

# Griffin Campus

## Introduction

The University of Georgia's Griffin Campus is located in Griffin, Georgia, approximately 40 miles southeast of Atlanta and 90 miles from Athens. Griffin was established as the state's first experiment station in 1889, and became part of the University system in 1950 to support the agricultural college and its educational programs and activities. Today, Griffin constitutes one of the premier agricultural research centers in Georgia. Programs and facilities at the Griffin campus provide opportunities for advanced research, extension agent functions, and education. In fulfilling the mission of the University of Georgia as a state land grant university to teach, serve, and inquire, programs at Griffin Campus focus on:

- Food safety and quality enhancement
- Biotechnology and genetics
- Crop and pest management
- Environment and natural resources
- Urban agriculture
- Education

In the 2000s, the University strengthened its commitment to education at Griffin by launching several academic degree programs. Students can now choose from eight undergraduate and three graduate programs. As part of the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Griffin houses world-renowned research and extension programs. In addition to time spent in the classroom, students work and perform research in the various laboratories on campus. More than 300 staff and faculty, and 150 students are affiliated with the 1,000-acre campus, which features approximately 100 buildings.<sup>437</sup>

The long-standing heritage of Griffin as an agricultural experiment station and center of agricultural education and research is expressed in the physical design of the campus, its built resources, and tangible connections between cultural activities and the natural environment.

First established on the site of an existing farm, the campus has grown, evolved, and changed to a great degree since establishment in 1889. Nonetheless, growth and development of the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin has generally



Figure 250. Emblem of the UGA Griffin Campus.

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437. University of Georgia, "University of Georgia Griffin Campus," <http://campus.griffin.uga.edu/>, accessed March 10, 2016.

respected patterns of spatial organization present on the original Bates Farm, with buildings and roads following systems laid down as part of the earlier family agricultural operation.

Several historic buildings and landscape features are present within the Griffin campus that convey their association with the experiment station. The oldest surviving buildings include a mule barn and dairy barn, both constructed circa 1912. There are also several buildings and structures that survive from the 1920s and 1930s, including the Flynt Building, the Sanford Barn, and the Gin and Shop Building, as well as numerous structures and landscape features developed following World War II.

The many contributions of the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin to the science and practice of agriculture within the state as well as the South, particularly in crop cultivar and animal feed development are notable in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, Education, Invention, and Science, suggesting that the campus is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Physical evidence of the facilities used to advance the agriculture survives throughout the campus, suggesting that it may constitute a historic district capable of conveying important heritage values.

The narrative that follows traces the history of the property and its development and use, and suggests the historic contexts that relate to its use as a University of Georgia research and experiment station facility. The historical background information is followed by an inventory and assessment of the building, landscape, and archaeological features associated with the property. To facilitate the organization of cultural resource identification and evaluation, the campus is divided into a series of character areas. For each character area, the primary historic resources and their character-defining features are described and their significance assessed according to the categorization system developed for purposes of this study. The inventory and assessment is followed by assessment of the National Register eligibility of the property, and the identification of any individually eligible resources and historic districts associated with the property.

## **Campus Historic Context**

### **Historical Background**

In 1887, the federal government pass the Hatch Act, which provided funding to states for the establishment of agricultural experiment stations. In 1888, the Georgia legislature passed a bill establishing the Georgia Experiment Station and Farm, which would also serve as the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and the agricultural branch of the University of Georgia. Following passage of the legislation, interested communities across the state were invited to submit bids for the opportunity to locate the experiment station and farm in their area. Potential bidders were informed that a winning bid would include the donation of a good farm in a desirable location and might include financial help for the construction of buildings. On May 7, 1889, Spaulding County submitted the winning bid of \$15,000, which was to be used to develop the station on the site of the 127-acre Bates Farm, located just outside the city limits of Griffin. The farm was well-positioned at the junction of three railroads—Central of Georgia, Georgia Midland & Gulf, and the Savannah & Griffin. Work to develop facilities

appropriate to support the work of the experiment station began immediately; in many cases, the buildings and structures of the Bates Farm were adapted for the new use.<sup>438</sup>

The duties, areas of investigation, and types of work to be performed at the Georgia Experiment Station were delineated in the Hatch Act. These involved conducting original research and experiments related to agricultural crops, livestock, and forage plants, particularly their diseases, care, production, and value. The station was required to publish regular reports on its activities and supplemental reports for farmers on the findings of the experiments.<sup>439</sup> Georgia farmers quickly found the information generated by the station to be useful and began to pay close attention to the station's findings. The Georgia Experiment Station also gained political support from the Georgia Legislature, even though funding was often not forthcoming.<sup>440</sup>

In 1914, U.S. Congress passed the Smith–Lever Act, which was followed in 1917 by the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act. Together, these acts strengthened the role and importance of land-grant colleges by establishing a system of cooperative extension services that would advance the science and business of agriculture by informing people about current developments in agriculture, home economics, public policy/government, and leadership. The Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin became a state cooperative extension site following the act. The inclusion of Extension Agents at experiment stations helped disseminate the word about the innovative work being done and solidify its importance in the minds of farmers and politicians.

In 1928, a Department of Home Economics was created at the Georgia Experiment Station designed to support the needs of the wives and children of rural farmers. The department oversaw the 4-H program for children that continues to be popular and influential today.<sup>441</sup> At the same time, the Georgia Experiment Station remained active in several other areas and could advise farmers personally and through publications on such topics as fertilizers; the cultivation of cotton, corn, peaches, and sweet potatoes; entomology and pest control on a wide range of crops and trees; preservation of a number of food items; dairying; tobacco cultivation and curing; hybridization of plant species; animal husbandry; and pecan cultivation, pest control, and harvesting.<sup>442</sup>

While the Georgia Experiment Station has made many exciting and significant contributions to agricultural science, one of the most important has been the way seed is grown and developed in the United States and the national policies created for its distribution. From its inception, the station was involved in boosting cotton yields. By the beginning of the twentieth century, poor management of cotton production across the South had led to an annual decrease in yields. In considering ways to develop new cultivars, scientists at the station

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438. Higgins et al.

439. Ibid.

440. Karina; Dyer

441. The 4 Hs, displayed in the lobes of a cloverleaf as part of the organization's emblem, are Head, Heat, Hands, and Health.

442. Higgins et al.

began to examine older, hardier varieties that were able to produce in depleted soil. It determined there was a need to create “one-variety communities” of farmers who would commit to growing only one type of cotton. This would insure that the station would always have a supply of this cotton as a control group and that it would stay as “pure” as it could be kept in active field growing conditions. Using the one-variety cotton seeds, the station created a variety it named *Empire* and released it in 1942 in the middle of World War II when the need for cotton was growing exponentially. *Empire* was an immediate success and Georgia farmers clamored for the seed. However, because the Georgia Experiment Station was not in the business of producing seed, they would have to figure out a sales and distribution agreement.<sup>443</sup> After consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the university, it was determined that the Georgia Experiment Station would use the one-variety communities for breeders’ seed production. The communities formed a group—the Haralson Empire Seed Producing Community—which entered into an agreement with the USDA and the Georgia Experiment Station. The Haralson Group then began to produce cotton from seed stock sold exclusively to them by the station and raised under the supervision of the USDA and the station. More than 1,000 farmers in several communities were involved. The product proved very popular, while the arrangement helped to keep the cost of the seed low. By the end of World War II, seed stock was being shipped to every cotton growing state and many foreign countries.<sup>444</sup>

During the 1930s, the Georgia Experiment Station began to grow beyond the boundaries of the Bates Farm and its original buildings. Several large new buildings were constructed to accommodate the growing experiments being conducted at the station between 1930 and 1960.<sup>445</sup> Station buildings range from institutional and office building to barns, greenhouses, equipment and tool sheds, as well as buildings specific to various types of crops such cotton gins. In many cases, buildings have been adapted over time to suit evolving needs, purposes, and technology. Those that could not be adapted have sometimes been replaced.

Over time, as the station expanded, the University of Georgia began to offer a modest number of undergraduate classes on the Griffin campus, adding to the graduate program studies it had always offered. In 2005, undergraduate degree programs were introduced at Griffin. As of 2016, students can take all courses necessary to earn eight undergraduate and three graduate degrees at the station; a University of Georgia student can graduate from Griffin without ever having gone to Athens.<sup>446</sup> Despite this change, original agricultural research remains the primary focus of the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin, however.

The Griffin Campus is tied to several historic contexts addressed in this study. They include Land Grant Colleges (1862–present), Agricultural Education and Colleges (1862–present), Experiment Stations and Experimental Farms (1887–present); and Agricultural Extension Services (1914–present).

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443. Higgins et al., 35–37.

444. Ibid., 37.

445. Ibid.

446. University of Georgia, “University of Georgia Griffin Campus.”

A timeline illustrating site history and development is provided in Appendix C.

## **Chronology of Development and Use**

The physical composition of the Georgia Experimental Station at Griffin has evolved continuously over more than one hundred and thirty years in response to the needs of agricultural research, the physical characteristics of the site, and available financial resources. Five distinct periods of development describe the property's history: Early European Settlement, the Community of Griffin, and the Bates Farm (circa 1840–1888); Early Experiment Station Development (1889–1928); The Addition of Flynt (1929–1950); The Stuckey Period (1951–1965), and Modern Era Expansion (1966–present).

One of the interesting characteristics of the campus is the way that the original Bates Farm continues to influence the arrangement of buildings today. While new construction has sometimes replaced earlier structures, it has also respected and followed the alignment, orientation, and spatial patterning of the earlier built environment.

### **The Community of Griffin (circa 1840–1888)**

The town of Griffin was founded in 1840 by General Lewis Lawrence Griffin at the anticipated intersection of two rail lines—one extending north-south and the other east-west. The first rail line, which extended to Griffin in 1841, utilized horse-drawn cars; steam-powered locomotives were later added and in operation by 1842. The rail line allowed local farmers to transport their produce to larger markets. At the time, cotton was the principal crop grown on the scattered farm that existed within the region.

The City of Griffin was incorporated in 1843. By 1849, Griffin was an established regional economic and transportation center that served an eight-county area. In 1851, Spaulding County was formed out of portions of three earlier counties, and Griffin, the largest city in Spaulding, was named its county seat.<sup>447</sup>

Although Griffin was not the site of a Civil War battle, it nonetheless served an important military role through the presence of Camp Stephens, a mobilization base for Confederate infantry, and Camp Milner, a similar facility for cavalry mobilization. Griffin also served as a Confederate hospital town during the war.

### ***Bates Farm***

Approximately 130 acres in size, the Bates Farm was located one-and-one-half miles northwest of the center of Griffin, just west of the tracks of the Central of Georgia Railway and an adjacent road. The farmstead was composed of a farmhouse, barn, and other outbuildings clustered near the east end of the property facing the road and rail line. The Bates farmhouse is said to have served as a hospital facility used to treat the wounded during the Civil War.

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447. Jordan, Jones & Goulding, *City of Griffin, 2024 Comprehensive Plan* (Griffin: City of Griffin, 2004) 5–18.



Figure 251. Director's residence, former Bates farmhouse, after a circa 1914 addition of a second story. (Source: University of Georgia Archives)

The Bates farmhouse was a one-story wood-frame building with six large rooms. The Bates farmhouse was located within a large grove of oak and hickory trees that extended over most of the northern half of the farm.<sup>448</sup> Residential-scale driveways, walks, and landscaping were associated with the farmhouse, as indicated in late nineteenth century photographs of the early experiment station.

Several outbuildings, including a barn, were present behind the farmhouse. A two-room servants' residence was located north of the farmhouse. The farm had a fish pond and a water supply system that fed the farmhouse and barn. The water supply system originated at one of two springs located above the fish pond. The spring was enclosed within a walled structure, and the water piped to a ram, where it was pumped to an elevated wooden water tank that supported the gravity-feed system.<sup>449</sup>

### Early Experiment Station (1889–1928)

In 1888, advocates for Spaulding County submitted a bid to the state legislature to become the site of Georgia's first experiment station. The bid indicated the proposed location for the experiment station as the Bates Farm. The new facility opened in 1889. Because the legislature neglected to allocate funds to construct new buildings, Bates Farm structures were adapted for use by the new Georgia Experiment Station. The Bates Farmhouse, for example, served as the residence of the station Director. It was located on the site of the present-day Stuckey Building, and remained in use until 1951. It was demolished in 1954 to accommodate construction of Stuckey. A two-room servants' residence north of the farmhouse was used as the station's first administration building. The farm barn, however, was found to be in poor repair and not suitable for conducting experimental work.

By 1890, additional structures were determined necessary to support the needs of the station. The construction of several new buildings occurred between 1890 and 1893 using \$4,000 remaining from the \$15,000 provided by Spaulding County to

448. Higgins et al., 59.

449. Ibid., 59, 62.

attract the facility that had also been used to purchase the farm. The first buildings erected were two wood-frame residences for senior staff, one located some distance south of the farmhouse and the other to its north. Both faced the road like the Griffin Farmhouse. These two buildings, completed in 1890, remained part of the campus until demolished in 1970.<sup>450</sup>

A new wood-frame barn was constructed in 1890. It was located south of the Bates Farm barn in the general location of the present-day mule barn. The building appears in historic photographs as a large well-built structure with a large cupola. Along with the Bates barn, this new structure served functional needs associated with the station, and remained in use for many years.<sup>451</sup>

A one-story frame laboratory building was also constructed in 1890. This structure was sited behind the Director's residence. The laboratory was enlarged in 1899 and again in 1917. In 1923, a basement was dug beneath the building for relocation of the station's gas machine, which provided gas to the labs until 1936, when the facility was connected to the City of Griffin's natural gas lines. The gas machine provided gas to light the station's offices and labs from its original location until 1914, when the facility was connected to the city's electrical system.<sup>452</sup>

A new three-room administration building was built in 1891 just south of the Director's residence. A library room was added to the east front of the building in 1914. This building was moved in 1928 to make room for construction of the Flynt Building. It remained in this use until the late 1950s.



Figure 252. The Georgia Experiment Station in the 1890s. Shown are the new barn on the left, with the administration building and old barn behind it in the center. The Director's residence is located within the grove of trees to the right. (Source: University of Georgia Archives)

450. Higgins et al., 60.

451. Ibid.

452. Ibid., 61.



Figure 253. The Georgia Experiment Station later in the 1890s. The Agriculturist's residence is shown to the left, the new barn and administration building in the center; and the old barn and Director's residence in the grove of trees to right. This photograph shows the arched entrance gate that marked the property along the adjacent road. (Source: University of Georgia Archives)

Additional buildings constructed in 1891 included a wood-framed ginnery and implement house (demolished in 1959), and a frame dairy building (destroyed by fire in 1939). In 1893, a large seven-room residence was constructed north of the Director's residence for the station's dairymen. By 1893, the station included a line of residences north of the Director's residence that formed a residential zone set within a grove of trees. This cluster remained in use into the 1970s. Today the area is occupied by the Woodruff Pavilion.<sup>453</sup> In 1901, a greenhouse was added directly behind the Director's residence. Also added to the station during the 1890s was an entrance road from the adjacent road corridor marked with an arched gate.

Following passage of the Adams Act in 1906, which increased the funding available to experiment stations, the Georgia Experiment Station was able to add new staff and facilities at Griffin. In response, a new laboratory building was constructed that year, and an additional 90 acres of land was purchased to the west of the original farm. In 1908, the third and last of three residences north of the Director's residence was constructed to house the station's Botanist.

The wood barn built in 1890 was destroyed by fire in 1912. Two new barns were constructed to replace the functions that had been housed in the barn—a mule barn and a dairy barn. Both were constructed of concrete masonry and featured metal shingle roofs. Both survive today and constitute the oldest buildings on the Griffin Campus. The mule barn was built as part of a row of barns near the site of the 1890 barn. The dairy barn was located further north along today's Cowart Drive. It was expanded with construction of a concrete masonry addition to the east in 1940. In 1914, a second story was added to the original Bates Farmhouse, still in use as the station Director's residence.

The only other buildings constructed during this period were a swine feeding barn (removed in 1969) and a horticultural barn constructed of rammed earth (removed in 1959), both added in 1927.

The pattern of development and land use visible in historic photographs suggests that by 1927 the Georgia Experiment Station consisted of residential-scaled buildings and landscape features generally clustered along the east side of the

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453. Ibid.



property that extending the lines of development first established as part of the Bates farmstead. The buildings generally faced the adjacent road and rail line in two rows, with the residences closer to the road, and the support structures forming a north-south line of barns and related structures behind. Smaller support buildings and garden plots occupied the land between the two lines of buildings. Behind the barns, the landscape was arranged in a grid of large farm fields. Cowart Drive had begun to form as the first east-west lane along which additional buildings would be added.

### **The Addition of Flynt (1929–1950)**

A major change took place on the Griffin Campus in 1928 with the construction of the Flynt Building, a large two-story brick structure designed to support administrative and laboratory uses. The Flynt Building was located just south of the Director's residence on axis with the gated entrance road.

With its brick walls, steel windows, and symmetrical Beaux-Arts design, the Flynt Building marked a significant change in both the scale and character of buildings at Griffin. The Flynt Building immediately became the heart, center, and image of the Experiment Station, visually, functionally, and symbolically. A new entrance gate was built along Experiment Road concurrent with Flynt.

Flynt was later expanded with a wing added to the south in 1936, and another to the north wing in 1938. The symmetrical entrance, parking, and related landscaping in front of the building also marked a change in site design that was more formal and substantial, and less residential in character.

Two other important buildings were added during the 1930s. These include the Sanford Barn and the Gin and Shop Building, both completed in 1938 next to each other along a new circulation route later named Woodruff Drive. Like the Flynt Building, these are brick buildings with steel windows that convey a more substantial presence.

In 1940, the Parasitology Lab was constructed along Cowart Drive on the site of the dairy barn that burned in 1939. As noted above, an addition was added to the 1912 dairy barn around the same time.<sup>454</sup>

After World War II, although funds, materials, and labor remained in short supply, employees of the Georgia Experiment Station determined the need to construct another new building to support research and administration. To address the need, they worked to cobble together materials as available, despite shortages. Using whatever was available to them, station personnel oversaw construction of the Cowart Building between 1946 and 1948.<sup>455</sup> Composed of brick with steel windows, the Cowart Building was another significant addition to the station, and the first large building located south of Cowart Drive. Also added in 1948 was the Food Processing Plant, a concrete structure similar in form to and located within the barn complex southwest of the Flynt Building. . That same year, a cottage was built southeast of the Flynt Building to serve as a residence for retiring Director Stuckey. Director Stuckey, however, continued to

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454. Ibid.

455. Ibid., 66.

occupy the original Bates residence until his death in 1951. The Bates residence was removed in 1953 to make room for construction of the Stuckey Building.<sup>456</sup>

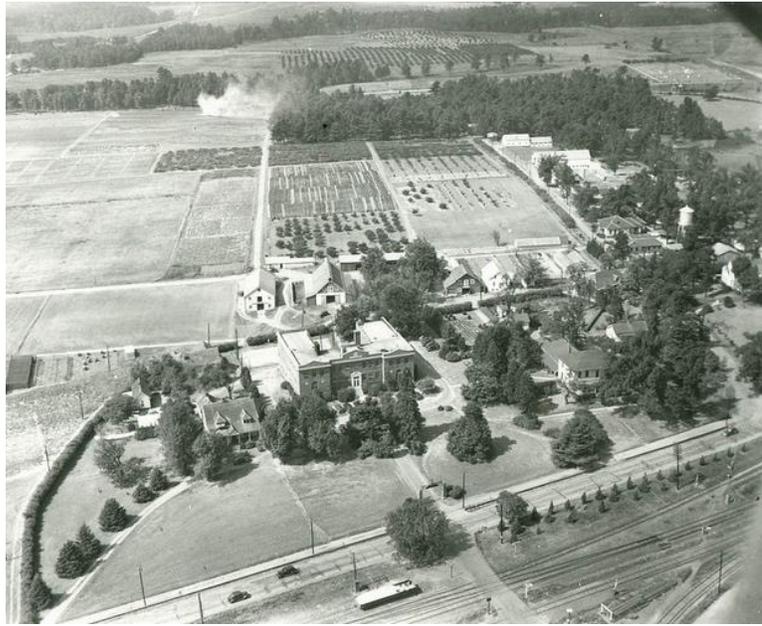


Figure 254. Aerial photograph of the Georgia Experiment Station, circa 1938. (Source: University of Georgia)

Bird's eye aerial photographs from the mid-1930s show the Georgia Experiment Station with the Flynt Building dominating the former line of residences along the road, and the line of barns and other buildings behind. A series of buildings are located to the north along Cowart Drive, while several long, small buildings are located along Higgins Road, behind the barns that date to the farm period. Additionally, three roads—later Woodroof, Stuckey, and Cowart Drives—extend west to a wooded area. They are edged by the fields used by the station to conduct crop and cultivar experiments. Several of the landscape features shown, including the woodlands, several of the individual trees, and the hedgerows north of Cowart Drive, as well as the gate and entrance drive remain visible in the landscape today.

### **Stuckey Period (1951–1965)**

The Georgia Experiment Station became part of the University system in 1950 to support the agricultural college and its educational programs and activities. As a result of the funding supplied by the University System Building Authority, which proved to be more supportive than the state legislature, several new buildings were constructed in the early 1950s. These included an Annex to the Food Processing Plant, and the Laboratory and Auditorium, later named the Stuckey Building.<sup>457</sup>

One of these, the Annex to the Food Processing Plant, was completed in 1952 or 1953. It is a one-story brick building, modern in design, with ribbon and

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456. *Ibid.*, 59.

457. *Ibid.*, 66.

clerestory windows, and a shallowly-sloped slab roof. It was built as an addition to the concrete structure completed in 1948.<sup>458</sup>

Construction of the Stuckey Building began in 1953 and was completed in 1954.<sup>459</sup> The building was located on the site of the former Director's residence, the original Bates farmhouse, which was demolished. Several other buildings were also demolished to accommodate Stuckey along with trees and other early residential landscape features. The Stuckey Building was the largest building constructed at the Georgia Experiment Station to date; like the Flynt Building before it, Stuckey altered the character of the station through its large footprint and contemporary architectural character.

Additional support buildings were also added in the 1950s, including the Agricultural Engineering Shop and the Horticultural Greenhouse and Headhouse in 1957. These buildings were located along Cowart, Stuckey, and Woodroof Drives in the former fields west of the row of barns.

Aerial photographs illustrate that the gated entrance drive was relocated between 1957 and 1962 to extend between Flynt and Stuckey. This entrance drive remained in use until the 2000s when a new visitor parking area was established south of the Director's residence.

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458. *Ibid.*; aerial photos.

459. Higgins et al., 66.

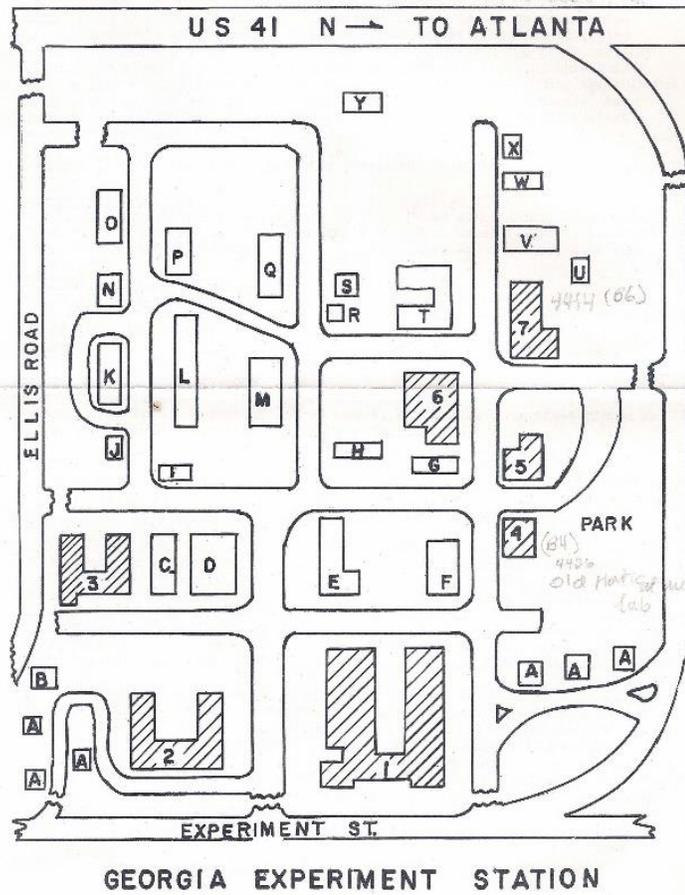


Figure 255. Plan of Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin circa 1954. (Source: University of Georgia)



Figure 256. Aerial photograph taken between 1954 and 1957. (Source: University of Georgia)

## Modern Era Expansion (1966–2016)

Another significant change occurred at the Georgia Experiment Station during the mid-1960s with the construction of the Melton Food Science Building. Dedicated by the Governor in May 1965, but apparently not completed until the following year, Melton was sited at the west end of the station.<sup>460</sup> Siting of this building in a formerly undeveloped area continued the westward expansion of the station. In contrast with many of the vernacular structures located in the interior of the station property, the style of Melton was architecturally modern in form and materials.

Other greenhouses, shops, and research buildings continued to be added to the Georgia Experiment Station during the late 1960s and early 1970s. A map of the Experiment Station from 1975 records the buildings existing at that time. While many survive today, a number have also since been removed. Buildings that have been lost include all of the remaining late nineteenth century residential buildings along the east end of the station as well as several older sheds, barns, and storage buildings.



Figure 257. Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin, 1975. Note the reference to the facility as a “campus.” (Source: University of Georgia)

Since the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin became the focus of expanded academic programs in the 2000s, two large-scale developments have been added to accommodate educational activities. These include the visitor entrance and

460. *Ibid.*, 67.

parking area completed circa 2003 to the south of the Director's residence, and the student learning center built in 2009 to the west of Higgins Road.

## Overview Description of the Griffin Campus

The Griffin Campus, which extends over approximately 1,000 acres, is located to the northwest of downtown Griffin between U.S. Highway 19/41 and the Old Atlanta Road located to the west, Experiment Road to the east, Ellis Road to the south, and Lovers Lane to the north. The Norfolk Southern Railroad line parallels Experiment Street to the east of campus. Visitors and staff currently approach campus from either Ellis Road or Experiment Street.

In addition to the original Bates Farm property acquired in 1889, the Griffin campus now includes land to the west of U.S. Highway 19/41 where the University of Georgia Experiment Station Botanical Garden is located, as well as other parcels in the surrounding area. For purposes of this study, the assessment that follows focuses on the original Bates Farm property, known to be historic.



Figure 258. Context map illustrating the location of Griffin within the state of Georgia. (Source: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., 2016)

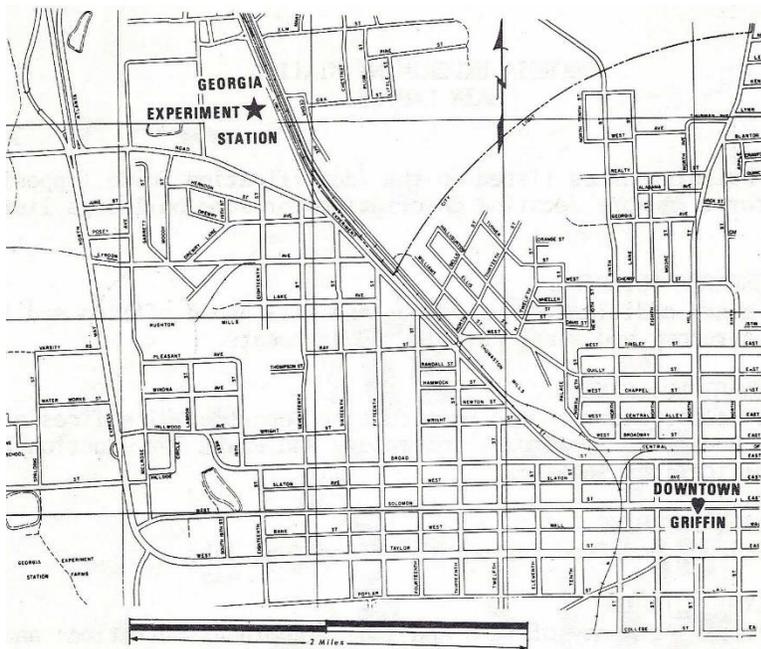


Figure 259. Location map illustrating the relationship of the campus to downtown Griffin, Georgia. (Source: map from Higgins et al.)

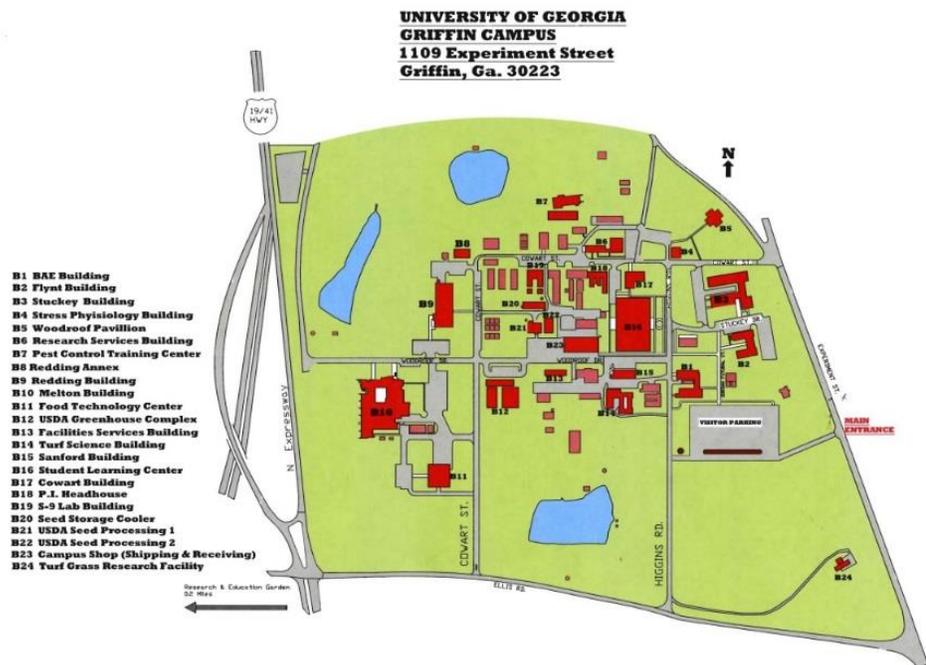


Figure 260. Campus map, undated. (Source: University of Georgia)

The Griffin campus is composed of a compact cluster of institutional buildings, farm outbuildings, and greenhouses, connected by a grid of internal roads and parking areas, and surrounded by open fields and experimental plots. Ponds and irrigation ditches are present within the fields. Shade trees and ornamental plantings frame many of the institutional buildings, while the greenhouses and maintenance facilities are generally edged by mown turf and parking.

The buildings and structures support several uses, including education, administration, research, storage, and maintenance.

*Education and Administration facilities.* Education and administration facilities are generally clustered at the eastern and western ends of campus.

*Research facilities.* The central portion of the campus contains several research facilities and laboratories. Many of these buildings are modest in size, and have been adapted over time to accommodate advances in equipment and technology, or a use that was not necessarily associated with their original design.<sup>461</sup>

*Storage facilities.* The central portion of the Griffin Campus includes several brick structures that are currently used for storage.

*Maintenance facilities.* Physical plant facilities are also located within the central portion of the campus. Several have been established within buildings that were built for other purposes. The adaptive reuse of buildings has sometimes led to a lack of efficiency.

The principal academic buildings are located along the eastern and western margins of the historic campus. They include Flynt, Stuckey, and Biological

461. Office of University Architects, *Technical Memorandum-Griffin Campus Master Plan*, September 20, 2005 (draft), 5.



Agricultural Engineering to the east, and Melton and Redding to the west. The eastern end of campus developed first. Over time, the built environment of the campus has expanded to the west, northwest, and southwest, with experimental fields generally occupying the rest of the land.

Since the 2000s, several features have been added to accommodate a new focus on academic programming, including a student learning center, entrance drive and parking area, pedestrian walks, outdoor gathering spaces, benches, fountains, and ornamental plantings. One of the most popular spaces for outdoor use is the treed area west of Flynt. Other public gathering spaces include the Woodroof Pavilion, a structure moved to campus from its original construction site where it supported the Olympic Games held in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1996.

Flynt, Stuckey, and a historic residence form the eastern edge of campus. These buildings are oriented east toward Experiment Street. Buildings and structures located to the west of Flynt and Stuckey follow an internal grid that is aligned with the cardinal directions. Buildings and structures edge a road network comprised of Cowart Street, Higgins Road, Woodroof Drive, and Stuckey Drive.

## **Identification and Evaluation of Historic Resources by Character Area**

The pages that follow identify and evaluate Griffin's historic resources by character area. Character areas are land bays or geographic areas that share similar physical traits or characteristics, a similar period of physical development, or are otherwise unified by land use, topography, vegetative character, design, or historic associations. For purposes of this study, the Griffin Campus has been divided into seven discrete landscape character areas:

- A. Historic Campus Entry
- B. Contemporary Entrance and Parking
- C. Historic Academic Core
- D. Academic Expansion
- E. Turf Research
- F. Research Fields (East)
- G. Research Fields (West)

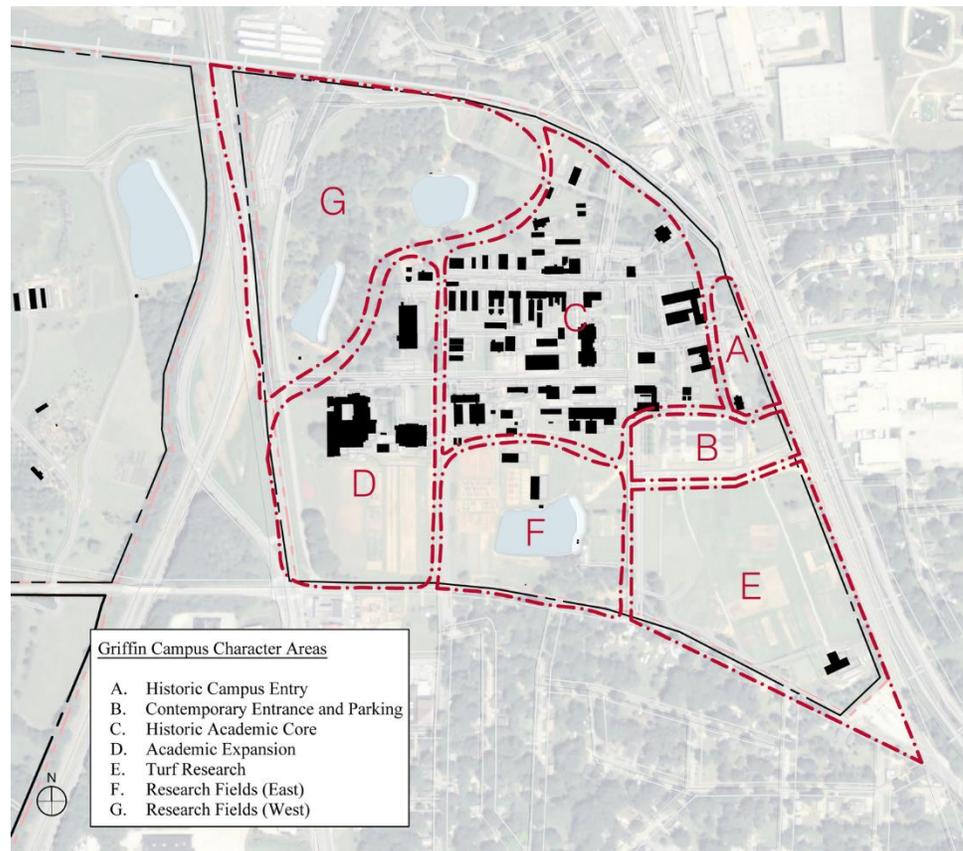


Figure 261. Character areas of the Griffin Campus. (Source: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., 2016)

An overview description of each character area introduces the identification and evaluation of Griffin’s historic resources. This is followed by brief descriptions of historic Landscape, Building, and Archaeological Resources, and a general assessment of their importance and historical integrity. The significance of the campus, and the resources that support that significance, are indicated at the end of this chapter.

The pages that follow identify, describe, and assess the building, landscape, and archaeological resources associated with the property by character area. An overview description of the character area introduces each section. The introduction is followed by brief descriptions of historic landscape, building, and archaeological resources, and a general assessment of their historical integrity.

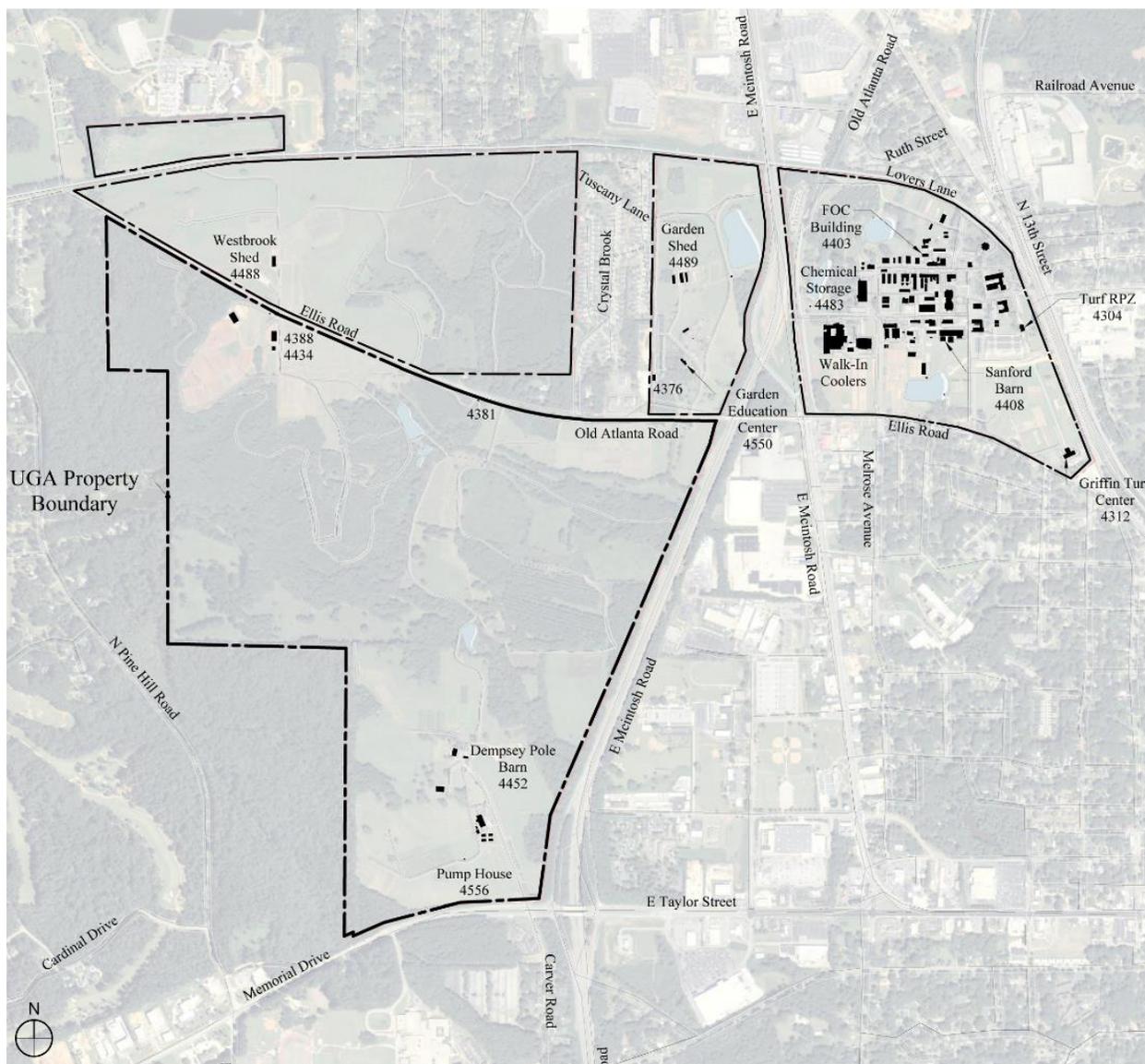


Figure 262. Resources of the Griffin Campus. (Source: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., 2016)

## Historic Campus Entry

The Historic Campus Entry character area serves as the formal public face of the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin along Experiment Street, which has served as the primary access route to the campus since it was established. Features include a historic entry gate, perimeter fence, identity sign, state historical marker, ornamental plantings, and Visitor Housing facility, built in 1948 as the Director's residence. The original Bates Farm was similarly oriented to face the adjacent road and rail line.

The entry gate is symbolic today. The former entrance road has been closed with a fence, and visitors now enter the campus to the south. A gate was first built along Experiment Street to mark the formal entrance into the station in the 1890s. It was relocated after construction of the Stuckey building in 1954 to mark a new entrance road extending between Flynt and Stuckey. The entrance configuration was changed in the 2000s to accommodate increased academic use of the campus; the new entrance leads to a large new parking area. A stone identity sign was also added behind the gate that faces Experiment Street to increase the visibility of the campus as part of the academic expansion effort. The Historic Campus Entry character area otherwise continues to convey the character of a formal entrance to an institutional property through the presence of park-like plantings, turf lawn, views of the Flynt Building, and the historic entrance gate.

## Building Resources



Figure 263. Visitor Housing, 2015.

***Visitor Housing (former Director's residence) – UGA 4466 (1948, Category 2).***  
The only building located within the Historic Campus Entry character area is the Visitor Housing residence. It is located to the southeast of the Flynt Building. The modest residence was built in 1948 to replace the antebellum Bates residence as a home for the station director. Known historically as the second Director's residence, the building is now used as a temporary residence for visitors.

This former Director's residence is in good condition and appears to be well maintained. The building retains integrity, although diminished by the replacement of historic building materials with modern treatments. The existing asphalt roofing, aluminum siding, replacement windows, and aluminum covering

over historic wood trim are non-historic. The exterior walls of the building are finished with smooth, tan stucco, which is not believed to be the historic treatment. Although altered, the building is assessed as Category 2.

A concrete foundation is located to the northwest of the Director's residence. The foundation may mark the site of one of the residences that supported station administrators and researchers during the early- to mid-twentieth century. Three were located to the south of Flynt, and another three were sited to the north of Stuckey.

## Landscape Resources

The only historic landscape resource associated with the Historic Campus Entry character area is the entry gate. Other site features include contemporary fencing, the campus identity sign, and a Georgia historical marker. Turf, ornamental and evergreen shrubs, and flowering and shade trees are also present within the character area.



Figure 264. Entry gate, 2010 (Source: Historical Marker Database, Georgia Experiment Station. <https://www.hmdb.org/marker.asp?marker=27562>)

**Entry gate (by 1928, Category 2).** Located directly across from the intersection of Elm and Experiment streets is the historic entry gate. The gate is composed to two brick columns, set atop limestone bases that feature limestone caps, and ball finials. An ornamental wrought iron cross piece extends between the columns and supports a sign that notes “Georgia Experiment Station.” The gate was relocated to new foundations by 1954.

The gate is no longer in use. Historically, it marked the principal entrance into campus, and a road led beneath the arch on axis with the Flynt building. The road has been removed and replaced with turf. A fence has been erected behind the gate to limit access into campus through the gate. The entry gate retains integrity, although integrity of setting is diminished slightly by the addition of the fence.



Figure 265. The fence along Experiment Street as it extends behind the historic entry gate, 2015.



Figure 266. Campus identity sign and plantings, 2015.

***Fence (post-2002, Category 5)***

***Identity sign (post-2002, Category 5)***



Figure 267. Georgia Historical Marker, 2015.

***Georgia historical marker (1956, Category 3).*** Also located in proximity to the historic entry gate is a Georgia historical marker erected in 1956 by the Georgia Historical Commission. The marker outlines the historic importance of the Griffin Campus as a Georgia Experiment Station. The cast-iron marker, which is painted a blue-gray color, is mounted on a fluted aluminum post. It notes:

The Georgia Experiment Station, one of the first State Agricultural Experiment Stations established in this country, was located in work program is to develop information which will aid in improving the living standards of the people in Georgia, particularly of improved crop varieties. Among the outstanding crop varieties developed at this institution are Empire cotton, Chancellor and Bledsoe wheats, Dixie crimson clover, Arlington oats, Georgia 101 corn, Dixie Spanish and Southeastern Runner 56-15 peanuts, Hunt, Dulcet, and Higgins muscadine grapes and Truhart pimento. The institution has also received noteworthy acclaim for its outstanding work in the field of food preservation, development of improved cultural and pest control practices with peaches, evaluation of forages for dairy and beef animals, control of weeds by use of chemicals, for studies in the placement and use of new fertilizer materials, and for its promotion of a soils testing program.

### **Contemporary Entrance and Parking**

The Contemporary Entrance and Parking character area was historically managed as fields used for agricultural experiments. The area was developed for use as a visitor entrance and parking area after 2002 to accommodate the new academic use of Griffin by the University of Georgia. The contemporary entrance and parking area is located to the south of the historic campus entrance. The new formal entrance and access road into campus arises from Experiment Street and leads to a large parking area framed by lighting, tree plantings, and sidewalks. The parking area is connected to the rest of campus via a paved walk system. The entrance and parking area possess a contemporary character that contrasts with much of the rest of the campus.

## Landscape Resources



Figure 268. Visitor parking area, 2015.

*Access road (post-2002, Category 5)*

*Visitor parking (post-2002, Category 5)*

*Paved walks (post-2002, Category 5)*

## Historic Academic Core

The Historic Academic Core character area contains the majority of the principal buildings and structures that support agricultural education, research, administration, and maintenance at Griffin. The historic academic core occupies the domestic precinct of the original Bates Farm, and the area first developed as part of the Georgia Experiment Station. Over time, built features have been added to the west, arranged along a gridded system of road, edged to the north and south by fields used for agricultural experiments.

The buildings and structures located within this character area follow two organizing systems. The buildings that face Experiment Street follow the orientation of the road corridor, which is aligned slightly northwest to southeast. The remaining buildings follow the cardinal directions, and are arranged in rows that edge three parallel road systems, composed of Higgins, Cowart, Woodroof, and Stuckey roads, and attendant parking areas.

The majority of the buildings located within the Historic Academic Core character area are historic structures built after 1930, with the exception of the Mule barn (1912), Dairy barn (1912), and Flynt Building (1928). Historic landscape features present include several road corridors. None of the original Bates Farm structures that were located within this character area survive today, and many early station buildings have also been lost. Development of this character area beginning in the 1930s has led to the replacement of other landscape features, such as water towers, spring boxes, plantings, and agricultural experiment fields present during the early years of the Georgia Experiment Station.



## Building Resources

The Historic Academic Core character area includes most of the historic buildings associated with the Griffin Campus. In total, there are seventeen historic buildings located within the character area, including the two oldest surviving structures—the Mule barn and Dairy barn. Additionally, there are several buildings over 40 years of age, and various contemporary structures.



Figure 269. The Flynt Building circa 1929. (Source: University of Georgia Archives)



Figure 270. View toward the principal facade of Flynt, 2015.

***Flynt Building – UGA 4416 (1928, Category I)***. The Flynt Building is the most iconic building associated with the Griffin Campus. Constructed in 1928, Flynt was built to serve the needs of the Georgia Experiment Station as its third administration building. Architecturally, Flynt constitutes the first structure on campus to convey an institutional character rather than a vernacular agricultural character. Flynt faces Experiment Street. Wings were added to the rear of the building in 1936 (south) and 1938 (north).

Flynt has been renovated several times, most recently to accommodate student services and additional academic functions following the change in focus initiated in 2002. Renovations have been of reasonably high quality and have transformed the building from a predominantly utilitarian structure housing early-twentieth-century laboratories to a modern administrative building.

The building retains its overall historic character and integrity on the exterior, with the exception of the installation of replacement windows. Flynt's original windows were steel with a center awning sash and top and bottom hopper sash, suitable to a 1928 laboratory. The replacement windows are fixed aluminum sash with applied muntins visually stimulating twelve panes, and do not reflect the original appearance or configuration. This change helps to convey a Georgian-style appearance, which is in contrast to the original institutional laboratory appearance. Although its integrity is somewhat diminished by the replacement windows, the building conveys its historic associations and is assessed as Category 1.



Figure 272. View toward the Stuckey Conference Center entrance, 2015.



Figure 271. Stuckey Conference Center, 2015.

***Stuckey Conference Center – UGA 4462 (1954, Category 2).*** Located to the north of Flynt, the Stuckey Conference Center is another of the principal institutional buildings associated with the Griffin Campus. The building is named for one of the directors of the Experiment Station, Dr. Henry Stuckey. Dr. Stuckey is regarded as a pioneer in Georgia agriculture, and was responsible for extensive growth of the Georgia Experiment Station during his tenure in Griffin.

Constructed in 1954, Stuckey houses continuing education, the campus library, administrative offices, and two academic programs. It also contains the only large auditorium space on campus, which is supported by a small catering kitchen. The building also houses a small student recreation facility.

Stuckey was the second large building constructed at the station. Stuckey helped transform the public face of the station along Experiment Street from a residential appearance to an institutional one, while increasing the space available for classrooms and research facilities. The building occupies the site of

the former Bates farmhouse, which had served as the Director's residence since 1889.

The building has its original metal windows. The exterior brick walls appear to have problems related to water infiltration. The interior of the building is utilitarian in its finishes. The Stuckey Conference Center retains its historic character and integrity both on the exterior and interior, and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 273. View northwest toward the Cowart Building, 2015.

**Cowart Building – UGA 4413 (1948, Category 2).** The Cowart Building is located along Cowart Street west of its intersection with Higgins Road, and faces north toward the street. It was constructed in 1948 to meet the needs of the growing experiment station during a period of materials shortages related to World War II. Station personnel constructed the building from steel secured as it became available.<sup>462</sup> The building currently houses the Horticulture and Entomology Departments.

The Cowart Building appears to be in good condition and retains historic integrity, although somewhat diminished by the replacement of its original steel windows. The modern aluminum replacement windows are inconsistent with the configuration of the original windows but are close enough in character not to detract significantly from the building's overall historic appearance. The building is assessed as Category 2.

**Mule Barn – UGA 4405 (1912, Category 1).** Located to the west of Flynt is a one-and-one-half-story concrete block structure originally constructed as the Mule Barn. The structure is currently used for storage. The Mule Barn was built in 1912 in conjunction with the Dairy barn on Cowart Drive after fire destroyed the wood-framed barn built to support station needs in 1890.

The Mule barn was part of a row of barns developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries behind the original Bates farmhouse. Between the barns and the farmhouse, was a group of outbuildings and garden plots related to both the former farm and early Georgia Experiment Station. The row of barns and



Figure 274. The Cowart Building circa 1954. (Source: UGA Archives)



Figure 275. Detail of Mule Barn gable, 2015.

462. Higgins et al., 66.

group of outbuildings and garden plots remained present until construction of Stuckey in 1954. Today, this area is largely open greenspace.

The Mule Barn is one of the earliest surviving structure on the Griffin Campus. With its poured concrete walls, wood-sided gables, and metal shingle roof, all of which are part of the original historic fabric, the building retains a high degree of integrity. Wood six-over-six windows in the east and west gables are original. Metal roof shingles also help to convey the building's historic appearance. Otherwise, many of the building's original doors and windows have been replaced with modern doors and windows that are not consistent with the building's character. Wood trim at the eave of the roof has been covered with aluminum. Original additions to both the north and south sides of the building have been removed, and only the concrete slab on the north remains.



Figure 276. Mule Barn, 2015.

The wood siding of the east and west gables is in need of repair and painting. However, the building is in good condition overall. It retains integrity and is assessed as Category 1.

***Research Services Building and Dairy Barn – UGA 4414 (1912; addition 1940, Category 1).*** The west end of today's Research Services Building and Dairy barn building was constructed in 1912 as a cattle barn in conjunction with the Mule barn of the same date. The building was historically known as the Dairy barn and Alamo barn. In 1940, a one-story addition was constructed on the east side of barn that housed a milking parlor, milk cooling and bottling room, cold storage rooms, and offices.

The 1912 Dairy Barn remains intact and retains a high degree of integrity. Like the Mule barn, the original exterior concrete walls and metal roof shingles survive today. The barn's nine-light wood window sash may be original, or at least replicate original character. However, the wood-sided east and west gables have been covered with aluminum siding, along with the wood window frames. The barn also has steel man-doors and overhead sliding barn doors that are not original. Today, the barn is used primarily for storage. Although the windows are in need of repair, the condition of the building is generally good.



Figure 277. Research Services Building and Dairy barn, east end, 2015.



Figure 278. Research Services Building and Dairy Barn, 2015.

The one-story east addition has undergone renovations. Its original masonry or concrete exterior walls have been covered with a modern Dryvit-type exterior insulation treatment with a tan stucco finish. The original steel windows and doors have been replaced with modern metal storefront systems. Except for the overall form of the building, and the consistent placement of the windows, the one-story addition has diminished integrity.



Figure 279. Research Services Building and Dairy Barn, west end, 2015.

***Biological Agricultural Engineering (BAE) Building – UGA 4417 (1952, Category 2).*** The Biological Agricultural Engineering building was constructed in 1952 as an annex to the Food Processing Plant, the concrete barn-like structure to which it was attached. Located to the south of the Mule barn along Higgins Road, the building features a low, one-story brick section with a low-pitched roof system, a perpendicular extension with a flat roof, and the one-and-one-half-story concrete barn that completes the U-shaped form of the building footprint.



Figure 280. View northwest toward the Biological Agricultural Engineering Building, 2015.



Figure 281. Addition to the Dairy Barn constructed in 1940. (Source: University of Georgia)



Figure 282. Biological Agricultural Engineering Building, 2015.

The Food Processing Plant was constructed in 1948 at the end of the row of barns located behind the Director's House. It served as a pilot project and state initiative to stimulate food processing in Georgia.<sup>463</sup>



Figure 283. The Food Processing Plant annex during construction in 1952 (Source: University of Georgia).

The 1952–1953 annex, modern in architectural design, was unlike any other building at the Georgia Experiment Station at the time it was built. It featured ribbons of continuous steel windows, including a clerestory, which allowed natural light to flood the interior, as well as a low-pitched roof with a dramatic overhang. The building is in satisfactory condition, although the roof exhibits signs of aging.

The annex interior remains fairly intact. However, the original steel windows have been replaced with low-quality modern double-hung windows and

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463. Ibid.

aluminum siding. The upper clerestory window has been almost entirely enclosed with aluminum siding. Windows in the concrete portion have been replaced with double-hung windows that are smaller than the full window opening. Trim has been covered with sheet aluminum. Despite these changes, the BAE Building is unique and retains its historic integrity. It is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 284. Sanford barn, 2015.

***Sanford Barn - UGA 4408 (1938, Category 1)***. The Sanford Barn is listed in the University of Georgia building list with a construction date of 1938. The barn, however, does not appear in an aerial photograph illustrating the north wing of the Flynt building, also reportedly constructed in 1938. (The 1975 history of the station prepared by Higgins suggests that that ginning equipment was moved to a new seed barn, the Sanford Barn, in 1941.)<sup>464</sup>

The brick Sanford Barn was built as part of the experiment station's evolving trend toward more substantial construction, even for working structures. The structure is built into the side of a hill such that the second floor is accessed from Woodroof Drive. Parking edges the front of the building. A concrete retaining wall separates the road and parking from the building. The building has an asphalt shingle roof and has wood double-hung windows, which could be original, although steel windows would have been more consistent with the period and style of the building. It is generally in good condition and continues to serve the needs of the station today.

Sanford Barn retains integrity and conveys its historic associations. It is assessed as Category 1.



Figure 285. Sanford Barn, 2015.

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464. Ibid., 61.



Figure 286. Gin and Shop Building, 2015.

***Gin and Shop Building – UGA 4419 (circa 1938, Category 1).*** The Gin and Shop Building is a one-and-one-half-story brick structure located adjacent to the Sanford Barn along the south side of Woodroof Drive. The two buildings may have been constructed around the same time. The Gin and Shop Building is composed of a long rectangular block with a raised central cross-gabled entrance accessed via an earthen ramp supported by a stacked rubble stone wall. The building has large steel windows that appear to be original. The exterior masonry is in need of repointing; the building is otherwise exhibits generally in fair to good condition. It retains integrity and is assessed as Category 1.



Figure 287. The Campus Shop Building, 2015.

***Agricultural Engineering and Plant Operations (Campus Shop) – UGA 4401 (1957, Category 2).*** The Agricultural Engineering and Plant Operations Building, also known as the Campus Shop, was erected by Department of Agricultural Engineering personnel between 1956 and 1957 along the north side of Woodroof



Drive near the Gin and Shop Building.<sup>465</sup> It is a two-story brick building, with a window clerestory and a vaulted metal-framed roof. It was the first large building to be constructed within this part of the campus. The building continues to be used for support functions, and retains good integrity. It is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 288. Campus Shop Building, 2015.



Figure 289. View of the principal facade of the Stress Physiology Building, 2015.

***Stress Physiology Building – UGA 4426 (1940, Category 2).*** This small brick building is located along Cowart Street. It stands on the site of a former dairy building, constructed in 1891 but lost to fire in 1939. The cellar of the former Dairy Building is reported to remain under the southwest corner of the building. The stress physiology building was constructed in 1939–1940 as the Parasitology Laboratory. Historic photographs of the Parasitology Lab indicate it was a painted brick gable-roof structure with six-over-six double-hung wood windows. The roof appears to have been altered to address drainage issues. The current windows are double-hung metal, and the exterior brick is no longer painted and has likely been repointed. The building generally retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.

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465. Ibid., 66.



Figure 290. Plant Introduction Greenhouse and Headhouse, 2015.

***Plant Introduction Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4442 (1966 or earlier, Category 2).*** The Plant Introduction Greenhouse and Headhouse is a one-story painted concrete block building with greenhouses extending to the rear located along Cowart Street west of the Cowart Building. It is reported to have been built in 1966. Maps and aerial photographs from the mid-1950s, however, show a headhouse and greenhouse of similar configuration in the same location. Ground photographs from the 1950s also suggest a similar building with consistent door and window configurations on the east elevation of the headhouse, as well as man and vehicle doors on the north elevation that are infilled with masonry on the current building. Although the specific date of origin of the structure is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study, the structure retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 291. Metabolism Barn, 2015.

***Metabolism Barn – UGA 4403 (1938–1957, Category 2).*** The Metabolism Barn is a small rectangular, stuccoed concrete building located northwest of the Dairy Barn. The date of construction of the building is unclear. The building appears in photographs dated between 1954 and 1957, but is missing from photographs taken in 1938. The barn retains good integrity. Cracks are present below the large steel window on its east gable elevation. These suggest a condition rating of

minor defects. Although the specific date of origin of the structure is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study, the structure retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 292. Forage Dryer building, 2015.

***Forage Dryer – UGA 4415 (1957–1962, Category 2).*** The Forage Dryer building is a single-story corrugated metal structure located perpendicular to Higgins Road south of Woodroof Drive. It first appears on an aerial photograph taken between 1957 and 1962. It retains good integrity. Although the specific date of origin of the structure is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study, the structure retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 293. Grain Forage Greenhouse and Headhouse, 2015.

***Grain Forage Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4441 (1954–1962, Category 2).*** The Grain Forage Headhouse is low, single-story brick building with a shed roof. The building is located to the south of the Forage Dryer building along Higgins Drive. It first appears on an aerial photograph taken between 1957 and 1962. The greenhouses behind it were added later. Although the specific date of origin of the structure is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study, the structure retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 294. The Turf Science Building, 2015.

***Turf Science Building – UGA 4446 (by 1975, Category 4).*** The Turf Science Building is single-story brick building located at the southern edge of the built core of the campus to the west of the Grain Forage Greenhouse and Headhouse.



Figure 295. Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse and Headhouse, 2015.

***Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4421 (1957, Category 2).*** Located to the west of the P. I. Greenhouse on Cowart Street is the Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse and Headhouse. This one-story brick structure with a low-pitched roof was added to the experiment station in 1957. It retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 296. Horticultural Greenhouse, 2015.

***Horticultural Greenhouse – UGA 4461 (1971, Category 3).*** The Horticultural Greenhouse is located to the south of the Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse and was constructed in 1971.



Figure 297. Pathology Greenhouse, 2015.

***Pathology Greenhouse – UGA 4445 (1962, Category 2).*** The Pathology Greenhouse is located to the west of the Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse. The single-story brick building was constructed in 1962. It retains integrity and is assessed as Category 2.



Figure 298. S-9 Lab Building, 2015.

***S-9 Lab Building - UGA – 4457 (1969, Category 3).*** The S-9 Lab Building was constructed in 1969. The single-story brick building, which features a gable roof, is located within a row of greenhouses along Cowart Street west of the Pathology Greenhouse.



Figure 299. Potato Storage Building, 2015.

***Potato Storage House – UGA 4427 (1962–1975, Category 3).*** This modest single-story block building is located along Cowart Street at the end of the academic core. It appears on the 1975 map of the experiment station but not on aerial photographs pre-dating 1962.

***Parasitology barn – UGA 4456 (by 1975, Category 4).*** This structure, while indicated on the University building inventory, was not located during field investigations conducted on behalf of this study.

### **Other buildings and structures**



Figure 300. View toward the Woodroof Pavilion, 2015. (Source: University of Georgia)

***Woodroof Pavilion – UGA 4375 (1996, Category 5).*** Although not historic, the Naomi Chapman Woodroof Agricultural Pavilion is of interest due to its history. Located in the northeastern corner of the Historic Academic Core character area within a grove of mature canopy trees, the pavilion was moved to the site from its original site in Atlanta. The pavilion was constructed for the 1996 Olympic Games.

A plaque associated with the pavilion notes:

Dedicated in honor of a pioneering scientist and colleague who contributed so much to the farmers of Georgia and the Southeast and advanced the science of plant pathology. Commissioned by the 21 members of Georgia Agriculture '96 to showcase Georgia agriculture to the world during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. Relocated from Centennial Olympic Park through the generosity of Gasper Guy Woodroof, S. Grantland Barnes, Spalding County Farm Bureau, Julian Jones, United Bank, Bank of Spalding County, First National Bank, Griffin Federal, Goals for Griffin. Marble floor and centerpiece donated by Georgia Farm Bureau Board of City Commissioners Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

The two-story open-air pavilion is accessed from a concrete walk that arises from Cowart Street.



Figure 301. Student Learning Center, 2015.

***Student Learning Center – UGA 4400 (2009, Category 5).*** Another building located on the Griffin campus that is not historic but is of interest to this study is the Student Learning Center. The massive two-and-one-half-story contemporary building was constructed in 2009 to support the enhanced academic programming at Griffin. It was sited on a portion of the former Stuckey Drive. It replaced three former buildings, including a gas station, agronomy implement shed, and bin dryer.

***Insectary – UGA 4424 (1951, Category 2).*** This building, listed in the University inventory, was not located during field investigations conducted as part of this study.

***Facilities Services (Physical plant facilities, Support Services Building) – UGA 4492 (1983, Category 5)***

***Additional buildings north of Cowart Street north and west of the dairy barn (post-1975, Category 5).*** Several modest utilitarian buildings are located to the north of the dairy barn. All appear to postdate 1975, with the possible exception

of one of the paired structures to the north along Holley Road, which may be the parasitology barn (UGA 4456).



Figure 302. Cluster of seed storage and processing buildings, 2015.

*Seed storage cooler – UGA 4482 (circa 1978, Category 5)*

*USDA Seed Processing 1 – UGA 4483 (post-1975, Category 5)*

*USDA Seed Processing 2 – UGA 4484 (post-1975, Category 5)*

*USDA greenhouse complex – UGA 4385 (post-1975, Category 5)*



Figure 304. Greenhouses and storage structures, 2015.

*Greenhouses and storage structures north of Cowart Street (post-1975, Category 5)*

*Greenhouses along Stuckey Drive (date undetermined, category undetermined).* Several additional functional greenhouse structures are located along Stuckey Drive. Similarly, they do not appear on the 1975 map and their date of origin is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study.



Figure 303. Greenhouses and storage structures along Cowart Street, looking west, 2015.



## Landscape Resources

***Cowart Street (circa 1950s/post-1975, Category 2/Category 5).*** Cowart Street is an L shaped access corridor that extends through campus between Ellis Road and Experiment Street. The north-south segment edges the Academic Expansion character area before turning east-west and forming the principal circulation route along the northern edge of campus. Several research facilities and greenhouses front Cowart Street. The northern segment of Cowart Street has been in use since at least the 1950s and is historic. The segment that extends north from Ellis Road is a later addition and not historic. Cowart Street, like all of the older roads within the campus, exhibits some minor defects of paving surface and edging. The 1950s portion of the road corridor is assessed as Category 2.

***Woodroof Drive (by 1954/post-1975, Category 2/Category 4).*** Woodroof Drive extends east-west through the center of the campus between Old Atlanta Road and Higgins Road. The west-central portion of Woodroof Drive was in place by 1954, while the road as it exists today was completed by 1975. The road, like all of the older roads within the campus, exhibits some minor defects of paving surface and edging. The 1950s portion of the road corridor is assessed as Category 2.

***Higgins Road (by 1954, Category 2).*** Higgins Road extends north-south between Cowart Street and Ellis Road. Higgins Road was in place by 1954. This historic road, like all of the older roads within the campus, exhibits some minor defects of paving surface and edging. The road is assessed as Category 2.

***Holley Road (by 1975, Category 5)***

***Brick walk (Gordon Futral Court) (post-2002, Category 5)***

***Brick utility enclosure (post-2002, Category 5)***

## Academic Expansion Resources

A cluster of buildings frames the campus on the west side. These form the Academic Expansion character area. Griffin's two principal laboratory educational facilities are located within the character area. Each laboratory provides functional space for researchers. The design of these facilities, particularly their western facades, are modern in architectural style, and thus distinct from many of the other buildings on campus.

Historically, this character area was partially wooded and partially managed in open fields associated with agricultural experiment plots.

## Building Resources



Figure 305. View of the Melton building, 2015.

***Melton Building – UGA 4463 (1965–1966, Category 2)***. Melton is a large brick building constructed in 1965–1966 as the Food Science Building. It was the first large building to be located at the west end of the Georgia Experiment Station. An addition has been added to the west side of the building since its original construction.

***Food Technology Center (post-1975, Category 5)***

***Redding Building (post-1975, Category 5)***



Figure 306. View southwest toward the Redding Building, 2015.

***Redding Annex – UGA 4305 (post-1975, Category 5)***



Figure 307. View northwest of the Redding Annex, 2015.

### Landscape Resources

There are no historic landscape resources associated with this character area, with the exception of Woodroof Drive (described above) and parking areas associated with the buildings.

### Turf Research Resources

The Turf Research character area is located in the southeastern corner of the campus. It includes the contemporary turf grass research building, accessed via a road that extends east from Higgins Road, parking, and a large expanse of turf research fields. Little is known about how this part of the campus was used historically. It may be part of a later the 90-acre parcel added to the campus in 1906.



Figure 308. Turf Research Building. (Source: UGA)

### Building Resources

*Turf grass research facility (post-1975, Category 5)*

### Landscape Resources

*Access road and parking (post-2000, Category 5)*

*Field patterns (date undetermined, category undetermined).* The date of origin of the field patterns is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study.

## Research Fields (East) Resources

The Research Fields (East) character area is located to the west of the Turf Research character area. It is framed to the north by a row of maintenance and academic core buildings, to the east by Higgins Road, to the south by Ellis Road, and to the west by Cowart Street. It contains fields used for research, a large pond, and several modest contemporary support structures. There is also a channelized stormwater management system. The Bates Farm is known to have included at least two good springs. Further research is needed to determine whether these springs feed any of the ponds on campus. This area has been used since the early days of the experiment station as land for agricultural experiments.

## Building Resources

*Field structures (date undetermined, Category 5)*

## Landscape Resources



Figure 309. View of the fields associated with the Research Fields (East) character area, 2015.

**Field patterns (date undetermined, Category 2).** Fields extend south from the buildings clustered along Woodroof Drive. The fields are edged by access roads, and stormwater management and irrigation channels. There is a large pond located within the center of the field system. Further research is needed to establish the date of origin of the field patterns and pond. They are associated with the historical experiment station and are assessed as Category 2.



Figure 310. View south of one of the stormwater management channels, 2015.

**Stormwater management and irrigation channels (date undetermined, Category 2).** Stormwater is channeled into a linear system that helps to drain fields of excess water. These channels may also support irrigation needs. This system appears historic, but does not appear on maps and further investigation is needed to determine the history of the system. It is assessed as Category 2.

**Pond (date undetermined, Category 2).** The pond is of unknown origin. It appears on the 1985 aerial view of the campus, but is either outside of the view of earlier aerial images, or it not present. Further investigation is needed to determine its origin and history. It is assessed as Category 2.

## Research Fields (West) Resources

The Research Fields (West) character area is located to the north of the academic expansion character area in the northwestern corner of the campus. It is framed to the north by the property boundary, to the east by greenhouses and other research structures, to the south by Redding Annex and Woodroof Drive, and to the west by U.S. Highway 19/41. It contains fields used for research, two ponds, and three modest support structures. The Bates Farm is known to have included at least two good springs. Further research is needed to determine whether these springs feed any of the ponds on campus. Little is currently known about the role that this character area played in the Bates Farm or the early experiment station.

## Building Resources

**Field structures (date undetermined, Category 5)**

## Landscape Resources

**Field patterns (date undetermined, Category 2).** Fields extend north from the buildings clustered along Cowart Street. Two ponds are located within the center of the field system. The date of origin of the field patterns is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study.



Figure 311. View of the eastern pond and associated structure, 2015.

**Ponds (date undetermined, category undetermined).** The date of origin of the two ponds located within this character area is not currently known. They do not appear to be present in aerial photographs of the property dating to the 1940s and 1950s. The date of origin of the ponds is not documented in archival material reviewed for this study.

## Potential Archaeological Resources

Queries to the GNAHRGIS show that no archaeological sites have been documented on the property. Despite the lack of recorded archaeological sites, it is likely that below ground evidence of former cultural activities survives, and may be found to have information potential for important periods of the history of the property's history. There is also a cemetery shown as present on the property. Archaeologically, cemeteries are much more than repositories for the dead. Cemeteries are frequently a central location for societies, and often bear symbols and records deeply held cultural meaning and practice.

Review of the 7.5 minute USGS topographic survey map indicates the presence of several extant twentieth century structures. Activity areas surrounding them likely retain archaeological features and artifact scatters dating to the time of their use. Because of the history of land use in this area of Georgia, it is reasonable to assume that these structures are only the most recent, and other dwellings and facilities have been constructed, used, destroyed or dismantled, becoming a part of the archaeological record of the property.

During and prior to European colonization, this area was within the range of, and home to, a long succession of American Indian societies. People of these societies left their mark on the landscape of the region that is observable in the

archaeological record. Based on what is known about the American Indian history of the area, it is reasonable to assume that Pre-Colonial archaeological sites exist on the property. Many of these sites may simply be evidence of brief visits to the area in the form of stone tools or pottery fragments left behind by people gathering naturally occurring resources. In addition to temporary activity areas, the possibility exists for permanent or semi-permanent habitation sites, as well as sacred sites and cemeteries.

Archaeological survey of the property would help to clarify the absence or existence of archaeological sites, as well as the nature of any sites that are found. Assessment of the potential of an archaeological site to contribute to the understanding of the history of the area can be done through archaeological testing.

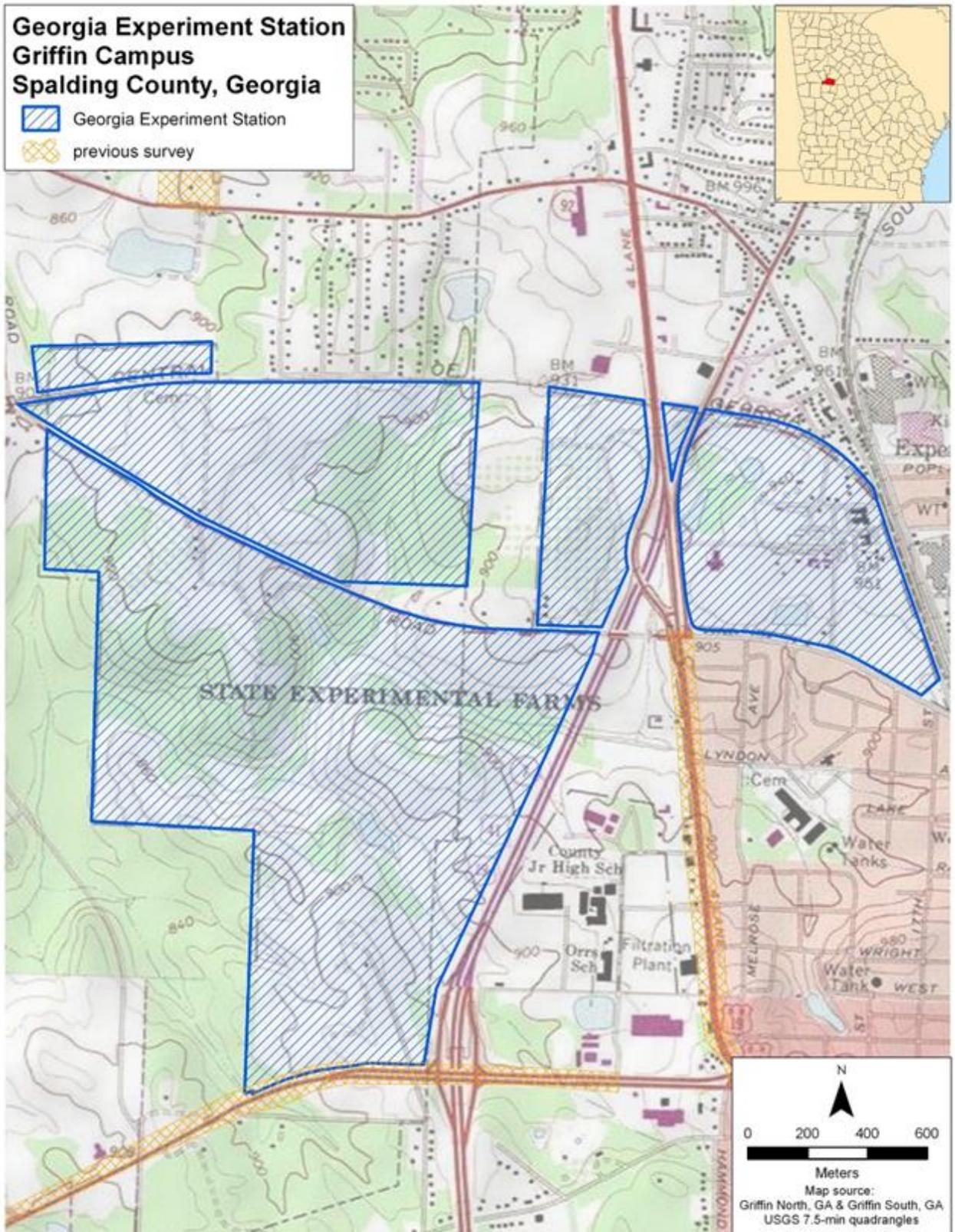


Figure 312. Griffin Campus property and area of previous archaeological survey.  
(Source: USGS, annotated by the authors)



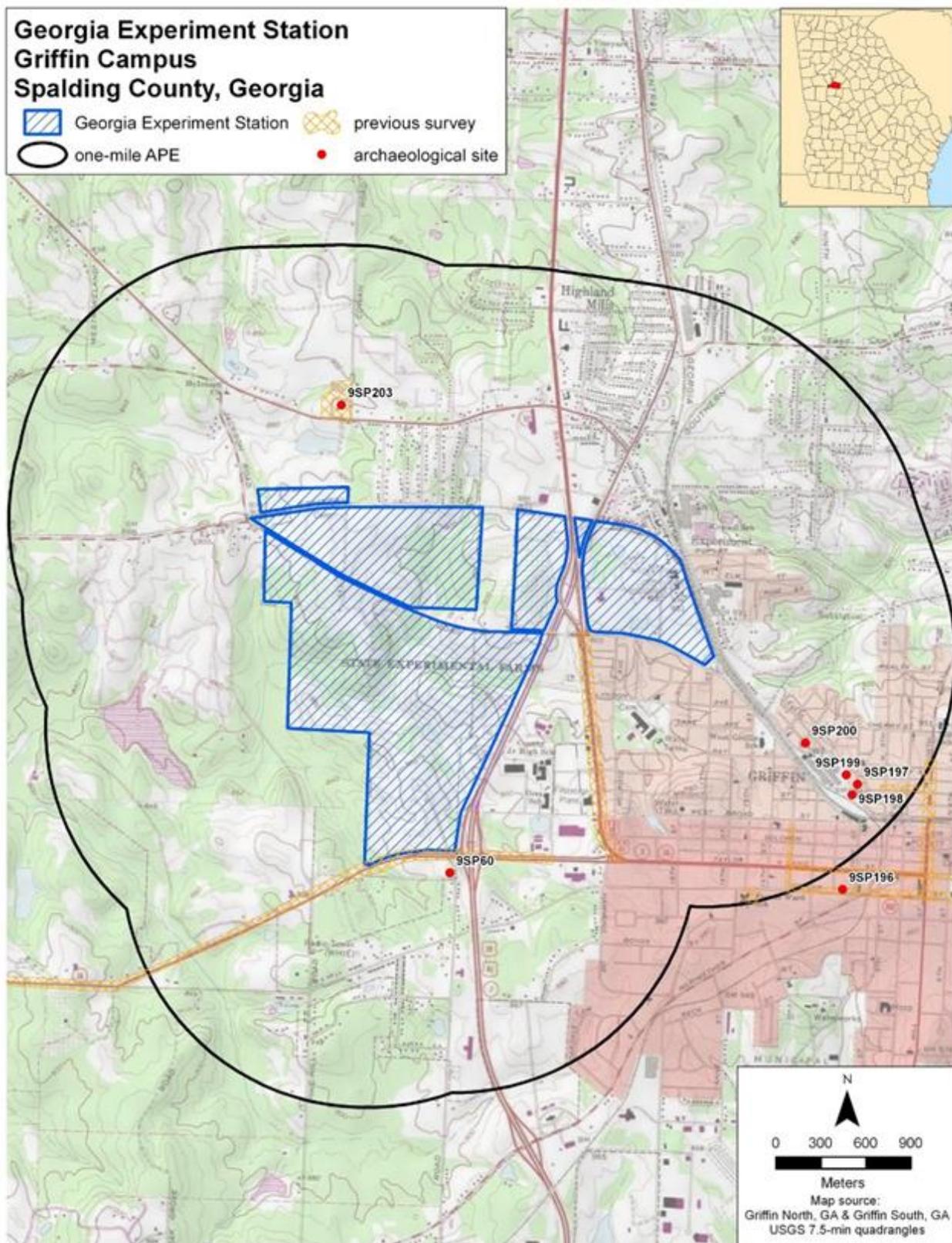


Figure 313. Griffin Campus property and area of previous archaeological survey, previously identified archaeological sites, and area of potential effects (APE). (Source: USGS, annotated by the authors)

## Significance Evaluation in Accordance with the National Register of Historic Places

In accordance with the National and Georgia Registers of Historic Places, the Georgia Experiment Station/Griffin Campus of the University of Georgia appears significant at the state level under Criterion A, B, C, and D in the areas of Agriculture, Architecture, Education, Invention, and Science for its long-standing role as a Georgia experiment station. The Griffin Campus appears to constitute a historic district.

For more than 125 years, the Georgia Experiment Station has played a leading role in modernizing agriculture throughout the Southern United States. It is notable as the first agricultural experiment station established within the state of Georgia in response to the 1887 Hatch Act, and also one of the first established in the United States. It is also notable for the innovations in scientific agriculture that have resulted from the research and experiments conducted on site. Scientists at the station have helped to revolutionize agribusiness and farming statewide by solving many persistent crop problems. They first began to address the needs and concerns of Georgia farmers during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, helping to improve living standards. Early research focused on fertilizers and soil erosion. These programs were later augmented with a comprehensive program of agricultural and environmental research. The improved methods and plant and animal breeds developed at the station included the deep furrow method of planting winter oats, pioneered circa 1900, that saved Southern farmers millions of dollars. Scientists at the Georgia Experiment Station also developed the first formulated feed diets for dairy and beef cattle in Georgia. The introduction of Empire cotton was instrumental in improving the Southern economy, while also contributing to World War II by helping to meet demand for uniforms and other clothing and goods. Other important crop varieties developed at the station included Chancellor and Bledsoe wheats, Dixie crimson clover, Arlington oats, Georgia 101 corn, Dixie Spanish and Southeastern Runner 56-15 peanuts, Hunt, Dulcet, and Higgins muscadine grapes and Truhart pimento. The station also developed the technology for frozen foods and other preservation methods, improved cultural and pest control practices with peaches, evaluation of forages for dairy and beef animals, control of weeds by use of chemicals, for studies in the placement and use of new fertilizer materials, and for its promotion of a soils testing program.<sup>466</sup>

While the Georgia Experiment Station has made many exciting and significant contributions to agricultural science, one of the most important has been the way seed is grown and developed in the United States and the national policies created for its distribution.

The history of the Georgia Experiment Station at Griffin relates directly to broader national historic contexts relating to Experiment Stations, Land Grant

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466. Sharon Omahen. "Georgia Experiment Station, Griffin." *New Georgia Encyclopedia*. 14 August 2013.  
<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/business-economy/georgia-experiment-station-griffin>, accessed March 4, 2016; Georgia historical marker.

Colleges, Agricultural Education, and Agricultural Extension Services as indicated earlier in this report.

The proposed period of significance for the property extends from establishment of the Georgia Experiment Station in 1889 to 1966, the fifty year age consideration for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The significance of the property is anticipated to continue as the station continues to make important contributions to science and agriculture within these contexts.

## **Summary Assessments**

### **National Register-eligible Properties**

#### ***Griffin Historic District***

The Georgia Experiment Station/Griffin Campus appears eligible for listing in the National and Georgia Registers as a historic district with a period of significance that extends between 1889 and 1966. Numerous physical resources of the campus survive from the period of significance to convey their historic associations and contribute to the historic district. Patterns of spatial organization, land uses, and views and vistas associated with the campus, while not individually contributing also survive from the historic period of significance and help to convey the significance of the historic district by contributing to its setting.

Overall, the campus retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The alterations that have been made to many of the buildings to accommodate evolving research needs and practices diminishes integrity of design and workmanship. However, because the primary mission of the campus is a living scientific research center, change is anticipated to continue in the future. Important considerations in retaining the overall integrity of the district include preservation of historic patterns of spatial organization, the overall composition and layout of the grounds, and a scale and materiality consistent with historic features of the campus. Contemporary additions, such as the Student Learning Center and the new visitor parking area are inconsistent with the historic scale of the campus, and serve to diminish the overall integrity of the property.

The resources that are potentially eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and those that contribute to a historic district are indicated below.

#### ***Resources potentially eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places***

- Mule Barn – UGA 4405 (1912)
- Research Services Building and Dairy barn – UGA 4414 (1912; 1940)
- Flynt Building – UGA 4416 (1928)
- Sanford Barn – UGA 4408 (1938/1941)
- Gin and Shop Building – UGA 4419 (circa 1938)

*Note that individually eligible resources may also represent contributing resources with a historic district.*

***Resources potentially contributing to a National Register-eligible district***

- Stress Physiology building – UGA 4426 (1940)
- Visitor Housing (former Director’s residence) – UGA 4466 (1948)
- Cowart Building – UGA 4413 (1948)
- Biological Agricultural Engineering (B.A.E.) Building – UGA 4417 (1952)
- Stuckey Conference Center – UGA 4462 (1954)
- Agricultural Engineering and Plant Operations Shop – UGA 4401 (1957)
- Melton Building – UGA 4463 (1965–1966)
- Entry gate (1928/1954)
- Metabolism Barn – UGA 4403 (1938–1957)
- Insectary – UGA 4424 (1951)
- Landscape resources: Cowart Street, Woodroof Drive, Higgins Road, field patterns, ponds, and stormwater management systems
- Facilities Services (Physical plant facilities, Support Services Building) – UGA 4492 (1957)

***Other Historic Resources***

- Forage dryer – UGA 4415 (1957–1962)
- Entomology and Horticultural Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4421 (1957)
- Grain Forage Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4441 (1957–1962)
- Plant Introduction Greenhouse and Headhouse – UGA 4442 (1966)
- Pathology Greenhouse – UGA 4445 (1962)