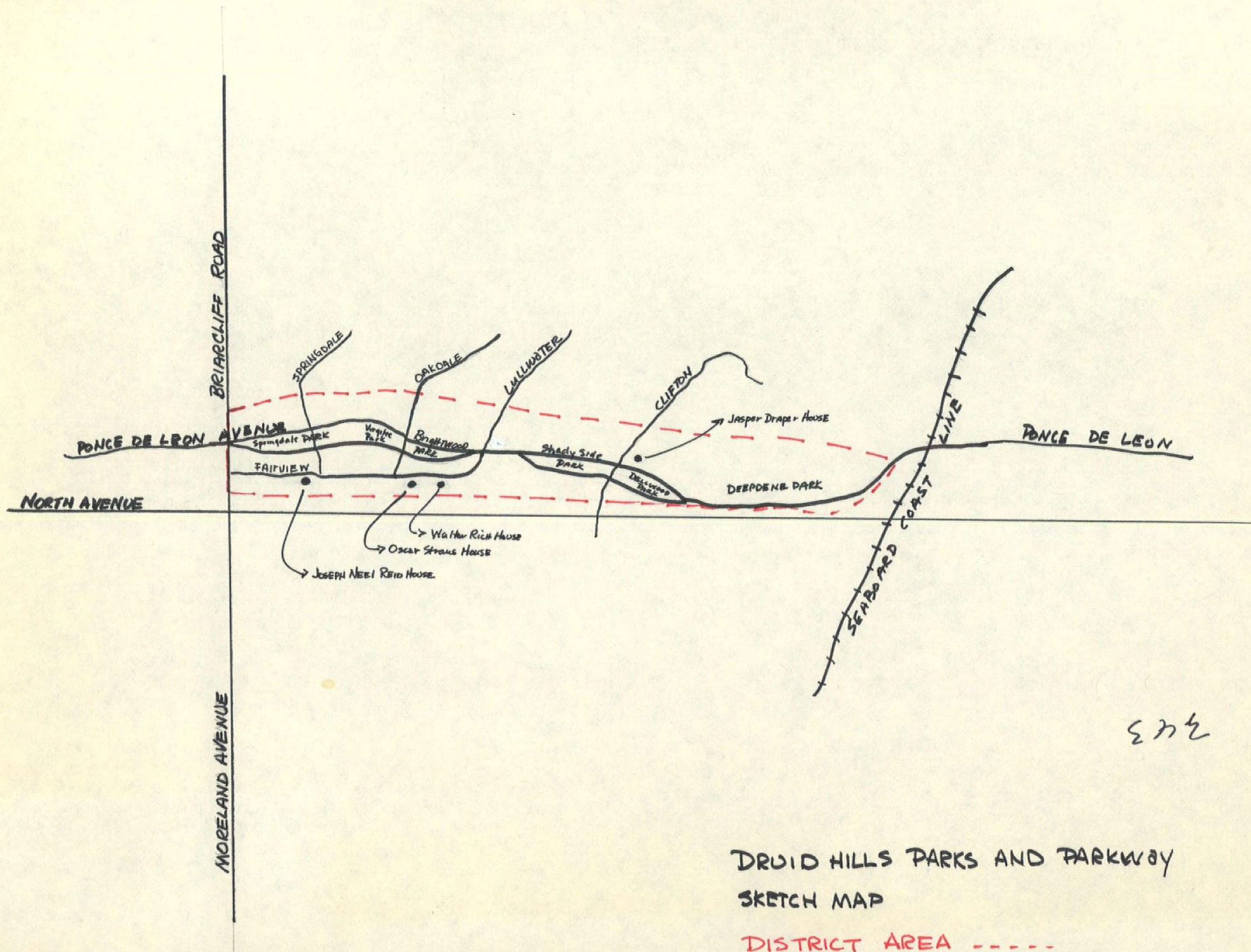
Area bounded by Moreland Avenue and Briarcliff Road on the west; rear lot lines of property bordering Ponce de Leon Avenue and Ponce de Leon Avenue North on the north; Seaboard Coast Line Railroad on the east; rear lot lines of properties bordering Fairview Road and Ponce de Leon Avenue South, on the south.





STREETCAR STATION, 14th STREET STATION,
RICHMOND, ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

BRADY, CHASE & BROWN
EDMUNDS, CALVERT & FLEMING



572

DRUID HILLS PARKS AND PARKWAY
SKETCH MAP
DISTRICT AREA - - - -

Property Druid Hills Parks + ParkwaysState GeorgiaWorking Number 12.11.74.212375002070
DeKalb

TECHNICAL

Photos 13Maps 3

CONTROL

cm

We need to see how much of the original tract is being nominated. (should probably be enlarged) - We also need more photos & information on the houses in the area. Smaller lots do not invalidate a plan.

(over)

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

We need information about photos pertaining to houses within the district. Number of houses? more specific

ARCHEOLOGIST

I don't think we should return this. There was a considerable amount of public disagreement of this nomination (I discussed it at Jack Lamb's last summer) because there's a lot of pressure for commercial dev. Since the most sig. aspect of this is the Olmsted plan, I think this could stand up a few more photos & statement on extent of orig. plan.

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept

Cole

4-8-75

BRANCH CHIEF

Accept

Hunt

4.10.75

KEEPER


APR 10 1975

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered APR 11 1975Federal Register Entry 6-3-75

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74

called Elizabeth Lyons 3/19/75. There is a possibility
that Olmsted designed part of the area North
of this district (They are trying to get company
records). It is likely however, that the
area was not designed by Olmsted, ~~and~~
~~that~~ The area needs protection and they
will increase the district if it turns
out that Olmsted designed it.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Fulton & DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 11 1975	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Druid Hills Parks and Parkways</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Area immediately north and south of Ponce de Leon Avenue</u> <u>between Briarcliff Road and the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad line.</u>			
CITY OR TOWN:			
<u>Atlanta</u>			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
<u>Georgia</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>Fulton & DeKalb</u>	<u>121&089</u>
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: <u>Elizabeth Z. Lyon</u>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <u>November, 1973</u>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
<u>Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia</u>			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
<p>Ponce de Leon Avenue, Venable House with later addition of church building in front. Front facade faces south.</p> <p>#10813</p> <p>PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</p>			



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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Fulton & DeKalb

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121&089

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Elizabeth Z. Lyon

DATE OF PHOTO: November, 1973

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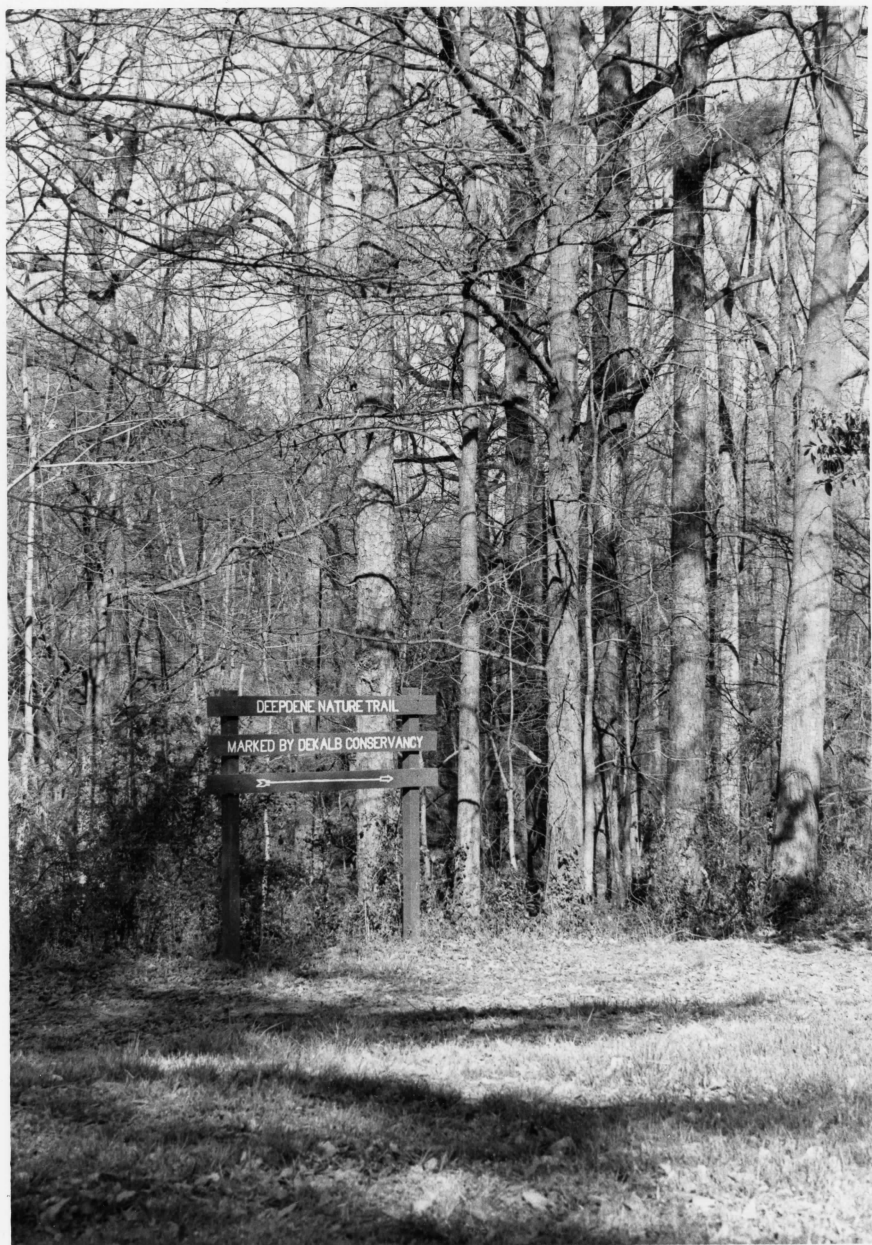
4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

1428 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Asa G. Candler House, front facade facing
South.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta			
STATE: Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Fulton & DeKalb	CODE 21&089
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Elizabeth A. Lyon			
DATE OF PHOTO: November, 1973			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Deepdene Park, facing east			

#3013

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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PHOTO CREDIT: Elizabeth A. Lyon			
DATE OF PHOTO: November, 1973			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View east through Springdale Park			

#40813

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Fulton & DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APP 1.1 1975	

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AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Area immediately north and south of Ponce de Leon Avenue</u> <u>between Briarcliff Road and the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad.</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Atlanta</u>			
STATE: <u>Georgia</u>	CODE <u>13</u>	COUNTY: <u>Fulton & DeKalb</u>	CODE <u>121&089</u>
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: <u>Elizabeth A. Lyon</u>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <u>November, 1973</u>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <u>Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia</u>			
4. IDENTIFICATION			

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View east from Oakdale Road through trolley corridor to
Ponce de Leon Avenue.

#5013

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Fulton & DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

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CITY OR TOWN:

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STATE:

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Fulton and DeKalb

CODE

RECEIVED 121&089

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Elizabeth A. Lyon

DATE OF PHOTO: November, 1973

NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View south across Ponce de Leon Avenue from Deepdene Park showing typical houses

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

6013



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **MAR 12 1975**

DATE ENTERED **APR 11 1975**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES --| ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Druid Hills Park & Parkways

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

____ VICINITY OF

Fulton &
COUNTY DeKalb

STATE Georgia

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT David Kaminsky

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Georgia Department of Natural Resources

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

1341 Ponce de Leon Avenue (South side of street); Frank Adair House designed by
Neel Reid in 1911

7813



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **MAR 12 1975**

DATE ENTERED **APR 11 1975**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Druid Hills Park & Parkways

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY **Fulton &
DeKalb**

STATE **Georgia**

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT **David Kaminsky**

DATE OF PHOTO **March, 1975**

NEGATIVE FILED AT **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

1348 Fairview Road (North side of street); the Walter Rich House designed by Neel Reid in 1913

PHOTO NO.

80813



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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RECEIVED **MAR 12 1975**

DATE ENTERED **APR 11 1975**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Druid Hills Park & Parkways

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Fulton &
DeKalb

STATE Georgia

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT David Kaminsky

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Georgia Department of Natural Resources

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

1436 Fairview Road (on North side of street); the Joseph Neel Reid House designed
for himself in 1914

#9013



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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MAR 12 1975

DATE ENTERED

APR 11 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Druid Hills Park & Parkways

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

____ VICINITY OF

Fulton &
COUNTY DeKalb

STATE Georgia

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT David Kaminsky

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Georgia Department of Natural Resources

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

1372 Fairview Road and eastward on north side of street, Oscar Strauss House (on left)
designed by Neel Reid in 1917

11 0813



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 12 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 11 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Druid Hills Park & Parkways

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

___ VICINITY OF

Fulton &
COUNTY DeKalb

STATE Georgia

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT David Kaminsky

DATE OF PHOTO March, 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Georgia Department of Natural Resources

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

1360 Fairview (left) and looking east to 1372 Fairview, the Oscar Strauss House
designed by Neel Reid in 1917

#13 913



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

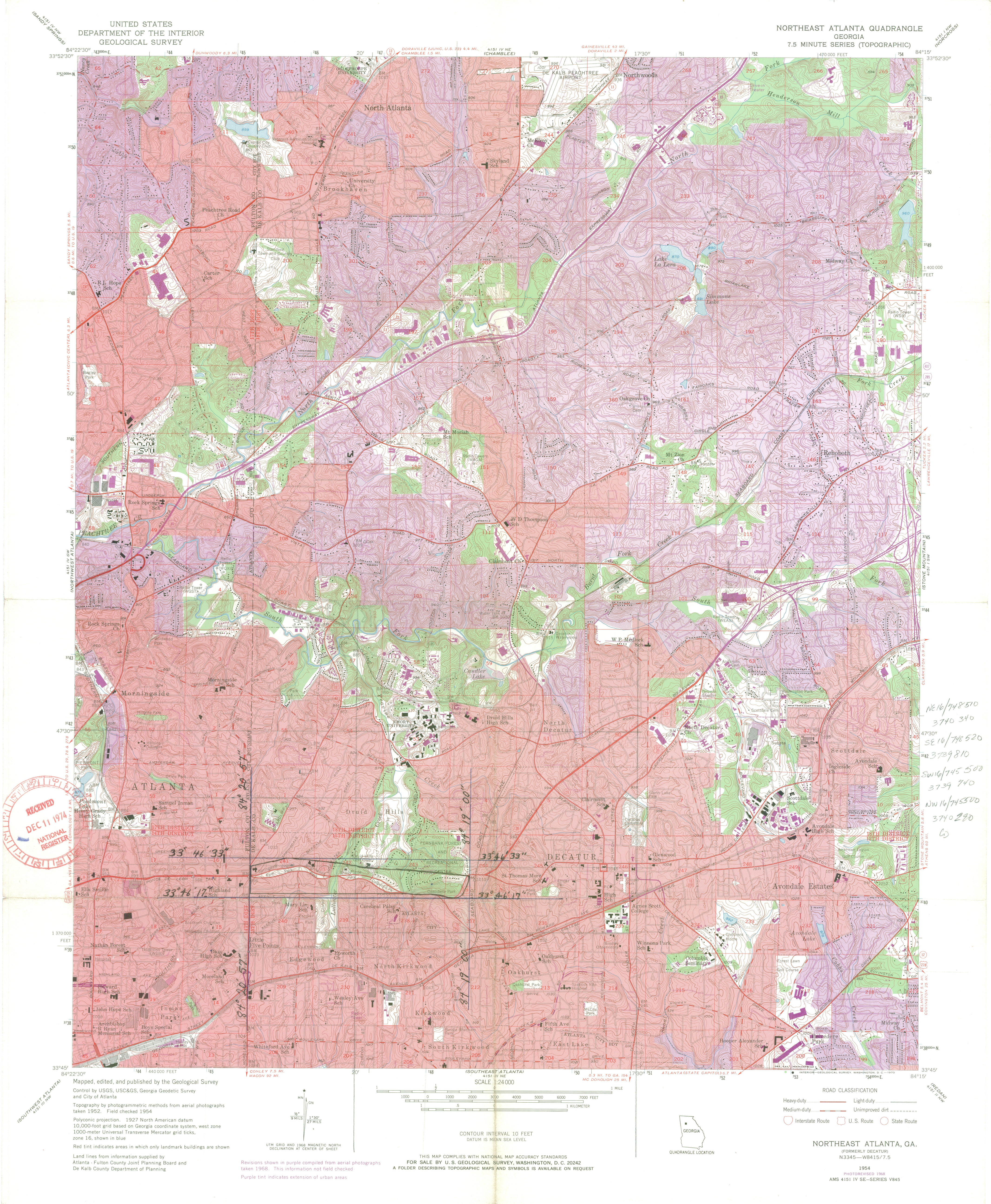
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Fulton & DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 11 1975	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Druid Hills Parks and Parkways			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Area immediately north and south of Ponce de Leon Avenue between Briarcliff Road and the Seaboard Coast Line road line.			
CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta			
STATE: Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Fulton & DeKalb	CODE 121&089
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Elizabeth A. Lyon			
DATE OF PHOTO: November, 1973			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Atlanta Urban Design Commission, City Hall, Atlanta, Georgia			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Oscar Strauss House, looking north Fairview Road, early houses in the suburb This Tudor house was designed by a famous Atlanta architect, Neel Reid			

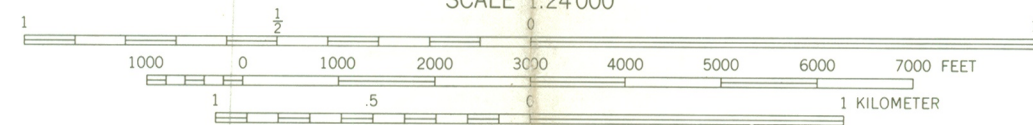


RECEIVED
DEC 11 1974
NATIONAL
REGISTER

NE 16/748510
3740 340
SE 16/748520
3742 3739810
SW 16/745500
3739 740
NW 16/745300
3740 290
6

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Georgia Geodetic Survey
and City of Atlanta
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1952. Field checked 1954
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Georgia coordinate system, west zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Land lines from information supplied by
Atlanta-Fulton County Joint Planning Board and
De Kalb County Department of Planning

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1968. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



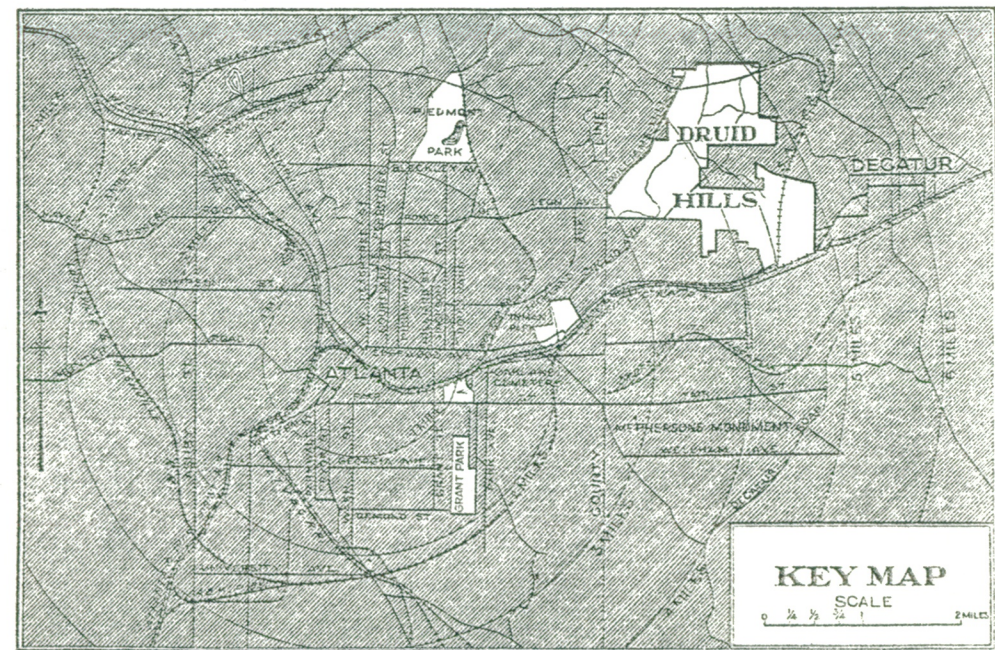
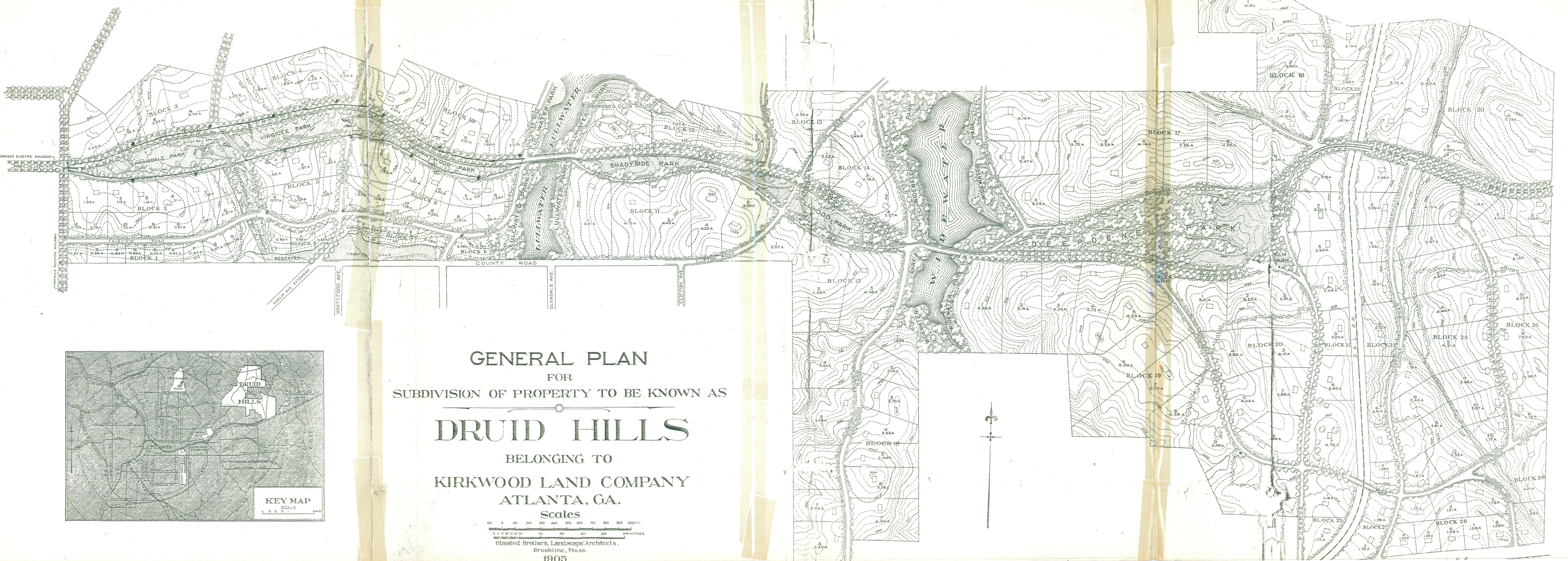
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

NORTHEAST ATLANTA, GA.
(FORMERLY DECATUR)
N3345-W8415/7.5

1954
PHOTOREVISED 1968
AMS 4151 IV SE-SERIES V845



GENERAL PLAN
FOR
SUBDIVISION OF PROPERTY TO BE KNOWN AS

DRUID HILLS

BELONGING TO
KIRKWOOD LAND COMPANY
ATLANTA, GA.

Scales
0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000 FT.
0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000 METRES.
Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects.
Brookline, Mass.
1905



Oct. 21, 1974
1715 Ponce De Leon Ave, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30307

Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper
National Register of Historical Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, DC. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

In anticipation that the Historic Preservation Section of the Dept. of Natural Resources in Atlanta may have already, or are about to forward a proposal to list Ponce De Leon Avenue in Atlanta on the National Register, we are forwarding you a copy of this correspondence to voice our objections.

We support and herald the high and good purpose of your office. My daughter in fact is currently attaining a masters degree in art at the Commonwealth of Virginia University, Richmond Va. which may be ~~and~~ indication of our sincere interest in such matters. I myself spent 22 productive years with the Federal Government and trust that your office is one of integrity.

Should you receive the above

(2)

proposal it will most likely be a one-sided approach with an abundance of glittering generalities which on its face would be difficult not to support. The attached will give you the facts as well as some insight into what is really happening down here.

It is our hope that you will support the actions proposed in our letter by denying their request.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Tamas

Representing the Group for a
Progressive Ponce De Leon Avenue.

Oct. 21, 1974
1715 Ponce De Leon Ave, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30307

Mr. Jackson O'Neil Lamb
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington St. SW
Atlanta, Ga. 30334

Dear Mr. Lamb:

As an owner of property on Ponce De Leon Avenue, and as a tax payer, I am unalterably opposed to the placement of Ponce De Leon Avenue (from Moreland Ave east to the railroad bridge) on the National Register of Historical Places. I have spoken to other property owners here who also feel the same way.

The fact that some landscape architect laid out this street some 70 years ago, (which today is a very busy main traffic artery supporting about 3000 cars an hour during peak periods) provides no valid basis for such designation. The real purpose behind this move is explained, and we hope is brought more clearly into true perspective, in the following paragraphs of this letter.

We understand this proposal is now in your office and about to be forwarded to Washington. This has all been done without a single affected property owner having been formally notified. Before any action is taken, as a minimum, since this constitutes a rezoning (when its full implications are fully understood) we feel that every single property owner should be notified by letter and a public meeting scheduled to give them an opportunity to voice their views. Better still and this we heartily recommend, we hope this letter alone, with the information it contains, will provide a more than sufficient basis to stop this proposed action and unwarranted invasion of our property rights, without placing such additional burden upon us.

This well devised scheme by select members of the Druid Hills Civic Association (where the idea originated) is intended to further thwart development along this busy thoroughfare. This same group was

successful in developing and having adopted in 1966 the present Apartment Limited (AL) zoning which now applies to this street.

The AL zoning is so restrictive and in effect constitutes Confiscation of property, ^{such} that not one parcel of property has been developed under that ordinance. Development has taken place through the Variance Procedure which enabled these people to support or thwart each proposed development at will.

Now that the AL ordinance is under attack because it has proven itself impractical, they have engineered this present method to serve their purposes.

As you may be aware, if Ponce De Leon Avenue is placed on the National Register of Historic Places, all proposed rezoning's on this Avenue will have to be submitted to the Urban Design Commission in addition to the Planning Commission, the Citizens Zoning Review Board, and the City Commission. We do not feel that getting embroiled in zoning battles of this nature is an appropriate function of the Design Commission and, by no stretch of the imagination

should this be misconstrued as
opposition to the Urban Design
Commission who serves a very
useful function, has high purpose,
and which we vigorously support.
What we are saying is that the
facts and physical conditions that
actually exist in no way validate
the placement of this vast expanse
of real estate on the National Register
of Historical Places to play the waiting
game until the time is ripe for "us
all to cash in." We have seen similar
real estate go from \$2.00 to \$8.00 per
square foot in one year in other areas
when "the time was ripe." Art and culture
should not be used for long term speculation
and rapid gain "when the time comes."

Now- let's get to some of the real
reasons behind this scheme. Placement of Ponce
De Leon Avenue on the National Register
of Historical Places is only the first step.
The next move would be to
add an overlay and broaden the area
to ultimately include the whole
Druid Hills area. As you well know,
when this is done, no Federal funds

Can be spent for development in the entire area. This would quite smartly, although indirectly, remove the threat of select low-income housing being brought into the entire area. Some of our minority citizens have been culturally deprived long enough and if this is their primary purpose, they should have the courage to meet such issues head on.

These schemes have also led to inordinate gain by some of these people at the expense of long time property owners who, after having been denied development, have been forced by circumstance to sell their property at a ridiculous price. Also, the development that has been permitted within the past few years on this section of Ponce De Leon Ave. leaves a lot to be desired. ^{For example,} One of the Lyons Gate project has been cancelled and there are currently a number of vacancies and resales in the existing project. Worse still is

the Chimney's Condominium project which was completed some six months ago and today stands vacant --- not one unit has been sold! This tells you something loud and clear about wanting to live with all that traffic - at that price. This project will probably end up as a second class rental complex something like the Dorchester apartments just up the street.

Now for positive suggestions. Since the 1-5-15 year Development Plans for the City of Atlanta are now being developed and the Zoning Ordinance is also currently being re-written we think this is the time to look at Ponce De Leon Avenue to come up with something positive and practical.

As a minimum, that section of Ponce De Leon Ave. within the City limits of Atlanta should be designated Office and Institutional. ~~with no other~~ This would be entirely compatible with the existing usage which now contains schools, fraternity houses, nursery,

Cerebral Palsy Center, Monastery, and as you know, plans are currently under development to place a large science center complex at the intersection of Clifton Rd. and Ponce De Leon Avenue. ^{This will be a state facility.} The remainder of this intersection could also be designated light commercial since there are already such activities in the Golf and Country Club at this location and the third corner is a 5 acre tract of property that has been boarded up for years and is now waiting development.

Secondly, attention should also be focused on that section of Ponce De Leon Ave. from Moreland Ave. to Peachtree St. to foster development in that area. The pornographic book stores, peep shows, live burlesque, topless bars and other sleazy lounges on both sides of the Druid Hills Church of Christ, which I have attended for years, are a blight that should be eradicated by proper planning. Since the Mayor's office and Planning & Zoning Department are also interested in these

matters, I ~~am~~ also forwarding
a copy to them for their information
and hopefully, their action.

The City of Atlanta badly
needs money. Appropriate development
along Ponce De Leon Ave. should
not be thwarted. Such development
would be a healthy thing for
the city in terms of significantly
increased taxes.

As property owners and
tax payers, it is hoped you
will consider the above and
act upon it.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Tamas

Representing the Group for a
Progressive Ponce De Leon Avenue.

NOV 1 1974

ST
10/31/74
C012
10/31/74

H34-PR

Mr. Edward F. Tamas
1715 Ponce De Leon Avenue, NE.
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

De Kahl
or
Fulton

Dear Mr. Tamas:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the nomination of Ponce De Leon Avenue as part of the Druid Hill Historic District, Atlanta, Georgia, to the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination has not yet been forwarded to us by the State. However, we feel that the following information may be of interest to you.

Nominations to the National Register are made by the States after research by the State Preservation staff and approval by a State Review Board made up of professional historians, architectural historians, and archeologists. Upon receipt of a nomination, the National Register staff must impartially apply the criteria for listing a property on the National Register to the nominated property. These criteria are listed in the enclosed leaflet entitled "The National Register of Historic Places."

Listing in the National Register is a governmental recognition that a property possesses historic values. Such listing does not place restrictions upon a private owner or upon a State or local government acting without Federal involvement. It does, however, insure that any federal agency contemplating an undertaking or licensing action which would have an effect on the property will allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation opportunity to review and comment on the action. Also, such listing makes the property eligible for financial assistance under Title I of the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act (80 Stat. 915), as amended.

We hope this information will be useful to you, and we shall be happy to answer any further questions.

Sincerely yours,

Acting

Charles A. Herrington (Sgd.)

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

Enclosure

(2)

cc: Mr. Jackson O'Neal Lamb
Chief, Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
710 Trinity-Washington Building
270 Washington Street, SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334 w/c inc.

bcc: Regional Director, Southeast Region w/c inc.

FNP: J Thorman:fd 10-31-74
Director's Reading File
DI
PR w/c inc.

✓BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PR



Joe B. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Charles M. Parrish, III
DIVISION DIRECTOR

Department of Natural Resources

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
270 WASHINGTON ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5160

December 6, 1974

Dr. William J. Murtagh
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Enclosed is the National Register Nomination form for Druid Hills Parks and Parkways in Fulton and DeKalb Counties.

We would appreciate every consideration in your review of this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole A. Summers".

Carole A. Summers
Coordinator
Historic Sites Survey

CAS:cs
Enclosure



Joe B. Tanner
COMMISSIONER

Charles M. Parrish, III
DIVISION DIRECTOR

Department of Natural Resources

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
270 WASHINGTON ST., S.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5160

March 10, 1975

Mr. Bill Lebroviett
Historic Sites Survey
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.



Dear Bill:

Enclosed are additional photographs in the Druid Hills Park & Parkways district that you requested.

Let me know if there is anything else you need.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Z. Macgregor
Architectural Historian

EZM:rja

ELLIOTT H. LEVITAS
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

AVIATION

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

INVESTIGATIONS AND REVIEW

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

COMMERCE, CONSUMER AND MONETARY
AFFAIRS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND
HUMAN RESOURCES

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
506 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4272

HOME OFFICE:
141 EAST TRINITY PLACE
DECATUR, GEORGIA 30030
(404) 377-1717

March 31, 1975

Mr. Frank R. Wolf
Congressional Liaison Office
Room 7355
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I have received a telephone call from Dr. Gary R. Smith, Professor of Law at Emory University, who is a member of the Druid Hills Civic Association of Atlanta, Georgia.

Doctor Smith is concerned about a pending application (H-34-PR) for the preservation of a historic area. The Georgia Natural Resources Department's Parks and Historic Sites Division contacted the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, of your Department, on December 6, 1974. Mr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register acknowledged this correspondence on December 11, 1974. Unfortunately, there has been no further action.

The particular area involved runs from Moreland Avenue to Scott Boulevard, along Ponce deLeon Avenue, in Atlanta. There are not only lovely old homes but parkways and byways which enhance the land and give the area a very distinctive quality.

The Druid Hills Civic Association is most anxious to have this area designated as a historic preservation site as expeditiously as possible. The Association is concerned that any delay will allow the demolition of some of these gracious old homes and the widening of the streets will eliminate some of the scenic parkways.

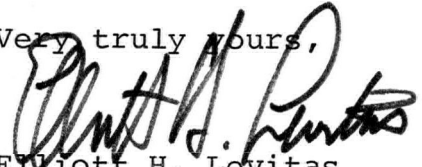
Needless to say, I would deeply appreciate your checking into the status of this application and advising me of your findings. Anything you can do to preserve this area will be one step forward in preserving our historic landmarks.

- continued -

- 2 -

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter,
and with all best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Elliott H. Levitas". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Elliott H. Levitas
Member of Congress

EHL:k

APR 3 3 41 AM '75
OFF. OF THE SECRETARY

APR 3 3 41 AM '75
OFF. OF THE SECRETARY

April 7, 1975

Dear Congressman Levitas:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of your constituent, Dr. Gary R. Smith, regarding his interest in the status of a pending application for the preservation of a historic area in Georgia.

I have asked the National Park Service to respond to you concerning this application, and you will be hearing from them shortly.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance to you.

Sincerely,

(sgd.) Frank R. Wolf

Frank R. Wolf
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Congressional and
Legislative Affairs

Honorable Elliott H. Levitas
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

✓ cc: Ira Whitlock - Please let me know when a reply is sent. Thank you.

Frank

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **GEORGIA**

Date Entered **APR 11 1975**

Name

Location

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways

Atlanta
~~Fulton and DeKalb~~ Counties

Also Notified

Hon. Herman E. Talmadge
Hon. Sam Nunn
Hon. Elliott Levitas
Regional Director, Southeast
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Jackson O'Neal Lamb
Chief, Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources
270 Washington Street SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

✓ PR

MMott/bsh

4/11/75

H34-PR
ES-14868

APR 18 1975

W Reeves
Murtagh
R. Mortensen
T. Wood 4/17
Whitaker 4/17

Honorable Elliott H. Levitas
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

~~Folklore~~ or De Kalb Co.
Georgia

Dear Mr. Levitas:

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Legislative Affairs Wolf has asked us to thank you for your letter on behalf of Dr. Gary R. Smith concerning nomination of the Druid Hills Parks and Parkways in Atlanta, Georgia, to the National Register of Historic Places.

We are pleased to advise you that the Druid Hills Parks and Parkways area was entered in the National Register on April 11, 1975. We regret that there was a delay in the final approval of the nomination for this area, but final review could not be completed until some additional photographs were submitted by the State.

The enclosures describe the National Register and the grants-in-aid program.

We appreciate your interest and that of Dr. Smith in historic preservation.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally

Associate
Director

Enclosures

bcc: Mr. Jackson O'Neal Lamb
Chief, Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources,
CL 270 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30334) w/c of inc.
CL, Mr. Wolf
Reg. Dir., Southeast Reg.) w/c of inc.

Director's Reading File
DI P PH PR) LS) L)
LS-TWood-Dir's Chron.
FNP:WReeves:dar:4-17-75

CG 4/17

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PR

Druid Hills May Get Historic OK

By JOHN REETZ

A residential section of Druid Hills soon will be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, a move that is almost sure to be accepted by federal preservation officials.

"Very, very few (nominations) are rejected," one state historic official said. "It's almost 100 per cent that it will be accepted."

The area to be suggested as a national historic site is located roughly between Emory University and Ponce de Leon Avenue.

The Druid Hills section of northeast Atlanta is noted for its large, early 20th-century homes and its landscape plan, designed by Frederick Olmstead, the designer of New York's Central Park.

If it is included in the national historic register as expected, the Druid Hills historic section will connect with a series of parks along Ponce de Leon Avenue that have already been added to the historic register.

"Technically, what we're doing is enlarging that historic district," said Lyn Waskiewicz of the Historic Preservation Section of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The section suggested for inclusion in the historic

register runs north from Moreland Avenue and Fairview Road along Briarcliff Road to the Emory Road area. At that intersection, the boundary runs east toward Emory University, then heads south adjacent to Clifton Road.

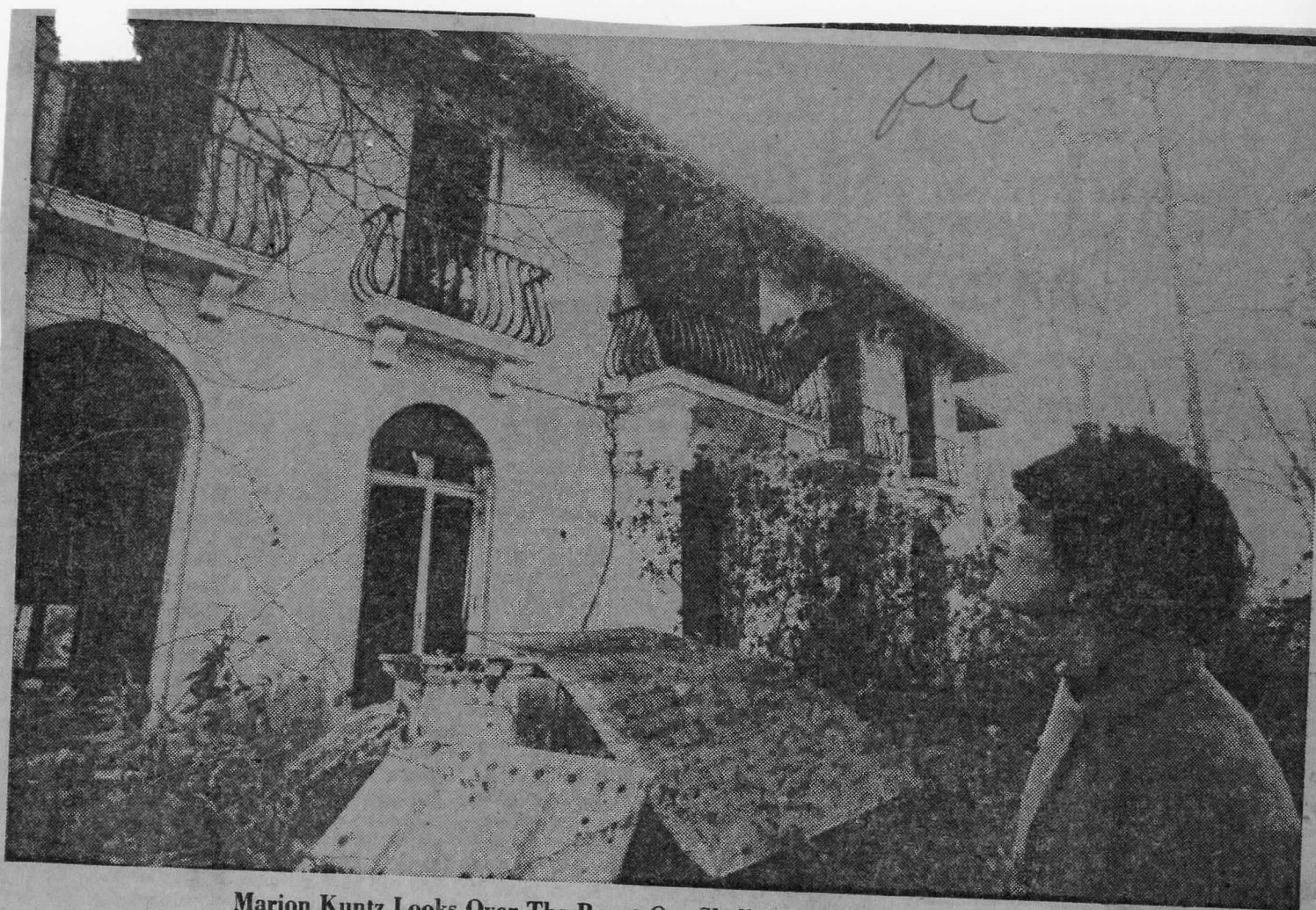
The border line zig-zags south until it nears the East Lake community, then extends west several blocks south of Ponce de Leon Avenue.

DNR officials believe the area is significant because of the following:

- As one of the first planned communities in Atlanta, it had an effect on suburban residential growth patterns in the city.
- Olmstead, a well-known architect in the 19th century, did the early planning for the area.
- The quality and diversity of the architectural styles is also important.
- Many influential Atlanta citizens have lived in the area.

Other than the status of being included in a historic area, the only benefits residents will receive is protection from federal projects that might disrupt the area, Miss Waskiewicz said.

DNR officials will be accepting public comment on the proposed nomination to the historic register until Wednesday.



Marion Kuntz Looks Over The Burnt-Out Shell Of The 'Paradiso' Mansion

Staff Photo—Dwight Ross Jr.

History Dies In 'Paradiso' Blaze

By Carole Ashkinaze
Constitution Staff Writer

Marion Kuntz never lived in "Paradiso," one of the grandest of the old hilltop mansions overlooking the historic Ponce de Leon Corridor.

She never even set foot inside the place until 1958, after the death of its last owner-occupant, when she and her husband Paul, both of them professors at area universities, purchased the old John Hurt House next door.

But Marion Kuntz loved the place, and the exquisitely proportioned porticoes, and piazzas that made it stand out among its neighbors,

with the sort of ardor usually reserved for one's ancestral home. She had looked on affectionately during the past 20 years, in which it lay mostly vacant, chasing away vandals, reporting suspicious noises to the police, hauling away dead tree limbs and other debris. She had fought attempts by city officials to have the place condemned, and had wept inwardly when a notice declaring the place "unfit for human habitation" was nailed to its boarded-up front door a couple of years ago.

And she told her Greek language students at Georgia State University Monday morning,

after waking to survey the charred ruins that the old house was "one of the most beautiful and gracious houses I've ever seen, anywhere in the world."

"I've lost something, we've all lost something, very precious."

Paradiso, one of several stately mansions listed, as part of the Ponce de Leon Corridor in Druid Hills, on the National Register of Historic Places, was demolished by a blaze of suspicious origin in the hours before sunrise Monday, while the Kuntzes slept, unaware that anything was amiss next door.

See HOUSE, Page 3-C



The Run-Down 'Pasadiso' Mansion Before The Fire

House

Continued From Page 1-C

A spokesman for the Atlanta Fire Bureau, which did not arrive at the scene until nearly 4 a.m., said the fire appeared to have started in the basement, and had gone "clear through roof" by the time the firefighters got there. The precise cause of the fire was still "under investigation" late Monday, the spokesman said.

And though, as Dr. Kuntz pointed out, the walls were left standing, and the "exterior lines" remained "beautiful and dignified and glorious" in the fire's aftermath, it appeared that her efforts to save the old mansion from the wrecker's ball were now at an end.

"The Professors Kuntz," as they called themselves in a 1976 letter to their neighbors, appealing for organized opposition to a condemnation proposal, had an excellent vantage point, in their house next door, from which to watch the gradual decay.

"The grass goes uncut. The garden is full of weeds. The sidewalks collect trash. The iron gates have long ago been stripped from the grand entrance, and the doors have been stolen. Perhaps you have noticed the vagrants who take up residence . . . the trucks of the vandals who come to carry away the Italian marble fireplaces, the doors, the paneling, the bathtubs, the radiators, even the sash weights. The lesson is plain," the Kuntzes had warned.

"An empty building is now indefensible."

It was a lesson not lost on the restorers of the Callanwolde mansion, where, Atlanta Historical Society director Franklin Garrett recalls, "vagrants once set fires on the hardwood floors," a lesson applicable to more than a few once-glorious Atlanta mansions, now vacant and subject to "the vagaries of weather and vandalism," he said.

But the lesson was lost, says Dr. Kuntz, on the current owners — heirs of the last owner-occupant, Cordelia Loeb, who died more than 20 years ago. Listed in city records as her daughters, Miriam Brooks and Dorothy Barish, they moved to California many years ago.

What Dr. Kuntz, a member of the board of the DeKalb Historical Society, and her husband feared most, she said, was demolition, paving the way for the construction of apartments or condominiums.

As long as the building, which was structurally sound and protected by its place on the National Register of Historic Places, remained standing, they could continue to hope that it might yet be restored, if not as a private home, then as the headquarters for a foreign consulate, or a philanthropic foundation, or even a small school of some sort.

Built in the early 1920s by Atlanta philanthropist Fenn O. Stone, founder of the Stone Baking Co., who filled it with crystal chandeliers, marble mantels, dancing fountains, rich tapestries, and other treasures he had brought back from visits to Italy, France, Damascus and the Orient, and named for the paradise it represented to him and his family, it was once the scene of elegant parties and weddings, historians say. In 1924, when the then-new residence was featured in an issue of the Atlanta Journal Sunday Magazine, it boasted a sunken garden, greenhouse, teahouse, and carriage house for servants, in addition to 10 spacious rooms, a drawing room that ran the full depth of the house, and a fountain that "sparkled" with goldfish, water lilies and lotus blossoms.

In the same elegant Druid Hills block lived many of "the builders of the new Atlanta: the Arkwrights, the W. the Elsases, the Mays, the H. Kuntzes recall.

After Stone's death in the late 1920s, Paradiso was occupied by his widow and daughter who, as Garrett recalled, "cut quite a swath in Atlanta society for a while," then by the family of Cordelia Loeb, who purchased it in the 1940s, died about 10 years later, and left it to her daughters, who had married and left Atlanta. From 1958 until the present, it has been rented intermittently — for one promising period during the early 1970s by tenants who began the restoration process, but had to give it up as prohibitively expensive, recalled Gordon Midgette, director of the DeKalb Historical Society.

It earned a place on the historic register because of its "architectural significance," in its "unusually strict adherence to the Italian Renaissance Revival Style," according to Randolph Marks, who surveyed it two years ago for the state preservation office.

"This house, on the top of the hill, marks the mid-point between the regularly spaced houses to the east and west," the Kuntzes had written in their letter to their neighbors. "To demolish it," they complained, "would be like cutting off the tallest and fullest roses in your garden."

But for the past 20 years, the house lay mostly vacant, tempting vagrants and vandals who carted away what treasures remained, and sometimes camped there. Two years ago, a young woman who accepted a ride from strangers was taken there and raped. "It's the saddest thing in the world. We, the neighbors, seem to be the only ones who care what has happened to the place," Dr. Kuntz said.

"What we've lost," she went on, "is the beauty of something that would be impossible to find in this day and age. A. & S. still beautiful."

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: ~~NEA~~ ECLECTIC

architect/m-builder: Neel Reid ^{Frederick Law} engineer:
landscape/garden designer: F.L. OLMSTED, SR. artist/artisan:
interior decorator: ^{and JOHN C. OLMSTED,} landscape architects builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role

&

appropriate date)

personal JOEL HURT - ATLANTA BUSINESSMAN AND FOUNDER OF KIRKWOOD LAND CO.

events

institutional KIRKWOOD LAND CO. - DEVELOPER OF DRUID HILLS

1900--1915, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., and John C. Olmsted, landscape architects

Series of small parks and parkways laid out through the wealthy Atlanta suburb of Druid Hills; ~~many~~ ⁴ notable residences designed by local architect, Neel Reid. One of few examples of Olmsted's work in the Southeast.

MUNICIPAL COUNTY

SMALL
OF PARKS AND PARKWAYS
BY THE FIRM OF F.L.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences) ONE OF THE FEW EXAMPLES OF F.L. OLMSTED'S WORK IN THE SOUTHEAST. EARLY DESIGNS DONE BY F.L. OLMSTED, SR., WORK COMPLETE BY HIS FIRM. AFTER HIS DEATH.

Posthumously

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: ~~NEA~~ ECLECTIC

architect/m-builder: Neel Reid ^{Frederick Law} ² engineer:
landscape/garden designer: F.L. OLMSTED, SR. ^{and JOHN C. OLMSTED} artist/artisan:
interior decorator: ³ landscape architects builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES: personal JOEL HURT - ATLANTA BUSINESSMAN AND FOUNDER OF KIRKWOOD
(label role & appropriate date) LAND CO.
events

institutional KIRKWOOD LAND CO. - DEVELOPER OF DRUID HILLS

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1900-1915

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRIVATE ☒ STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY
OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre) Approx 250 acres

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here) A SERIES OF SMALL PARKS AND PARKWAYS
LAID OUT THROUGH RESIDENTIAL DRUID HILLS BY THE FIRM OF F.L.
OLMSTED BROTHERS

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences) ONE OF THE FEW EXAMPLES OF F.L. OLMSTED'S
WORK IN THE SOUTHEAST. EARLY DESIGNS DONE BY F.L. OLMSTED, SR., WORK COMPLETED
BY HIS FIRM. AFTER HIS DEATH.
Posthumously

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 11.1.76
 Reviewer INITIALS: NESBITT
 NR ☒ DOE 4/11/75

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Druid Hills Parks and Parkways

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION: Both sides of Ponce de Leon Ave. between Briarcliff Rd. and the Seaboard
 STREET & NUMBER Coast Line RR. tracks

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

code

Georgia

Atlanta and vicinity

DeKalb

121 and 089

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER MULTIPLE public/private

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

Substantially intact-1
 unknown - 4
not applicable -

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2
 unknown - 5
not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-3
 unknown - 6
 Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

Unexcavated

UNALTERED

ALTERED

Reconstructed

Excavated

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED

Unknown

ACCESS -

Yes-restricted

Yes-unrestricted

No access

Unknown

historic district?

YES

NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE:

YES

NO

Saved?

YES

NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- RESIDENCES/PARKS

now- RESIDENCES/PARKS

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE - 4

ART

COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION

ECONOMICS

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LAW/Gov't/politics

LITERATURE

MILITARY

MUSIC

PHILOSOPHY

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION

SCIENCE

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment

health

recreation

settlement

socio/cultural

urban & commun

planning

Claims

"first"

YES

NO

"oldest"

YES

NO

"only"

YES

NO