

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 16 1996

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Wood Avenue Historic District (Boundary Expansion)

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number see continuation sheet not for publication N/A
city or town Florence vicinity N/A
state Alabama code AL county Lauderdale code 077 zip code 35630

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 12/18/95
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson P. Beall

Signature of Keeper 2/16/96
Date of Action

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

roof Shingle

walls Wood

Brick

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1833-1943

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain significance on continuation sheet/s.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 15 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	16	437780	3852100	3	16	438350	3852140
2	16	438145	3852430	4	16	438260	3851960

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Billy Ray Warren and AHC Reviewer

organization N/A date Sept. 1, 1995

street & number 501 N. Walnut Street telephone _____

city or town Florence state AL zip code 35630

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Wood Avenue Historic District (Boundary Expansion)
Lauderdale County, Alabama

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Narrative Description (Original Nomination)

Stretching four blocks along one of Florence's oldest streets, the Wood Avenue Historic District contains 55 structures dating from around 1830 to the present. It derives its character from the large collection of upper-middle class homes built between 1880 and 1930, during which time Florence experienced two major periods of economic growth. In addition, two structures--the Sample House (11) and the Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9)--are listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey. The district consists primarily of 1- and 2-story frame and brick houses, which are evenly spaced along a tree-lined street and collectively maintain a "neighborhood" appearance. Located in the center of an architecturally and historically significant area--Sannoner Historic District (NRHP, 1-1-76), Walnut Street Historic District (NRHP, 12-12-76), Wesleyan Hall (NRHP, 6-20-74), and Wilson Park Complex (nominated to NRHP, 5-10-78)--the Wood Avenue District is in immediate danger of encroachment by the University of North Alabama which borders it on the northwest.

Only five structures in the district were built during the antebellum period, and most of these have been altered. They range from the very plain Sample House (11), originally a two-room log cabin built around 1830, to the more refined Federal-influenced Pope's Tavern (9). Though the other three--Wood-Robinson (44), Mitchell-Redd (28), and Crow-Pickett (8) houses--retain their basic shape, they bear several alterations and additions from later dates.

Around 26% of the district structures were built between 1874 and 1900, the first major period of economic growth, with all of these being of the popular Victorian style. The most elaborate are five Queen Anne homes, characterized by an abundance of shingled siding, turned and carved ornament, and towers or turrets. Fine examples of this style are the Leftwich-Dillard-Mann (49) and Reisman-Coffee-Looft (48) houses. Though most other structures of the period are not quite as elaborate, several of them incorporate a modest number of Queen Anne elements, as seen in the small turret of the DesPrez-Herndon House (35), and in the shingled siding and carved gable-end panels of the Rogers-Koonce (1) and Howell (5) houses. Except for the May-Wilson House (22), remodeled in the Georgian Revival style after a fire in the 1930s, all the homes of this period have remained basically unchanged. Several have undergone recent renovations, and they are generally in good condition.

Around the turn of the century, the city's economy stabilized, but construction along Wood Avenue continued at a rapid rate. Around 27% of the structures in the district date from 1901 to 1920. A few modest Victorian homes were built in the early 1900s, and a few Georgian Revival structures began to emerge around 1915. Dominating the group, though, are a large number of smaller Bungalow style homes. In structures such as the King (18) and O'Steen (43) houses, traces of the Victorian and Georgian Revival, respectively, are mixed with the overall bungalow effect. Others, like the Sockwell (27) and Ware-Wade (47) houses, are good examples of the true Bungalow style.

In the 1920s Florence entered a second period of economic expansion, and Wood Avenue began its final phase of major construction. Building during the decade consisted of several small

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bungalows and a greater number of Revival style homes, which together constitute approximately 26% of the district structures. The Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55), in the Spanish Colonial Revival styles, and the Harlan-Darby Tudor cottage (25) depict the variety of styles which were popular at the time. More popular, though, was the handsome Georgian Revival style, and three such structures--the Redd-Gerber (53), Arnold-Gerber (37), and Kernahan-Bennett (24) houses--are among the highlights of the district. Characterizing the style are the pedimented porticoes, hipped roofs, and symmetrical facades.

By 1930, the district was almost filled in, so only 7 of the 55 structures were built after this date. Four of these--three homes and a church--are traditionally styled and blend well with the older houses. Three contemporary structures, or approximately 5%, do intrude but they do not destroy the character of the district. The boundaries were limited on the south by existing historic districts and determined on the north by a breakup of the concentration of late 19th and early 20th-century homes. As a whole, the district is in good structural condition.

Original Inventory- Contributing Structures

1. Rogers-Koonce House (423 North Wood Avenue): c. late 1890s; Queen Anne influence; 2 stories with 1-story wing on north, beveled and shingled siding, multi-gabled roof, 1-story L-shaped porch with clusters of wooden box columns; moved from 426 Wood Avenue in 1926.
2. Carter House (425 North Wood Avenue): 1918; Georgian Revival; 2 stories, beveled siding, hipped roof, exterior end chimney, 1-story central portico with clustered box columns and balustraded roof, exposed rafters; one of first prefabricated structures in Lauderdale County, contractor: Montgomery Ward.
3. Cromwell-Beasley House (433 North Wood Avenue): 1915; Bungalowoid; 1½ stories, brick, cross-gabled roof, wide front porch with brick piers and box columns, off-center interior chimney; shed-roof porch added on rear, corbeled cap removed from chimney; built by Florence Lumber Company.
4. Darby House (411 North Wood Avenue): 1926; Bungalowoid; 1½ stories, brick, cross-gabled roof, wide front porch with brick piers and box columns; built by Florence Lumber Company.
5. Howell House (443 North Wood Avenue): c. 1890s; Victorian; 2 stories, multi-gabled and hipped roof, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with slender wooden box columns, segmental arches and ornamental brackets decorate porch eaves.
6. Hughes House (449 North Wood Avenue): NOW DEMOLISHED
7. McClure-Sims House (216 Hermitage Drive): c. 1925; Bungalowoid; 1-story, frame, gabled roof, small gabled porch.
8. Crow-Pickett House (438 North Seminary Street): 1833; 1½ stories, brick faced with stucco, gabled roof center dormer originally 3 separate dormers, 1-story central portico with fluted Doric columns supporting balustraded balcony; eight fireplaces removed, central hall partitioned, 1-story addition on rear, exterior stair added.

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9. Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (203 Hermitage Drive): c. 1840; Federal influence; 1½ stories, brick, gabled roof, full-width veranda with wooden Doric box columns, 7-bay facade, double-leaf paneled door surrounded by transom and side lights, dentiled brick cornice, five chimneys; listed on Historic American Buildings Survey (1933).
11. Sample House (219 Hermitage Drive): NOW DEMOLISHED
12. Jackson House (502 North Wood Avenue): late 1920's; Bungalow; 1-story, brick and shingled, gabled roof, full-width porch with exposed rafters along roof, square brick columns.
13. Hughes House (505 North Wood Avenue): c. late 1920s; Georgian Revival influence; 2 stories, brick, pyramidal roof, 1-story porch on north, 1-story wing on south, 1-story portico with paired Doric columns, flat brick arch above windows.
14. Paxton-Broach House (509 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; Bungalow; 2 stories, brick, low-pitched pyramidal roof with center hipped dormer, 1-story porch with rough-cut stone pillars, 1 exterior end chimney, exposed rafters.
15. Irvine-Bank House (513 North Wood Avenue): c. 1905; Victorian; 2 stories, beveled siding, combination gabled and hipped roof, 1-story porch with slender Roman Doric columns, dentiled and bracketed cornice.
16. Duncan House (517 North Wood Avenue): 1905; Victorian, 2 stories, beveled siding, combination gabled and hipped roof, L-shaped porch with pairs of box columns, modillioned porch cornice, 2nd floor Palladian window; rear wing and basement added.
17. Ashcraft-Doster House (601 North Wood Avenue): 1915; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, rough-cut stone siding, hipped roof with center Palladian dormer window, 5 bays, 1-story pedimented portico with slender Doric columns, 2 exterior end chimneys, 1-story wing on south; back porch and sleeping porch enclosed.
18. King House (609 North Wood Avenue): 1916; 1½ stories, beveled siding, steeply-pitched combination gabled and hipped roof, center and side dormer, full-width porch with rusticated concrete block columns.
19. Shepard House (615 North Wood Avenue): 1916; Bungalow; 1½ stories, brick, low-pitched combination gabled and hipped roof, center hipped dormer, full-width porch with brick pillars.
20. Thompson House (619 North Wood Avenue): 1925; Georgian Revival influence; 2½ stories, brick, pyramidal roof with center hipped dormer, 3-bay facade with paired windows, full-width 1-story porch with brick pillars.
21. Wood-Frison House (629 North Wood Avenue): 1889; Victorian; 2½ stories, frame, combination pyramidal and gabled roof, L-shaped porch with wooden box columns and truncated hipped roof, bay windows below each gable end, scroll brackets support overhand of gable.

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22. May-Wilson House (639 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; remodeled in Georgian Revival style c. 1925; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, 2nd floor center pavilion, gabled attic vents, 3-bay facade, 1-story balustraded portico with clustered fluted Doric columns, bracketed cornice.
23. Pennington-Skipworth House (663 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Bungalow; 1½ stories, gabled roof, facade faced with stucco, hipped-roof porch with stuccoed pillars, shed-roof dormer, hipped roof octagonal bay, exposed rafters.
24. Kernahan-Bennett House (725 North Wood Avenue): 1928; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, hipped roof with central hipped dormer, 1-story central pedimented portico with clustered fluted Doric columns, 1-story porch attached on south, dentiled and bracketed cornice, Palladian window above pediment, fanlight and sidelights surround entrance.
25. Harlan-Darby House (729 North Wood Avenue): 1923; Tudor cottage; 1½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, shed-roof dormer, brick and stucco siding with exposed beams, casement windows, Tudor chimney.
26. Hubbard-Richards House (733 North Wood Avenue): 1917; Bungalow; 2½ stories, low-pitched hipped roof, center hipped dormer, beveled siding, 2 interior chimneys, 1-story porch with box columns and brick piers, 6/1 sash windows.
27. Sockwell House (741 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; Bungalow; 1½ stories, cross-gabled roof with overhanging eaves, moderate Western Stick Style trim, brick veneer with shingled gable ends; two rooms added on rear c. 1938.
28. Mitchell-Redd House (747 North Wood Avenue): c. 1836; originally two-room central hall plan, north and south wings added prior to 1882, rear wing added after 1882, 1-story, beveled siding, hipped roof, two interior chimneys, porch enclosed in 1958 to connect rear wing to main structure.
29. Harris-Rogers-Wilson House (755 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Georgian Revival influence; 2 stories, brick veneer, hipped roof covered with tile, two end interior chimneys, 1-story porch and carport flanking main structure, 1-story portico with clustered Doric columns, bracketed cornice; built by Florence Lumber Company.
30. Flagg-Rogers House (6 Hawthorne Street): 1926; Georgian Revival influence result of renovation (date unknown); 2 stories, brick veneer, gabled roof, reverse-curve pediment and sidelights surround door, two exterior end chimneys, flanking wings added (date unknown).
31. Watson-Gilbert-Lott House (801 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Victorian, 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with slender Roman Doric columns, kitchen and 3 baths added 1917.
32. Christian House (110 Hawthorne Street): 1923; 1-story, gabled roof with off-center cross gable, exterior chimney on facade, beveled siding, small overhanging pediment above door.

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33. Waits House (754 North Wood Avenue): c. 1901; 2 stories, multi-gabled roof, shingled siding; rear addition (date unknown), interior divided into apartments in 1963.
35. DesPrez-Herndon House (740 North Wood Avenue): 1896; Queen Anne influence; 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, half-octagonal dormer, beveled and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, 2 corbeled chimneys, large porch added on north side.
36. Mitchell-McCown House (730 North Wood Avenue): 1911; Bungaloid; 1½ stories, frame, gabled roof, twin-gabled center dormer, full-width porch with brick pillars, two interior chimneys, back porch enclosed, new back porch added.
37. Arnold-Gerber House (724 North Wood Avenue): 1930; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, brick veneer, gabled roof, 3 gabled dormers, 2 exterior corbeled chimneys, 1-story porch with balustraded balcony attached on south, 1-story pedimented portico, lead-glass fanlight and sidelights surround door, modillioned cornice, tile roof.
38. Darby House (714 North Wood Avenue): c. 1884-1890; Queen Anne; 1½ stories, shingled and beveled siding, multi-gabled roof, pyramidal tower, 1-story porch with moderate Eastlake trim; side porch enclosed 1956; 1-story structure on rear of property erected 1951.
41. Smith House (658 North Wood Avenue): 1889; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, square and octagonal towers, L-shaped porch with slender box columns, shingle and weatherboard siding, cresting along ridge of roof, flat-headed sash windows, metal roof.
42. Hall-Westmoreland-Colburn House (652 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, multigabled roof, square tower with pyramidal roof, 3/4 width-porch with moderate Eastlake trim, weatherboard siding, metal roof.
43. O'Steen House (646 north Wood Avenue): c. 1920; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof, shed-roof attic vent, full-width porch partially screened, brick pillars, two interior chimneys.
44. Wood-Robinson House (640 North Wood Avenue): c. 1845; 1½ stories, central hall plan, 5 bays, gabled roof, two exterior end chimneys, shed-roof porch with Victorian trim added, flat-headed windows with plain surround, double doors with transom and sidelights, one-story wing attached on south.
45. Sommers-Negley-Small House (634 North Wood Avenue): 1875; Victorian; 1½ stories, gabled roof, side gabled dormers, hipped-roof porch with slender Doric columns and box cornice, decorative bargeboard on gable end.
47. Ware-Wade House (626 North Wood Avenue): 1916; Bungaloid; 1-story, gabled roof, shed-roof dormer, two interior chimneys, exposed rafters, beveled siding, full-width porch with rubble piers; built by Florence Lumber Company.

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48. Reisman-Coffee-Looft House (618 North Wood Avenue): c. 1890; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination pyramidal and gabled roof, weatherboard and shingled siding, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, square tower.

49. Leftwich-Dillard-Mann House (612 North Wood Avenue): 1888; Queen Anne; 2½ stories, combination truncated-hipped and gabled roof, octagonal cupola, beveled siding, metal roof, L-shaped porch with moderate Eastlake trim, flat-headed sash windows, one interior chimney; restoration underway.

52. McKelvey House (460 North Wood Avenue): c. 1900; Victorian; 2 stories, beveled siding, pyramidal roof with cross gables, L-shaped porch with clusters of slender Ionic columns, flat-headed sash windows, rear addition.

53. Redd-Gerber House (444 North Wood Avenue): 1922; Georgian Revival; 2½ stories, brick, hipped roof with cross gables, 2-story elliptical portico with heavy fluted Ionic columns supporting oversized entablature, wrought iron balustrade, 3 bays, flat-headed paired windows, fanlight and sidelights surround single-leaf door.

54. Matthews House (438 North Wood Avenue): c. 1920; Queen Anne influence; 1-story, beveled and shingled siding, combination hipped and multi-gabled roof, corbeled interior chimney, L-shaped porch with slender fluted Ionic columns, corner bay, flat-roof wing added on north.

55. Rogers-Rosenbaum House (426 North Wood Avenue): 1926; Spanish Colonial Revival; 2 stories, combination gabled and hipped roof, tile roof, 1-story wing on north end, 1-story portico with modified-Corinthian arcade, wrought iron balustrade, 2 interior end chimneys, paired windows, arched doorway, brick faced with stucco

Original Inventory - Noncontributing Structures

34. Redd House (750 North Wood Avenue): 1946; 1½ stories, gabled roof, 3 gabled dormers, carport attached at north end, brick veneer, full-width porch with slender fluted Doric columns supporting balustraded entablature, two end interior chimneys.

39. First Christian Church (700 North Wood Avenue): 1950; Gothic influence; brick, traditional longitudinal plan with projecting eaves, slender arched windows along nave, stepped buttresses.

46. England House (630 North Wood Avenue): 1946; 1-story, gabled roof, brick veneer, L-shaped, half-width porch.

51. Ferguson House (512 North Wood Avenue): 1956; 1-story, hipped-gable roof with center gabled dormer, L-shaped porch, brick veneer.

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Original Inventory - Intrusive Structures

10. Radio-T.V. Hospital (215 Hermitage Drive): c. 1935; contemporary; 1-story, brick, large display window.
40. Baptist Student Center (670 North Wood Avenue): 1967; contemporary; 1-story, brick, flat-roof, recessed porch with square columns.
50. Wood Avenue Apartments (604 North Wood Avenue): 1963; contemporary; 2 stories, brick, hipped roof.

Physical Description (Boundary Expansion)

Joining the Wood Avenue Historic District (listed NRHP 1978) at the juncture of East Hawthorne Street and North Wood Avenue, the Wood Avenue Historic District Expansion is composed of fifty-one (51) structures dating from 1850 to 1943. They serve as an interesting transition from the predominant late-Victorian and early bungalow structures on Wood Avenue itself to the residential building boom in Florence in the 1920s. It is logical that the streets involved in this expansion (East Hawthorne, Meridian and Kendrick) would have been selected by builders and homeowners because the beautiful Coffee High School building had just opened its doors on nearby Hermitage Drive in 1917. (It was replaced by another building just three blocks away in 1951 and is still in use as a high school today.)

The houses in the expansion are closely spaced, sitting close to the street. The setback from the street is somewhat varied, particularly on Meridian Street because it runs in a meandering fashion--not perpendicular as most streets of this vintage normally are configured. But the curves in Meridian Street add great charm to the entire area, of course.

Beautiful old trees, primarily pin oaks, line the streets; they blend perfectly with the historic plantings around the houses themselves: boxwoods, abelias, nandinas, etc. Sidewalks and curbs, installed along with the structures for the most part, follow the soft curvature of Meridian Street and the more straightforward nature of Hawthorne and Kendrick Streets.

Inventory for Boundary Expansion

56. Dunham Residence (115 E. Hawthorne Street): 1910; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story frame with hipped roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch; twelve-paned front door; constructed as doctor's clinic but used as dwelling; no outbuildings.
57. Peerson House (117 E. Hawthorne Street): 1889; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story, frame, L-shaped house with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front porch with shed-type roof; late Victorian style; constructed as physician's residence; no outbuildings.

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58. Whitten House (120 E. Hawthorne Street): 1949; NONCONTRIBUTING; One-story brick house with gabled roof; front stoop with awning; bay window with copper roof on front of house; two chimneys; no outbuildings.
59. Barclift House (123 E. Hawthorne Street): 1898; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story cottage; front porch with three columns (angled wood on brick bases); wooden rail around front porch; one chimney; single window in upper floor gable; no outbuildings.
60. B'Nai Israel Temple (201 E. Hawthorne Street): 1953; NONCONTRIBUTING; One story brick and fieldstone Jewish temple; L-shaped structure with flat, metal roof; entry portico supported by two fluted columns; no outbuildings.
61. Lacefield (202 E. Hawthorne Street): 1925; CONTRIBUTING; Three-story Dutch Colonial with gambrel roof covered in red tile; combination stone and stucco construction; L-shaped front porch; wooden shutters on second-floor windows; seven stone columns on porch with table-height columns between; stone garage with servant's room (CONTRIBUTING).
62. Turner House (209 E. Hawthorne Street): 1918; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story foursquare frame with hipped roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch with low brick wall surrounding; four columns, angled wood resting on brick bases; concrete front steps flanked by brick sides; brackets under eaves of house and porch; frame one-car garage (CONTRIBUTING).
63. Ingram Carriage House (213 E. Hawthorne Street): 1889; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story frame front-gabled cottage; originally the stable and carriage house for Ingram House (#93); a small gable accents the center of the eave on one side elevation.
64. Smith House (216 E. Hawthorne Street): 1919; CONTRIBUTING; One-story bungalow of frame construction with hipped roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch with four square wooden columns and shutters on front windows; paired windows (one on either side of front facade); frame, two-car garage (CONTRIBUTING).
65. Mitchell Place (226 E. Hawthorne Street): 1850; CONTRIBUTING; Two and one-half stories; frame construction with metal, truncated hip roof; square entry portico supported by two sets of three pillars resting on square brick bases; top of portico marked by brackets under the eaves, decorative rail around roof and gingerbread work; four chimneys; used as hospital during the Civil War.
66. Springer House (309 E. Hawthorne Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; two gabled stoops on front covering twin front doors; wide concrete steps and concrete front porch; exposed rafters under eaves; no outbuildings.

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67. Armstrong Home (314 E. Hawthorne Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; frame bungalow; two square wooden columns resting on brick bases on front porch; low wooden rail surrounding porch; frame one-car garage (CONTRIBUTING).
68. Cottage Arms (320 E. Hawthorne Street): 1972; NONCONTRIBUTING; 14-unit apartment structure; brick construction with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; one-story rectangular shape.
69. The Manse (806 North Wood Avenue): 1947; NONCONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; brick with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; three dormers on front roof; portico with two sets of three pillars; matching wings on either end of house; frame two-car garage (NONCONTRIBUTING); house used as parsonage for First Presbyterian Church.
70. Woodley (713 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; Frame bungalow with matching bay windows on either side of house; gabled roof with asphalt shingles; brackets under eaves; two wooden square columns resting on square brick bases on front porch (a third brick base without a column); rectangular front porch full width of house; no outbuildings.
71. Edmundson House (714 Meridian Street): 1921; CONTRIBUTING; Frame bungalow with gabled, tile roof; front porch full width of house with three square wooden columns on square brick bases and low brick wall connecting the bases; brackets under eaves; multi-paned front door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by three-sectioned transoms. Clad in vinyl or aluminum siding.
72. Lewis Residence (717 Meridian Street): 1922; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with four square columns on front porch; brackets under eaves and at top of porch columns; front porch full width of house with low wooden rails; gabled roof with asphalt shingles; one-car frame garage (CONTRIBUTING).
73. Scott House (718 Meridian Street): 1922; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and metal shingles; L-shaped front porch with three square columns and concrete floor; two front doors, one in each section of the "L"; no outbuildings.
74. Mackey House (720 Meridian Street): 1941; CONTRIBUTING; One-story brick with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; arched entry with four-paned arched front door; L-shaped front porch with four square wooden columns; two chimneys; cottage-style house; one-car frame garage (CONTRIBUTING).
75. Walker Homeplace (721 Meridian Street): 1918; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; brick bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front porch full width of house with four stone columns and concrete floor; two chimneys; decorative brackets under eaves; one-car frame garage (CONTRIBUTING).

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76. Pendleton Day House (726 Meridian Street): 1922; NONCONTRIBUTING; Two-story frame with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front porch full width of house with four square wooden columns and low wooden rail surrounding; decorative boards covering gable of front porch; wide concrete steps and concrete floor on front porch; no outbuildings.
77. Kennedy House (729 Meridian Street): 1893; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story late Victorian frame with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; decorative brackets under second-story bay window; L-shaped front porch with six turned wooden posts resting on square brick bases and low decorative wooden rail connecting the bases; one-car frame garage (CONTRIBUTING).
78. Leonard House (730 Meridian Street): 1925; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; frame construction with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; enclosed front porch full width of house; bungalow style; decorative brackets under eaves; two chimneys; one-car frame garage with gabled roof (CONTRIBUTING).
79. Riley Lewis House (734 Meridian Street): 1922; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; bungalow style; brick with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; large dormer on front roof; front porch full width of house with two brick piers and two wooden columns resting on square brick bases; low brick wall surrounds porch; bottom half of front door wooden, top half with three vertical panes of glass; no outbuildings.
80. Brust Residence (737 Meridian Street): 1929; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; stucco exterior with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; covered portico with two sets of two round wooden columns; decorative wrought iron surmounted on roof of portico; screened-in side porch; French doors at front entry; freestanding carport resting on columns with gabled roof (NONCONTRIBUTING).
81. Brewer Mays House (738 Meridian Street): 1922; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; screened-in front porch; gabled roof with asphalt shingles; exposed rafters under eaves; lattice-covered vent in gable of front porch; no outbuildings.
82. Jones House (742 Meridian Street): 1925; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow covered in stucco; gabled roof with asphalt shingles; front porch one-half width of house with shed-type roof surmounted with small gabled structure; exterior shutters on all windows; no outbuildings.
83. Durrell Tipper House (745 Meridian Street): 1922; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with clipped gable roof and asphalt shingles; four square wooden columns on front porch resting on square brick bases; low brick wall surrounding porch connecting column bases; wide concrete steps in front leading to porch with concrete floor.
84. Turner Home (746 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; three square wooden columns rest on wooden floor of front porch surrounded by low decorative rail of wood; one chimney; exposed rafters under eaves; no outbuildings.

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85. Don Tipper House (749 Meridian Street): 1921; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story frame and stucco bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; open ceiling on gable covering front porch; four frame and stucco columns on front porch; twelve-paned front door; circular window in front gable; decorative brackets under eaves; no outbuildings.
86. Dyer House (753 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with clipped gabled roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch full width of house with two square brick columns; two square brick bases on porch flanking wide concrete steps; decorative brackets under eaves; two-car metal garage (NONCONTRIBUTING).
87. Smith House (754 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame covered in stucco; front porch full width of house with two stucco columns; decorative brackets under eaves; one chimney and one bay window; garage of cinder blocks (NONCONTRIBUTING).
88. Broadway Home (757 Meridian Street): 1921; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with clipped gable roof and asphalt shingles; two angled wooden columns on front porch resting on square brick bases; two additional square brick bases flanking concrete steps leading to concrete floor on front porch; decorative lattice work and brackets on front porch gable; frame workshop with gabled roof (CONTRIBUTING).
89. Elliott House (758 Meridian Street): 1891; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story frame L-shaped late Victorian; gable on hip roof with asphalt shingles; 2-story projecting bay on front facade; seven turned posts on front porch resting on square brick bases; brackets at top of each turned post; decorative brackets on projecting bay underneath second-floor overhang; two-car garage (CONTRIBUTING).
90. Elliott Bower House (764 Meridian Street): 1919; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story brick bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch one-half width of house; two angled wooden columns resting on square brick bases with low wooden rail between the bases; 12-paned front door, sidelights and transom of beveled glass; exposed rafters and decorative brackets under eaves; concrete block garage (NONCONTRIBUTING).
91. Campbell House (770 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; large dormer with four windows on front roof; three stucco columns resting on slanted brick bases on concrete floor of front porch; wide concrete front steps; 15-paned front door flanked by 15-paned sidelights surmounted by 8-paned transom; metal storage building (NONCONTRIBUTING).
92. Springer Hart House (802 Meridian Street): 1920; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch with three brick columns and one square brick half-column; low, decorative wooden rail on front porch; no outbuildings.
93. Ingram Ashcraft House (803 Meridian Street): 1889; CONTRIBUTING; Two- and one-half story late Victorian brick (first floor) and frame (second and third floors); open ceiling with decorative trim on front porch; corner turret with five windows and copper roof surmounted by decorative wrought iron; square bay area from first through third floor; complex roof with asphalt shingles on some portions and copper on others.

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94. Wilson McCombs House (806 Meridian Street): 1919; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front porch full width of house with one half of it covered by gabled roof; two sets of three square wooden columns on front porch resting on square brick bases; additional square brick base without column; low brick wall surrounding front porch; exposed rafters and decorative brackets under eaves; no outbuildings.

95. Garner House (810 Meridian Street): 1889; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story frame cottage with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; enclosed sun porch on front of house on second floor; L-shaped front porch with three square brick columns; twelve-paned front door; two chimneys; two-car brick garage (CONTRIBUTING).

96. Little House (812 Meridian Street): 1921; CONTRIBUTING; One-story brick bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch with one half of it covered by gabled roof resting on two square brick columns; front door flanked by two sets of double windows; no outbuildings.

97. Morrison Couch House (813 Meridian Street): 1888; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half stories; frame with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; late Victorian style; three chimneys; two small rectangular porches (one on front, one on side of house); decorative boards covering front gable; transom over front door; two-car garage of wood with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (NONCONTRIBUTING).

98. Beck House (817 Meridian Street): 1916; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story late Victorian frame with gabled roof and tin shingles; three wooden pillars on front porch supporting flat roof and connected by low, decorative wooden rail; one chimney; L-shaped front porch with wooden floor and concrete steps; no outbuildings.

99. Howard Gresham House (821 Meridian Street): 1919; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; four sets of two square wooden columns on square brick bases on front porch; rectangular front porch, but rounded at wide concrete steps; exposed rafters under eaves; concrete block garage with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (NONCONTRIBUTING).

100. Bland House (804 Kendrick Street): 1943; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame cottage with front porch extending two-thirds width of house; wrought iron posts on front porch with low, decorative wrought iron rail; wooden shutters flank all windows; large "picture" window on front of house; one-car frame garage with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (CONTRIBUTING).

101. Murphy House (810 Kendrick Street): 1977; NONCONTRIBUTING; Two-story brick and stone house with attached garage of brick; gabled roof with asphalt shingles; one wide chimney serving two fireplaces (one upstairs, one downstairs); metal storage building with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (NONCONTRIBUTING).

102. Bratton Home (816 Kendrick Street): 1916; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story late Victorian frame house with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; rectangular front porch full width of house with four square wooden columns resting on square brick bases; frame storage building with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (CONTRIBUTING).

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103. Murphy Residence (822 Kendrick Street): 1925; CONTRIBUTING; Two-story frame house clad in asbestos shingles; gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front stoop with two pilasters surmounted by decorative gable; screened-in side porch with flat roof; small square window on second floor above front door; wooden shutters flank all windows on front of house; most windows are 6/6 double hung sash; metal awnings; no outbuildings.

104. Wilson Home (826 Kendrick Street): 1925; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story brick bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; large dormer with three windows on front roof; screened-in front porch full width of house; exposed rafters and decorative brackets under eaves; two chimneys; no outbuildings.

105. Keenum House (830 Kendrick Street): 1928; CONTRIBUTING; One and one-half story brick bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; front stoop with two pilasters surmounted by small gable; arched brick entry and arched front door; small arched dormer on front roof with stained glass; screened-in side porch; wooden shutters flank windows; no outbuildings.

106. James House (902 Kendrick Street): 1923; CONTRIBUTING; One-story frame bungalow with gabled roof and asphalt shingles; two chimneys; screened-in rectangular front porch with concrete floor; one-car frame garage with gabled roof and asphalt shingles (CONTRIBUTING).

Archeological Component

Although no formal archeological survey has been made of the Wood Avenue Historic District and its expansion, the potential for subsurface remains may be high. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting this neighborhood.

8. Statement of Significance

Original Nomination

The Wood Avenue Historic District contains 55 structures including the most fashionable residences built during two major periods of Florence's economic growth. Primarily developed between the 1880s and 1930, the district contains a number of modest Victorian, Bungalow, and Revival style homes, but it is most noted for its fine collection of elaborate Queen Anne and handsome Georgian Revival structures. The individual civic, social, and economic achievements of the district's upper and middle class residents both drew from and contributed to the rapid industrial and urban development of the region during these five decades.

In the town's early years, the most fashionable residential area lay a few blocks westward (Sannoner Historic District--NRHP 1-1-76), closer to the commercial area. The city had been surveyed in 1818 by Ferdinand Sannoner for the Cypress Land Company, but few structures were built as far from the center of town as Wood Avenue (then known as Market Street). Only five antebellum structures remain along Wood Avenue, two of which--the Sample House (11) and Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9)--are listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey. They range from the simple two-room log Sample House (11) to the still modest Crow-Pickett (8) and Mitchell-Redd (28) houses. In later years these were to become the homes of such prominent local leaders as Colonel Richard O. Pickett, attorney and State Legislator, and Judge J.J.

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Mitchell, probate judge, publisher of the Florence Gazette, and organizer of the county's first social welfare program.

Another early structure, Pope's Tavern (9), derives its name from a stage coach inn and tavern erected on the site in 1811 by Leroy Pope. The present structure, built around 1840, was the home of J.C. Gookin, a wholesale merchant. During the Civil War it was used as a Confederate hospital. In 1872 it was purchased by the Lambeth family, who occupied it until 1968 when the City of Florence bought it for use as a museum.

In the years following the Civil War, Florence suffered the general economic deprivation of the region, and construction was minimal. Prosperity began to return by the early 1880s, as evidenced by the three-fold increase in population during the decade. Completion of a canal project on the Muscle Shoals of the Tennessee River in 1889 made the area especially attractive to new business and industry and sparked the first major economic boom. George Goethals, chief engineer of the project and later famous for his construction of the Panama Canal, resided in the Wood-Frison House (21) while he worked in Florence.

At the time of this first boom period, the city's most fashionable residential area had already been filled in, so the new upper and middle classes moved eastward to Wood Avenue to build their homes. Fourteen structures dating from 1874 to 1900 remain in the district and depict various elements of the popular Victorian style. Prominent merchants and landholders were responsible for the construction of the elaborate Queen Anne homes such as the Smith (41), Hall-Westmoreland-Colburn (42), and Reisman-Coffee-Looft (48) houses. More common, though, were the less ornate Victorian homes such as the Rogers-Koonce (1), DesPrez-Herndon (35), and McKelvey (52) houses. Dr. Louis DesPrez, an early physician in the area; T.M. Rogers, founder of the Rogers Department Store; and Harold May, editor of the Florence Times, were among the business and professional men who built homes on Wood Avenue in this style.

After two decades of accelerated growth, Florence's economy stabilized around the turn of the century. Construction along Wood Avenue continued at a rapid rate, though for the most part, the new homes were of a less elaborate nature. A few Victorian structures were built in the early 1900s, but around 1915 two new styles--the Bungalow and Georgian Revival--began to emerge. At least five bungalows, dating into the 1920s were built by the Florence Lumber Company, a business started in 1912 by Uhlan O. Redd, a resident of the district. Though most of the early bungalows depict only influences of the style, the 1916 Ware-Wade House (47) is a good example of a true Bungalow style structure. Interestingly, when this house was being planned, the neighbors drew up a petition protesting its construction, arguing that its style did not conform to that of the existing structures in the neighborhood. It was completed in spite of the petition, and within the next twenty-five years bungalows became as common as the older Victorian homes.

Completion of Wilson Dam in 1926 spurred another economic boom, and many of the successful businessmen chose the handsome Georgian Revival for their homes along Wood Avenue. The style had begun to appear as early as 1915, and by the decade of the 1920s it became the most popular of the several styles--Bungalow and various Revival--of the period. Two of the particularly impressive homes were the Redd-Gerber (53) and Kernahan-Bennett (24) houses,

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built respectively by Uhlan O. Redd, founder of the Florence Lumber Company, and John Kernahan, a wealthy farmer. Others, however, were not as true to the style, but they were built by equally prominent people such as industrialist Jewett Flagg, owner of the Flagg-Rogers House (30).

Though construction in the 1920s was dominated by the Georgian Revival, a number of bungalows also date from this period. In addition, the district contains two structures of other Revival styles--the Spanish Colonial Revival Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55) and the Tudor Cottage style Harlan-Darby House (25). Like the Georgian Revival structures, these were the homes of the business and professional elite.

By the end of the second major economic boom, the district was almost filled in, so very few structures were built after 1930. While four of the later structures blend into the district, there are three others--the Radio T.V. Hospital (10), Wood Avenue Apartments (50), and Baptist Student Center (40)--which intrude. In spite of them, the district maintains its character of a late 19th and early 20th century upper-middle class residential area.

Boundary Expansion Statement of Significance

The period of significance for the new Wood Avenue Historic District which encompasses the original Wood Avenue Historic District and the proposed expansion is 1833-1943. The period of significance has been expanded beyond the original one of 1833-1930 because the expansion includes later buildings that are similar in design, scale and setback to the other houses and contribute to the overall character of this neighborhood. The expanded period of significance also encompasses those contributing resources that fell within the previous period of significance.

The majority of buildings included in the expansion retain their original architectural integrity and contribute to the existing district in location, design, material, workmanship, feeling, and association. The same variety of architectural styles found in the existing district (from late-Victorian to bungalow) is to be found among these structures with a large, unusually fine collection of bungalows. Just like the houses in the existing district, these reflect a slice of life of Florence since people who contributed to the vibrancy of the city lived in them. Notable people include: Mr. John T. Ashcraft, president of the world-famous Florence Wagon Factory and owner of the huge Ashcraft Cotton Mills; Dr. W. J. Peerson, a prominent local physician; Mr. Bert Haltom, a Federal judge; Mr. Henry G. Richards, a popular local educator for 48 years; Mr. George Barnett, a successful and influential local attorney; and Dr. Douglas James, author of The Life and Times of Walter Cronkite (an authorized biography), which was published in 1991.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Original Nomination

1. McCroskey, Alfred. Personal communication, Jan.-June, 1978.
2. Owen, Thomas McAdory. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. Vol. I. Chicago: The S.J. Clark Publishing Company, 1921.

Boundary Expansion

1. Ingram, James D. and Joyce E. Property Deed for Lot 382, Block 427 in Florence, Alabama (includes the present structure at 803 Meridian Street), 1965.
2. Interview with James Ingram, Sr., local historian and resident of Wood Avenue Historic District Expansion, May 18, 1994.
3. Interview with William L. McDonald, official historian for the City of Florence, Alabama, May 20, 1994.
4. Interview with Marie Lacefield Shanks, local historian and resident of Wood Avenue Historic District Expansion, June 10, 1994.
5. McDonald, William L. Sweetwater: The Story of East Florence, 1818-1940. Florence, Alabama: Privately Published, 1980.

10. Verbal Boundary Description

Original Nomination

Starting at the northwest corner of the intersection of Tuscaloosa Street and Wood Avenue, proceed thence in a northwesterly direction along Wood Avenue approximately 289 feet to the southeast corner of the Rogers-Koonce House property (1), the true point of origin; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 168 feet to the rear property line of said house; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 128 feet along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 1 and 2); thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 205 feet to the northeast side of Seminary Street; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 331 feet along said street to the rear of the Pope's Tavern-Lambeth House (9); thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 255 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 305 feet to the southeast side of Irvine Avenue; thence in a northeasterly direction along said street approximately 20 feet; thence generally in a northwesterly direction across Irvine Avenue and along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 17-22) approximately 650 feet; thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 135 feet to the southwest side of Wood Avenue; thence along the said street approximately 190 feet; thence in a westerly direction approximately 104 feet to the rear property line of the Pennington-Skipworth House (23); thence in a northerly direction approximately 55 feet along said property line; thence in a southwesterly direction

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approximately 40 feet to the east side of Morrison Avenue; thence in a northerly direction along Morrison Avenue and beyond to the northwest corner of the intersection of Willingham Road and Wood Avenue; thence in a westerly direction along the northern boundary of Willingham Road approximately 190 feet to the rear property line of the Kernahan-Bennett House (24); thence approximately 475 feet along the rear property lines of the houses facing Wood Avenue (structures 24-28); thence in a southwesterly direction along the rear property line of the Flagg-Rogers House (30) approximately 207 feet to the northeast side of Sherrod Avenue; thence in a northwesterly direction along said street approximately 150 feet to the southeast corner of the intersection of Sherrod Avenue and Hawthorne Street; thence in a northeasterly direction along Hawthorne Street approximately 287 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction approximately 150 feet across Wood Avenue and along the rear property line of the Watson-Gilbert-Lott House (31); thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 105 feet to the western side of Wood Avenue; thence in a southeasterly direction along said street approximately 150 feet to the southwest corner of the intersection of Hawthorne Street and Wood Avenue; thence approximately 220 feet across Wood Avenue and along the southeast side of Hawthorne Street; thence along the northeast property line of the Christian House (32) and continuing in a generally southeast direction approximately 2430 feet along the rear property lines of the structures facing Wood Avenue (structures 34-55) to the eastern corner of the Rogers-Rosenbaum House (55) property; thence in a southwesterly direction approximately 262 feet to the southwest side of Wood Avenue; thence in a southeasterly direction approximately 50 feet to the true point of origin.

Expansion

Verbal Boundary Description: See enclosed sketch map.

Boundary Justification

These boundaries were drawn to form a cohesive historic district that includes the greatest number of contributing resources and the least number of noncontributing resources dating from the period of significance.