

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Middleton House

other names/site number Chatham-Hanes House; R. Philip Hanes, Jr., House

### 2. Location

street & number 2721 Robinhood Road N/A  not for publication

city or town Winston-Salem N/A  vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Forsyth code 067 Zip code 27106

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Jeffrey C. Crow Signature of certifying official>Title

SHPO

Date 11/13/00

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official>Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- buildings(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/V" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

LANDSCAPE/garden

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

DOMESTIC/secondary structure

LANDSCAPE/garden

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Federal

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls Weatherboard

roof CONCRETE

other WOOD

BRICK

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Middleton House  
Name of Property

Forsyth Co., NC  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark 'x' in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Conservation

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

### Period of Significance

1930 - ca. 1933

### Significant Dates

1930

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Wallace, William Roy - architect for move and restoration

Shipman, Ellen Biddle - landscape architect & int. decorator

### Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Middleton House

Name of Property

Forsyth Co., NC

County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 5

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1   7	5   6   3   7   0   0	3   9   9   7   0   0   0
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian

organization N/A date May 31, 2000

street & number 637 N. Spring Street telephone 336/727-1968

City or town Winston-Salem state NC Zip code 27101

### Additional Documentation

Check the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

### Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Wake Forest University (c/o Allen H. Patterson, Jr., Director of Planned Giving)

street & number P. O. Box 7227 telephone 336/758-5288

City or town Winston-Salem state NC Zip code 27109

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Middleton House  
Forsyth County, North Carolina

### DESCRIPTION

#### Summary and Setting

Middleton House began as a handsome Federal-style dwelling built ca. 1829 on a hill overlooking the Savannah River in northwestern South Carolina. At its original site it was a two-story, weatherboarded frame house with a side-gable roof, a pair of brick chimneys at each gable end, and front and rear classical entrance porches—one a single story and the other with two tiers. One side of the house had a small service porch positioned between the two chimneys. The interior consisted—on each floor—of a pair of rooms of nearly the same dimensions flanking a center passage. The interior was enriched with a graceful stair, paneled wainscots, delicate Federal-style mantels, molded plaster cornices, and molded door and window surrounds (Wallace Plans; Middleton photos).

In 1930, under the supervision of Winston-Salem architect William Roy Wallace, Middleton was dismantled—with each piece numbered—and was moved by rail to Winston-Salem. There it was reconstructed on its present site. The exterior of the reconstructed house remains largely faithful to the original. For the most part, the interior does as well, though there have been some changes. According to architect Wallace's son, the project was not intended to be a museum-quality restoration. Rather, the goal was to create a house that would retain essentially its original exterior appearance and its fine Federal-style detailing—the reasons for which it was moved in the first place—but be modified to better suit the lifestyle of the new, twentieth-century owner (Wallace Interview). In effect, it was a Colonial Revival project with the benefit of having an actual Federal-period house to start with. While Wallace retained the center-hall plan and the Federal period detailing, he revised the proportions of the rooms on either side of the hall on both floors to be able to create a kitchen, butler's pantry, bathroom, coat closet, and flower room on the first floor and closets and bathrooms on the second floor to accompany the bedrooms (Wallace Plans).

Northwest of the house stands an architecturally compatible garage/apartment that was built at the time of the reconstruction of the house. Between it and the house is a kitchen yard enclosed by boxwoods, with a walkway connecting the two buildings.

Today, Middleton House stands on a wooded knoll in what was originally a private family compound of over one hundred acres. Only around five acres accompany the house in its current ownership by Wake Forest University, but the occupants—who retain a life estate in the house—retain ownership of the surrounding acreage of more than twenty acres, so that the larger wooded setting remains visually intact. The nearly five acres owned by Wake Forest is being nominated to the National Register with the house.

Several primary features of the original landscape plan remain intact. A long, curving lane leads

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to Middleton House, as well as to the other houses in the compound, from Robinhood Road. Middleton House's driveway leads from the lane to the northwest side of the garage/apartment and then curves southward, ending in a circle at the southwest entrance of the house. From the northeast entrance of the house, a brick walk bordered by boxwoods terminates in a series of concentric circular steps that open to the expansive, terraced front lawn. On the southeast, a small, symmetrical garden extends outward from the house. Its original plan—with curved ends, entrances on either side and at the end, boxwood border, and small brick patio next to the house between the two brick chimneys—survives intact. The flowers around the perimeter of the garden are new, and the long, southeast extension of the garden leading to a fountain, as shown on the original plan, was apparently never built (Shipman, Site Plan; Shipman, Tree and Shrub Planting Plan; Shipman, Garden Plan; Shipman, Letters). The lawn surrounding the house features a variety of trees and a collection of modern, outdoor sculptures. Walking paths lead through the wooded portions of the property.

Overall, as a 1930s reconstruction and remodeling of a Federal period house in a quiet, country-like setting with surrounding gardens, lawn, and woods, Middleton House—as it is still called—retains a high degree of historical integrity in terms of its location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Exterior

Middleton House is a generously proportioned, two-story frame, Federal-style house. Resting on a brick foundation, it has weatherboard siding, a concrete-tile-covered side-gable roof, and a pair of single-shoulder brick chimneys at each end. The five-bay-wide house has nine-over-nine sash windows with louvered wood shutters. Projecting from the northwest end of the house between the two chimneys is a short, one-story service wing with a pedimented gable.

The exterior of the house would be very plain were it not for the two beautifully detailed entrance porches. On the northeast side of the house is the main, two-tier, center-bay porch. Each level is supported by graceful Tuscan columns with secondary caps of delicate, Ionic volutes. The columns are connected by a segmental-arched frieze at each level as well as by railings with slender, turned balusters. Identical balustrades flank the front steps to the porch. A classical pediment with flush sheathing, a molded cornice, and a highly decorative elliptical window crowns the porch. The porch shelters a Federal entrance composed of a pair of eight-panel doors flanked by decorative sidelights and headed by a fanlight transom. The surrounds of the door, sidelights, and fanlight are delicately molded in a variety of Federal-period motifs. An identical doorway is found on the second level of the porch. The southwest side of the house features a single-story entrance porch with columns and balustrade matching that of the northeast porch and with a plain, flush-sheathed pediment. Like the primary porch, this porch shelters an

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entrance with a pair of eight-panel doors, but these doors have no sidelights and fanlight transom. Both front and rear entrances have large metal box locks.

### Interior

The interior of Middleton House contains two floors plus a finished attic and a partially finished basement. The house has wood floors, plaster walls and ceilings, and six-panel doors. The two main floors are organized with a center-hall plan. An interesting feature of the first-floor hall is the tin chandelier, which hung in the house at its original South Carolina location. The broad hall has an impressive stair which rises on the northwest side to the second floor. It features a gently ramped handrail that ends in a spiral newel, slender rectangular-in-section balusters with turned intermediate newels, and scrolled stair brackets with carved laurel leaves. The stair terminates at the second floor in a curved balcony with delicate swagged detailing.

Northwest of the hall on the first floor is the dining room, behind which are the kitchen and the butler's pantry. Southeast of the hall is the large living room, behind which a short transverse hall provides access to a half-bath, a closet, and a flower work room. The center hall, living room, and dining room all are detailed with heavily molded cornices, paneled wainscots headed by decorative chair rails, delicately molded door and window surrounds. The dining room wainscot has a wood-grained center panel, a marbled baseboard, and polychromed moldings. Federal-style three-part mantels are found in both the living room and dining room. The more elaborate of the two is in the dining room. It features a central panel with an urn and flanking panels with a diamond in the center and a fan in each corner. The side pilasters are headed by stylized anthemion leaf panels. The mantel also displays rope moldings and other decorative motifs. The living room mantel is more sparsely detailed than its counterpart in the dining room; nevertheless, it exhibits sophisticated refinement. It has a sunburst center panel, diamond side panels, reeded pilasters, and a shelf with a projecting, curved center and gouge work moldings.

On the second floor, the front hall is more narrow than the rear to allow space for bathrooms and walk-in closets for the front bedrooms. A paneled arch divides the two sections of the hall. The doors on the second floor have reeded surrounds with sunburst corner blocks. The mantel in the southeast bedroom is very similar to the one in the living room below it, while the mantel in the northeast bedroom is similar in form but different in detail. The rear rooms are smaller than the front bedrooms and include, on the southwest side, a library (formerly a sleeping porch), a linen room, and a small transverse hall.

An enclosed stair which opens from the second landing of the main stair rises to the finished attic, which contains three simple rooms and a small bathroom. On the first floor, northwest of the rear entrance to the house, an enclosed stair leads to the partially finished basement. It houses a wine cellar

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and an exercise room.

### Garage/apartment

Northwest of Middleton House stands the one-story, combination garage/apartment designed by William Roy Wallace and built in 1930 when the house was reconstructed on its present site. The garage portion faces southwest and has a broad gable roof with a wide, sheltering overhang in front. The three garage bays have paired glass-and-wood paneled doors with large iron strap hinges. To the right of the three bays is a single door. A brick chimney stands at the southeast end of the garage. At the northwest end of the garage, the gable-roofed apartment forms an ell that extends beyond the front of the garage. The whole is sheathed in weatherboards. Southwest of the garage/apartment is a parking court.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### Summary

Middleton House is a ca. 1829 Federal-style plantation house from upcountry South Carolina that was moved to Winston-Salem in 1930 and reconstructed to serve as the home of Martha Thurmond Chatham, widow of one of North Carolina's most prominent textile industrialists, Hugh Gwyn Chatham. The move and reconstruction were carried out under the supervision of architect William Roy Wallace, a local favorite among Winston-Salem's affluent citizens. New York's Ellen Biddle Shipman, one of the foremost female landscape architects in the country whose clientele included some of the nation's primary captains of industry and commerce, prepared a general site plan for the house, garage, and driveway, as well as plans for the dramatic front walk and the side garden, all of which survive. In the middle of the Depression, her office also was heavily involved with the interior decoration of the house, advising on the selection of wallpapers, fabrics, and furniture. The wallpapers from this reconstruction period remain intact in the center hall and living room. Middleton House fulfills Criterion A for listing in the National Register because it reflects the accepted practices of building conservation and historic renovation of its time. The house fulfills Criterion C because it is an important example of the Colonial Revival work of locally prominent architect William Roy Wallace and because of its connections with nationally prominent landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman. It also fulfills Criteria Consideration B as a building which was moved from its original location but which gains its significance from the period—and history—associated with and since that move. The period of significance for this locally important property spans the years from 1930, when the house was moved from South Carolina and reconstructed on its present site, to ca. 1933, when the original landscaping and interior decoration appear to have been completed.

#### Historical Background with Conservation, Architecture, and Landscape Architecture Contexts

Middleton House was built by John Middleton (ca. 1762-1846), who owned a plantation and operated a ferry for some years on the Savannah River near Clarks Hill in what is now McCormick County, South Carolina. John and Elizabeth Scott Middleton began construction of the house on a site overlooking the Savannah River valley around the time of the birth of their eighth child in 1825 and completed the house around the time of the birth of their last child, Robert Henry Middleton, in 1829. After the deaths of John and Elizabeth Middleton, ownership of the house passed to the Middletons' youngest son. Robert Henry Middleton lived in the house until his death in 1896, after which his wife, Margaret Eugenia Calhoun Middleton, continued to occupy the house until her death in 1928. Robert

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Henry Middleton, Jr. (1875-1943), lived with his mother during her later years and became the owner of the house after her death. By this time, the family's fortunes had begun to deteriorate. After his mother's death, Robert, Jr., moved into a bungalow on the estate. He planned to tear down the old house and, in preparation for that demolition, advertised for sale various interior fixtures—including mantels, brasses, and a tin chandelier—in *The Magazine Antiques* (Patterson, 4-6, 8-9).

Three sisters—Martha Thurmond Chatham (widow of Hugh Gwyn Chatham), Dewitt Thurmond Chatham, and Margaret Thurmond Kavanaugh—responded to the advertisement and traveled to South Carolina to see the advertised artifacts. At least two of the sisters, Dewitt and Margaret, operated an antiques business. They not only purchased some of the house's contents, but upon learning the fate of the house itself, they purchased it as well. The recently widowed Martha Chatham determined that she would move the house to Winston-Salem and reconstruct it—with modifications to suit her twentieth-century needs and tastes—on a large wooded tract owned by the Chatham family (Patterson, 11; Womble interview; Wallace Interview). Although this was during the Depression, Martha could well afford such a large-scale undertaking. After all, her deceased husband was Hugh Gwyn Chatham, a major early-twentieth-century textile industrialist who was president of Chatham Manufacturing Company, maker of woolen blankets, and was heavily involved with other textile enterprises (*City Directory*, 1928).

Martha Chatham made her decision to move Middleton House at a time when historic preservation—in a variety of forms—was becoming more popular in America. Since the Centennial Exposition of 1876, which, among other things, had sparked a reappraisal of America's architecture, more attention had been given to American building types and styles, and architecture became—along with patriotism—a criterion for preservation. In some situations, the building itself became much more important than the site on which it stood (Murtagh, 32-33).

Earlier in the twentieth century, the Metropolitan Museum of Art had begun to collect paneling and even entire rooms from historic houses to serve as settings for their display of American decorative arts. In 1924 the museum's American Wing opened with many of these settings. Soon, other museums began to follow suit, and antiques dealers began collecting house interiors for sale either to museums or to individuals for use in their homes (Hosmer, 211, 218, 233; Murtagh, 82). In fact, in the 1930s, one of the three Thurmond sisters, antiques dealer Margaret Kavanaugh, had, herself, purchased a room with historic decorative painting that had come from the Alexander Shaw House in Scotland County and had resold it to Joe Kindig, a prominent dealer in Pennsylvania. In the 1950s the room was acquired by the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection at Williamsburg, where eventually it was displayed as the Carolina Room (Singletary, 15-16).

Certainly, one of the most influential events in the preservation world immediately prior to the Middleton House move was the beginning, in 1926, of the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg with the financial support of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. This project made use of a variety of preservation

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techniques—restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and adaptive use—and became a model for the future. Around the same time, Henry Ford began collecting buildings from various locations, which he moved to Dearborn, Michigan to assemble in his Greenfield Village museum (Murtagh, 94, 96-97).

In many cases during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries—beginning with Ann Pamela Cunningham and her rescue of Mount Vernon—women had taken the initiative in historic preservation, and many buildings were saved because of their efforts (Murtagh, 38). All in all, Martha Chatham must have had few qualms about the appropriateness of moving a historic house from South Carolina to North Carolina. Certainly, she was operating well within the accepted preservation practices of her time.

During the early 1920s, Hugh Gwyn Chatham had amassed more than one hundred acres located in the country off Brookstown Road (now Robinhood Road) near the Reynolda Estate of the R. J. Reynolds family (Grantee/Grantor Index). He built a lake and had a farm that was operated by a foreman. His intent was to teach his grandson and namesake how to farm, fish, and participate in other outdoor activities. Over the years the extended family gathered there often (Patterson, 11-12). It seemed the perfect site in 1930 for the new location of Middleton House.

Around the same time, portions of the Chatham property were deeded to other family members—Dewitt Chatham (daughter of Hugh and Martha) and her husband Ralph P. Hanes, and James Gordon Hanes, brother of Ralph (Deed Book 326, p. 131; Deed Book 319, p. 323). They built large houses in the Georgian Revival and English Manorial styles and reared their families here on what had become a family compound. The Haneses were interested in history and the arts and were great supporters of related endeavors in Winston-Salem, including the restoration of Old Salem and a variety of arts organizations. In the 1970s, James G. Hanes's house was given to the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and continues today to be used by SECCA. In 1988 Ralph and Dewitt Hanes's house was given to Wake Forest University and now serves as the president's house (Patterson, 14).

When Martha Chatham decided to move Middleton House to the family land in Winston-Salem, she chose William Roy Wallace as her architect. Wallace never attended architecture school but learned his skills working with a practicing architect. After attending Swarthmore College for one year, he was unable to return for lack of money, so instead got a job as office boy in the Philadelphia office of architect Charles Barton Keen. Wallace's interest in architecture developed by attending the T-Square Club in Philadelphia, where architects shared their knowledge with interested young men. He was fortunate that Keen was his mentor, for Keen was the designer of Reynolda House—the country home of R. J. and Katherine Smith Reynolds—and subsequently of the homes of some of Winston-Salem's other prominent citizens, as well as of R. J. Reynolds High School and Auditorium. When Keen came to Winston-Salem in 1909 to work on the Reynolda project, he brought his nineteen-year-old office boy with him. Roy Wallace later became manager of Keen's Winston-Salem office. Around 1923 Wallace returned to Philadelphia with Keen and practiced architecture with him there for five years. In 1929 he moved back

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to Winston-Salem, where he remained for the rest of his life. At first he worked with architect Harold Macklin, but after becoming licensed to practice in North Carolina, he worked on his own (*The Sentinel*, February 11, 1983; Wallace Interview). Soon after Wallace returned to Winston-Salem, Martha Chatham hired him for her project. Because of his previous association with Charles Barton Keen and his own good work, Wallace quickly became an architect favored by Winston-Salem's elite. Although he designed a variety of types of buildings, he was probably best known for his residential designs in the Colonial Revival style.

Wallace's task for Middleton House was a difficult one. After making measured drawings of the house on its original site, he had to supervise its disassembly, numbering all the parts, and prepare the disassembled house for its move by rail to Winston-Salem. There he had to carefully supervise the reconstruction of the house, preserving its overall character while making a variety of changes to the interior at the request of Mrs. Chatham. He also designed a separate garage and servant's apartment that was compatible with the house. Wallace was successful in these endeavors, and according to his son, always considered the project "a feather in his cap" (Wallace Interview). Wallace continued to practice architecture in Winston-Salem until 1983, the year of his death at the age of ninety-three (*The Sentinel*, February 11, 1983).

Mrs. Chatham made use of another talented professional, landscape architect Ellen Biddle Shipman, for her Middleton House project. Shipman designed a site plan for the house and garage with a driveway leading from the compound lane uphill and along the northwest side of the garage/apartment and then curving southward and terminating in a circle at the southwest entrance of the house. The site plan was implemented with only minor revisions by architect Roy Wallace. On the northeast side of the house, Shipman's design for a long, boxwood-bordered brick walk leading from the house to a series of concentric circular steps opening to the terraced front lawn survives. Southeast of the house she designed a small, symmetrical garden extending outward from the house. Except for a long, southeast extension leading to a fountain that apparently was never built, the garden remains intact with its curved ends, entrances on either side and at the end, boxwood border, and small brick patio next to the house between the two chimneys. Shipman was also heavily involved in the selection and procurement of wallpapers, fabrics, draperies, and even some furniture for the house (Shipman, Site Plan; Shipman, Tree and Shrub Planting Plan; Shipman, Garden Plan; Shipman Letters).

Ellen Biddle Shipman (1869-1950), whose primary office was in New York, received much of her training through an informal apprenticeship with architect Charles A. Platt. Subsequent to that, she continued to work both independently and with Platt and other architects and landscape architects. Between 1914 and 1946 she designed over 650 gardens, with commissions spanning the United States from Long Island to Seattle and from York Harbor, Maine to New Orleans. Her clients included Fords, Astors, duPonts, Goulds, Huttons, Haneses, Dukes, Grays, and other captains of industry and patrons of

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the arts. Prominent landscape architect Warren Manning considered her "one of the best, if not the very best, Flower Garden Maker in America." In 1933, *House and Garden* labeled her the "dean of American women landscape architects." *House Beautiful* regularly featured her work in its "Gardens in Good Taste" column. And her obituary in the *New York Times* called her "one of the leading landscape architects of the United States." The best of Shipman's landscape designs were characterized by domesticity, intimacy, and romantic seclusion, distinguishing them from the grander, self-consciously European schemes that were commonplace during the period. Her work reflected the simplicity of traditional Colonial Revival spatial layout, the convention of the outdoor room, an artist's approach to planting, and a sense of the garden as a private world. In particular, the small garden on the southeast side of Middleton House exemplifies these characteristics of her work. Shipman was also an active advocate for women in the profession. For over thirty-five years she ran an all-woman office, where she trained many successful designers. In addition, in numerous lectures and interviews she articulated her belief that women practitioners were responsible for the gardening revival that brightened the early twentieth century in America (Tankard, 3-4, 197; Griswold and Weller; Duke Museum, 24-25).

Shipman's association with Middleton House came through her heavy involvement, beginning in 1929, with the design of domestic gardens for the home of Ralph and Dewitt Chatham Hanes, Martha Chatham's son-in-law and daughter. A telling aspect of her work for Mrs. Chatham is that she not only provided services in conjunction with the landscape, but she also worked closely with Mrs. Chatham and her sister, Margaret Kavanaugh, on plans for the interior decoration of the house. From late 1930 to at least mid-1931, numerous letters went back and forth between Shipman's office and both Mrs. Chatham and Mrs. Kavanaugh that dealt with the selection of wall papers, fabrics, rugs, and furniture for the house. These, of course, came from the finest producers. The papers chosen for the hall and the living room remain intact. Scattered among these letters, and continuing on until at least the end of 1933, are also transmissions concerning landscape plans and plant materials for Middleton House (Griswold and Weller; Letters).

Ellen Shipman's involvement with interior decoration resulted from the economic effect of the Depression on her livelihood. She and her husband, Louis, had divorced in 1927. When the stock market crashed only two years later, there was an immediate impact on her landscape architecture practice. During the Depression, Shipman earned most of her living from several very wealthy clients whose fortunes weathered the crisis. As her residential jobs dwindled, she began to seek institutional and interior design commissions. As architect Charles Platt had done, she began to use her design skills to include interiors as well as the landscape outside. For some of her residential clients, such as Ralph and Dewitt Hanes and Martha Chatham, she worked simultaneously on both house and garden (Tankard, 153). Thus, Ellen Shipman was able to stay afloat during the Depression, and Martha Chatham was able to benefit from her expertise not only for the landscaping at Middleton House but for interior decoration

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issues as well.

Unfortunately, Martha Chatham did not get to enjoy her reconstructed home for long, for she died in 1934. Margaret Kavanaugh, who had come to Winston-Salem to live with her sister after Hugh Chatham's death in 1929, continued to live at Middleton House until her death in 1940. Other family members lived in the house for several more years until 1949 (Patterson, 13-14). On December 6 of that year, Hugh and Martha Chatham's children, R. Thurmond Chatham and Dewitt Chatham Hanes, along with Dewitt's husband, Ralph P. Hanes, Sr., deeded Middleton House and just over twenty-eight acres to R. Philips Hanes, Jr., shortly before his marriage to Joan Humpstone in 1950 (Deed Book 612, p. 169). A half century later, Philip Hanes still occupies the house, now with his wife Charlotte, whom he married in 1984 after the death of his first wife.

Following in the family tradition of community involvement, Philip Hanes has been a major supporter of the arts and nature conservation—not only in Winston-Salem, but also in North Carolina, the nation, and internationally. The extent of his honors and service in these areas of interest is lengthy and can only be suggested by the facts that President Kennedy appointed him as a board member of the National Cultural Center, President Johnson appointed him as a founding board member of the National Endowment for the Arts, President Ford appointed him as a board member of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, he received the North Carolina Governor's Award in the Arts and Humanities in 1985, and in 1991 President Bush presented him with the National Medal of Arts (Resume).

Philip Hanes has maintained excellent stewardship of Middleton House. Concerned for its continued preservation, he and Charlotte deeded by gift the house and nearly five acres to Wake Forest University in 1992, retaining, however, a life estate (Deed Book 1746, p. 2195). It is their hope that listing in the National Register will not only honor the house but will also encourage its preservation in future years.

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### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is defined as all of Lot 111 of Block 2415 as shown on Forsyth County Tax Map 618862.

#### Boundary Justification

The nominated property, consisting of a tract of nearly five acres (4.903), constitutes that part of the original property—including house, garage/apartment, garden, lawn, and immediate wooded surroundings—currently owned by Wake Forest University. This tract embraces all of the land that conveys the significance for which the property is nominated.

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### PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs:

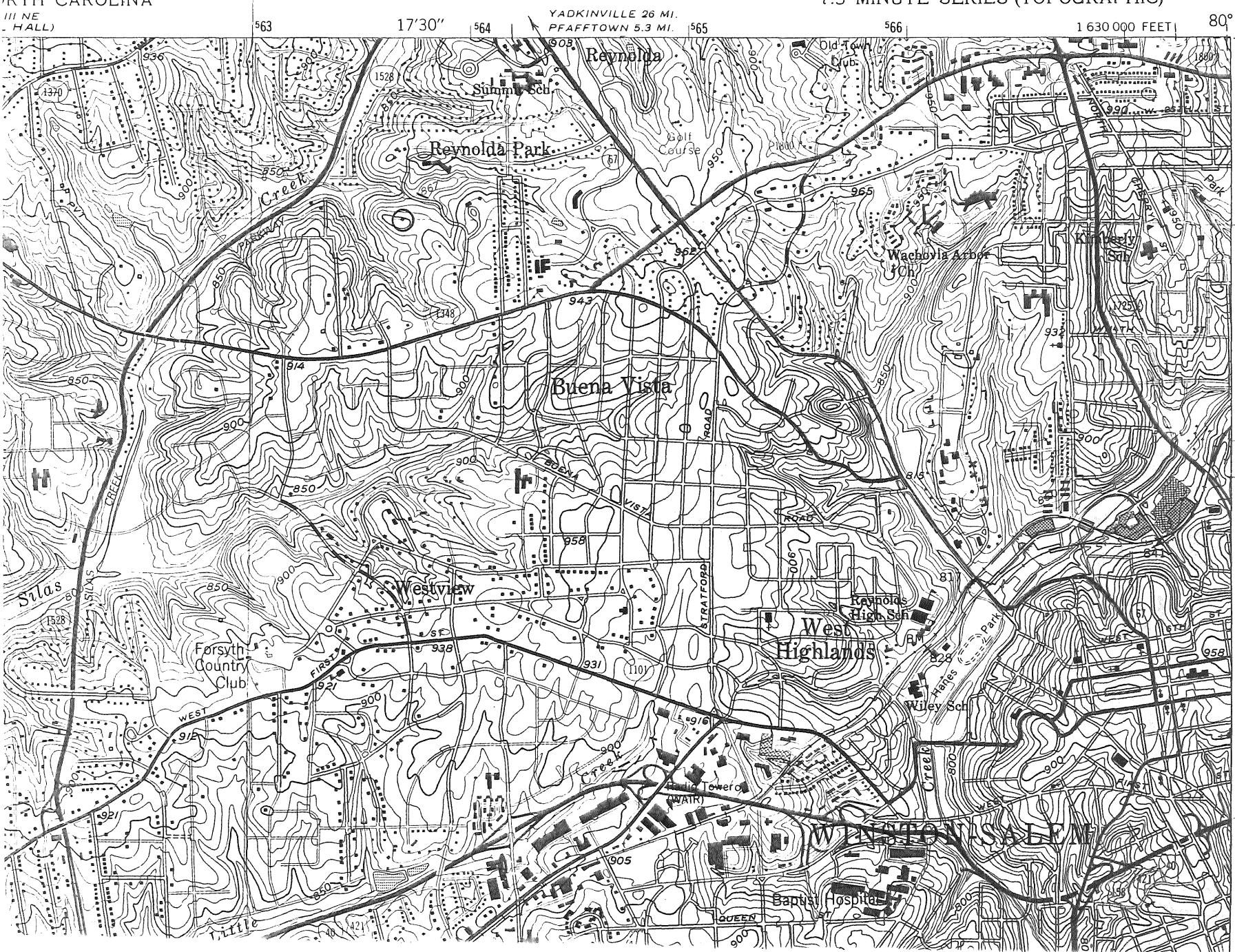
- 1) Middleton House
- 2) Forsyth County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) March 9, 2000
- 5) State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 6-7) A: NE elevation, view to SW  
B: Overall/context, view to SW  
C: SE elevation, view to NW  
D: SW elevation, view to SE  
E: NW elevation, view to S  
F: NE porch, view to SW  
G: SE side garden, view to SE  
H: Garage/apartment in relationship to house, view to E  
I: Garage/apartment, view to S  
J: Center hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, view to SW  
K: Details of stair and door surround, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, view to W  
L: Living room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, view to SE  
M: Dining room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, view to N  
N: Linen room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, view to SW

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