

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

1. Name: Washington Carver Homes

2. Location: Within the city of limits of East Point in Fulton County, Georgia and approximately one mile southeast of East Point City Hall. The 20-building complex fronts and lies within Washington Circle, immediately south of Washington Avenue.

3a. Description: Washington Carver Homes was constructed as a public housing development by the City of East Point Housing Authority in 1951. Washington Carver Homes comprises four contiguous tax parcels, totaling 14.5 acres. The complex consists of 20 apartment buildings (Buildings A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5, B-6, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5, D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, and D-5), each two-stories in height. The buildings are constructed of structural concrete block walls with a skeletal frame of reinforced concrete posts and beams. All buildings are sheathed in running bond brick veneer and feature frame side-gable or hipped roofs. Buildings exhibit a combination of projecting rear stoops and projecting concrete slab entry porches and/or integral, brick-framed entry porches. All projecting porch and stoop roofs have been removed. All historic windows have been removed, as have many historic exterior doors, and window and door openings are boarded with plywood. Each building contains four or six units, which vary between four different configurations of one-, two-, three-, and four-bedroom floorplans. There are a total of 100 residential units in the complex. Washington Carver Homes is oriented around Washington Circle, a semi-circular street that was constructed simultaneous to the complex and connects to Washington Avenue. Buildings A-1, B-2, and A-2 are on the west end of the site, with a small adjacent courtyard. Buildings C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, and C-5 (in order from east to west) are situated parallel to one another and perpendicular to Washington Avenue. Buildings D-1, D-2, D-3, D-4, and D-5 (in order from west to east) are also parallel to one another and directly south of Buildings C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, and C-5. Buildings B-1, A-4, B-6, A-3, B-5, B-4, B-3 (in order from east to west) are on the south or east side of Washington Circle and face the roadway. The property slopes gradually downhill from west to east, and two serpentine granite retaining walls running north to south divide the property roughly into thirds. The buildings are connected by a network of original concrete walkways and green spaces.

3b. Period of Significance: 1951

3c. Acreage: 14.5 acres

3d. Boundary Explanation: The proposed boundary includes four tax parcels encompassing all contributing buildings and associated site features. This boundary comprises the property historically associated with the Washington Carver Homes development.

4a. National Register Criteria: A and C

4b. National Register Areas of Significance: Community Planning & Development; Ethnic Heritage: Black; Social History

4c. Statement of Significance: Washington Carver Homes is significant at the local level under Criteria A and C in the areas of Social History, Ethnic Heritage: Black, and Community Planning & Development. Under Criterion A in the area of Social History, Washington Carver Homes is significant as a physical record of federal aid and intervention in the housing sector in East Point, Georgia. -Washington Carver Homes is the single extant representative example in East Point of comparable low-rise, multi-unit public housing complexes developed across the United States between 1930 and the early 1950s. It is an important physical record of government intervention and federal public housing programs initiated after the Great Depression. Under Criterion A in the area of Black Ethnic Heritage, Washington Carver Homes is significant as an example of public housing built exclusively for African Americans. It is a physical record of racial segregation and Jim Crow-era policies and how these manifested during the mid-twentieth century in East Point. Under Criterion C in the area of Community Planning & Development, Washington Carver Homes is significant as an embodiment of several key architectural features and site planning practices characteristic of early modern apartment complexes in Georgia, as defined in *Georgia's Modern Apartment Complexes*, a statewide context document, as well as public housing developments across the nation, as identified in the draft Multiple Property Documentation Form *Public Housing in the United States, 1933-1949*, prepared by the National Park Service (NPS) in 2002. These features include functional, utilitarian designs; repetitive building forms; an ordered "superblock" plan; substantial open spaces; and integral circulation networks. Washington Carver Homes is one of a dwindling number of public housing developments from this period in Fulton County and the Atlanta area, a majority of which have been demolished using HOPE VI funding since the early 1990s. Washington Carver Homes is an important physical record of government intervention and federal housing programs after the Great Depression, the architectural designs and planning practices employed in early public housing projects, and more specifically, these programs in the context of segregated housing development and the African American communities of East Point, Georgia during the mid-twentieth century.

4d. Suggested Level of Significance: Washington Carver Homes is being nominated at the local level as an excellent example of an intact 1951 segregated public housing development in East Point.

5. Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by Braden Fellman Group, Ltd., and nomination materials were prepared by WLA Studio and Braden Fellman Group, Ltd.