



Architects at Work on Plans for Waverly Terrace Subdivision

Waverly Terrace Preserves Historic Sense of Community

By Dean Barber
Staff Writer

Built on a rolling pasture, Columbus' first planned subdivision, Waverly Terrace, became a neighborhood of front porches, only a short walk to the streetcar line that ran up Hamilton Avenue.

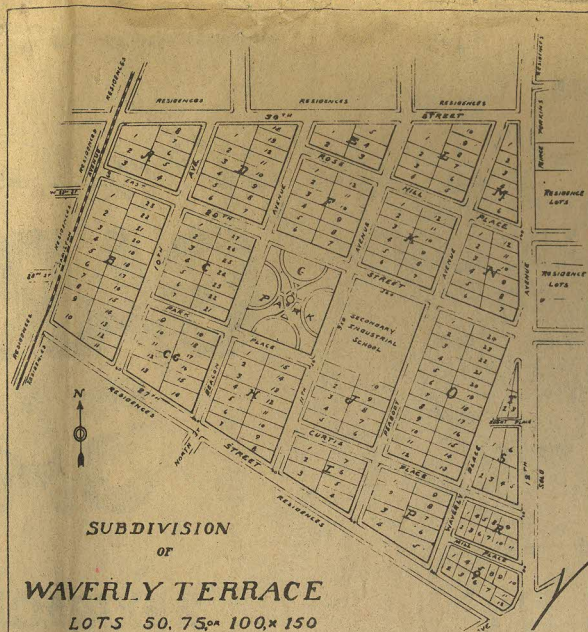
Waverly Terrace has remained virtually intact since its construction at the turn of the century. Because it has largely been preserved, it likely will become the second area in the city to be listed as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places.

"The Terrace," as residents are now chicly referring to it, was located on the outskirts of Columbus when the Jordan Company began surveying the land around 1905.

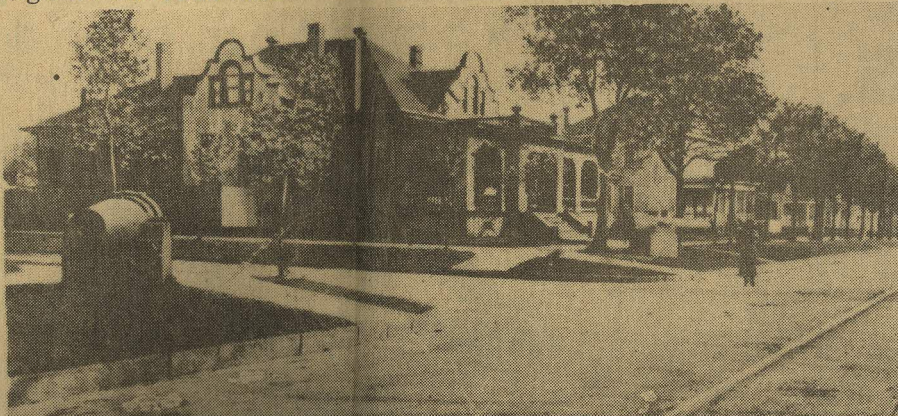
Residential lots were staked off and then streets were built. The borders of the subdivision were Hamilton (Avenue) Road on the west, 30th Street on the north, 27th Street on the south and Peabody Avenue on the east.

The population of Columbus was then about 40,000. G. Gunby Jordan was not only the president of The Jordan Company, but also The Third National Bank, Columbus Savings Bank, Eagle & Phenix Mills and the school board.

There were four newspapers publishing — The Columbus Ledger, The Enquirer-Sun, People's Recorder (weekly) and the Southern Christian Recorder (weekly). It was a time when it cost \$1 per day for a room at the Springer Hotel with electric lights, a bath, and a telephone. Hamilton Avenue and 28th Street was one of 61 locations in the



Plan Included a Park



Confederate Naval Cannon Marks Entrance to Community

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Louisiana Racial Affirmation

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Louisiana law that says a white man with 1-32nd "Negro blood" who marries a racially black was upheld Wednesday by a state judge.

Susie Guillory Phipps, a descendant of a black slave woman and a white Louisiana planter, had filed suit to have the courts declare the law unconstitutional and declare her as white.

The ruling by Magistrate Derrick Ellis left Mrs. Phipps designated as black on her birth certificate, although her father was white.

Her lawyer, Brian Begue, said he would appeal.

"I thought we put on such a case . . . and the nationwide furor over such a situation would influence the decision."

Owens Quits Handicapped Committee

By Dean Barber
Staff Writer

Alice Owens, chairman of the Mayor's Committee for the Handicapped since its inception in 1975, has resigned her post.

"I felt the time was right to step down," Mrs. Owens said. "I had wanted to leave earlier, but the time wasn't right. Now I feel it's about right."

A list of five nominees to succeed Mrs. Owens has been given to Mayor J.W. "Bill" Feighner. Feighner, a counselor to the deaf with the Department of Human Resources, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, was asked by a representative of the mayor's office last Friday whether he would take the job, said Barnes. Barnes was not available for comment Wednesday.

Feighner said Wednesday he had not decided who would replace Mrs. Owens as chairman of the committee.

Mrs. Owens chose to retire from a planning subcommittee. She had appointed began working on the constitution and bylaws for the committee. That work has been completed, said Shari Gates, chairwoman of the planning committee. Recommendations will be prepared for ratification to the entire committee during a meeting June 10.

Until the planning committee began drafting a proposed constitution, there was no outline of authority within the committee.

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Didn't Believe I'd Be Executed



Waverly

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city with a traffic signal box.

The building of homes in Waverly Terrace began in 1906 and lasted until 1929. Many of the houses were built by Butts Lumber Co., Williams Lumber Co., contractors J. T. Hartwell and Frank Smith.

In the original plans of the Jordan Company, there was a park in the center of the subdivision west of the Secondary Industrial School at 11th Avenue and 29th Street. But plans are made to be broken and the park was never built. Houses were.

Individually, most of the homes of Waverly Terrace have little historical significance, but collectively they are very significant, because they reflect the prevailing design principles and construction practices of early 20th-century middle-class suburban housing.

"It's one of the few intact neighborhoods of its time," said Presley Tutherow, a school teacher who lives at 2850 Hamilton Road. "Most of the houses have been lived in continuously since being built. And most haven't needed any structural renovation. There's only really four houses that are in bad shape."

Of the 154 homes built in Waverly Terrace, 150 are standing, Tutherow said. Within the district there are two schools and a church. The old Secondary Industrial School, where Columbus High School is temporarily today, is listed on the National Register, the official list of the nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation.

Predominant architectural styles in

Waverly Terrace include craftsman/bungalow, Spanish mission, late Victorian, neoclassical, and Georgian revival. Construction is predominantly wood frame, veneered in weatherboard, stucco or brick.

But it is the front porches that are the important architectural feature represented throughout the neighborhood.

"It was suited to the lifestyle then," said Mrs. Zoe Allison, an art professor at Columbus College who has lived in Waverly Terrace for four years. "People used to sit on the porch in warm weather."

The porches also contributed to a neighborhood identity where people came to know each other by spending time outside the house, Tutherow said.

The president of Waverly Terrace neighborhood association, Tutherow lives in the home of Thomas W. Smith, a local architect who designed and built homes in the district. He also designed the Industrial School and a church. Smith's office was in the Girrard Building, 1151½ Broadway, and you could have reached him by phoning 366.

Built in May 1905 at the corner of Hamilton Road and 29th Street, the Smith house (2850 Hamilton Road) was built at a cost of about \$3,000, Tutherow said. Two Confederate naval cannons stood sentry at each corner of 29th Street pointed west across Hamilton Road. It marked what became known as the entrance to Waverly Terrace.

The importance of the having Waverly Terrace placed on the National Register as a historical district is protection,

Tutherow said.

"We will be protected from incursions of the commercial district which has been moving from downtown this way. With the neighborhood on the National Register, no one will be able to tear down a house without permission,"

he said.

Many, if not most, of the residents of Waverly Terrace are retired couples who like the neighborhood because of its quaintness and convenience to shopping. Charles Hardy liked it so much that he came back to back to the Terrace in 1971 after retiring in New Jersey.

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