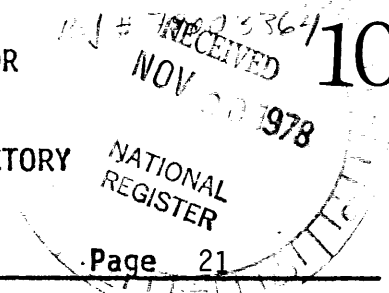


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY
NOMINATION FORM



Continuation Sheet

Item Number

Page 21

Name Historic Lyles-Gudmundson House

Location [REDACTED]

Common 1917 Seneca Avenue

Classification Building

Owner [REDACTED]

** Not For Publication

Representation in Existing Surveys

Description An English bond brick house with marble trim, the Lyles-Gudmundson house is two stories on a full basement. There are six bays on the main wing of the Seneca Avenue facade.

On the first floor to either side of a central portico are two 6/6 light windows with marble sills. Portico extends across the two central bays: a doorway on the left and a window on the right. The wall under the portico is recessed. Portico has four marble columns and two pilasters supporting a flat roof which is surrounded by a balustrade.

Second floor has six bays -- pairs of windows flank two French doors which open onto the portico roof. A modified entablature and a brick parapet with marble trim top the building.

A smaller wing on the west (left) is recessed from the main facade and features four 6/6 light windows and a garage. (Continued on back.)

Significance An imposing brick and marble house built for the daughter of a prosperous Columbia banker, the Lyles-Gudmundson house was designed by architect James Brite of New York. Located in Wales Garden, a suburb developed by Edwin Wales Robertson, the house was constructed as a wedding gift for Evelyn Robertson Lyles. Robertson, a Columbia banker, developer, and entrepreneur, was responsible for much of Columbia's early 20th Century development.

the architect was made in November 1916. From October 1918 until January 1921 construction was discontinued due to the difficulties of obtaining materials from Europe. The Lyles family moved in the house in 1922.

Continued on back.

Acreage .51 acre

Verbal Boundary Description TMS 32-05-08; 163.4' along Edisto Avenue and 135' along Seneca Avenue

UTM Reference Point Southwest Columbia 17/498580/3761100

Other Information ** Please note: Owners have requested that there be no publicity concerning a National Register listing for this property.

Description continued

The Edisto Avenue (right or east) facade has a semicircular portico with four two story high fluted columns set on a railing of brick panels and stone balusters. Portico has a full entablature of architrave with guttae, unadorned frieze, and cornice. Above cornice the brick parapet contains six stone panels ornamented with three garlands. There are two chimneys which extend from the flat roof.

The structure is located in Wales Garden, a residential section of Columbia which was one of the first suburbs.

Interior: On the first floor the main wing of the house has an entrance hall with staircase in rear. A bath and closet flank the stairway. Living room on right of entrance hall extends width of house and has elaborately carved wooden cornice molding. Fireplace on north wall has paneled overmantel. French windows open onto semi-circular portico.

Dining room is located on left of entrance hall and has fireplace with paneled overmantel on south wall, wainscoting and a delicate cornice molding.

The western wing was originally used chiefly by servants and included kitchen, hall, and back staircase. A servants's sitting room has been converted to a den and a wall separating butler's pantry from the kitchen was removed about 1963.

Main stairway is illuminated by a large 12/12 light round-headed window located at the landing. Stairway leads to upstairs hall with elaborate plaster cornice molding. North walls of stairwell are chamfered at corners. Upstairs main wing of house has three bedrooms and three bathrooms. On the east the master bedroom opens onto portico. Behind bedroom is a sitting room and bath.

Other upstairs rooms have simple molding probably added by present owner. A smaller bedroom has French windows opening onto front portico balcony. A third main bedroom is also located on the east and has an adjoining bath. A hall separates bedroom from secondary staircase, laundry room, and bath on west of house. A bedroom on the west was originally two rooms for servants. Removal of this wall and the butler's pantry wall downstairs were the only structural changes made by the present owner. Two of upstairs bedrooms have fireplaces and all upstairs closets are cedar lined.

Significance continued

From 1897 until 1902, as a principal in the firm of Brite and Bacon, James Brite co-designed the Public Library at Jersey City, New Jersey, several structures at the American University at Washington, D.C., and Laurel Hill, the Columbia mansion of Edwin Wales Robertson. From 1902 until 1930, Brite designed chiefly suburban homes including the Herbert L. Platt house in Long Island, Darlington in New Jersey, and a house for Robertson's second daughter located across the street from the Lyles-Gudmundson house.