

Waverly Terrace Makes a Comeback

After a period of decay, Waverly Terrace is putting on a new face, one that some residents hope will be historically significant

By Kaffie Sledge
Staff Writer

Charles and Josephine Mixon discovered Columbus' Waverly Terrace 52 years ago when it was the place to live — a neighborhood on the rise, the best place to raise a family.

The Mixons were in the Terrace when it reached its peak, and they hung in there when transient residents threatened to be the neighborhood's undoing. So it's understandable that today Mrs. Mixon, Waverly Terrace's senior resident, is keyed up over attempts to save the neighborhood that has become a part of her life.

"We came here in 1930 — still feeling the effects of the depression," Mrs. Mixon says. "In those days it was cheaper to rent. We paid \$60 rent for two months, then the rent fell to \$25."

The Mixons rented their house at 2913 11th Ave., for four years, then in 1934 bought it for \$4,000 when they found out it was for sale.

Was it the style of the house with the big front porch, the tree-lined streets or the spacious yard that attracted her? Mrs. Mixon says it was a combination.

"I loved the old house the first time I saw it, and it was close to the school. This neighborhood was built for families," she says.

Waverly Terrace was developed in 1906 as a planned residential area, some say Columbus' first. The Terrace is bounded by Hamilton Road on the west, 30th Street on the north, Peabody Avenue on the east and 27th Street on the south.

"When we bought the house, we asked the man how long the neigh-



Staff Photo by Ed Ellis

LeGary Antley Puts a Brush to Mrs. E.P. Thornton's Home in Waverly Terrace

borhood would remain attractive." Mrs. Mixon says. "He told us 25 years is a lifetime for a neighborhood. And it was true. After that time, our friends and neighbors started to move. I wanted to move to a nicer place, but my husband didn't want to."

Post-depression and war years took their toll on Waverly Terrace especially, too many people were looking for too few houses. Tool sheds were turned into apartments

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