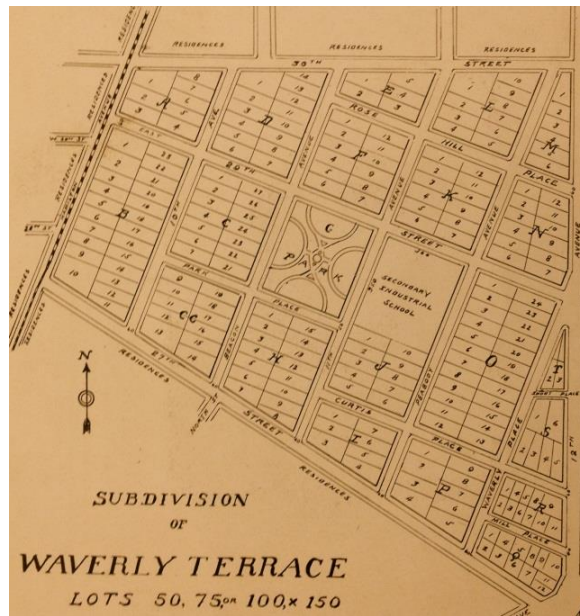




# Waverly Terrace

*“Haven of Homes”*



Images from *The Home Book* (1917)

## House Genealogy Handbook

April 22, 2012

# Waverly Terrace

## Your House's History

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Built (approximate) : \_\_\_\_\_

1931 Occupant \_\_\_\_\_

1951 Occupant \_\_\_\_\_

1971 Occupant \_\_\_\_\_

1991 Occupant \_\_\_\_\_

### Researching the History of Your Home.

There are many places to look for information about the history of your home. Here are a few types of information that may prove useful.

- **City Directories:** These useful guides list the name of every person and business in the community, by address. So you can look up your address, and find out who lived there during various periods in the past. (See the Genealogy and Local History Department at the Columbus, Georgia Public Library on Macon Road or the Archives at CSU's Simon Schwob Memorial Library)
- **Local History Books and Oral Histories:** Once you've found names of former residents, you can look for references to them in local history books and oral histories. Oral histories can be found at the CSU Archives.
- **Newspapers:** Most local libraries keep copies of local papers on microfilm. If you know the dates of certain events (e.g. construction of house, sale of house) you can try to find information about these events in old newspaper articles.
- **Sanborn Insurance Company maps:** Both the Library and the archive have good collections of these maps, which were published every few years from the late 1800s through the 1950s. They show every building in town, block by block. By working backwards, you can find the approximate date of construction of your house. See the Genealogy department at the Columbus, Georgia Public Library on Macon Road or the Archives at CSU's Simon Schwob Memorial Library, and some online items at the Library of Congress  
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/>
- **Other Collections:** If your house was designed by an architect, or someone well known lived there, you might find information in one of the many collections at the AHC. A reference librarian can help you with this.
- **Tax Assessor Records:** Assessors' records include a date of construction (not always accurate), square footage, number of rooms, ancillary buildings, etc. Muscogee County Tax Assessor's Office <http://ccga1.columbusga.org/PropertyInformation.nsf/>
- **County Clerk and Recorder:** Look for deeds, mortgages, wills and other legal documents pertaining to the property and the people who owned it. Deeds will tell you who owned the property and for how long, and how much the property cost. Deeds are indexed by the name of the seller (grantor) and the buyer (grantee) with references to the book and page number where the actual deed may be found.

# Waverly Terrace

## About Your Residence

### Who built it? Who lived there?

- Property abstract: <http://ccga1.columbusga.org/PropertyInformation.nsf/>
- County Clerk and Recorder: deeds, mortgages, wills, probate records, and plat information <http://er-web.muscogeecourts.com/recorder/web/splash.jsp>
- City Directories (See the Genealogy and Local History Department in the Public Library Macon Road, or the Archives at CSU's Simon Schwob Memorial Library)
- Local newspapers: look through paper for the year your house was built, also special business editions/historical editions of local newspapers
- Advertisements in newspapers, directories, etc. (for businesses)
- Newspaper clippings, reports, and other documents pertaining to history of local properties and individuals
- Photographs

### To learn more about previous owners:

- Local histories
- Cemetery records
- Obituaries (3-4 days before burial date)/Obituary files
- Biographical files
- Manuscript collections
- Oral histories/history transcripts
- Newspaper clippings
- Personal contact with relatives

### Architect/Builder

- Building permit records

### Columbus History Books

- Rita Folse Elliot. (2005) *Living in Columbus, Georgia 1828-1869 : the lives of Creeks, traders, enslaved African Americans, mill operatives and others as told to archaeologists.*
- The Jordan Company. (1917) *The Home Book*. [Promotional handbook featuring early images of Waverly Terrace.]
- F. Clason Kyle. 1986. *Images: a pictorial history of Columbus, Georgia.*
- Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. (2001) *Columbus, GA In Vintage Postcards.*
- Margaret Laney Whitehead and Barbara Bogart. (C. 1979) *City of Progress: a History of Columbus, Georgia.*
- Etta Blanchard Worsley (1951) *Columbus on the Chattahoochee. Columbus, Ga., 1951.*

# Waverly Terrace History

**Introduction:** Waverly Terrace is a National Register Historic District. It was the first planned suburb in Columbus, location of the nation's first coeducational industrial school, and home of prominent architect T.W. Smith. As a planned suburb, the neighborhood was laid out using a grid pattern and included all utilities and an elementary school (Waverly Terrace Map). The Waverly Terrace community was home to the nation's first coeducational Industrial School. (Map Item E) T.W. Smith, a renowned Georgia architect designed his own home (Map Item A), the neighborhood elementary school, and the local Congregational Church. (Map Item D)

**G. Gunby Jordan & Columbus' First Planned Suburb:** George Gunby Jordan (1846-1929) was one of Columbus' most prominent industrialists, bankers, and land owners. Having purchased Waverly Farm, at the northern outskirts of the city, the Jordan Company sub-divided forty-five acres of the tract to create Waverly Terrace. Built for middle-class purchasers, residents who bought homes in this neighborhood included professionals, small business owners, and skilled tradesmen. Linked to downtown Columbus by a street car service, Waverly Terrace was the first planned residential suburb in Columbus. The plan included all utilities, water, sewer, and electric power lines. It also included a neighborhood elementary school. The streets were laid out, graded, and included sidewalks and numerous trees planted along each street.

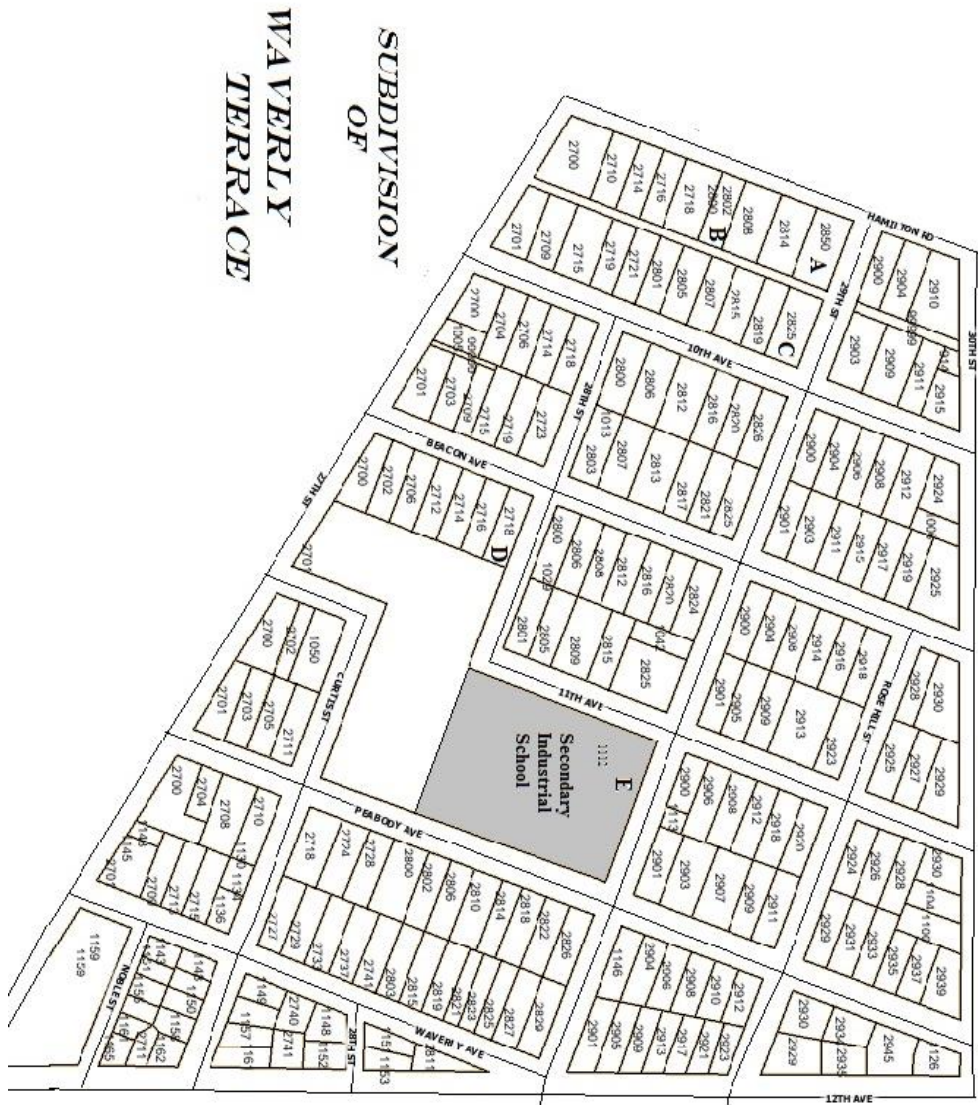
**Nation's First Coeducational Industrial High School:** Opened in 1906, Secondary Industrial School was centrally located in Waverly Terrace by the developer G. Gunby Jordan (1846-1930). Jordan, who was also President of the School Board, donated the land and \$100,000 to build the school. The school was the first public coeducational industrial high school in the United States. (Map Item E) Designed by James Wingfield Goluckie, the red brick school combined Neo-classical architecture with modern safety technology. Throughout the twentieth century, it served as a high school and a junior high school. Today, bricks are laid at the front of the school building to honor former students.

**T. W. Smith: A Georgia Architect:** One of Georgia's leading architects, Thomas W. Smith (1860-1926) lived in and designed buildings for Waverly Terrace. Smith served on the Georgia State Board for Examination and Registration of Architects. Smith and his son, E. Oren Smith, designed a number of large-scale municipal, railroad, and religious buildings throughout the state. In Waverly Terrace, Smith designed his own home at the corner of 29th Street and Hamilton Road (c. 1912). (Map Item A) He also designed Waverly Terrace Elementary School and the United Congregationalist Church (1909) (Map Item D). In Columbus, Smith designed a number of residential and religious buildings, including Rose Hill Presbyterian Church (c. 1900).

**Rich Architectural Heritage :** Five styles of architecture are on display in the Waverly Terrace Historic District: Spanish Mission, Craftsman, Neo-classical, Victorian, and Colonial Revival. One of the most distinctive architectural features throughout the neighborhood is the porch. Spanish style homes use adobe or stone, with a porch that runs the length of the house front. They include curved features, such as arches. These homes have one, two, or three wings, creating a "U" shape surrounding a patio or garden at the rear of the residence. (Example, Map Item E). Craftsman style homes are often faced with wood, stone, and stucco materials. This style often includes tapered square columns supporting wide, deep porches. There are often decorative gables under the roof eaves. (Map Item C) Neo-classical architecture reflects the architectural styles of ancient Greeks and Romans. Distinctive features of this style include the use of columns, along with a symmetrical balance in house design. (Example, Map Item B.)

*Waverly Terrace History* prepared by Waverly Terrace Group researchers: William Cox, Drew Dickerson, Zack Forste, Shannon Torres, Justin Futo, and Dr. Amanda Rees, April 2012.

# Map of Waverly Terrace with Key Locations



- A- 2850 Hamilton Road  
T. W. Smith House (Architect)  
Spanish Style Home
- B- 2802 Hamilton Road  
Neo-Classical Style Home
- C- 2825 10th Avenue  
Craftsman Style Home
- D- 2718 Beacon Avenue  
United Congregational Church
- E- 1112 29th Street  
Secondary Industrial School



Columbus Railroad Company's electric car system comes to Waverly Terrace.  
*The Home Book (1917)*

This project would have not been possible without help from archivists at Columbus State University Archive and Chattahoochee Valley Libraries. The project was prepared by students in Dr. Rees' Cultural Geography Class, Spring 2012. In particular the Waverly Terrace Project Group: William Cox, Drew Dickerson, Zack Forste, Shannon Torres, and Justin Futo. Project part of the Columbus Community Geography Center.