

PH005 8131

DATA SITE - 1

Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia
 COUNTY: ~~Fulton and DeKalb~~
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY DATE: APR 11 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

collected 2 copies with N. McDonough, met in Fulton Co. 4-14-75

1. NAME

COMMON: Druid Hills Parks and Parkways
 AND/OR HISTORIC: same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Area immediately north and south of Ponce de Leon Avenue between Briarcliff Road and the Seaboard Coast Line; see cont. sheet
 CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta
 STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Fulton and DeKalb Counties CODE: 121&089

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Landscape</u> <u>Architecture</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

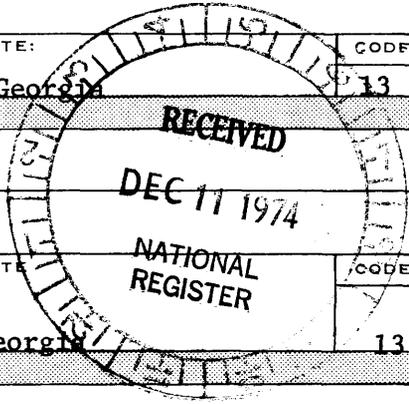
OWNER'S NAME: Partially City of Atlanta, DeKalb County and private owners.
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Fulton County and DeKalb County Courthouses
 STREET AND NUMBER: 160 Pryor S.W. - 556 N. McDonough
 CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta Decatur STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Districts, 1972-73
 DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Advisory Committee on Landmarks and Historic Sites of the Atlanta Civic Design Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall - Mitchell Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13



STATE: Georgia
 COUNTY: Fulton & DeKalb
 ENTRY NUMBER:
 DATE: APR 11 1975
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways is the most significant portion of a large residential suburb located between Moreland Avenue and Briarcliff Road which mark the eastern boundary of Fulton County and the City of Decatur in the northeast section of the metropolitan area of Atlanta. This portion of the suburb is an area of open space and curving roadways which structures the environment of the larger residential neighborhood around it. The entrance to the neighborhood from the mixed commercial and residential area to the west is clearly marked both by the change in street pattern and the landscaped park areas. Ponce de Leon Avenue runs in a predominantly west-east direction from Briarcliff Road toward the City of Decatur. Near the eastern edge of the subdivision the avenue passes under the Seaboard Coast Line which runs north and south through the eastern portion of the original Druid Hills subdivision. Beginning at the Ponce de Leon-Briarcliff intersection a narrower roadway, Ponce de Leon South curves south of a series of small parks and extends east to Fairview Road. This curving roadway provides access to the lots which face the parks as well as forming the southern edge of the park spaces. Briarcliff and Moreland Roads form the western boundary of the area. One block south of Ponce de Leon South, Fairview Road runs easterly from Moreland Avenue for three blocks and curves to the north to intersect Ponce de Leon Avenue. Beyond this intersection a second section of Ponce de Leon South again curves south and east, around a series of parks and along residential lots to the west of Clifton Road where it once again enters Ponce de Leon Avenue. Several park spaces are included between the Ponce de Leon roadways beginning with Springdale Park between Briarcliff and Springdale Roads, and continuing through a long line of green spaces to Shadyside and Dellwood Parks east of Fairview Road. Along the northern edge of this linear parkland a strip of land bordered by trees clearly indicates the route once used by the electric street railway line which ran between Decatur and Atlanta. Beyond Dellwood Park, at the intersection of Ponce de Leon Avenue and Barton Woods Drive, a section of roadway called Ponce de Leon North, curves away from the main avenue in a northerly and then easterly direction to form the boundary of a wooded ravine, Deepdene Park. This final park space contrasts sharply with the other more open areas in its forest character and depressed topography.

Notable homes which border the Druid Hills Parks and Parkways include former James Venable, Asa G. Candler, Asa Warren Candler and Henry Heinz residences. Venable's three-story Stone Mountain granite, Jacobethan "Stonehenge" has now been adapted to a church through a stylistically sympathetic addition. Asa G. Candler's home, now St. John's Melkite Church, is a monumental, cream brick and marble Italian Renaissance revival mansion, while his son Asa Warren's two-story redbrick home further east on Ponce de Leon is Georgian Revival. This second Candler home is a two-story brick building with a central four columned portico. The Henry Heinz residence, also along the north side of Ponce de Leon Avenue, is a two-story stucco Renaissance Revival building. Along Fairview Road to the south many of the oldest homes of the subdivision in Georgian Revival and Tudor styles still stand.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1900-1915

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Druid Hills Parks and Parkways are important as the only example in Atlanta and one of a few in the southeast of the work of the eminent landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. Although Olmsted Brothers, sons and successors to the senior Olmsted, drew the final plans for the suburb after Olmsted's death in 1903, the senior Olmsted had provided the preliminary plan on which the suburb's design is based. This area of Druid Hills which sets the tone for the entire surrounding residential neighborhood is a clear expression of Olmsted's design concepts for parks, parkways and residential areas. It is therefore an important Atlanta example of landscape architecture whose potential contribution to the physical environment of this area of the city in which the population density is increasing is highly significant.

Planning for the area which in the early twentieth century became Druid Hills suburb began in the early 1890's as a project of the Kirkwood Land Company. Joel Hurt, by 1890 a prominent Atlanta builder and businessman, was the major figure in the company which was chartered in January, 1890. Hurt had already in the 1880's begun the development of Inman Park, Atlanta's first planned residential suburb, built the city's first electric street railway between Inman Park and the downtown area, and was planning the south's first skyscraper, the Equitable (Trust Company of Georgia Building, demolished 1971) Building which was completed in 1892. Several prominent Atlantans were original stockholders of the Kirkwood Land Company, including banker Robert Lowry, who owned a large acreage in the area to be developed. Deed records show that the large tract of over 1400 acres which would comprise the Druid Hills residential area was assembled between 1890 and 1892. Hurt originally intended to develop only 600 acres into building sites, but was gradually persuaded by the Olmsted firm to develop a plan for the entire tract.

Between 1890 and 1894 Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. who had planned parks and residential areas for so many American cities, made several visits to Atlanta for the purpose of consulting with Hurt on the plans for developing what Hurt on occasion referred to as the "ideal residential suburb". Hurt also visited the Olmsted offices in Brookline, Massachusetts during this period. By 1893 a preliminary plan for roads, parks, lakes and building sites had been drawn and submitted to the Kirkwood Land Company. One of the main features of this plan was the gently curving Ponce de Leon Parkway. Hurt had originally proposed to extend Ponce de Leon Avenue into his company's lands in a straight line as he had previously done with Edgewood Avenue into

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ayers, Kenneth, "Olmsted and Druid Hills", unpublished seminar paper, Emory University
 Asa Griggs Candler Papers: Business Papers, Druid Hills, Woodruff Library, Emory University
 Edge, Sarah Simms, Joel Hurt and the Development of Atlanta (Atlanta, 1955)
 Lyon, Elizabeth A.M., "Frederick Law Olmsted and Joel Hurt: Planning the Environment in Atlanta, 1890-1894, "unpublished conference paper, 1972".
 Frederick Law Olmsted and Olmsted Associates collections of the Library of Congress.

NW 16/745500
 SE 16/748520/3739810
 SW 16/745500/3739740
 NW 16/745500
 3740290
 CW

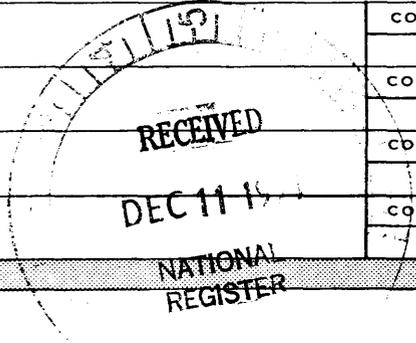
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	33°	46'	33"	84°	20'	57"			
NE	33°	46'	33"	84°	19'	00"			
SE	33°	46'	17"	84°	19'	00"			
SW	33°	46'	17"	84°	20'	57"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Approximately 250 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, Emory University
 ORGANIZATION Advisory Committee for Historic Structures DATE November, 1974
Sites and Districts of the Atlanta Urban Design Commission
 STREET AND NUMBER: City Hall - Mitchell Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Jackson O'Neal Lamb
 Title: State Historic Preservation Officer
 Date: 12-6-74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/11/75

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 10 1975

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Fulton and DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

DEC 11 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER

(Number of Registers)

8. Significance continued, page 2

Inman Park, but Olmsted convinced him that it would be more natural and economical to allow the topography to determine the boulevard's route. A second feature of the original plan, which remains extant today in the structure of the landscape along Ponce de Leon Avenue, was the location of an electric street railway line in a strip of land adjacent to, rather than in the center of, the roadway. The separation of traffic modes, Olmsted advised, would not only decrease travel time to Atlanta and reduce maintenance costs, but contribute to the beauty of the area by hiding wires and poles among the trees. It was Hurt's intention in 1894 to proceed with the grading of roads and building of lakes according to the Olmsted plans, but in the wake of the Panic of 1893, the Kirkwood Land Company experienced financial difficulty. Several loans on the company property in the later 1890's and a letter to a Boston lawyer relative to money owned to the Olmsted firm record some of the problems. In addition, Hurt's numerous business activities, in particular his electric street railway company, commanded his attention.

After a settlement and sale of the street railway in 1901 allowed the repayment of some of the loans, Hurt once again turned his attention to Druid Hills. By this time Frederick Law Olmsted Sr., incapacitated by illness, had retired so that his sons and successors, Olmsted Brothers, took over the work in Druid Hills. The original 1893 plan formed the basis for consultations with Olmsted's stepson, John C. Olmsted in 1902 and 1903, and in 1905 Olmsted Brothers submitted a plan for the southern most portion of the Kirkwood Company land. This is the section bordering Ponce de Leon Avenue and includes the string of parks and open spaces between the Avenue and Ponce de Leon, North and South, which had been proposed by the senior Olmsted in the 1890's, as well as the building sites along Ponce de Leon Avenue and Fairview Road. By 1908 when Hurt sold the entire holdings of the Kirkwood Land Company for a record half-million dollars, roads had been graded, surface drainage systems completed, and parks and some building sites landscaped. A syndicate headed by Coca-Cola magnate Asa G. Candler, which organized the Druid Hills Corporation in 1909, was the purchaser. This company continued the development of the entire tract between 1910 and 1935, retaining most of the features of the Olmsted Brothers plan in the original ninety-acre section which had been begun, but making changes and modifications in the other areas of the tract. For example, neither of the lakes were built, and the size of the building lots became smaller as the development progressed. Deed restrictions that were considerably shorter than those advised by John C. Olmsted, lapsed in the late 1940's allowing land use changes in the area after that time.

Ponce de Leon Avenue, however, and the linear parkland along its picturesque route from Briarcliff Road on the west to the Seaboard Coast Line railroad tracks on the east, were developed from the Olmsted plans. The gently curved roadway carries out the senior Olmsted's belief that a natural, informal course provides a welcome contrast to the more rigid rectilinear gridiron pattern of adjacent building shapes and areas. The open spaces, from Springdale Park with its swings, slides and recreational purposes, through Shady Side and others

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Fulton and DeKalb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1975

(Number all entries)

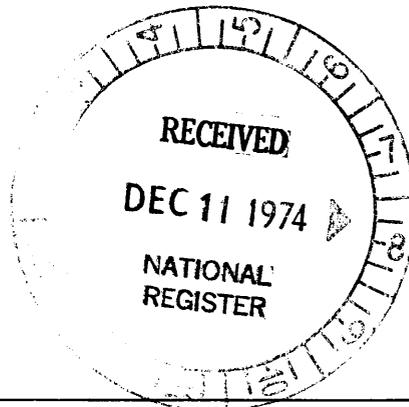
8. Significance continued, page 3

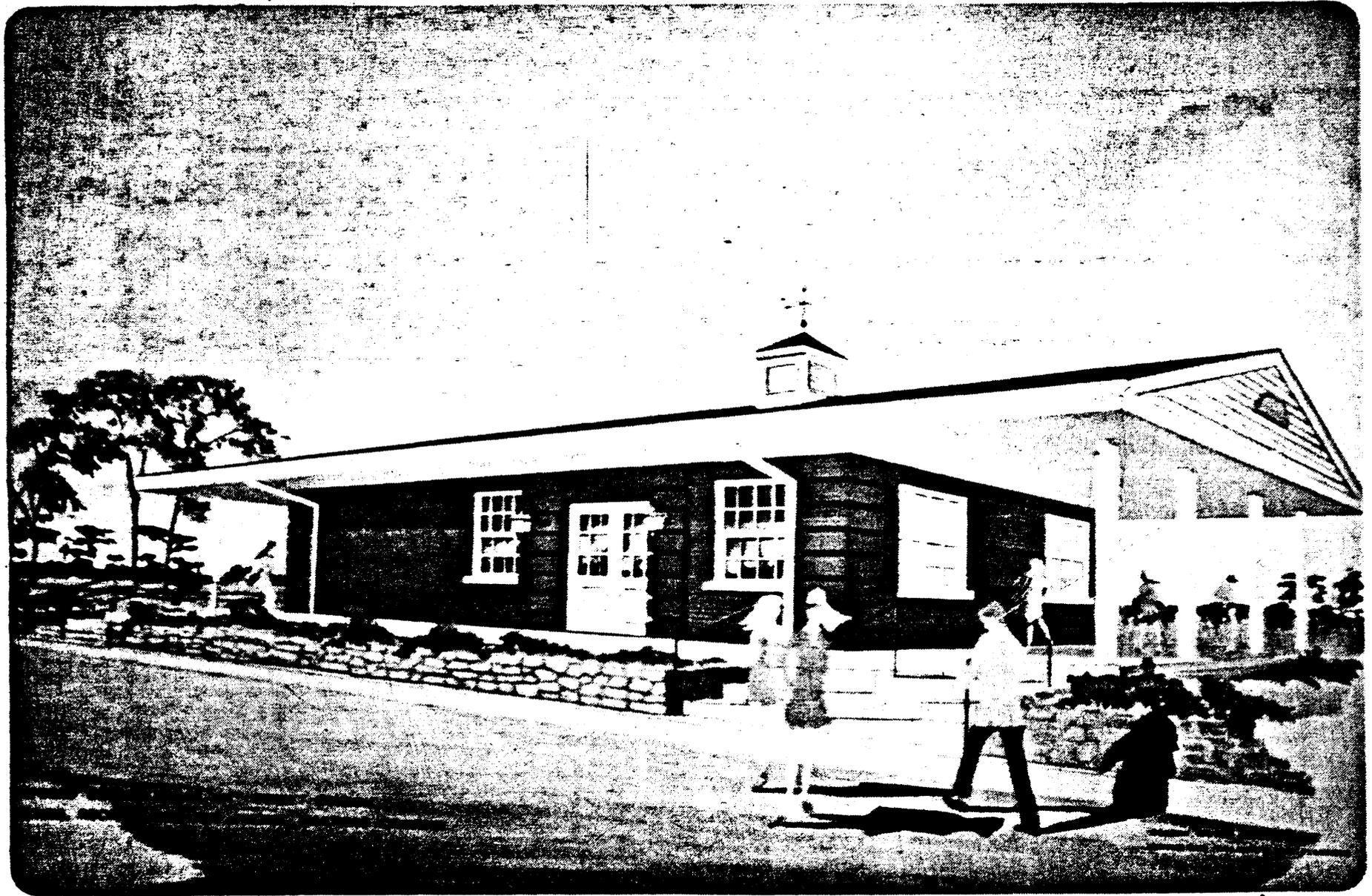
where open meadows are bordered by clumps of trees and foliage in a typical Olmsted pattern, to Deepdene Park which is a seemingly impenetrable forest, represent basic Olmsted landscape concepts. The landscaped environment and roadway pattern clearly distinguishes the Druid Hills area from the section of the city to the west. Departure from exclusively residential land use which was possible after deed restrictions lapsed in the late 1940's, has converted some of the large homes along Ponce de Leon into churches, clubs and apartment houses. Presently, now apartment and condominium developments on the large lots are increasing the population density of the area. The parks and parkways are of increased importance, therefore, to maintenance of the environment in the face of such changes, as well as to the preservation of the integrity of the larger residential neighborhood to the north which was developed in the old Kirkwood Company lands. Many older residential neighborhoods in Atlanta suggest the influence of Frederick Law Olmsted in their curving streets, occasional park spaces and landscaped lots. It is essential that the site and form of his work in the Druid Hills section of the city, which exerted influence on some of these areas, be preserved.

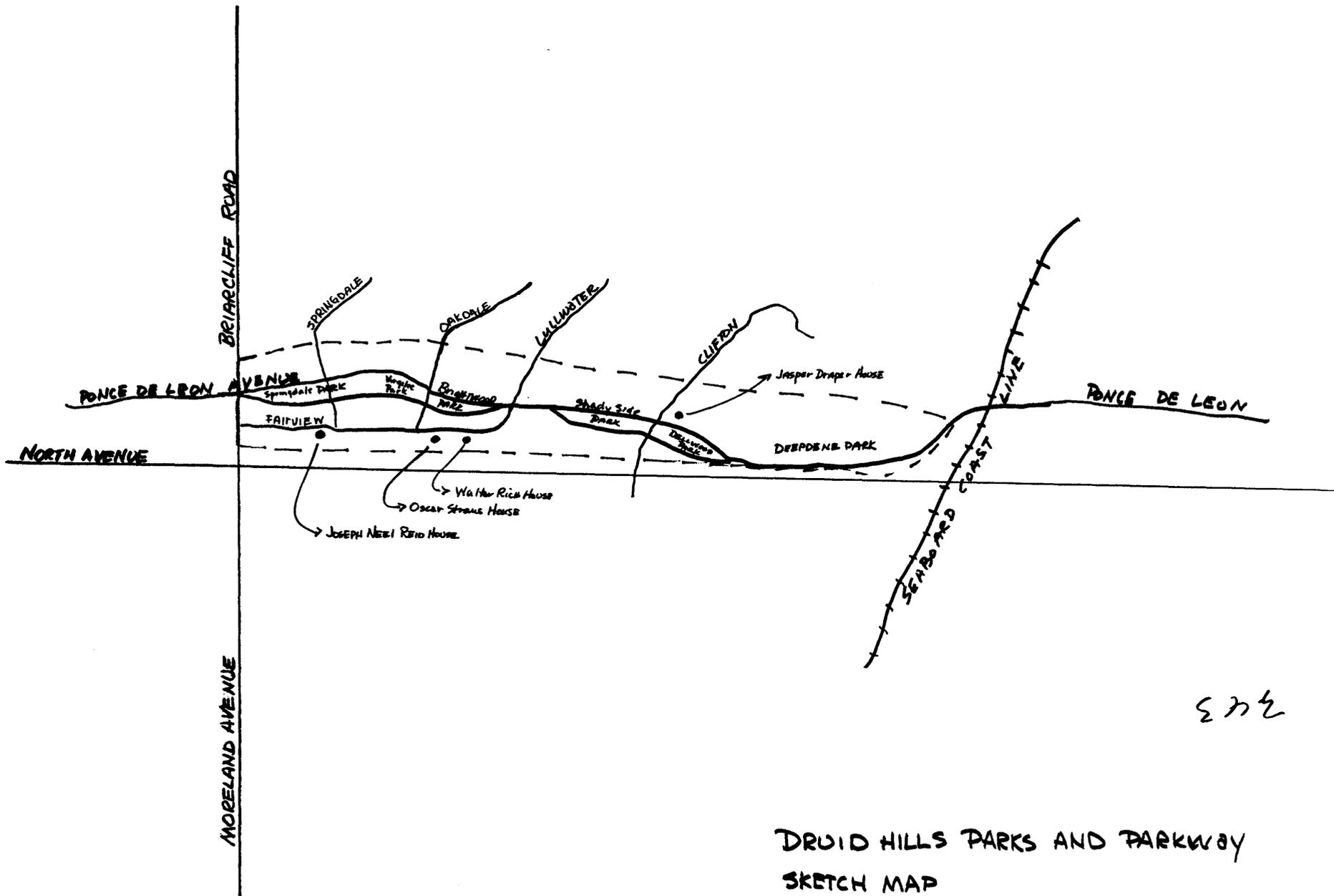
It should also be noted that significant examples of the work of Neel Reid, an early 20th century Atlanta architect, is found in the Druid Hills area. Noted on the sketch map is the architect's own house built in a Neo-Georgian style (1914); the Oscar Strauss tudor-style house (1917); the Walter Rich House (1913) and the Jasper Draper House (1915). Neel Reid studied at Columbia University and the Ecole de Beaux Art and with Hal Heinz and Rudolph Adler and formed one of the most noted early 20th century Renaissance Revival oriented residential architecture firms in Atlanta.

2. Location

Area bounded by Moreland Avenue and Briarcliff Road on the west; rear lot lines of property bordering Ponce de Leon Avenue and Ponce de Leon Avenue North on the north; Seaboard Coast Line Railroad on the east; rear lot lines of properties bordering Fairview Road and Ponce de Leon Avenue South, on the south.

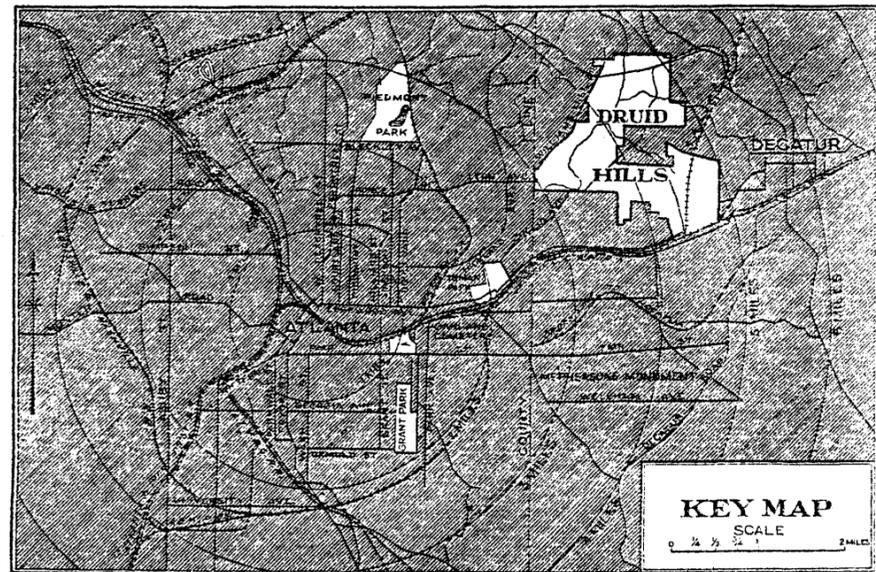
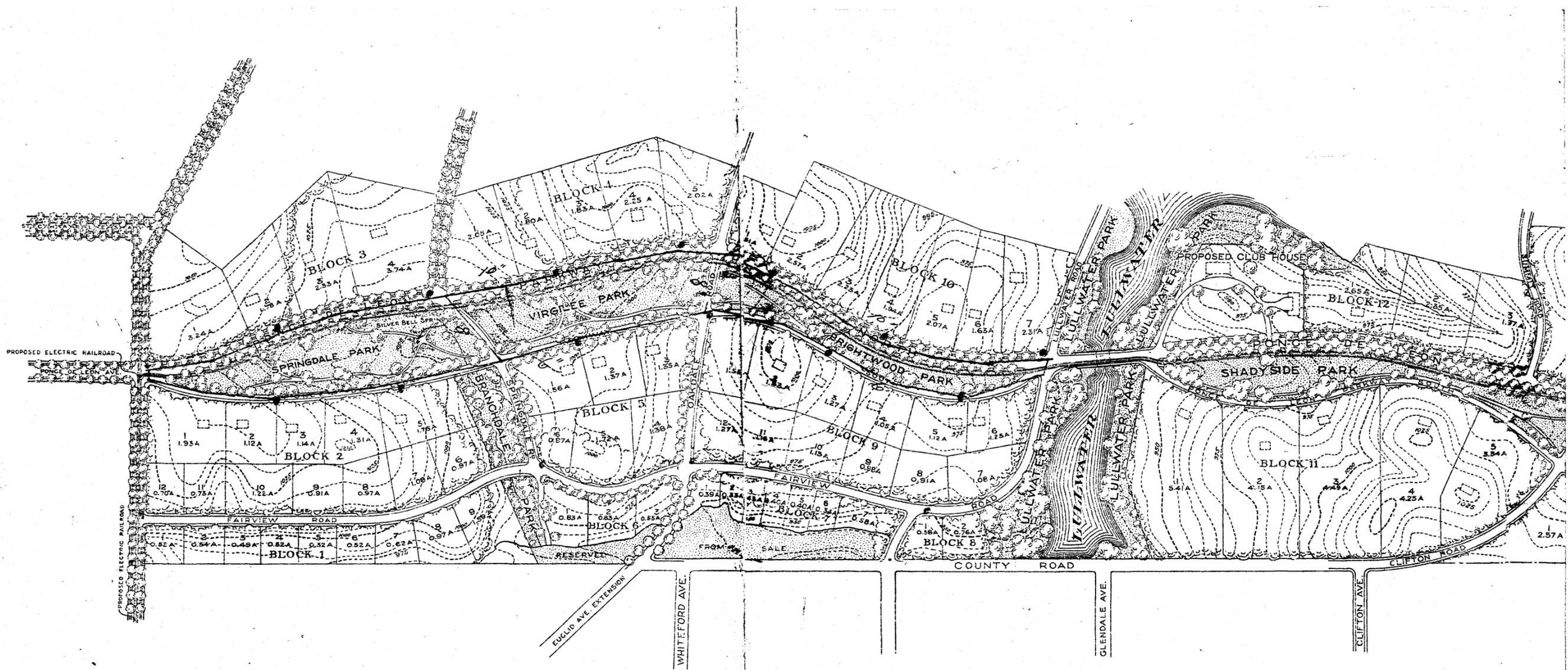






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DRUID HILLS PARKS AND PARKWAY
 SKETCH MAP
 DISTRICT AREA - - - -

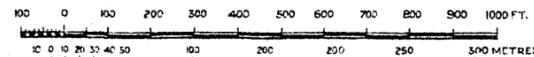


GENERAL PLAN
FOR
SUBDIVISION OF PROPERTY TO BE KNOWN AS

DRUID HILLS

BELONGING TO
KIRKWOOD LAND COMPANY
ATLANTA, GA.

Scales



Olmsted Brothers, Landscape Architects.
Brookline, Mass.

1905

