Fall 1991

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Judge William A. Wilson House

Historic Structures Report

History 898A
Fall, 1991
JUDGE WILLIAM A. WILSON HOUSE
HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

SUBMITTED TO:
TOMMY JONES AND RICHARD LAUB
FALL QUARTER 1991
HISTORY 898A

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The Judge William A. Wilson House, one of the few antebellum houses remaining in the Atlanta area, is located on Fairburn Road in district 14f, land lot 11, Fulton County, Georgia. The house was originally the main building of a 1200 acre plantation that has subsequently been subdivided. The Wilson House now sits on a 2.8 acre plot that is part of the surrounding 92+ acre tract owned by Southwest Community Hospital. The land adjacent to the house is heavily overgrown except for a family cemetery and slave burial grounds located southwest of the house. A detached kitchen and a number of other out-buildings, including several slave cabins, were once located on the property.

The purpose of this report is to provide a brief historical overview of the house and document the present condition of the existing structure and grounds. No formal restoration plan for the structure or grounds is included at this time, however, suggestions are presented for needed repairs to the interior and exterior of the house.

In preparing this report, the History 898A class at Georgia State University had the cooperation of the remaining Wilson family members living in the Atlanta area, members of Friends of Southwest Community Hospital, The Atlanta Historical Society, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the
Atlanta Urban Design Commission, who made available for our use family photos, newspaper articles, maps and other background material.
Built over a period of three years, 1856-1859, the Wilson House is one of the last remaining plantation houses in Atlanta. The two-story Greek Revival structure was reportedly built using slave labor and is an example of a typical four-over-four antebellum plantation house with a large central hall and four large, square rooms of equal size on each floor. The basic plan was altered in the 1960's when the back southwest room on the first floor was divided into two rooms with the insertion of an east-west wall to create a kitchen and additional room. (See floor plan--rooms 106,107)

The exterior walls are constructed of hand-made brick, fieldstone and mortar, covered with stucco. The walls are approximately twenty-six inches at the foundation, taper to eighteen inches at the first story and to approximately thirteen inches on the second floor. The general condition of the structural framing in the house is good, with the exception of the damage to the masonry wall and floor and ceiling framing, caused by a hole in the roof on the south-east side of the house.

A two-story portico with a second-floor porch, supported by four square columns, was removed in the 1960's when the house was purchased by the Holy Family Hospital. The existing two-story addition with asbestos siding was built on the remain-
ing foundation and the house was used as nurses's quarters for the Sisters who staffed the hospital. The columns are now being used in a residential structure owned by John Cash and located at 4170 Tell Road in Atlanta. A screen porch was also located on the rear of the structure but is no longer intact and only the deteriorated wooden porch floor remains.

The detached kitchen, slave cabins, and other out-buildings were important features of the Wilson House. The history of the Wilson property could be more accurately documented if an archaeological study of the property was conducted.

In addition to its architectural importance, the house is also significant because of its association with Judge William Asbury Wilson and General William Tecumseh Sherman, who made the house his headquarters when he planned the final strategy for the capture of Atlanta.

"Judge Wilson was the grandson of John Wilson who came from England to Virginia in 1740, and served as a Captain in the Revolutionary War. Judge Wilson the youngest son (10th of 12 children) born to William Wilson and Mary Leake who settled first in Franklin County, Georgia, and later settled in old Campbell County (Sandtown) Georgia. The land on which the Wilson house stands was surveyed by John Starnett in 1821, shortly after this land was ceded to the State of Georgia by the Creek Indians. Starnett and Thomas Hendricks
were commissioned by Gov. Troup of Georgia to distribute the land that would subsequently form Dooly, Houston, Monroe, Fayette and Henry Counties. Judge Wilson's parents acquired 1200 acres in Dekalb County and finally annexed by Fulton County. Wilson was the second largest landowner in the area; his holdings were second only to those of Judge Clark Howell. His property extended from Dollar Road to Cascade Road to the County Line. Wilson had the house constructed for his bride, Sara Amanda Glass Wilson.

When the Civil War was declared, Wilson took his family and house servants to his wife's family in Covington, Georgia, and returned to join the Confederate Army with his friend and neighbor, 16-year-old John Cash, Jr. They served four years in the 38th Georgia Light Artillery. The plantation was left in the care of Wilson's overseer and field hands.

In August, 1864, the Wilson house was directly in the line of a Federal flanking movement designed to cut the two remaining rail lines leading into Atlanta and thus bring about the surrender of the city. Federal troops camped on Wilson land during a month-long series of skirmishes known as the Battle of Utoy Creek. This was a battle Sherman could not win; he was stopped by strategically entrenched Confederate troops. During the last week in August, 1864, General William Tecumseh Sherman used the Wilson house as temporary headquarters while he regrouped his forces for still another
flanking movement, this time to Red Oak and Jonesboro, where Federal forces finally destroyed the two remaining rail lines to Atlanta. Atlanta surrendered on September 2, 1864. It is known that Sherman stayed at the Wilson house at least one night, and it is believed that he stayed there throughout the week. He supposedly brought his horse indoors and tied it to a newel post before he went upstairs to bed. Hoofmarks in the hall floor would tend to substantiate this family legend.

Before Sherman left the Wilson property, he "gave" the house to the overseer who promptly sold and otherwise distributed some of the furnishings. Wilson had some difficulty reclaiming his home after the war ended, and found it necessary to re-purchase some of his furniture.

When hostilities ceased, Wilson moved his family back into the house, and became an active leader in community affairs. In addition to serving as judge for the Lickskillet District, he was a legislator in the Georgia General Assembly and a charter member of the Methodist Bethel Church of Adamsville where he served for many years as Sunday School Superintendant. The house was a center for social and community gatherings, and the Adamsville Masonic Lodge was formed and chartered in one of the upstairs rooms of this house. Wilson was also sheriff of Fulton County for many years.

Judge Wilson and his wife, Sara, had four children. Sara
Wilson died in 1868, and Judge Wilson married Emma Loyd of Virginia in the early 1870's. Emma Loyd Wilson bore him seven children. The house stayed in the family until 1962, when Dr. Thomas N. Guffin, great-grandson of Judge Wilson, sold the property to Holy Family Hospital. 1

The original mantel pieces are still intact and are also in the possession of the aforementioned John Cash of Atlanta. The stairway banister was removed for safekeeping by the Dr. William Coppedge family. The mantel pieces, banister and some family furniture owned by the Guffins could be returned for use in the restoration of the Wilson House.

EXTERIOR
GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Wilson House is a two-story Greek Revival structure which was completed in 1859. The house is a four-over-four plan covered with a low pitched hipped roof. Old 1925 photographs of the house show a full-height entry porch on the north facade with square Doric columns and a second floor balcony. A modern addition was built on the entry porch foundation in the 1960's. The south facade originally had a small one-story back porch which is now in ruins. The south masonry wall has an outline and holes which are evidence of the location of the back porch.

The exterior walls are constructed of brick, fieldstone and mortar covered with several layers of stucco. The earliest layer of stucco is scored to resemble blocks of stone, the evidence of which can be seen in several areas where the new stucco has peeled off. The width of the walls is graduated beginning with 26" at the foundation, 18" at the first floor and 13" at the second floor.

The condition of the roof is poor. Vegetation covering the southeast corner of the house has helped to create a large opening in the roof exposing the interior roof joists. The roof, soffit, cornice, fascia and crown molding at this corner are totally deteriorated. At the northeast corner, a
similar situation exists, however, there is only a partial deterioration. Old 1925 photographs suggest that the roof was once a metal roof with two chimneys projecting out on the east and west sides. There is also evidence of the chimney locations in the attic where more recent framing has been installed. The chimneys are now gone and the roof is covered with green asphalt shingles which are warped and peeling. There are no gutters in place and no evidence that any existed previously.

The foundation is approximately two feet from ground level and is built out three inches from the wall, forming a water table ledge. Ventilation holes surround the entire foundation with approximately six vents per facade. There is a door in the foundation wall at the south facade which leads into a partial basement and crawlspace. The foundation is in excellent shape and the stucco shows no signs of water damage, cracking or erosion.

All of the wood used on the house for window casings, cornice molding, soffits and fascia boards has remnants of flaking white paint. The wooden window casings, however, are solid and show no signs of rot. The windows and doors have been boarded up to prevent further damage.

There is a large cedar tree at each corner of the house except the northwest corner. The house is nearly enveloped in vegetation causing moisture retention and problems for much of the stucco. Bare masonry is exposed in only a few trouble spots, especially on the west facade near the first
floor door (which was converted from an original window). The exterior appears to be free of pests such as termites, beetles or ants.

Most of the threat of damage to the exterior of the structure, is more than likely due to vegetation overgrowth and roof drainage problems. Damage to the structure is occurring from the roof downwards rather than the foundation upwards.

To prevent further damage to the exterior, it is suggested that the roof be structurally repaired. The shingles need to be removed and replaced as a way to stabilize the structure. Ideally, materials which closely resemble the original metal roofing should eventually replace the shingles. Although gutters are not original to the house, it is recommended that gutters be added in a way that will not alter the original structure. Gutters will aid in diverting water from the stucco until such a time when proper attention can be given to restoring the stucco. It is not recommended; however, to conduct repairs on the stucco or masonry without a professional investigation. Haphazard or well-intentioned repair work could destroy the integrity and authenticity of the exterior surface.
South Facade

The south facade contains five windows across the second floor and four across the first floor with a door in the center. The door was originally the rear entry door accessed by the back porch landing. Two openings above the door in the masonry and an outline against the stucco are evidence of the location of the porch. Wooden remnants of pilasters have fallen and are rotting on both sides of the doorway. The wooden porch is rotting and is overtaken by vegetation. Newspaper was found stuffed in the stucco along the outline of where the porch was. The newspaper was dated May 21, 1952.

Shutters are missing on all of the windows except three on the left side of the second floor. The paint is peeling off the shutters and appear to have been a dark green or black color. The shutter hardware still exists on all of the windows. The wooden window casings are unpainted and exposed to the elements, but show no signs of rot. The window sills are also exposed and are sturdy as well.

The stucco on the southeast corner has worn off, exposing areas of mortar, stone and brick. Vegetation is growing on the wall. The mortar in this area is badly pitted and eroded, especially under the windows on the second floor. The stucco which is left on the walls is soft and sandy behind the vegetation. The missing stucco on the
southeast corner exposes the flat arch brick pattern of the window lintels. Much of the missing stucco on the south facade seems to be a direct result of moisture problems caused by vegetation which nearly engulfs the entire wall.

Evidence of two separate layers of stucco from two different time periods can be clearly seen. The earlier stucco is grayish with score marks simulating stone in some places.

The door at the bottom of the southwest corner leads to a partial basement and crawlspace and is covered with vegetation.
GENERAL NOTES

1) HOLE IN ROOF & FRAMING, DAMAGED, EXPOSED MASONRY, DAMAGED ELAST带 IN CROSS-HATCHED AREAS
2) LOCATION OF FORMER PONTOON, HUES FOR BEAMS REMAIN IN MASONRY
3) ENCASED BASEMENT ON SOUTHWEST QUADRANT FOUNDATIONS
4) SUPPORTED BY 20" CONCRETE RETAINING WALL
5) 6" THICK CONCRETE RETAINING WALL FOR BASEMENT STONE WALL
6) WOOD-FRAMED PORCH RAPTOR, ON MASONRY FOUNDATIONS
7) WINDOWS WOODEN SHUTTERS SECLUDED PASSAGES
8) SASHED OVER SOLID MASONRY WALLS
9) WOOD SOFFIT, FASCIA & GAFIT TEAK
10) SEE HISTORIC STRUCTURES BUREAU FOR DETAILED NOTES OF EXISTING CONDITIONS.

SOUTH ELEVATION
JUDGE WILLIAM A. WILSON HOUSE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

STUCCO
Exposed Stucco
Exposed Masonry
Early Stucco
Early Masonry
Exposed Stucco
Exposed Masonry

DRAWN BY
DATE
11/25/91
APPROVED
REV.
SCALE
JOB NO.
1/4" = 1'-0"
A-3
7 SHEETS
South Facade

A. Front view showing overgrowth of vegetation and the damaged stucco and masonry walls.

B. Close up of problem area under the hole in the roof. Water from the roof is causing the general deterioration of the south facade.

C. Close up of exposed masonry and hole where porch was attached.

D. Close up of hole in roof, rotting wood and exposed rafters.
West Facade

The west facade has four windows across each of the first and second stories. The second window from the right on the first floor has been converted into a doorway with exterior steps and a landing. All shutters are missing on the first floor and all shutters are intact on the second floor (except the far left window missing half of a pair). The shutter hardware is in place on all windows.

The wooden window and door casings are exposed but show no signs of rot and are solid. A hole in the door casing most probably was drilled for a doorbell and even though the wood appears to be rotten, it is hard and solid. The window sills are covered in a thin layer of white paint which is flaking.

The stucco is in fair shape on the west facade. The only stucco missing is around the doorway. There are moisture stains on the stucco at the first floor level and hairline cracks. The area around the doorway has the earliest layer of stucco exposed as well as a portion of the underlying masonry. The exposed masonry is about two feet up from the foundation level and has eroded to approximately one foot deep. The cause of this hole is not apparent, considering that the surrounding stucco and masonry is solid and intact. The masonry hole is adjacent to the holes in the door casing; possibly there is a correlation.
The west facade is not disturbed by much vegetative growth, except by the cedar tree growing at the southwest corner that has not caused any visible damage as yet.

The west facade does not contain any signs of scoring because the earliest layer of stucco is flaking and crumbling and the scoring marks have been lost.
NOTES

1) DAMAGED & EXPOSED MASONRY
2) FORMER WINDOW CONVERTED TO DOOR W/TRANSOM
3) OPENING IN FOUNDATION WALL
4) EXCAVATED BASEMENT IN SOUTHWEST CORNER,
   ROOFLIGHT SUPPORTED BY 20' CONCRETE RETAINING WALL.
5) SINKWELL TO BASEMENT W/6" CONCRETE FLOORING WALLS

SEE SHEET A-3 FOR OTHER NOTES
West Facade

A. Front view showing side entry door and cracking stucco surrounding it.

B. Another view showing stucco problems around side entry door.

C. Score marks have been lost on earliest layer of stucco. Note the moisture stains on the outer layer of stucco.

D. Close up of hole in exposed masonry wall.
East Facade

The east facade has four windows across each floor. The second floor has a full set of shutters and the first floor is missing all shutters. Hardware for the shutters is still intact on all windows.

The window casings are unpainted, but in good structural shape with no signs of rot.

The stucco is flaking and peeling, exposing the earliest layer of gray stucco. The east facade has the most evidence of scoring that simulates stone. Scoring is evident in four places where the newer layer of stucco has come off and the earliest stucco is still left intact. Only in a few small places is the stucco worn down to expose the masonry, such as under the window sills and lintels.

There is vegetation growing at both the southeast and northeast corners, causing problems for the roof soffit, cornice and fascia boards. This vegetation does not appear to be affecting the stucco yet, as much of the missing or damaged stucco is not at the corners, but in the middle between the first and second story windows.
East Facade

A. Front view showing earliest layer of stucco exposed in four places. Scoring can be seen in these places. Front view also shows detached molding on roof and rotting wood.

B. Close up of foundation and vents in water table ledge.

C. Close up of scoring.

D. Close up of scoring.

E. Close up of scoring.

F. Close up of early stucco, but scoring has been lost.
The north facade is a combination of the new addition and the old structure. None of the original materials are evident in the addition other than the basic overall shape which was the full-height entry porch. The original window openings exist on either side of the addition, one window on each floor. No shutters exist on any of these windows, but the shutter hardware is still intact.

The stucco is in good shape on the north facade with no stucco missing. The northeast corner is free of vegetative overgrowth but the northwest corner has a vine-like plant growing on the wall and covering the second floor window. There are moisture stains at the lower portion of the northwest corner. The wooden window casings appear to be free of rot and are solid.

It is difficult to evaluate the condition of the exterior north facade which is covered by the new addition, but the original openings seem to be intact. The second floor balcony door (which was originally on the exterior but now found in the second floor central interior hallway) appears to be original and in good shape.
WOOD-FRAMED, TWO STORY MASONRY ADDITION WITH FLAT ROOF.
Asbestos siding attached at former two-story porch location. Dashed lines indicate original openings behind.

Vegetative overgrowth.

See sheet A3 for general notes, dimensions.
North Facade

A. Northeast corner showing original windows.

B. Northwest corner showing vegetation covering original windows.

C. Bottom of northwest corner showing foundation and entry into new addition.
I. First Floor

There are currently eight rooms on the first floor, where there were originally five plus an under-stair closet. The use of the rooms in the late nineteenth century is unknown. Alterations in the 1930's by the Guffins turned the closet into a half-bath and the back SW room (#106/107) into a kitchen. The Guffins also switched from gas to electricity during this remodelling. In the 1960's, under new ownership, further alterations were undertaken which divided the main hall in half, creating a front and back hall. The Guffin's kitchen was cut in half by a wall running east-west in order to create a smaller kitchen and additional room (#107, 106). At some point during the Guffin residence, the fireplaces were boarded up, however the mantels, etc. were left intact. In the 1960's, the eight fireplaces and two chimneys were removed and ductwork installed. This undertaking led to the destruction of many original plaster walls and their replacement with wallboard. In the front NW room (#108) window seats were built out under the windows and shelves and a closet were installed on the south wall. Damage was also done to the doorways to rooms #102 and #108 where the jamb panelling was covered with plywood and plywood transoms installed at the top of the doorways.

Throughout the first floor, excluding room #107, the floors are of 5 3/8" wide heart pine boards laid directly onto the floor joists. The floorboards in most rooms show evidence of a mustard colored finish which may or may not have been original to the house. These boards are currently covered with mildewed, disintegrating carpet which should be removed immediately, since it traps moisture. In
general, the floor condition is good. The floors are firm and sturdy, with the exception of small holes in the front hall (#101) and a large area of damage in the SW corner of room #103. The floor of room #107 is currently covered with gypsum board.

All exterior walls on the first floor retain the original plaster, which was applied directly onto the masonry. The remaining walls which are original to the house (i.e. the walls framing the hallway) are plaster on masonry, with the exception of the walls dividing rooms #102-103, and #107-108. These dividing walls were originally plaster on lath and were victims of the 1960's remodelling. When the fireplaces were removed and partitions inserted, most of the original plaster was destroyed and wallboard was installed. Currently, all walls are painted and peeling badly, however they are structurally sound. Hairline cracking is pervasive and an inverted "V" pattern of cracking is present above almost every door and window, due to the weakening of the jack arches and corresponding strength of the masonry piers.

The ceilings on the first floor are all of plaster applied to sawn wood lath. Generally, they are in fair condition except for numerous hairline cracks and the occasional spot where plaster has fallen off of the lath. The only serious problem is in room #103 where the ceiling is totally rotted through in the SW corner due to a large leak in the roof.

Some of the original doors remain, and these are solid, molded stile pine doors with four panels of mortise and tenon construction. They are 1 1/2" thick. The doors installed in the 1930's are of the
same style, yet they are only 1 1/4" thick. The later 1960's doors are of the same style as well, however they are 1 1/2" thick.

The windows throughout the house are double hung six panes over six, set in pine sash. The original muntins are 1 1/4" deep, trapezoidal, with a sharp pointed edge. Roughly half the window sash remain intact on the first floor, and some which have been removed can be located leaning against walls throughout the house.

The original pine woodwork remains in great quantity on the first floor, and it is a truly distinguishing historical feature. Original baseboards are about 11" high, excluding the 1" high shoe mold and 2" high ogee base cap. The base trim projects 90 degrees from the wall plane and is 1 1/4" deep. Baseboard applied to later walls echoes the design of the original, however it is clearly later due to the lack of depth and detail. The trim around doors and windows is massive as well. The molding on the sides of the windows and doors is 9" wide and is then dog-eared near the top of the architrave and topped with a cornice. Original doorways opening onto the front and back halls have deep jambs which are panelled on the sides and header. Doorways which are later additions do not have deep jambs nor this detailed trim pattern, they are simply framed with stock trim. In addition to the wide, dog-eared molding topped with a cornice, the first floor windows are recessed from the wall plane 1' by the means of panels slanted 45 degrees inward from the wall plane on each side of the frame. Between the sill of each window and the base cap there is a section of panelling which draws further attention to the fenestration pattern.
The fireplaces, and mantels were removed in the 1960's when both large chimneys were removed. The fireplaces were located back to back in rooms #102-103 and #107-108. When removed, the missing plaster was replaced with wallboard and new base trim applied.

A. Front Hall (Room 101)

The hall originally extended from the front to back door without interruption. In the 1960's a wallboard partition was installed in the middle of the hall, butting up against the staircase. Without the partition this could be, and was, a grand space with the four large doors opening onto the hall and the two large doors with lights at either end.

Slides taken upon the Guffins' departure in 1962 indicate a scenic wallpaper with structures and trees printed on a cream ground. All trimwork in the room was painted white. The area carpet was deep red woven with some sort of gold floral design, and the edges of mustard colored floor boards are visible. Two crystal chandeliers hung from the ceiling at either end of the hall. The hall was furnished with heavy dark wood furniture with marble tops and red velvet upholstery. Three ancestral portraits hang on the walls. Some of this furniture and all of the portraits are still in the possession of the family.

1. **floor** - The floor consists of 5 3/8" wide heart pine planks laid directly on the floor joists. The boards appear to have been painted with a mustard color finish, this may or may not be an original decorative scheme. The floor is currently carpeted. In general, the
floor is sturdy and in good shape. There are only two holes in the floor, one in the front NE corner and a small one in the middle on the floor.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The walls in the front hall are all original plaster, except for the south wallboard wall. The walls are painted a light tan and are peeling badly. A primitive paint analysis reveals layers of paint beginning with white, pink, a powdery white substance, a gray/blue powdery substance, white, and the current tan. There is no evidence of the wallpaper. The plaster is in good condition generally, the hairline cracks do not seem to indicate a serious problem. The inverted 'V' cracking pattern mentioned above is present over each door, however this does not indicate a serious structural problem. There is, however, a rather large crack on the east wall beginning about halfway up the staircase and extending to the ceiling of the upstairs hall #201. In places this crack is about 1/4" in width. This could indicate a serious problem, and the reason for the crack should be investigated as soon as possible. One possible explanation could be that the front of the house has settled deeper than the back causing a crack in the middle of the house.

Under the stairs is a small storage space with a doorway about 2 1/2' wide and 3' high. The molded stile door with two panels has been removed from its hinges, however it is still in the room.

The ceiling of the front hall is plaster and is painted white. The paint is peeling badly, and several hairline cracks are visible. There is a circle of missing plaster about two feet south of the ceiling's center and the cause of this is unknown. An electrical light
fixture was located in the center of the ceiling, a round hole with protruding wires is all that remains.

3. doors - Two original doors open off the front hall, plus the later door installed in the partition. In addition, the large front door is located in the north wall of the hall. The front door, which currently opens onto the first floor of the 1960's addition, is missing. The two original doors are missing as well. The only door left in the front hall is the door in the partition wall, which is shorter than the original doors and four-panelled. Paint scraping done on the original doors that remain in the back hall reveals that all the original doors were probably faux-grained to look like a more expensive wood than the pine of which they are constructed. The doors were probably the same as those in the back hall -- tall, solid, molded stile with four panels, and of mortise and tenon construction. The front door was taller and wider than the rest of the doors in the hall, and was probably of the same construction.

4. windows - There are no windows in the front hall except for the lights around the front door which will be discussed in the section below.

5. woodwork - Original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on all walls except the south partition wall. On that wall, the 1960's baseboard has been applied. The two original doorways off the front hall are trimmed with the thick, dog-eared molding mentioned above and are topped with cornices. The thick jambs have been covered with plywood, however underneath is the same vertical paneling seen in the jambs on the doors in the back hall. Plywood transoms have also been installed below the top of each doorway. All this
plywood should be removed and the original panelling revealed. The
door in the partition is trimmed with thin molding, mitered at the
corners.

The front door is the focal point of the room. It is also
trimmed with wide molding which is dog-eared and topped with a
cornice. This trim is placed to the outside of the lights which
surround the door. Each light is 16" x 10" in shape. There are five
lights on either side of the doorway and four across the top. The four
panes across the top are the only ones still intact. The jamb outside
the door, inside the addition, is 1' wide and panelled.

All woodwork is painted and is peeling badly. Alligatoring is
prevalent. A cursory scraping reveals layers beginning with white,
light tan/yellow, and white.

6. **recommendations** -

1. Professional paint analysis.
2. Removal of plywood transoms and door jambs.
4. Replace missing doors using extant original doors as guide.
5. Repair cracked plaster, replaster where plaster is missing.
6. Remove carpeting.
7. Analyze floor finish.

**B. Parlor (Room 102)**

This room, located in the NW corner of the house, was used as
a parlor by the Guffins. The main door in the east wall opens onto the
front hall, the door in the south walls opens onto room #103.
Slides taken in 1962 show the same red floral carpet as was in the hall. The walls were covered with a slate-blue ground wallpaper with a vertical pattern of alternating white medallions. The furniture was heavy and dark, upholstered in red velvet,

1. **floor** - The floor is of the typical 5 3/8" wide heart pine boards and is currently covered with mildewed carpet. The floor is sturdy and in good condition. Vents 12" x 4" have been cut into the floor on the north, east, and west sides under the windows. This was probably done by the Guffins when electric heat was installed in the 1930's.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The east, west, and north walls are of the original plaster. The south wall is plaster from the SE corner to the corner of the former fireplace and wallboard from this point to the SW corner. The doorway on the south wall to room #103 is an original feature of the house. A cursory paint analysis reveals an under layer of white paint beneath the current gray/green coat. No evidence of the wallpaper exists. The paint is peeling badly. Hairline cracking has occurred on all the walls, and above each window and the door to the hall is the same inverted "V" cracking pattern.

The ceiling is of plaster also. It is currently covered with wallpaper which is peeling off in large strips. In the NW corner is a large crack. This may be due to the leakage of water through the ceiling and walls of the adjacent addition.

3. **doors** - As mentioned above, the door to the hall is missing. The doorway to the hall is the same height as the windows in this room. That is, the top of the molding on the door and windows is level. The doorway to room #103 is about 1' lower and 1/2' narrower and the
door remains. It is the typical four-panelled door. The door is currently painted white and is peeling badly. Underneath seem to be the remains of a dark maroon varnish which may have been an attempt at faux-graining. On top of this are layers of white, tan, and, finally, white paint.

4. windows - There are four windows in the room, two on the north wall and two on the east wall. Each window is double-hung, with six panes over six and is recessed from the wall plane by the angled panelled jambs discussed below. The NW window on the north wall is boarded up and missing both sash. The top sash is missing from the NE window on the north wall. Both sash are missing from the NE window on the east wall, and the top sash is missing from the SE window on the east wall. One sash is propped against the wall.

5. woodwork - Most of the original pine woodwork remains intact in this room. The original wide baseboard, shoe mold, and ogee base cap remain on the east, north, and west walls. The newer version of baseboard was applied to the south wall when it was replaced with wallboard in the 1960's. The trim surrounding both doors is intact. Each doorway is surrounded by wide molding which is dog-eared and topped with a cornice. The only difference lies in the height of the doorways, the doorway to room #103 being lower and narrower than the doorway to the front hall.

   The windows, as well, retain the original trim work which is identical to that around the doorways. In addition to the wide molding with dog-ears and cornice, each window is recessed from the wall plane 1' by means of vertically panelled sections of pine placed at 45 degree angles to the wall plane. Underneath each
window is a panelled inset which extends the length of the window sill and from the sill to the base cap in height.

Paint scraping reveals the woodwork to have been painted white, black, gold/tan, and finally white. The presence of black paint is seen only on the baseboard and may indicate a layer of faux graining at some point. The white paint is peeling badly.

6. **fireplace** - The former fireplace and mantel were removed from this room during the 1960's alterations. It was located in the center of the south wall, back-to-back with the fireplace in room #103. The hearth was 64" long and 19 1/2" deep. Photographs indicate that the mantels were formed of two flat wooden pilasters flanking the opening and supporting a wide flat board which ran across the top of the opening. This was topped with a cornice. The area between the pilasters and board and the fireplace opening was framed with a wooden strip and covered with square ceramic tiles glazed with a mottled green/gold color. All photographs of fireplaces in the house resemble this one.

7. **recommendations** -

1. Professional paint analysis.
2. Remove wallboard, replaster south wall.
3. Restore existing window sash, reconstruct missing sash.
4. Remove carpet as soon as possible.

C. **Guffin Bedroom (Room #103)**

The room in the SE corner of the house was used as the Guffin's bedroom. Its function prior to that is unknown. The SW corner of the
room is in extremely bad condition due to the large hole in the roof which provides no physical barrier to water entering the house.

Slides indicate that in 1962 the walls were covered with wallpaper which had a floral trellis design in white, green, and pink, on a light blue ground. Furniture included a dark Renaissance revival bedroom suite.

1. **floor** - The floors are of the typical 5 3/8" wide heart pine boards. The portion of the floorboards which is visible exhibits the mustard colored finish which may or may not be original to the house. The remainder of the floor is carpeted. In addition to extreme damage in the SW corner due to water damage, the floor is uneven, lumpy, and shaky. The water pouring through the hole in the roof and, subsequently, the hole in the ceiling of room #103, has caused the floorboards in the SW corner to buckle and deteriorate. They have not rotted through completely, however if they are subjected to much more water damage, they will be permanently lost. Rectangular vents have been cut into the floor under the NE window on the east wall and by the north jamb of the door top room #104.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The original plaster remains on the east, south, and west walls. When the dropped ceiling was installed in the 1960's the plaster on the walls above the dropped frame was removed. The north wall was replaced with wallboard in the 1960's when the fireplaces were removed. The north wall is covered with plywood panelling which has been topped with blue vinyl wallpaper. The north wall is in good condition. The east wall exhibits some water damage. In the NE corner, the plaster above the baseboard has deteriorated, and the rubble wall is visible. The south wall has
experienced extreme water damage in the SW corner due to the leak in the roof. The water has cascaded down the interior and exterior of the wall causing the plaster to deteriorate and exposing the rubble wall. The SW corner of the west wall is affected as well. In addition to the disintegration of the plaster, the water has created cracking in areas where the plaster has not yet fallen of the wall. The walls are painted, and a cursory paint scraping reveals layers of white paint underneath the present coat of light blue. The paint is peeling badly.

The original plaster ceiling was removed during the 1960's and a dropped ceiling of acoustical tiles was installed. Currently many of the tiles are missing, and the wallpaper applied to the tiles is peeling off in long sheets.

3. doors - As mentioned above, the door to room #102 is extant. The door to the back hall #104 survives as well and provides a model from which the missing doors in the front hall can be reconstructed. This door is four-panelled and of mortise and tenon construction. The only hardware which exists is the key hole and cover on this door. Paint scraping of the door reveals layers beginning with blond graining, a dark maroon varnish, and several layers of white, which are peeling badly.

4. windows - There are two windows on the east wall and two on the south wall. The windows are all double-hung, six panes over six. The NE window on the east wall retains one sash, the SE window retains none. On the south wall, each window retains one upper sash. Various panes of glass are broken and missing in all sash. Three sash are propped against a wall in the room and can be reused.
5. **woodwork** - The original shoe mold, baseboard, and base cap remain on the east, south, and west walls. The 1960's baseboard was applied to the north wall. Both doorways and all four windows retain the original wide, dog-eared molding topped with a cornice. The panelling in the door jamb of the door to the back hall has been covered with plywood on the north side of the jamb. The windows are recessed by means of the typical panelled jambs, and underneath each is a section of panelling. The baseboard is generally in good condition except for the NE corner of the east wall and the SW corners of the south and west walls. In the NE corner the baseboard is pulling away from the wall due to water damage. Water damage is also the reason for the deterioration of the baseboard in the SW corner. The leak in the roof has caused water to run over the trim in the SW corner, and the woodwork surrounding the SW window on the south wall is rotting rapidly.

Paint scraping reveals coats of white, gold, white, and, finally, light blue paint which is peeling badly.

6. **fireplace** - The fireplace was formerly located in the center of the north wall and was removed during the 1960's remodelling.

7. **recommendations** -

1. Repair hole in roof to prevent further damage.
2. Remove dropped ceiling, install plaster ceiling.
3. Remove wallboard, replaster wall.
4. Replace deteriorated woodwork.
5. Discern source of moisture in the NE corner.
6. Replace missing sash, reconstruct needed sash.
7. Remove carpet.
8. Professional paint analysis.

D. Back Hall (Room #104)

The back hall was created when a partition was installed in the 1960's which divided the main hall in half. The worst effect of the division is the disruption of the view from the front to back doors. The grandeur of the space is horribly diminished.

1. floor - The floor is of the typical 5 3/8" heart pine boards laid onto the joists. The floor is currently carpeted, however the edge of the floor, where the carpet has been removed, was painted mustard at some point. The exposed boards in the center of the room do not show this finish, which leads one to believe that there was an area rug in this room and to save time the painter chose only to paint the perimeter of the floor with the mustard colored paint. A rectangular vent has been cut into the floor in front of the lights on the west side of the back door.

2. walls and ceiling - The south and west walls are plaster. The north wall is the partition, which is made of wallboard. The area under the stairs is enclosed with wallboard which creates a half-bath. The east wall of the bathroom, which was the east wall of the hall, retains the original plaster. In the SE corner of the hall, a duct cover of wallboard fashioned into a square protrudes into the room and runs the height of the wall to the ceiling and across the ceiling to butt against the stairs. The typical inverted "V" cracking pattern is present over the doorways to rooms #103 and #106 and above the back door. Paint layers reveal a first layer of white, then rose, and finally a taupe color which is peeling badly.
The ceiling is plaster on lath, and the white painted finish is peeling badly. There is a large crack running north-south in the NE corner. Several hairline cracks are visible. At one time an electric light fixture was located in the center of the ceiling, as evidenced by the round hole with protruding wires.

3. doors - There are five doorways in the back hall. Two original doorways open onto rooms #103 and #106, respectively, and two newer doorways open onto the front hall and bathroom. The original back doorway exists as well. The doorways to rooms #103 and #106 are opposite each other, and both doors are intact. They are four-panelled doors of mortise and tenon construction. Paint scraping reveals a layer of light graining, then a dark maroon varnish under layers of white paint which are peeling badly. The only extant hardware is a key hole and cover on the door to room #103. The door to the front hall is intact as well, and it, too, is four-panelled and of mortise and tenon construction. This door was installed in the 1960's. The door to the bathroom was installed in the 1930's remodelling and has four-panel, mortise and tenon construction as well. The back door is partially intact and is a narrower version of the front door. The door itself is of four-panel, mortise and tenon construction. The top two panels and stile have been broken out. The bottom half retains the rail, stiles and panels. This door exhibits the same finish pattern as the door to room #103.

The door to room #106 was originally grained as well, over this is a layer of kelly green paint topped with white layers which are peeling badly. The door to the bathroom reveals several layers of white paint under a cream layer and, finally, a coat of white which
is peeling badly. The door to room #101 is painted white also and is peeling badly. Beneath this can be discerned a dark gray layer.  

4. **windows** - The only windows in the back hall are the lights surrounding the back door and the interior window in the top part of the wall between the hall and the south wall of the bathroom. Five rectangular panes surround the back door, and four panes are installed across the top. Three panes which remain intact. The interior window is 36" long and 30" high excluding the trim. Three panes are installed horizontally, and all are intact.  

5. **woodwork** - The original pine woodwork remains around the doors to rooms #103 and #106. The trim is the typical wide molding with dog ears and cornice. The interior and top of the door jambs are panelled, however the panelling on the north jamb of the door to #103 has been covered with plywood. The trim around the back door echoes that around the front door, however it is a bit smaller in scale. Wide molding surrounds the lights around the door and forms dog ears at the top. The trim is topped with a cornice. The doorway to the front hall is surrounded with molding 3" wide and mitered at the top corners. The doorway to the bathroom exhibits a mitered architrave as well, however the molding is 6" wide. The interior window is surrounded with molding 5 1/2 " wide, mitered at the corners.  

The original pine baseboard remains on all the walls except the north partition wall, which exhibits the 1960's baseboard. The baseboard surrounding the walls of the bathroom is original baseboard which was removed from the wall which now forms the east interior wall of the bathroom, and applied to the later walls.
All woodwork is painted and peeling badly, no deterioration is apparent. The layers of paint begin with white, taupe, and a final white layer.

6. miscellaneous - In the SW corner of the west wall, a cupboard 88" high, 46" wide, and 10 1/2" deep for an electric fuse box has been built into the wall. Part of the cupboard was probably used for storage. Two glass knobs are intact. This cupboard was probably built in the 1930's when the Guffins switched from gas to electricity.

7. recommendations -
   1. Remove carpet.
   2. Professional paint analysis.
   3. Repair back door.
   4. Replace missing panes of glass.
   5. Remove plywood from door jamb.
   6. Remove partition.
   8. Investigate cause of ceiling crack, stabilize the problem.
   9. Remove built-in cupboard if restoring to the 19th century.

E. Bathroom (Room #105)

The bathroom was added during the 1930's remodelling, when the two upstairs bathrooms were added. This room functioned as a "powder room," as it only contained a toilet and sink.

1. floor - The floor is finished with small black and white ceramic tiles laid in a basketweave pattern. The tiles are probably laid in concrete. Originally, the floor under the stairs was probably of the
same heart pine boards found throughout the house. The floor is in
excellent condition, neither cracking nor missing tiles is evident.
There is a hole in the floor on the north end where the water pipe for
the toilet ran through the floor.

2. walls and ceiling - The north, west, and south walls are
constructed of wallboard. The east wall is the original plaster wall
which runs under the staircase. There is wainscotting on all four
walls, and it is completely intact. The wainscot consists of
rectangular white ceramic tiles laid 48" high excluding the cap
course of curved rectangular black ceramic tiles 2 1/2" high and 6"
wide. The base trim is a course of rectangular black ceramic tiles 5
1/2" high and 6" wide. The walls are in good condition except for a
crack in the west wall running from the top of the door toward the
south wall. Paint scraping reveals layers of white, brick, white, dark
green, and, finally, a cream layer which is peeling badly.

The ceiling is plaster on lath and slants upward to the south
end, due to the fact that it is formed from the underside of the
staircase. The cream painted finish is peeling badly, and there is a
crack running from the NE to the SW corner.

3. doors - The door to the back hall is four-panelled and of mortise
and tenon construction. The bevelling on the panels is straighter
than the bevelling on the original nineteenth century doors. The only
hardware which remains is a turn lock below the missing knob. The
doors have many coats of paint -- white, cream, and, finally, white --
and is peeling badly.
4. **windows** - There is one transom window which is located on the south wall about 8' from the floor. The window consists of three lights placed horizontally. All panes are intact.

5. **woodwork** - The only woodwork in the room is the pine trim surrounding the door and the transom window. This trim surrounding the door is 6" wide and mitered at the corners. The window trim is 5 1/2" wide.

6. **fixtures** - The major bathroom fixtures, the toilet and sink, no longer exist. Remaining fixtures include a small white ceramic soap dish set into the wainscotting above the sink. Also remaining is an open wooden cabinet set into the wallboard above the sink. Above the cabinet is a round hole in the wallboard where there was once a light fixture. On the west wall the white ceramic bathroom tissue holder remains.

7. **recommendations** -
   1. Paint analysis of walls and door.
   2. Replace toilet and sink, research original fixtures.

**F. Back Room/Former Kitchen (room #106)**

Rooms #106 and #107 were formerly one room. The room was divided in the 1960's with a wallboard partition running east - west, which created a smaller kitchen in room #107. Prior to this, the Guffins used the whole room as a kitchen.

Slides taken in 1962 show that the walls were painted a tan color while the trim was painted white. White cabinets were built in along the south and west walls. The refrigerator was located
between the windows on the south wall. A built-in cupboard was located on the east wall.

1. **floor** - The floor material in this room is the typical 5 3/8" heart pine boards. Currently the floor is carpeted, though the carpet is disintegrating. The boards which are visible exhibit the mustard colored finish seen elsewhere in the house. The condition of the floor is good, no rotting or holes are evident. Rectangular vents have been cut into the floor in front of the SE window on the south wall and the SW window on the west wall.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The east, south and west walls are of the original plaster. The north wall is the wallboard partition installed in the 1960's. No plaster is missing from the walls, however there is hairline cracking on each wall, as well as a larger crack in the east wall running diagonally from the NE to the SE corner. In addition to this, the inverted "V" pattern of cracking is visible over every door and window in the plaster walls. The walls are painted and peeling badly. A primitive paint scraping reveals layers beginning with white paint, then gray, and, finally, chartreuse.

   The plaster ceiling seems to be in good condition. There are no apparent holes or missing plaster. The ceiling has been covered with wallpaper which is now peeling off in large strips. The vestiges of an overhead light fixture remain close to the center of the north wall. This fixture was previously located in the center of the ceiling of the large former kitchen.

3. **doors** - The large door between the back hall and room #106 is intact. The door to room #107 is missing. The hall door is large, four-panelled, and of mortise and tenon construction. The door is
stable and in good condition, save the badly peeling painted finish. No hardware remains. The paint sequence on the door seems to be white paint followed by a kelly green layer which was later covered with white.

4. windows - There are currently three windows in this room, where originally there were four. There are two windows on the south wall and one on the west wall. When the partition was installed, it separated the NW window on the west wall from its trim on the south side. That is, the side molding and dog ear from the window remain in room #106, while the rest of the window is now in room #107. This was clearly a very insensitive installation of a partition.

The windows are double-hung, six panes over six. The upper sash remain in the SE and SW windows on the south wall. No sash remain in the window on the west wall. Most panes are broken. There are no sash propped against the wall which could be re-utilized.

5. woodwork - All the woodwork in the room is pine, intact, and in good condition. No rotting or other deterioration is apparent. The doorway is surrounded with the typical wide molding, dog-eared, and topped with a cornice. The dog ear on the north side of the doorway was cut off when the north partition wall was installed. The doorway to room #107 in the partition wall is surrounded with 1960's trim which is 3" wide and mitered at the corners.

The windows are recessed in the same manner as the rest of the windows on the first floor. Under each window is the typical panel between the base cap and the window sill. Each window is trimmed with the wide molding, dog-eared, and topped with a
cornice. As mentioned above, the south side of the trim which formerly surrounded the fourth window in this room is still present in the NW corner. The partition simply cut through the window opening, and no attempt was made to disguise this fact.

The original nineteenth century baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on the east, south, and west walls. 1960's baseboard was applied to the north wall.

All woodwork is currently painted white and peeling badly. A cursory paint scraping reveals a layers of white topped with a kelly green layer of paint underneath the final coat of white. There is no evidence of graining on the panelled jambs outside the doors.

6. **recommendations** -

1. Remove partition wall to create one room out of #106 and #107.
2. Professional paint analysis.
3. Reconstruct window sash, replace broken panes.

G. **Kitchen/Former Kitchen (Room #107)**

This room was created during the 1960's alterations when the larger SW corner room was divided to create a smaller kitchen. This room has a door in the west wall (formerly a window) which leads outside. There is also a door to room #108 located at the east end of the north wall.

1. **floor** - The floor is of gypsum board which was probably covered with linoleum when the kitchen was created in the 1960's. The heart
pine floor was removed when the 1960's floor was installed. The floor is sturdy and no holes are visible.

2. walls and ceiling - The west and east walls are of original plaster. The south wall is the wallboard partition between room #106. The north wall is plaster from the NE corner over the door and wallboard from the west side of the door to the NW corner. The plaster walls exhibit the inverted "V" cracking pattern over the doors, as well as hairline cracks. The plaster on the west wall is powdery and unstable. Paint analysis of this wall reveals layers of white, blue, and, finally, white paint which is peeling badly.

The ceiling of the original kitchen was the height of the rest of the ceilings on the first floor. When room #107 was created, the ceiling was dropped about three feet to accommodate piping, etc. The ceiling in the kitchen is of gypsum board painted white. There is a 2' x 4' hole ripped out of the ceiling adjacent to the west door. An 18 1/2" x 23" hole has been cut into the ceiling through the upstairs floor.

3. doors - No doors remain in the room. The doors to room #106 and to the outside would have been 1960's doors. The door to room #108 would have been original to the house, however it has been removed.

4. windows - There are no windows in the room.

5. woodwork - The door to the outside was formerly a window. The south side of the window trim is in room #106. This room retains the window opening, which was made into a door, and the wide dog-eared molding and cornice. The typical original trim remains around the doorway to room #108. The woodwork is painted and peeling badly.
Original and later baseboard alternate throughout the room. Part of the original baseboard remains on the east wall.

On the south wall behind and above a former countertop remains the rear panel of a shelf. This section of wooden tongue-in-groove panelling is 74 1/2" long and 88" high. Shelves were installed in front of this above the cabinets.

A continuous 1960’s baseboard stops on the north side.

6. fireplace - The fireplace in the original larger room was located on the center of the north wall of room #107. The fireplace was removed in the 1960's alterations.

7. recommendations -
   1. Remove south wall, create one room out of #106 and #107.
   2. Replace heart pine floor.
   3. Remove any extant fixtures.
   4. Professional paint analysis.

H. Dining Room (Room #108)

This room was used as a dining room by the Guffins. It was connected to the former kitchen by the doorway in the south wall. This is the fourth room of four which originally opened onto the main hall. Alterations in the 1960's changed some details of the room, especially on the south wall where built-in shelves and a closet were installed.

Slides taken in 1962 reveal a cream ground wallpaper with a floral chintz pattern in pinks and greens. The trim was painted white, and a red carpet lay on the floor. A crystal chandelier was suspended over the dark wood table and chairs.
1. **floor** - The floor is extremely sturdy. It is made of the typical 5 3/8" heart pine boards and is covered with disintegrating carpet. The few exposed boards exhibit the mustard colored finish seen in other rooms.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The north, east, and west walls are of the original plaster. The south wall from the SE corner to the door jamb of the door to #107 and above the doorway is of the original plaster. The south wall from the other side of the doorway (the west side) to the SW corner is made of wallboard installed in the 1960's. On either side of the former hearth, square wallboard partitions are built out from the wall 20" and are 24" wide. Between these piers, plywood shelves have been installed for storage. Between the westernmost pier and the SW corner, a plywood closet has been installed. The piers may have been built out from the walls to conceal ventilation pipes necessitated by kitchen appliances.

The plaster walls exhibit the inverted "V" cracking pattern over the doors and windows. In addition to this, many hairline cracks are visible. The walls are painted a creamy yellow which is peeling badly. Paint scraping reveals earlier layers of gray, then seafoam green beneath the yellow coat.

The ceiling is plaster, and the wallpaper finish is peeling off in large strips. There are five holes in the plaster. The first is a large round hole in the SW corner of the ceiling about 2' x 2'. There may be some moisture damage in this corner, the cause of which is not visible to the naked eye. There are four holes which seem to form the vertices of a square, each located about 5' from the other.
Some lath is missing, though most is intact. This is a strange pattern, and the reason for it cannot be readily discerned.

3. doors - There are two doorways in the room, one to the kitchen #107 and one to the front hall #101. The doorway to the kitchen is shorter and narrower than the doorway to the main hall. Neither door is intact.

4. windows - There are four windows in the room, two on the west wall and two on the north wall. All are double-hung, six panes over six. On the west wall, the top sash remains in the SW window, and no sash remain in the NW window. On the north wall, the top sash remains in the NW window, and no sash remain in the NE window which has been boarded up and used as a bookcase.

5. woodwork - All the woodwork is pine, painted white, and peeling badly. Both doorways are trimmed with the wide, dog-eared molding and topped with a cornice. The jamb of the doorway to the hallway has been covered with plywood, however the original panelling may be intact underneath. In addition, a plywood transom has been installed at the top of the doorway. The trim is otherwise in good condition with no signs of deterioration.

The windows are recessed from the wall plane in the typical manner by the means of paneled jambs. However, instead of the usual 1' deep sill, the sill of each window (except the NE window on the north wall) has been built out 18" to form a window seat. This occurred during the 1960's remodelling. The sides of the seat protrude 6" from the wall plane. Behind this protrusion, the original paneled decoration exists under each window. Below each new seat is an applied "panel" created with stock trim. This was intended to
imitate the panelling beneath the original windows in the other rooms. All windows are surrounded by the usual wide, dog-eared molding topped with a cornice. A window seat was not added to the NE window on the north wall. Instead, the sash were removed from the window, the window boarded up, and a bookcase installed in its place. The trim around this window opening is still intact, though a slice has been made in the molding on each side 10" from the sill.

The original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on the west, north, and east walls. There is no baseboard on the south wall.

All the woodwork is painted tan and is peeling badly. The only color of paint that can be determined beneath the tan is a layer of white.

6. **fireplace** - The fireplace and mantel were originally located on the south wall of this room, in the space between the two later wallboard piers.

7. **recommendations** -

1. Remove wallboard, shelves, and closet. Replaster wall and reconstruct fireplace.
2. Remove window seats from windows.
3. Remove bookcase form window.
4. Reconstruct missing sash.
5. Professional paint analysis.
6. Discern cause of ceiling holes and stabilize if necessary.
Room #104

Back door

Room #101

Front door
Room #108

Typical doorway trim
Transom added in the 1960's

Typical window trim found on the first floor
Room #102

Typical dog-eared architrave and cornice

Room #103

Detail showing original panelled door jamb
Detail of 9" wide molding surrounding original doors and windows
Room #101

Detail of mustard colored floorboards seen throughout the house

Original base trim
NOTES
1) HOLE IN FLOOR IS FRAMES DUE TO WATER DAMAGE FROM HOLE IN ROOF CEILING.
2) HVAC CHASE WALL OR PLUMBING CHASE WALL.
3) STAIR RAIL, BALUSTERS & NAIL POSTS HAVE BEEN REMOVED.
4) SECOND FLOOR WINDOW SIZE - 40" x 72" MEASURED AT EACH SIDE WITH INSIDE DIMENSIONS.
5) SEE SHEET 1 FOR ADDITIONAL NOTES & LEGEND.

DOOR SCHEDULE 2ND FLOOR

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MODERN WOOD FRAMED ADDITION
AS LOCATION OF ORIGINAL 2 STORY FLOOR.

JUDGE WILLIAM A. WILSON HOUSE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

FLOOR PLAN - SECOND FLOOR

C.A. STATE UNIV. HISTORY BBA - FALL QUARTER 1951 - HERITAGE PRESERVATION
II. Second Floor

The second floor underwent alterations during the remodellings of the 1930's and 1960's. In the 1930's the south end of the upstairs hall was partitioned off to create a bathroom. The north wall of the bathroom was flush with the south door jamb of the SE door on the east wall. The bathroom and partition wall were removed, perhaps in the 1960's, and the only ghost of the bathroom is a section of plywood remaining on the floor joists at the south end of the hall. Another bathroom was installed in the 1930's between rooms #204 and #205. According to oral interviews, the bathroom was located in the NE corner of room #204 and had a door opening into room #205. Again, the plywood on the floor is the only ghost of the bathroom that remains.

In the 1960's the chimneys, fireplaces, and mantels were removed throughout the house, and plaster walls were replaced with wallboard. Some type of ventilation system was added, necessitating pipes in the corners of some rooms on the first and second floors. As a result, wallboard was installed around these pipes, and therefore the corners of rooms #203 and #204 have a strange configuration. The door to the former porch now opens onto the second floor of the addition.

As on the first floor, the floors and woodwork are of heart pine, and the original walls and ceiling are plaster. The ceilings are lower on the second floor than on the first floor, and the doorways and windows are correspondingly shorter. The trim work on the interior of rooms #202, #203, and #204 is much simpler than that downstairs. Wide molding surrounds the doors and windows, however
it is not dog eared nor topped with a cornice. However, the door jimbs are panelled as are the jambs off the hall downstairs. The upstairs windows are not recessed as are the windows downstairs. An exception to the simplicity of detail on the second floor is room #205. The trim around the doors and windows in this room echoes the design of that found downstairs, though the windows are still not recessed. This pattern of woodwork underscores the division between the first floor rooms which were for the "public" and the second floor rooms which were the "private" domain. The dichotomy between public and private rooms was central to the meaning of and emotional association with the home in the nineteenth century.

A. Upstairs Hall (room #202)

As mentioned above the upstairs hall underwent alterations in the 1930's when the bathroom was installed and the 1960's when the bathroom was probably removed and a bookcase was installed on the west wall. Not mentioned above, but also added in the 1930's, were two wooden bookcases built on the east and west walls flanking the door to the addition. The west bookcase is the only one that remains.

The 1962 slides show that the walls were covered with the same scenic wallpaper as in the downstairs hall. The trim and the two built-in bookcases were painted white.

1. floor - The floor is of 5 3/8" heart pine board laid directly on the joists. A section under the window on the south wall is covered with plywood. The original floor was ripped up in the 1930's when the bathroom was installed in this area. In the SE corner the wood has deteriorated somewhat due to the introduction of moisture
through the large hole in the roof. The floor is otherwise in good condition with no apparent holes or rot. The mustard color finish seen downstairs does not seem to have been applied in the upstairs hall.

2. **walls and ceiling** - All walls retain the original plaster. No wallboard additions have been made. The walls are in good condition, except the east wall where a crack runs from the steps up to and across the ceiling. This may be the result of uneven settling. The settling may have stopped, precluding the need for stabilization, however an investigation should be undertaken. The usual inverted "V" cracking pattern is evident over each door and the window. The walls are painted tan and peeling badly. Underneath the tan coat are coats of gray and then white. No evidence of the wallpaper remains.

The ceiling is plaster which is painted tan and peeling badly. A large section of plaster has fallen off the lath in the SE corner under the area where the roof is leaking. Otherwise the ceiling is in good condition, save the usual hairline cracking. There were two electrical fixtures located at the south and north ends of the ceiling. The wires remain.

3. **doors** - There are five doors in the hall. One large doorway leads to the addition (formerly the second-floor porch) and the remaining doors, two on the west wall and two on the east wall, lead to the four former bedrooms. The doors to the bedrooms are missing, however the large door to the addition remains. This door is the typical solid, molded style type with four panels and mortise and tenon construction. Paint scraping reveals a layer of graining, a darker coat of, perhaps, varnish, and several layers of white paint.
which are peeling badly. Structurally, it is in excellent condition. The strike plate remains. The door jambs of the SW door of the west wall and of SE door of the east wall retain the strike plates. No other door hardware remains

4. **windows** - There is one window in the hall, on the south wall. It is double-hung, with six panes over six. Both sash remain, but several panes are missing. The window is not recessed like the windows downstairs, though it was at one time surrounded by the typical wide dog-eared molding, topped with a cornice. This trim has been ripped off the wall and is propped in the corner.

5. **woodwork** - The woodwork in the upstairs hall is painted pine. The four bedroom doors and the window mentioned above are all trimmed with the typical 9" wide, dog-eared molding topped with a cornice. Unlike the window, the trim still remains around the doors. A 3" wide strip of molding is missing from the north side of the NE door on the east wall. The jambs of all the doors are panelled like those off the downstairs hall.

The woodwork around the porch door is more elaborate than that surrounding the bedroom doors and is reminiscent of that surrounding the front and back doors in the downstairs hall. Here, the door is surrounded by five rectangular lights on either side flanked by wide molding, dog-eared at the top corners, and topped with a cornice. Unlike the downstairs door, there are no lights across the top of the door.

There is no baseboard on the west wall between the bedroom doors where a ghost of a built in bookcase remains. The original baseboard remains in the small section between the south jamb of
the NE door on the east wall and the stairwell. New baseboard has been applied to the south wall and to the east and west walls south of the SE and SW bedroom doors.

The original woodwork is painted white and is peeling badly. Under the layer of white is a layer of light yellow over a previous coat of white.

6. **recommendations** -

   1. Repair SW corner of ceiling.
   2. Replace plywood floor with pine boards.
   3. Replace original baseboard.
   4. Investigate the cause of cracking on the east wall.
   5. Professional paint analysis.

B. **Bedroom (Room #202)**

1. **floor** - The floor is of the 5 3/8" pine boards and is currently covered with carpet. Where the carpet is ripped, one can see the mustard color finish on the boards. The floor is sturdy and in good shape. A segment 21" long and 6" wide is missing from a board in the middle of the room. This was a secret hiding place created when the masonic chapter was founded in the house.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The north, west, and east walls retain the original plaster. The south wall is made of wallboard installed in the 1960's when the fireplaces and mantels were removed. There is a crack running up the SW corner of the room, across the ceiling, and back down the SW corner. This crack is in the same plane as the large crack on the stairwell wall, which points to the same cause for both cracks. The typical inverted "V" pattern of cracking is
present over all doors and windows. Hairline cracks are visible also. A square vent was cut into the lower SW corner of the south wall. The walls are painted white over what seems to be a darker tan coat of paint.

The ceiling is of plaster. There are multiple hairline cracks in the ceiling and two large cracks in the south and north ends of the ceiling. In the center of the ceiling is a hole with protruding wires where an electrical light fixture was once installed. The ceiling is painted white and is peeling badly.

3. doors - The doorway leading to the hall is the only one in the room. The door itself is missing but was probably identical to the extant doors in the hall downstairs.

4. windows - There are four windows in the room, two on the north wall and two on the east wall. The windows are the typical double-hung, six panes over six. They are not recessed by means of panelled jambs like the downstairs windows, yet the sills are about 7 3/4" deep. The NW window on the north wall has been boarded up and no sash remain. The remaining three windows retain their upper sash and are missing their lower sash. Many panes of glass are missing. Three sash are propped against the wall and could be reused.

5. woodwork - The pine woodwork in this room is not as elaborate as that downstairs or even that in the upstairs hall. The doorway and windows are surrounded by 9" wide mitered molding; there are no dog ears or cornices. The door jambs are vertically panelled like those downstairs, however. The inset panel under each window (like those under the downstairs windows) is the only attempt at further decoration. The original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain
on the north, east, and west walls. The south wall retains the 1960's baseboard. All woodwork is painted white and peeling badly. Under the white layer are layers of white, then gray paint.

6. **fireplace** - The fireplace and mantel were formerly located in the middle of the south wall. When they were removed in the 1960's the plaster wall was replaced with wallboard.

7. **recommendations** -
   1. Professional paint analysis.
   2. Re-use three sash remaining in room, reconstruct missing sash.
   3. Reconstruct door.
   4. Investigate cause of crack in SE, SW corners.

C. **Bedroom (Room #203)**

Slides taken in 1962 indicate that this room was painted a dark green color and the trim was painted white. The mantel in this room was an exact replica of the mantels downstairs. The bedroom was furnished with a colonial revival style bedroom suite.

1. **floor** - The floor is of the same 5 3/8" wide heart pine boards seen throughout the house. The vestiges of the mustard finish remain under disintegrating carpet. There is a large 3' x 2' hole in the SW corner where water has poured through the hole in the roof, completely rotting through the floor.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The west, east, and south walls are original plaster walls. The north wall, formerly plaster, was replaced with wallboard when the fireplace and mantel were
removed in the 1960's. In the NW corner, wallboard has been installed around the height of a heating duct to conceal it from view. The walls are painted a rosey pink with layers of white underneath. The dark green layer is not visible to the naked eye. The paint is peeling badly.

In addition to the inverted "V" cracking pattern above each window and door, there is a large crack from the top right corner of the SE window on the south wall to the ceiling. Wide cracks also run from ceiling to floor in the SW corner of the west wall, due to the water problem.

Most importantly, extreme damage has been done to the SW corners of the south and west walls due to the water pouring through the hole in the ceiling and roof directly above. The water has caused the plaster to fall off the rubble walls in large chunks. The walls and woodwork are rapidly deteriorating in this area.

The ceiling is plaster on sawn wood lath. It is painted white and peeling badly. A great deal of hairline cracking is evident. A circular vent cut has been cut into the ceiling in the SE corner. This was done in the 1960's. The major problem is the hole in the SW corner where water pouring through the hole in the roof has completely rotted through the ceiling.

3. doors - There is one doorway in the room, located on the west wall, which leads to the upstairs hall. The door is missing, however it was probably very, if not exactly, similar to the downstairs doors off the hall. The only remaining hardware is the strike plate.

4. windows - There are four windows in the room, two on the east wall and two on the south wall. The windows are double-hung, six
panes over six, set into pine sash. They are not recessed from the wall plane by angled jambs, however the sills are 7 3/4" deep. Each window retains it top sash and is missing its bottom sash. Three sash are leaning against the walls and could be reused. Many panes are missing from the extant sash.

5. woodwork - Like the other upstairs rooms, and unlike the first floor rooms, the pine woodwork is quite simple. The windows and doors are trimmed with 9" wide molding mitered at the corners. The inside of the door jamb is panelled and there is a panel inset under each window in the same manner as under the windows downstairs.

The original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on the south wall and a section of the west wall from the SW corner to the door jamb. 1960's base trim has been applied to the remainder of the west wall, to the east wall (for no apparent reason), and to the north wall. All woodwork is painted white on top of layers of white, then tan.

The water pouring through the hole in the SW corner of the ceiling has rotted the woodwork in this area. The window trim is rotting and the baseboard is rott ing and pulling away from the wall in this corner.

6. fireplace - The fireplace and mantel were formerly located in the center of the north wall. The ghost of the hearth measures 64" long x 52" deep.

7. miscellaneous - Marks on the floor, east and west walls, and ceiling indicate that there may have been two closets located on either side of the hearth at one time. They may have been original to
the house or, more likely, added by the Guffins in the 1930’s and removed during the 1960’s remodelling.

8. **recommendations** -
   1. Repair hole in roof and ceiling -- stabilize.
   2. Repair, replaster walls in the SW corner.
   3. Repair, replace woodwork in the SW corner.
   4. Replace broken panes. Reuse sash.
   5. Professional paint analysis.

D. **Bedroom (Room #204)**

Slides taken in 1962 show that this room was painted a tan color with white trim.

1. **floor** - The majority of the flooring material is 5 3/8” pine boards laid on the joists and covered with carpet. The visible boards exhibit the typical mustard colored finish. A large section of the floor at the north end of the room has been replaced with plywood. A bathroom was installed in the NE corner in the 1930’s, and plywood covers the floor in this area. Plywood also covers the area over and surrounding the former hearth. Currently there is an 18 1/2” x 23” hole cut through the floor and ceiling of room #107 below for no apparent reason. The floor is sturdy and good condition.

2. **walls and ceiling** - The south, east, and west walls are the original plaster walls. The north wall is of wallboard. Pipes in the NE corner have been concealed by a wallboard cover running the height of the pipes, and a square vent has been cut into the lower portion of this construction. The plaster walls exhibit hairline cracking as well as the typical inverted "V" pattern of cracking.
above the door and windows. There is a significant crack running from the floor to the ceiling in the SE corner. The walls are currently painted light blue. Paint scraping reveals first a brick color and, over that, layers of white under the blue. The tan coat is not visible to the naked eye.

The ceiling is plaster also. It is painted white and peeling badly. There is a rather large crack running east to west toward the south end of the ceiling. The entire ceiling is covered with the usual hairline cracks. A 3' x 3' section of plaster has fallen off the lath in the middle of the ceiling for no apparent reason. There is a round vent cut into the ceiling above the SW window on the south wall. An electric light fixture was located in the center of the ceiling where a hole with protruding wires remains today.

3. doors - The only doorway is located on the east wall and opens onto the hall. The door has been removed, but was probably of the same design as the hall doors downstairs.

4. windows - There are four windows in the room, two on the south wall and two on the west wall. Each is of the typical six panes over six construction set in pine sash. On the south wall, both sash remain in the SE window. In the SW window, the bottom sash is missing. On the west wall, both sash remain in the SW window. In the NW window, the upper sash and the frame of the lower sash remain, however the muntins in the lower sash are missing. Many panes are missing and broken as well. One sash is leaning against the wall and could be reused.

5. woodwork - The pine woodwork in this room is the same as the woodwork in rooms #202 and #203. The doors and windows are
surrounded by the 9" wide molding which is mitered at the corners. The door jamb and the area under each window are panelled in the same manner as the jambs and windows throughout the house. The windows are not recessed by angled jambs, but have sills 7 3/4" deep. Unfortunately, most of the trim which surrounded the windows has been ripped off the walls. The trim is leaning against the walls in the room, however it has been split and is shattered in places. Some might be able to be reused.

The original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on the south wall and on the west wall from the SW corner to the window and between the windows. Original baseboard also remains on the east wall from the SE corner to the door jamb. Newer 1960's base trim was applied to the north wall and the remainder of the east and west walls.

All woodwork is pine which is currently painted white and peeling badly. The first layer of paint that can be discerned is a layer of white over which a tan/green layer was applied, and, finally, the current white coat.

6. **miscellaneous** - There may have been a built-in closet on the west side of the hearth at one point, judging from the ghosts of walls seen on the east and west walls and the ceiling. This may have been built in the 1930's when the bathroom was installed and removed in the 1960's along with the fireplace and mantel.

7. **recommendations** -

1. Replace missing trim reusing that which is available.
2. Repair hole in floor, replace plywood with pine flooring.
3. Replace missing door.
4. Professional paint analysis.

E. Bedroom (Room #205)

This room is unique to the upstairs bedrooms in that the woodwork is a bit more ornate, though not as ornate as that on the first floor. This may have originally been the master bedroom or upstairs parlor. The 1962 slides indicate that this room was painted dark green with white trim.

1. floor - The floor in this room is completely covered with carpet, however one can assume that underneath are the original 5 3/8" wide pine boards with mustard finish. The floor is sturdy, and no holes or rot are apparent.

2. walls and ceiling - The west, north, and east walls retain the original plaster. The south wall is of wallboard installed when the fireplace and mantel were removed in the 1960's. The central portion of this wall protrudes into the room 20" and concealed ventilation pipes from the kitchen below. The typical inverted "V" cracking pattern is visible on the plaster walls above the door and each window. As usual, hairline cracking is evident as well. The walls are painted light blue over previous layers of white which is found over a brick colored coat. The paint is peeling badly.

The ceiling retains its original plaster on lath. It is painted white and peeling badly. There is a large crack running east to west at the north end of the ceiling. Many hairline cracks are also evident. In the SE corner, the plaster has fallen off the lath in a section 1' x 1'. The reason is not apparent.
3. **doors** - The doorway to the hall on the east wall is missing its door. The door was probably of the same design and construction as the other doors opening onto both the upstairs and downstairs halls. No hardware remains.

4. **windows** - There are four windows in the room, two on the west wall and two on the north wall. All are of the typical double-hung, six over six design set into pine sash. On the west wall, both the SW and NW windows retain their upper sash only. On the north wall, the NW window retains its upper sash, and the NE window does not retain either sash. Three sash are propped against the wall which could be reused.

5. **woodwork** - The woodwork surrounding the doors and windows in this room is different from the woodwork in the other upstairs bedrooms. The door and windows are surrounded by 9" wide molding which is dog-eared at the top. Unlike the downstairs trimwork, the molding is not topped with a cornice. This molding also lacks a 1/2" portion of the profile found on the downstairs molding. The door jambs are panelled as well. Though the woodwork is more elaborate in this bedroom than the others, the windows are not recessed with panelled jambs. The sills are the usual 7 3/4" deep. There is, however, the typical section of panelling under each window.

   The original baseboard, shoe mold, and base cap remain on the west, north, and east walls. The south wall is trimmed with the later baseboard. All woodwork is of pine, painted white, and peeling badly.

6. **fireplace** - The fireplace and mantel were removed during the 1960's remodelling, and the plaster wall was replaced with
wallboard. The dimensions of the hearth cannot be discerned since the carpet is intact.

7. **recommendations** -
   1. Replace missing sash reusing available sash.
   2. Replace missing door.
   3. Investigate cause of missing plaster from ceiling, replace plaster.
   4. Professional paint analysis.
III. Addition

In the 1960's a two story addition was added to the front (north side) of the house. In order to accommodate this structure, the two-story porch was removed.

The addition is very unstable at the present, which makes an analysis of the interior difficult. In general, the floor is of plywood covered with mildewing carpet. It is very unstable on both floors and exhibits numerous holes. The walls are of wallboard which is badly deteriorated in places, especially the entire east wall. Water is the cause of the major damage to this wall. An area on the upper floor is tiled and was used as a communal bathroom with several shower stalls, basins, and toilets.

This entire addition should be removed as soon as possible as it poses a great threat to public safety, and, frankly, it is an eyesore.
ATTIC

There is no permanent stairway to the attic of the house and entrance is gained using a ladder to enter through the cutout in the second floor ceiling.

The attic is unfinished and what appears to be the original two inches by eight inches pine joists are running in an east-west direction. The rafters are two inches by six inches, the ridgeboard two inches by eight inches, and the four hip rafters four inches by eight inches. All also appear to be original excepting the patched locations where the chimneys were formerly located. (See structural sketch). More recent wood decking is nailed over what may be original one inch decking that varies in width with some sections being greater than twelve inches wide.

Matted insulation has been installed throughout the attic floor, probably when the attic furnace was installed to heat the second floor in the 1960's. The furnace and ductwork are still intact. The old insulation needs to be replaced when repairs are made to the roof.

CRAWLSPACE

There is a three feet crawlspace under the entire house except for an area in the southwest corner that has been
excavated to a depth of approximately seven feet below the first floor joists. Concrete retaining walls have been poured up to the original foundation walls and a concrete slab poured in the excavated area, which is approximately eleven feet and four inches square. The concrete retaining wall is cracked in several places, with a crack near the basement door being substantial. The furnace that supplied the first floor is still in place on the slab. Two brick and stone hallway walls run in a north-south direction in the crawlspace and are load-bearing. The joists appear to be in good condition with little apparent water or insect damage. A professional engineer needs to inspect the southwest corner of the foundation to determine if the damage to the concrete retaining wall has resulted in structural damage to the supporting foundation wall of the house.
FOUNDATION PLAN
1/8" = 1'0"

SECTION A-A
1/4" = 1'0"

ROOF FRAMING SCHEMATIC
1/16" = 1'0"
The house was originally heated utilizing a fireplace in each room. In an interview, family members recalled the fireplaces were closed and a furnace was installed, furnishing steam heat to the house. (See p. 13 of transcript of oral interview). The existence in the crawlspace of ductile iron pipe of two inches diameter and smaller, suggests the possibility that the house was heated with a steam system before the present forced-air system was installed in the 1960's.

Most recently, heat for the Wilson House was supplied by two gas-fired, forced-air furnace systems. One is in the crawlspace, and serviced the first floor, while another is in the attic and supplied heat to the second floor.

The galvanized sheetmetal ductwork in the crawlspace is connected to the first floor with floor registers. The attic ductwork is insulated galvanized metal and feeds through framed chases to the second floor rooms and wall diffusers. The gas piping is substantially intact and enters the house at the foundation on the east side.
ELECTRICAL

There appears to have been two panel boxes in the cabinet in the southwest corner of the downstairs hall. The panels, much of the wiring and all the fixtures have been removed. There is evidence of older wiring encased in flexible metal cable throughout the house, attic, and crawl space that was probably installed during the 1930's remodeling and updated or added to in the early 1960's renovation.

The heating, plumbing, and electrical systems should be thoroughly inspected by a professional and replaced with updated systems.
Plumbing chases in the walls indicate there was a bathroom at the south end of the upstairs hall, a small bathroom under the stairway in the first floor hall, a bathroom in room 205 upstairs, and a kitchen in room 107. The kitchen was installed in the house when the original detached kitchen was no longer considered functional, but the exact date is unknown. Family members indicate the bathrooms were added when the house was remodeled in the 1930's.

Some waste and water piping is still in place under the house but no copper pipe or fixtures of any kind remain. Remnants of sanitary sewer piping exits the building on the south side.

The well that was original source of water for the property still exists on the east side of the house along with a pump pit.
The Wilson family cemetery is located to the southwest of the house. A curving tree-lined road leads from the asphalt drive to the concrete steps and chain link fence and gate that delineate the cemetery.

Located inside the fence at its upper northeastern corner is a stone walk with steps outlined by two rows of box hollies. At the end of the walk are two burfordi hollies and the remnants of two cedars. The outer perimeter of the cemetery is marked by a chain link fence. Along the eastern edge are six camellias, one nandina, and two azaleas, with daylilies surrounding the camellias. The northern fence has a row of nandinas and dogwoods.

The cemetery follows a linear plan with the oldest burials located near the center. The earliest graves date from the mid-nineteenth century and are marked by inscribed slabs with little ornamentation. Several volunteer wild cherries can be observed near these graves.

The later burials from the late nineteenth century encircle the early sites and tend to be more ornate. These stones include head and foot stones, with intricate carvings of logs, leaves and curtains, as well as epitaphs, and birth and death dates. There are several more of these type of stones than the earlier stones. The twentieth century graves have gradually become simple granite markers. The newest graves are on the outer rows of the cemetery.
Located in the southwest corner of the cemetery is a small slave cemetery. One field stone marker remains in this area, although several ground depressions indicating possible burial sites can be readily observed.

The groundcovering is grass and clover mixture. Among the graves are several boxwoods, a few hollies and a few volunteer cherry trees. There is one concrete bench sited among the stones and at the end of the path, there are two marble benches.

The cemetery has been maintained and its plan is simple to detect. Other landscape features surrounding the Wilson house are impossible to note as it is severely overgrown. The overgrowth prevents one from observing evidence of outbuildings and gardens.
Recommendations for Landscape

To preserve as much of the historic landscaping of the Wilson site as possible, it is recommended that grounds be cut and observed for a year. The presence, location, and types of plants should be noted and photographed through the seasons. As plants frequently indicate building sites, a plan of the property should be made with their locations. This would be useful in locating outbuilding and garden sites.

The cemetery should be preserved in its present state, although removal of the volunteer cherries should be considered as they are located near grave stones. It is recommended that only hand trimming occur near the tombstones for further protection. Any breakage should be repaired to preserve the original stone and to prevent further damage.
I. Cemetery and grave sites (South to North, East to West)

Row: A1. Spivey family headstone
1. Emelyn G. Spivey
   July 27, 1918 - (footstone)
2. Rev. Gaines M. Spivey (footstone)
   March 27, 1900 - December 23, 1985

A2. Guffin family headstone with two urns
1. Ruth Collier Guffin (footstone)
   January 17, 1897 - June 6, 1958
2. Thomas Dewitt Guffin (footstone)
   April 18, 1892 - April 22, 1968
3. Thomas Newton Guffin (footstone)
   December 5, 1924 - April 3, 1988
   Lt. US Navy
   WW II, Korea
   Doctor of Medicine

Row: B1. Tee Collier and John Gordon (joined headstone)
1. T. Collier:
   February 23, 1894 - February 2, 1985
2. J. Gordon:
   September 29, 1878 - December 23, 1961

B2. Collier family headstone
1. Emma Wilson Collier (footstone)
   October 18, 1888 - November 25, 1972
2. Mary Lee Wilson (footstone)
   December 1, 1864 - August 5, 1937
3. John Thomas Collier (footstone)
   January 22, 1860 - February 10, 1929
   (John and Mary were husband and wife)

Row: C1. Martin family headstone
1. William H. Martin (footstone)
   September 11, 1895 - January 11, 1968
   Masonic symbol
2. Lillian C. Martin (footstone)
   February 9, 1900 - September 3, 1967

C2. Curved bench

C3. Ella Lou Donehoo slab
   September 12, 1875 - January 20, 1903
   m. Dr. J.E. Donehoo, inscription:
   At rest, No pain no griefs no anxious fear can reach
   our loved one sleeping here
   (lily scroll)
   Inscription:
   In life she exhibited all the graces of a Christian
   In death her spirit returned to God who gave it.
   (Ivy entwined)

C4. Emma Elizabeth Harwell slab
   September 10, 1873 - April 24, 1907
   m. J.E. Harwell
   Inscription:
   Her spirit smiles from that brightest shore
   and softly whispers weep no more
   (rear:)
   There’s a beautiful reunion above the skies and I
long to reach it's shore, for I know I should find
my treasure there - the loved one gone before

C5. Lee family headstone
1. Mildred Wilson Lee (footstone)
   November 16, 1883 - October 10, 1959
2. R. Wilton Lee (footstone)
   April 6, 1882 - January 12, 1956

Row: D1. Mrs. S.A. Wilson
1840 - June 11, 1868
Inscription: Sacred to the memory of Mrs. S.A.
Wilson Consort of W.A.Wilson who departed this life
June 11, 1868, aged 28 years. "She breathed, exhaled
and went to heaven. I want my children to meet me in
heaven.
(Obelisk with base and pedestal on slab)

D2. Wilson family headstone:
   Father, Mother inscribed on headstone
1. W.A. Wilson
   August 12, 1824 - March 27, 1903
2. Emma Wilson
   March 20, 1843 - July 22, 1912
   (AT REST)

D3. Walter Wilson headstone (with scroll)
   February 25, 1878 - August 12, 1899
   Inscription: born February 25, 1878 - died August
   12, 1899, "Although he sleeps, his memory doth
   live,"
   "Our precious Walter"
   [one wild cherry is one the north side of this footstone]

D4. James Asbury Wilson headstone (with scroll)
   February 15, 1872 - February 2, 1924
   Inscription: "my husband"

D5. Maggie L. Nunan headstone (with scroll)
   July 24, 1871 - January 23, 1925
   Inscription: "Wife of James Asbury Wilson"

D6. Coppedge family headstone
1. Evoline W. Coppedge (footstone)
   January 28, 1882 - July 12, 1958
   Inscription: "She looked unto him and was radiant"
2. William H. Coppedge
   August 8, 1872 - November 19, 1938
   Inscription: "He kept the faith" (footstone)

Row: E1. Jennie Presnell Wilson, Granite slab
   June 12, 1854 - January 13, 1932
   Inscription: "Grandmother," Love never faileth"

E2. W.K. Wilson, granite slab
   June 5, 1862 - March 22, 1907
   Inscription: "My husband, At Rest,"
   "Now I lay the burden down, change the cross into
   the crown."

E3. Elizabeth Wilson, slab (cracked in the middle)
   1786 - June 11, 1861
   Inscription: "Departed this life 11th June 1861
   aged 75 years"
E4. William Wilson, lichen covered slab
August 16, 1777 - May 27, 1839
Inscription: "To the memory of William Wilson
departed 27th May 1839, aged 61 years, 9 months,
11 days
[one wild cherry at foot of slab]
E5. Louise Evoline Collins
November 29, 1850 - September 3, 1851
Inscription: "Daughter of Stephen and Louella
Collins, died September 3, 1851, aged 9 months, 4
days."
"Millions of infant souls compose the family above."
(footstone - L.E.C.)
[one boxwood at foot of marker]
Row: F1. James H. Wilson (obelisk with base and masonic symbol)
September 10, 1810 - July 19, 1865
Inscription: In memoriam James H. Wilson who
departed this life July 19, 1865 aged 54 years amd
10 months.
"He was a kind and affectionate husband and father.
A pure and devoted Christian."
"James Harwell Wilson 1810 - 1865"
F2. Mrs. R.M. Wilson (slab)
January 12, 1820 - August 7, 1852
Inscription: "To the memory of Mrs. R.M. Wilson who
departed this life August 7, 1852 aged 32 years, 6
months, and 25 days"
F3. Sarah F. Wilson (slab)
November 18, 1775 - July 29, 1851
Inscription: To the memory of Sarah F. Wilson
who departed this life July 29, 1851, aged 75 years,
8 months, and 11 days
[one wild cherry at grave]
F4. Ferguson family headstone
1. Nancy Leak Wilson (footstone)
1832 - 1863
Inscription: Wife of W.H. Ferguson
[one burfordi holly]
2. William Henry Ferguson (footstone)
1818 - 1864
[one boxwood located between this marker and Wilson
marker]
Row: G1. Unmarked fieldstone grave
G2. William G. Wilson (footstone)
1866 - 1929
G3. Walter W. Wilson (footstone)
1868 - 1927
1861 - 1918
G5. Kennedy family headstone
1. Mary Wilson Kennedy
1859 - 1905
G6. Wilson family headstone
1. Amalthea Wilson Redwine
1841 - 1884
2. John S. Wilson, M.D.
1831 - 1873

Row: H1. Campbell family headstone
1. William J. Campbell (footstone)
   1871 - 1919 (Father)
2. Lizzie Campbell (footstone)
   1880 - 1938 (Mother)

[one wild cherry and one boxwood growing together]

II. Outer perimeter
A. Chainlink fence completely surrounding area with a gate at upper northeast corner
B. Stone walk with steps
   1. outlined by row of box-holly shrubs and two burfordi hollies, 2 cedar stumps
   2. 6 camellias, 1 nandina, 2 azaleas line east fence with row of daylilies outlining camellia row
   3. north fence has row of nandinas and dogwoods
The following transcript is an excerpt of conversations that took place on November 2, 1991 at the home of Dorothy (Dot) Collier, 4130 Old Fairburn Road, Atlanta, Georgia (344-1163). The interviewers were Denise Messick and Marty Goldsmith. The house being discussed is the William A. Wilson house at 501 Fairburn Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

In addition to Ms. Collier, the other informants were Emelyn Spivey of 4120 Old Fairburn Road (349-3323), Mary Ruth Guffin Thomason (Mick) of Carrollton, Georgia ((404) 854-8267) and Betty Guffin of Atlanta, Georgia (355-2884). Relationships and dates of birth are discussed in the transcript, but it may need to be clarified that Betty Guffin was married to Dr. Thomas (Newt) Guffin, brother to Mick and Emelyn.

**INFORMANTS:**

| MT: | Mick Thomason |
| DC: | Dot Collier |
| ES: | Emelyn Spivey |
| BG: | Betty Guffin |

**INTERVIEWERS:**

| DM: | Denise Messick |
| MG: | Marty Goldsmith |

**MT:** Are these the slides that you made, Marty?

**MG:** These are the ones, Ms. Collier, you were telling me that you made slides the day you moved out. I believe these are the same slides, you tell us.

**DM:** What year did you move out?

**DC:** Twenty-eight years ago, you figure that.

(Discussion of whether tape was picking up).
DM: Maybe when we start the tape we should ask everyone to say their name and their relationship to . . . Okay, why don't we go around . . .

MG: Okay, Ms. Collier, do you want to start and give us your name and date of birth if you don't mind, and relationship to W. A. Wilson?

DC: I'm Dorothy Collier, granddaughter of William A. Wilson. I was born July 24, 1908.

ES: And I'm Emelyn Spivey, I'm great granddaughter of William Wilson. I was born July 21, 1918.

MT: I'm Mick Thomason. I'm great granddaughter of William Wilson, I was born October 16, 1930.

BG: I'm Betty Guffin and I guess that I'm a great granddaughter-in-law of William Wilson and I was born July 24, 1926. I really have no relationship.

MT: Yes, you do!

DM: Has everyone here lived in the house or have some of you . . .

BG: I haven't . . . and my husband lived in the house when we married.

MG: You (referring to Mick) and Emelyn and Newt all were raised in the house, right? Okay, we'll start the slides and if you would identify the room . . . and if you could do according to the numbers on our chart . . .

(Discussion of floor plan of house)

MG: Is there any indication of the road in this picture? The records that we have say that the old road went in front of the house.

-2-
ES: Well, the old road went right straight to the front door but the road we all used was over on this side.

MT: But the old road was in front of the house way up about where the end of the tennis court was. That was the original road.

MG: It's not the Old Fairburn Road. At one time there was a road that went up front of the house that they alluded to in the National Register write-up.

DC: It went . . .

ES: It went straight to the front door. It stopped there. (Discussion of location of driveway and tennis courts and Antebellum Road)

DC: It was by those great big rocks. You can see remnants of it but there was a grove of trees, can you see the beginning of the grove of trees, and at the other side of the grove of trees there was a road that crossed what is now Fairburn Road and went right straight up back, I don't know where it went.

MG: So it was almost gone by the time . . .

DC: Uh huh. (Further discussion of slides).

MG: Was the renovation in 1930? Does anybody remember? We have some notes that said that it was renovated in 1930.

BG: George Goodwin will be a good resource on that.

MG: When was this garage put in? Mick was that there when I . . .
MT: It seems like it was put in after that.
DM: Is that by that circular drive?
ALL: Yes.
DM: Is that a freestanding carport?
MT: That was put in after I married, I believe. (Slides continue)
BG: Dorothy has those two pictures, the two round pictures on the wall (in the downstairs hallway). Those are the pictures of the man that built the house. Dorothy has them. They were in our storage room.
DC: The chest that is there is this chest. And the chair is right over yonder and there's another one like it on the other side.
?: I have two of the chairs at my house. (More slides)
BG: Now that banister is in the Coppedge's garage, Dr. Coppedge's garage.
MG: But the newell post can't be found?
BG: I don't know, I thought they had that too.
MT: I thought they did too but I asked Mae and she said no.
(Further discussion of slides)
DM: Now those fireplaces and mantel pieces were there when you moved out?
ALL: Yes.
MG: In '62 they were still intact?
ALL: Correct.
MT: It says in that report that someone has removed them for safekeeping. . . . See, there was a fireplace in each room . . . (Further discussion of slides and furniture, how kitchen [106 and 107 on floor plan] was one big room, partitioned after they moved).

MT: Marty, do you remember me showing you how at the base of that newell post one of the panels would come out and I used to hide things?

MG: No, I don't know that. There are supposed to be horse prints embedded in the floor there from Sherman's horse, so . . . (Discussion of upstairs rooms).

ES: The bathroom was right at the top of the stairs.

MG: There's no indication that it was ever there. (More slides).

MG: I guess that's the last one.

DC: Well, you didn't have any pictures of my room.

MG: No, I guess not.

(Discussion of Betty Guffin's slides which turned out to be the same).

DC: Well, I read that about the Adamsville Lodge just the other night so I'm sure that it was the Adamsville Lodge that was organized there.

DM: The Adamsville Lodge Chapter.

DC: The Masonic Chapter was organized there.

DM: And they met in the upstairs room?
DC: In front of the house, northeast room.

DM: What I have as room 202.

DC: There was an opening in the floor that they kept all of their documents. And when they put the floor back down, it didn't show at all that there was a box down under there.

DM: And when was that?

DC: Oh, goodness, I don't know, it was long before we were there.

DM: It was before you were there. You were told about it.

DC: Yes, of course. I was out there visiting long before we moved out there.

DC or ES: We used to go out there for the summer sometimes.

DC: My father worked for the city and he was not allowed to live out of the city. And so we would go out just for the summer until he retired.

DM: And so you moved there about when?

DC: I had one more year of school left when I went out there. I can't think of what year it was. I could figure it. Buy anyway, we lived out there just for the summer and we had to use the well water outside.

(At this point, we moved from the living room where we had been viewing the slides to the kitchen table in order to be in closer proximity.)

MG: Can you tell us about the old road that ran in front of the house?
DC: The drive went straight to the house, I can remember it.
MT: Don't you think it was probably a driveway, not a road?
DC: It may have been a drive to that old row of trees there, and that old crooked tree where they used to tie the horses, and that big rock.
MG: What was the big rock?
DC: There are these huge rocks out there now (discussion about where on map #1) when the horses would go by, they would have to cover up the horse's head when they passed the rock because they were afraid.
MT: And up here (looking at map #1) somewhere was that tree that the horses had eaten. They had gnawed on it and bent it over.
DC: The tennis court was right up here. (see map #1 & 3)
MG: OK, so there was a bent tree here?
ALL: Uh huh.
MT: It was at the edge of the driveway. The driveway circled the house. It came from this road (points to Fairburn Road where "Old Road" starts on the map), and circles the house and came on around out here.
MG: Mick, now where was the bent tree?
MT: It was on this side of the driveway.
DC: No, no.
MT: It was in front of the house, wasn't it?
DC: No, no, it was on the other side of the driveway like about right there (see map #1).

(While refreshments were being served, there was a general discussion about who drew the map (#1) and where it came from. No one present recognized it.)

MT: I just wonder how they knew where the kitchen was?

ES: I never knew where the original kitchen was.

MG: And these are supposed to be the slave cabins here. (map #1).

MT: I never knew that either.

DM: Where was the well that you . . .

ALL: Right here.

MG: Was there just one?

ALL: Uh huh.

MG: So this kitchen (as indicated on map #1) doesn't really mean anything to you?

MT: Uh uh (no), I don't know where the old kitchen was.

DM: I don't think this is even accurate for the cemetery.

The cemetery was way back here.

(Thee followed a general agreement and discussion.)

MG: Here's this plat that shows the garage or the barn. What was it Mick? This map may be more accurate (referring to the hospital plat, map #2).

MT: It may be that carport. (The one we saw in the slides.)

(Some discussion followed). You asked about a house that
went past the cemetery. The road kept on going past the cemetery and that house was right up here.

ES: That was an old house that had been there for years and years and years and, see, this couple that worked for my mother and father lived there. 

(Discussion about the road)

MG: What about over here (pointing to west side of property behind the house) in the way of outbuildings. Were there barns or smoke-houses, or anything over in that area?

MT: The barn was there but not the way they've got it (on map #2). It's up here, not back here (see map #3), and there was an old chicken house that we made into a servant's quarters.

DC: But Lizzie B didn't live there, Vashti lived there.

ES: That was one of the strange names we had that lived there.

BG: She smoked cigars.

ES: She had love knots on the ceiling. I don't know if you know what that is or not.

MT: They were made of yarn or rope or something.

DC: She came from LaGrange.

MG: Do you remember any stories, anybody, about before you moved there back before the 30's, before it was remodeled. Were there any stories at all that would indicate any other outbuildings on the property?
ES: I just remember that the kitchen was away from the house, detached from the house.

MT: Dot, do you ever remember the kitchen being there?

DC: No, no, no.

ES: And you don't remember where it was?

DC: I remember where it was supposed to be, where the carport was when we lived there.

MG: The old kitchen? The one that was torn . . .

DC: Uh huh, and there was a walkway from there to the house.

MG: And that was the original kitchen?

DC: Yeah, that was the original kitchen but it was not destroyed but damaged heavily during the war when Sherman was there.

MT: Was it a covered walkway Dot?

DC: Yes, I think it was, see, I never did see it. This is all what I've been told.

(There is a general discussion about newspaper articles concerning the property, and the location of the kitchen and the tenant house. Mick decides to draw an accurate map (#3). Personal comments are made and the tenant, Vashti, comes up again).

ES: If you could see her on a horse coming up the road with a big cigar in her mouth! She would get on my horse and ride down to the neighborhood store which was what, a couple of miles there where they had the coldest drinks in Georgia.
And one morning we woke up with all this commotion going on, and went out, and there she was at 3 o'clock in the morning shooting off fire crackers.

DC: She was off one weekend and she wanted to go to town, Ruth (Ruth Collier?) talked to her for ages about how to pay her car fare, be sure she got the change and everything, and she went to town. She was just living out there, she'd go to LaGrange ever once in awhile to see her people, but when she came back from town, she had bought her an evening dress! A beautiful evening dress! She had spent all of her money.

DC: I'll tell you who might tell you some things, Lillian Smith.

ALL: Yes!

DC: Lillian and Jake lived in that little house up there behind the cemetery. And Jake cleaned the cemetery for 50¢ a day, and now we pay $100.00 a day!

DM: Lillian and Jake Smith, they live in this area still?

MT: Jake's dead, but Lillian and Jill would love to tell you about how it was.

DM: Do you know her address or phone number?

BG: Didn't she used to come to the office?

DC: I could get it.

MT: OK, I need your help (still working on the map #3). The barn and carport were about right here, so that's where the kitchen probably was.
(There was general discussion and agreement.)

DC: My grandfather, who built the house was a judge, and he was the second largest land owner in Fulton County. Who was it that lived in the old house before Lillian and Jake lived there?

ES: Eric, he would come bring our Christmas tree on the wagon. (Talk about the various tenant children and their names; "Cabbage" being one.)

MG: Well when did they put Fairburn Road in? Was that always there as long as you can remember or do you know anything about it?

ALL: No, don't know anything.

MG: I was just wondering if the road had been put in later or widened, it might have taken out the slave cabins.

DM: Do you remember hearing anything about the slave cabins? Where they were?

DC: They were on my grandfather's property but I don't know where they were.

MT: How many antebellum homes were on that property? I know of two, but weren't there three? Where Six Flags is now was on the property, and there was a three story antebellum home that burned. He restored it and it burned down, and this was family too.

DC: Some of the slaves families still live on Fairburn Road. It was my grandfather's property and it's near Adamsville.
MG: Well back to the main house, is there anything, any changes, that came before 1930 that might be different from after 1930?

DC: The house was all the same all before.

DM: What did they do in the 1930's?

DC: Put in the electricity and the furnace, and they couldn't go up through the walls, so the steam heat and the pipes came up through the floor.

MG: Where were the outhouses? Does anybody have any idea where they were?

DC: Yes, I know. Right where the garage was (carport).

MT: How many were there?

DC: Just one.

MG: A one holer?

DC: I think it was a three holer.

ES: And the well is the same well that's been there always.

MG: So the bathrooms did not take the fireplaces out?

ALL: Oh no!

DC: The one down at the end of the hall was the main bathroom (upstairs).

MG: It went across the back of the hall didn't it. (East to west).

ALL: (After discussion) Yes.

MT: And the one downstairs was under the stairs.
MG: Mick, you had one here, didn't you? (indicating her old bedroom).

DC: Between those two rooms (204 & 205).

ES: Over towards the hall.

MT: It just had a shower in it.

(Discussion about the shape of the bathroom, how it fit in and opened into the front NW bedroom and other comments and speculations.)

MG: Were all the fireplaces operative?

MT: No, they were closed up. At least while I remember it, they were closed up.

ES: Well the mantels and the fireplaces were actually there, Daddy just closed them up.

MG: You didn't put air in, did you?

DC: You didn't need air.

ES: With those high ceilings, we didn't need any.

DM: The window moldings seemed to be in good shape still.

MG: They are.

DC: Oh, there wasn't a tack or a nail in those moldings on the side of the windows.

ES: Until it was renovated, they were all pegged.

(Other discussions.)

MG: Is there anything about the cemetery, anything unusual you can think of that might be of interest?
DC: It's been there a long time. My father, grandfather and
great grandfather are all buried there. Ms. J. M. High
father's buried there, of the High Museum.

MT: What was their relationship to the family?

DC: Ms. High was mama's first cousin.

ES: And she used to come out in a great big Packard to the
cemetery when I was a little girl.

BG: And they were the Highs of the J. M. High Department Store
too. Used to be the big department store in Atlanta.

MT: One of the tombstones, the occupant of the grave was born
before 1776. There may be some earlier than that.

DC: And back in the back, there's just those stones where slaves
were buried.

MG: I don't think we saw those the other day, oh, there were
two I think yeah.

DC: There used to be more, I think the stones may have been
lost. When they cut the grass, they may have moved them.

(Miscellaneous discussions)

DM: Now what was this inscription about traitors?

DC: Death to traitors. And the bullet holes are still in the
front door.

MT: There's more than one. I think there's two, but see they've
been cut out and then plugged.

DC: And Sherman tied his horses at the newell posts inside.
MT: You can see where they were plugged, just little square plugs.

ES: That inscription was written on one of the columns, that's what I always heard.

(Discussion of location of the columns - now on the Cash house in East Point).

BG: I just wonder where the newell post is.

MT: I thought they had it. (Dr. Coppedge.)

ES: I did too but when I talked to Mae, she said you know, we do not have it, we looked for it, we wanted it, but we couldn't find it.

BG: ... started vandalizing the house and Bill Coppedge realized what was happening and rescued the ... 

MT: Now the mantels, what happened to them?

BG: Just got lost. Nobody knows.

MG: Were there any light fixtures that you know of prior to the remodeling of the house?

DC: The gas.

MG: There were gas fixtures? They were taken out I guess?

DC: Uh huh. And put the electric ones in.

DM: Those chandeliers in the pictures were put in in the 30's? And the kitchen was put in at that time too?

ES: Uh huh.

DC: The kitchen? The kitchen was there all along.
MG: Prior to 1930?

DC: Uh huh . . . There was a wood stove there until 1930. And a tub to take a bath.

(Discussion of cabinet on back porch, had fuse box, put in with electricity).

BG: Now Ruth did redecorate the living room the year we married, '47 or '48, and that's when she had this furniture, she bought this furniture because she redid the whole place right at the time we got married.

MG: So the pictures we saw, the furniture were not part of the 1930's restoration, this was later.

Well, Dot, you had mentioned that there were some things that the family had planned on donating if the house was ever restored?

DC: That's the living room furniture.

MG: And the portraits of Wilson? The original portraits?

DC: Uh huh.

(More general discussions of hopes for restoration)

MG: Aren't those trees historical? (referring to cedar trees).

DC: They've been there forever.

(General discussions)

MG: What was the size of the property, how many acres?

MT: I was thinking it was 33.

DC: I read something the other day that it was 37. But originally the property was over 200 acres, across the road and all.
ES: Well, it wasn't what Papa had, but originally it was 1200 acres.

DC: See Mama inherited just property across the road and the house was left to Mama's brother and his wife, but then when he died, my father bought the house and sold the property across the road that was my mother's.

MT: Now when we lived there, we had some property across the road because we planted oats there. We kept our horse there in the pasture.

DC: Well, maybe it wasn't sold until later, I don't know. It was sold after my father died, now I don't know what year it was . . .

MG: Something else came to mind, not related to that. The roof is a green shingle roof. What was the roof prior to that? Do you have any remembrance at all?

MT: Originally it was a shake roof because you can still see them from inside the house.

MG: Was that green roof on there when you were there?

MT: Uh huh.

DM: On the west side it looks like a window was made into a doorway with stairs and a little porch there. Do you know when that was done?

ALL: After we moved. (General agreement).

DC: There was a door that lead down to the basement.
MT: Yeah, but that was on the back.
ES: There's a door down here.
MG: There was a true basement there?
ES: No, a crawl space.
MT: You walked in because that's where the furnace was.
DC: But the room was the size of the room upstairs because of the rock walls, see they couldn't make it but just that size.
DM: On the front elevation, the north, there was a doorway leading out onto the top, were these doorways exactly the same?
DC: Uh huh.
NOTE: The Driveway, Pond, Well, Bent Tree, Big Rocks, and Tennis Court were added to map on 11-2-91 by MG under the direction of MT.
PROPERTY

HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER, INC.,

Lot 11, S-12-14th Dist., Fulton County, Ga.

Scale 1' = 200' — May 1964.

A. P. MARTIN

Fitzpatrick & Co.
Drawn by Mick Guffin Thomason on 11-7-91 as she remembered it from approximately 1945 to 1950. The W. A. Wilson House.
SLIDES OF THE W.A. WILSON HOME TAKEN BY DOROTHY COLLIER IN 1962.

1- Exterior front from NE corner
2- Exterior front, straight on
3- Exterior front, from NE corner
4- Exterior rear
5- Carport
6- 104-back door; 101-hall
7- 104-door open; 101-hall
8- 101-stairway; 104-back door
9- 101-104 hallway
10- 101-104 hallway
11- 101-hall at front door, NE
12- 102-parlor, East wall
13- 102-parlor
14- 103-Guffin bedroom
15- 102-parlor, North wall
16- 102-parlor, East wall
17- 102-parlor, North wall
18- 102-parlor, SW corner
19- 102-parlor fireplace
20- 103-bedroom fireplace
21- 103-bedroom, East wall
22- 103-bedroom, East wall
23- 106-107 kitchen
24- 106-107 Kitchen
25- 106-107 kitchen
26- 108-dining room, North
27- 108-dining room, West
28- 101-stairway
29- 101-stairway
30- 201-hallway, North
31- 205-bedroom
32- 203-bedroom, North
33- 203-bedroom, East
34- 203-bedroom, SW
35- 203-bedroom, East
36- 203-bedroom, SE
37- 204-bedroom, SW
38- Back porch
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<td>T.D. Cuffin</td>
<td>Holy Family Hosp., Inc.</td>
<td>Deed Book 3908</td>
<td>176</td>
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State of Georgia, Fulton County.

THIS INDENTURE, made and entered into this the 4th day of December, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twelve.

Between:

John J. Collier

Admrristrator

And:

The Estate of:

James E. Wilson

Deceased,

in the State of Georgia, County of Fulton, and the State of Georgia, duly constituted.

WITNESS WHEREOF, the said parties, and each of them, have hereunto set their hands and sealed this instrument the day and year above written.

[Signatures]

Dec 4, 1912

Arnold Brogden
WARRANTY DEED

STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF FULTON

THIS INDENTURE, Made the 3rd day of July, in the year

THOMAS DEWITT GIFFIN, Individually and as Executor of the Will of
North Cotton Giffin, deceased,

of the County of Fulton, and of the State of Georgia, as party or parties of the
first part, hereinafter called Grantor, and

HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER, INC., a Corporation of
the State of Georgia, as party or parties of the second part, hereinafter called Grantee, (the words "Grantor" and "Grantee" to include their respective heirs, successors and assigns where the context requires or permits;)

WITNESSETH that: Grantor for and in consideration of the sum of $10,000 DOLARS, AND OTHER VALUABLE CONSIDERATION EXCEPT OF PROPERTY, in hand paid to and received by the Grantee, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, assigned, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents, does grant, bargain, sell, assign, convey and confirm unto the said Grantee, the following described property:

PARCELS ONE:
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 11 of the 5th of the Westminster Estate, as shown on plat recorded in Plat Book 5, page 120, Fulton County, Georgia, as party or parties of the second part, hereinafter called Grantee (the words "Grantor" and "Grantee" to include their respective heirs, successors and assigns where the context requires or permits). To have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land, with all and singular the rights, appurtenances and easements appurtenant thereunto, to the said Grantor and to the said Grantee against the claims of all persons whatsoever.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has signed and sealed this deed, the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of:

JULY 16, 1962

RECORDED FULTON CO. GA.

JULY 16, 1962

RECORDED

FULTON CO. GA.

JULY 16, 1962

RECORDED

FULTON CO. GA.

JULY 16, 1962

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RECORDED

FULTON CO. GA.

JULY 16, 1962

RECORDED

FULTON CO. GA.
STATE OF GEORGIA, Fulton County

THIS INDENTURE, made this ______ day of ______, in the Year of Our Lord Nineteen Hundred and ________ between

MRS. MARY LEEK COLLIER
of the State of Georgia and County of Fulton

and

T. D. GUFFIN
of the State of Georgia and County of Fulton

in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars ($10.00) and other valuable consideration, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars ($10.00) and other valuable consideration, has granted, bargained, sold, and conveyed and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said part Y of the second part all that tract or parcel of land, lying and being in Land Lot 11 of the 14th District, Fayette, now Fulton County, Georgia, and being known as Lots 1 and 2 of Wilson Estate to plat made by G. S. Robert, C. E., March, 1913, a copy of which plat is recorded at page 175, Fulton County Records, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of said Land Lot 11 at an iron pin at the intersection of Lots 11, 12, 26 and 27, said District; thence running east along the north line of said District, a distance of eighteen hundred seventy-three (1873) feet to the west right-of-way of the A. B. & C. Railroad; thence south along the west line of said District three hundred (300) feet to other property now or formerly owned by Mrs. Mary Leek; thence west and crossing the Adamsville and Fairburn Road three hundred eight (308) feet or less, to the west side of said Adamsville and Fairburn Road; thence south along the west line of said Adamsville and Fairburn Road five hundred seventy-three and two-tenths (573.2) feet to the northeast corner of Lot 3, said Subdivision; thence west along the north line of said Subdivision, a distance of sixteen hundred thirty-eight and three-tenths (1638.3) feet what has been agreed upon as the west line of Land Lot 11, said District; thence north along said west land lot line eight hundred forty-four and two-tenths (844.2) feet of beginning; containing thirty-three and eighteen hundredths (33.18) acres, more or less, excepting from this description the part used by Adamsville and Fairburn Road in crossing the highway to said cemetery.

This deed is made subject to a loan deed from James A. Wilson to William A. Elliott, 20, 1921, and recorded in Deed Book 623, page 274 of Fulton County Records, which above described lands to secure an indebtedness of $4000.00, the maturity date of which was extended in the year 1931. To have and to hold the said bargained premises together, lease, rent, and hold with all and singular the appurtenances thereof to the same being, belonging, or in anywise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said part Y of the second part, his heirs and assigns forever, in Fee Simple.

And the said part Y of the first part, for herself, her heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, will warrant and forever defend the right and title to the above-described property, unto the said part Y of the second part, his heirs and assigns, against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever.

In Witness Whereof, The said part Y of the first part, has hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal this ______ year above written.

SIGNED, SEAL,ED AND DELIVERED IN PRESENCE OF

Dorothy Collier
at Large.

Filed 113/4 P.M. May 3, 19____.
Recorded May 10, 19____.

Mrs. Mary Leek Collier
STATE OF GEORGIA,

Fulton County.

No. 181429

THIS INDENTURE, made this ___day of ___, in the year of our Lord 1913, between

Matthew Wilson, Joa. J. Wilcox, W. T. Wilson, Mrs. R. E. Wilcox,

and Mrs. M. S. Cradock,

of the County of Fulton, and

and of the first part, and

of the County of Fulton, and

and of the second part;

WITNESSETH: That the said party or parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of

Ten Dollars ($10.00), in hand paid, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and by these presents, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto said party or parties of the second part, their heirs and assigns, all that tract or parcel of land situated, lying and being in

Fulton, said State, and more especially described by being Lot Number five (5) in the Township (14th) District No. fifteen (15) Fulton County Georgia land more particularly described by being Lot Number six (6), Section (7) and eight (8) of the N. W. Quarter of Section seven (7) of the said Court, Describe by the West Butter of said Court, viz the land described in the land described Lot Numbers six (6), seven (7) and eight (8). To have and to hold the said bargained premises, together with all and singular, the rights, members, and appurtenances thereof, to the same being, belonging or in anywise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said party or parties of the second part, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, in fee simple. And the said party or parties of the first part, their heirs, executors and administrators, the said bargained premises unto the said party or parties of the second part, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, against the said party or parties of the first part, their heirs, executors and administrators, and all and every other person or persons, shall and will warrant and forever defend by virtue of these presents.

In Witness Whereof, said party or parties of the first part has or have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

[Seal] 

Walter E. Cradock

[Seal] 

Mrs. M. S. Cradock

[Seal] 

Walter E. Wilcox

[Seal] 

James A. Wilcox

[Seal] 

Walter E. Wilcox

Filed at ________________ No. 181429

Recorded ________________ No. 181429
GEORGIA, FULTON COUNTY.

BY THE COURT OF ORDINARY FOR SAID COUNTY.

Whereas, William J. Wilson, late of Said County, deceased, died, a resident of said County, intestate, having while he lived, and at the time of his death, divers estates, real and personal, within the said State, by means whereof the full disposition and power of granting the administration of the estate of the said deceased, and also a final dismissal from the same, to the Court aforesaid does of right belong; and the Court desiring that the same might be well and truly administered, and legally disposed of, did, at a regular term thereof, grant an order vesting the administration of said estate in Sarah Emma Wilson, on condition that she give bond and security, and take the oath as therein required, and the said Sarah Emma Wilson having complied with said conditions, the Court hereby grants unto said Administrator full power, by the tenor of these presents to lawfully administer the entire estate, both real and personal, of said deceased, which to him in his lifetime and at the time of his death did belong; and to ask, demand, sue for, recover and receive the same, and to pay the debts in which the deceased stood bound, so far as his assets will extend, according to law, and then the balance, if any, to pay over to the legal heirs and distributees of said deceased, and to do and perform all other duties as such Administrator is devolved upon her, by the laws of this State.

Witness my hand as Ordinary, and the seal of said Court, this 25th day of September, Eighteen Hundred and Nineteen.

John R. Wilkinson
Ordinary.

Recorded: September 24th, 1931

John R. Wilkinson
Ordinary.
BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Atlanta Historical Society. William Kurtz Collection, Folder 56.


Newspaper Articles


Interviews

Judge William A. Wilson House

Historic Structures Report Update

December 20, 2001

This report was created by Michael G. Payne, Graduate Research Assistant

Master of Heritage Preservation Program, Richard Laub--Director

Georgia State University
Atlanta, Georgia
CURRENT EXTERIOR CONDITIONS

On December 6, 2001, a visit was made to the Wilson House for purposes of updating the conditions stated in the previous (1991) report. What follows are the observations made during that visit. All conditions documented during the 1991 visit can be assumed to remain present with the additions of those stated here. This update will not re-state the conditions noted in 1991. No repairs have been made in the interim period but some further degradation has occurred. During the Summer of 2001, the overgrown vegetation was stripped off the grounds and the property immediately surrounding the house was graded approximately 100 feet in each direction. In the process, all traces of original landscaping, plants, and the outbuildings, if any remained, were lost as well as the original circular driveway route around the house. The well is still found off the Southeast corner of the house under a steel plate.

South Facade:

All the shutters have been removed. The outside entrance to the basement at the Southwest corner of the facade has been mostly obscured by earth filling the stairwell, with only the very top of the basement door still visible. The wooden porch is completely missing. All windows and doors are boarded over with plywood. There is a large hole in the wall above the lower right window nearest the door and a large hole over the upper right inner window that extends into the roof. There is crumbling brick and mortar at the foundation just to the right of the door and an opening to the basement underneath the doorsill that appears to be expanding.
West Facade:

All the shutters are missing. More stucco is now missing in the area of the entry door extending up to the second floor windows.

East Facade:

There is more stucco missing than stated in the original report.

North Facade:

The North facade is mostly obscured by the more recent addition that replaced the full height, two-story porch. Touring the inside showed this structure to be unsound, with much rot evident in the interior ceilings on the first floor, indicating probable substantial roof leaks. Refer to the original report for evaluation.
Cemetery and Grounds:

Cemetery: The cemetery is located up a visible roadbed to the South and West of the Wilson house in a wooded area. It is surrounded by chain link fence and has a concrete step section approaching the gate. A recent storm felled a large tree into the cemetery bending a section of fence and breaking a headstone. The road continues barely visible into the woods to a detectable once-cleared area where the “old house” shown on the map drawn by Mick Guffin Thomason on 11-2-91 was located. According to Ms. Emelyn Spivey, servants lived there during her childhood, approximately the 1920’s.

Grounds: The grounds were bulldozed during the Summer of 2001 in order to push vegetation away from the house. This obliterated all trace of outbuildings, driveways, landscaping, plants and gardens. At present the house is surrounded by bare, graded earth. The tennis court described by family members and indicated on their hand drawn maps can be found in the pine woods just North of the house as a level, flat spot carved into the now pine woods floor. The large rocks shown on the map are also there as indicated. The National Register file map indicates an “old road” running perpendicular to Fairburn Road just North of the Wilson house. This location is presently the site of a power easement and also is in the vicinity of the present lot lines for the hospital property.
Exterior Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>North Elevation—Addition made from enclosing 2-story porch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NW Corner.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>South elevation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>East elevation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>West elevation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>S. elevation detail. Top right windows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>S. elevation detail. View under top right windows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>E. elevation detail. Lower right window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>NE corner. Newer addition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>W. elevation detail. Door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>S. elevation detail. Foundation at door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>S. elevation detail. Foundation at door.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>S. elevation detail. Two layers stucco.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>S. elevation. SW corner. Eaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>S. elevation. SW corner. Eaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>S. elevation. View across grounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>SW corner. View across grounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Cemetery gate and steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Cemetery looking SW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Cemetery looking NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Cemetery looking NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Roadbed continuing past cemetery to &quot;old house&quot; site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>John Cash house at 4170 Tell Road, SW. Present location of columns original to Wilson house.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CURRENT INTERIOR CONDITIONS

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First Floor:

See the text of the original report for history and evaluation. Since the original report, all the doors and most of the windows have been removed from the house, apparently with the use of some force. Each affected door and window opening now has exposed wall structure with crumbling stones and mortar interspersed with timbers. The floors are littered with chunks of stone and mortar and much dust, making a good view of the floor rare. The floors and supporting structure are apparently sound with the exception of a few holes, the largest in the SW corner of room 103. All historically significant door and window mouldings and most of the baseboards discussed in the original report have also been removed.

Front Hall (Room 101)

Floor: Much rubble is on the floor in this room throughout making good look at floor difficult. The Floor is generally sound with a few small holes. The newel post for the
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Front Hall (Room 101)

Floor: Much rubble is on the floor in this room throughout making good look at floor difficult. The Floor is generally sound with a few small holes. The newel post for the
Doors: Doors and jamb assemblies, and all mouldings have been removed.

Woodwork: Window mouldings and baseboards have been removed.

**Back Hall (Room 104)**

Floor: Heart pine covered with carpet, apparently solid. Planking visible under carpet is in good shape.

Walls and Ceiling: Same as original report.

Doors: Interior doors and jamb assemblies, and all mouldings have been removed. The back exterior door is still present without any sidelights or moulding.

Windows: The only windows in the back hall are the door sidelights which are missing.

Woodwork: All door mouldings and baseboards are missing.

**Bathroom (Room 105)**

Same condition as 1991 report with the exception of the now-missing door, transom window, and woodwork.

**Back Room/Former Kitchen (Room 106)**

Floor: Heart pine with carpet. Much rubble.

Walls and Ceiling: Same as original report.

Doors: All door and jamb assemblies missing.

Windows: Window sash tops present.

Woodwork: All mouldings and baseboards have been removed.
Kitchen/Former Kitchen  (Room 107)

Floor:  Same as original report.

Walls and Ceiling:  Same as original report.

Doors:  Door to outside (originally a window) has been removed and replaced with a two-piece sheet of plywood connected by hinges.  Entry is now normally nailed shut.

Windows:  There are no windows in this room.

Woodwork:  Some moulding remains around door frame to room 108.  Otherwise same as original report.

Dining Room  (Room 108)

Floor:  Much rubble.  Same as original report.

Walls and Ceiling:  Same as original report.

Doors:  Door and Jamb assemblies have been removed.

Windows:  Same as original report.

Woodwork:  All door and window mouldings, and baseboards have been removed.
Second Floor

See the text of the original report for history and evaluation. Since the original report, all the doors and most of the windows have been removed from the house, apparently with the use of some force. Each affected door and window opening now has exposed wall structure with crumbling stones and mortar interspersed with timbers. The floors are littered with chunks of stone and mortar and much dust, making a good view of the floor rare. The floors and supporting structure are apparently sound with the exception of a few holes. All historically significant door and window mouldings and most of the baseboards discussed in the original report have also been removed.

Upstairs Hall (Room 202)

Floor: Somewhat less rubble than on first floor. Heart pine flooring visible and apparently sound. Area directly under attic opening and beside staircase is water stained indicating rain entering from holes in roof.

Walls and Ceiling: See original report.

Doors: All door and jamb assemblies are missing.

Windows: See original report with exception of missing cornice previously described.

Woodwork: All door and window mouldings, and baseboards have been removed.

Bedroom (Room 202)

Floor: Much rubble. Otherwise same as original report.
Walls and Ceiling: Same as original report.

Doors: The door and jamb assembly has been removed.

Windows: No sash assemblies remain. Missing moulding exposes decorative, keystone style bricklaying treatment over window openings. Otherwise same as original report.

Woodwork: No mouldings or baseboards remain.

**Bedroom (Room 203)**

Floor: Much rubble from large hole in ceiling and roof.

Walls and Ceiling: The hole in the ceiling penetrates through the roof and appears to be larger than the dimensions stated in the original report. Some rotting is evident in visible roof trusses.

Doors: The door and jamb assembly has been removed.

Windows: Same as original report except no removed sashes remain in room.

Woodwork: No mouldings or baseboards remain.

**Bedroom (Room 204)**

Floor: Much rubble. Otherwise same as original report.

Walls and Ceiling: Same as original report.

Doors: The door and jamb assembly has been removed.

Windows: Same as original report except no removed sashes remain in room.

Woodwork: No mouldings or baseboards remain.

**Bedroom (Room 205)**
Floor: Much rubble. Otherwise same as original report.

Walls and Ceiling: Same as original report.

Doors: The door and jamb assembly has been removed.

Windows: Same as original report except no removed sashes remain in room.

Woodwork: No mouldings or baseboards remain.

Addition:

The two-story addition on the North elevation is quite unstable and due to safety concerns was only slightly penetrated by the December 20, 2001 visit.
### Interior Photographs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo Number</th>
<th>Room Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>Entry Door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Sight line to hall door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>Window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>Front Door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>Window</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Stairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Door to room 108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>Corner at door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Newer Add.</td>
<td>Steps in enclosed porch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>Corner Windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Corner</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
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<td>203</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Attic opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>Missing balusters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supplemental notes on Wilson House:

On December 20, 2001, a telephone conversation was held with Ms. Emelyn Spivey, a Wilson family descendant who lived in the house for a period and participated in the oral interview portion of the original report. Ms. Spivey was asked if she had any knowledge of the whereabouts of any of the architectural details now missing from the house. She stated that the stair balusters and handrail, front door (with evident repaired Civil War bullet holes), and a chandelier from the front hall are now in her home at 4120 Old Fairburn Road, College Park, Georgia, 30349. She stated no knowledge of the whereabouts of the doors or trim that have been removed since the original report. The original report also states that the four, front exterior columns were removed and re-installed on the John Cash house at 4170 Tell Road, SW, Atlanta (see Historical Overview). A visit to the Cash home verified the existence of the columns at this address (see photo).

On December 21, 2001, a conversation was held with Ms. Andrea Lang, a former employee of SW Hospital and former member of Friends of Southwest Hospital, who had done some research on the house during her time there. She has also had conversations with the wife of a Wilson family descendant who had been a Medical Doctor at Emory University Hospital before his death (Thomas Newton Guffin, M.D.? Died 1988). According to Ms. Lang, this woman (Betty Guffin?) reportedly has a painting of the Wilson house in her home at 843 Wesley Road, Atlanta, Georgia. Ms. Lang also
reported that a George Goodwin, retired from IBM and The Atlanta Journal/Constitution newspapers was very interested in seeing the house restored.