

Wymberley
Isle of Hope
Georgia

*“And what if behind me to westward the wall of
the wood stands high?
The world lies east; how ample, the marsh and
the sea and the sky!”*

LANIER



WYMBERLEY - Its Past

"It is not complimentary to oneself to think we began today, nor is it a credit to the memory of our lives to think we end today. So live - so build."

"WYMBERLEY" has been synonymous with the traditions of colonial Georgia and Savannah since its original grant to NOBLE WYMBERLY JONES in 1763 by KING GEORGE III of England. It has been colored with the stories of warring Spaniards and Englishmen, and the year of "Wymberley's" grant marked the settlement of the troublesome disputes over the Colony's borders at the Treaty of Paris.

In the Revolutionary War its island became known as the Isle of Hope when it was selected as a site for a hospital to care for the American wounded. During the War Between the States it offered haven to the Southern refugees.

"Wymberley" is located on the most southeasterly point of the Isle of Hope seven miles from Savannah. Adjacent on the South is "Wormsloe", which lies across the entire southern end of the island. This large plantation is still occupied by descendants of Noble Jones, father of "Wymberley's" founder. The Jones family were fellow voyagers of Gen. James Edward Oglethorpe and took a part, distinguished in history, in founding the Colony. The extensive grounds and the state of preservation of "Wormsloe" gardens make this one of the most notable homesites in the South.

"Wymberley's" vantage point looks east across the Skidaway River toward Wilmington Island and to the South the Florida Passage, known as the Narrows.

After Mr. Jones built his home there, ante-bellum mansions spread North along the River, and a community developed which was known as Wymberley Village. Some of the houses were built as summer homes, and visitors came from as far west as Natchez to this picturesque retreat to escape the inland heat.

During the generations which followed "Wymberley" was divided through bequests and grants. At various times parcels of acreage went to the Bullocks, Claghorns, back to the Joneses, Hunters, Bacons and the Glens, one of whom was Noble Glen, former owner of the site of the present gate cottage.

In 1888 Col. JOHN H. ESTILL collected the parcels from scattered heirs, and once again "Wymberley" was made one estate. Col. Estill, a distinguished man of letters, was owner and publisher of the Savannah Morning News, and at one time was a respected candidate for Governor of Georgia. It was in his honor that Estill Avenue—now Victory Drive—was named. He built a mansion on the river in the grand manner and cultivated the site into an estate of distinction.

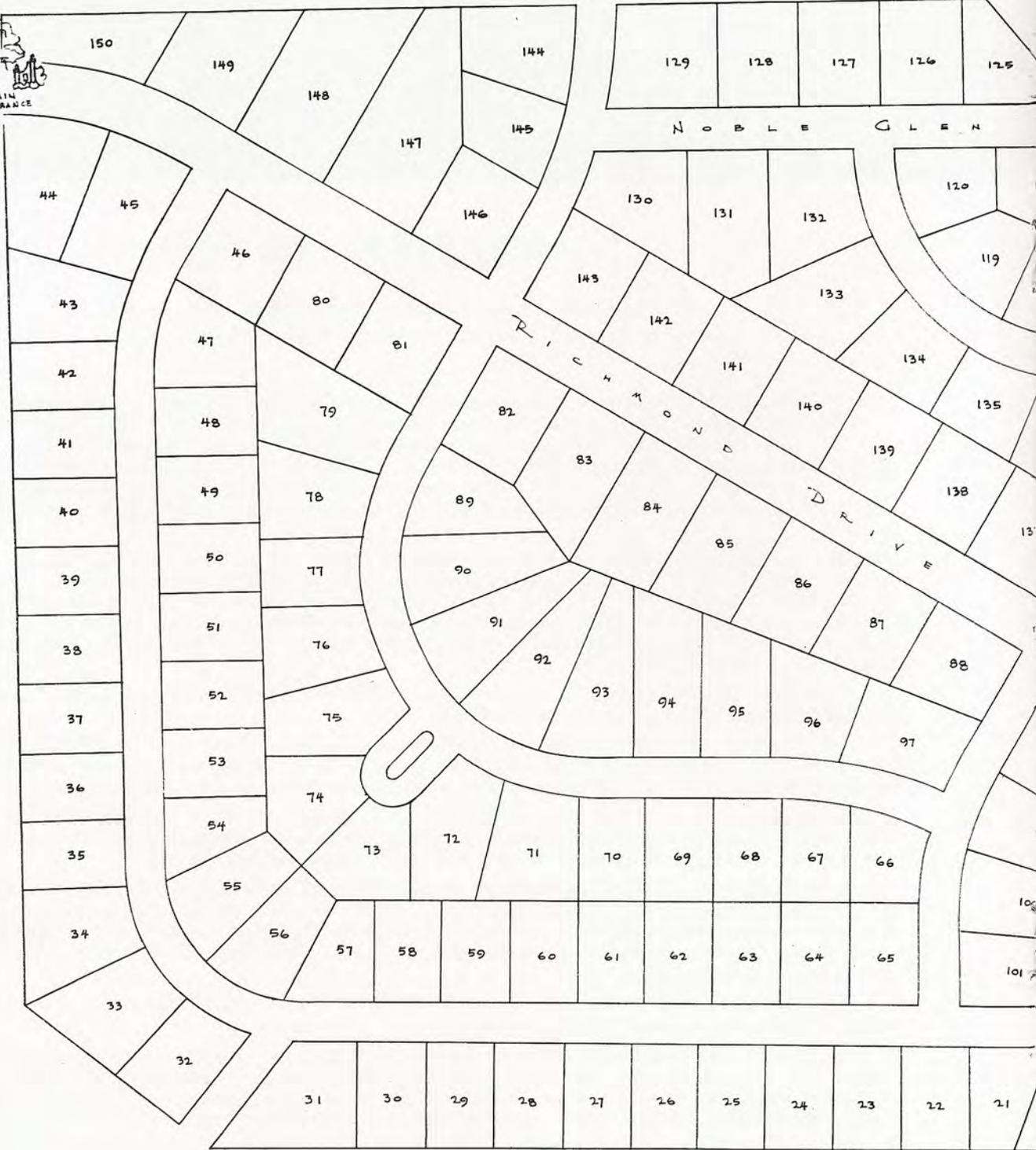
It was before the stately columns of this home that an early movie was made which starred Mary Miles Minter, Beverly Bayne, and Francis X. Bushman.

In 1909 the estate was bought by Judge GEORGE W. TIEDEMAN, Chairman of the Board of the Liberty National Bank and Chairman of the Chatham County Commissioners. He renamed it "Carsten Hall" for his son and added further to its renown by landscaping the grounds on a vast scale. Judge and Mrs. Tiedeman died a few years after the manor house burned in 1933. For several years even the gate cottage was unoccupied.

Mr. WILLIAM B. FLINN of New York, and "Maxwellton Plantation", Georgia, bought "Carsten Hall" in 1940 as a docking location for milling and transshipment of the large timber operations he had on Skidaway Island.

In February 1946 "Carsten Hall" was bought from Mr. Flinn by Mr. James S. Richmond who restored the name of "Wymberley".

Its neglected azaleas, camellias, and wisteria had grown into a tangled beauty. Broken crepe myrtle blocked the white shell drives and the moss choked avenues of oaks were stilled.





HARLAN HALL



SAVANNAH YACHT CLUB RACES, ISLE OF HOPE

WYMBERLEY - Its Present

*"Be not the first by whom the new are tried,
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside." - POPE*

“WYMBERLEY” is new - “Wymberley” is NOW! Old “Wymberley” of yesterday with its ageless riches is again young and bold. Traditions has always marked “Wymberley” in the grand manner. This time - Now - a broad plan encompassing its entire acreage is being developed to capture once again the pleasures of the gracious way of living.

Mr. Richmond saw the possibility of a restoration of “Wymberley”. But he saw it not from the view of the old custom of a single great estate for only one owner, but as the modern version of the traditional estate: a subdivision of taste and discrimination for a group of several owners.

To carry this out, land planning architects, engineers, landscape artists, and construction architects have combined their studies on an enduring plan for “Wymberley’s” new era.

Already new streets have been graded to open new water vistas. Many tasteful houses have been built, many more are under construction. A water system has been installed. Power lines have reached their modern magic through the trees.

But in our young lives we can but remember the beauty of things past—and we find ourselves being a bit traditional at “Wymberley” too.

“Beauvoir” is one of the new houses nearing completion. It is in the French Provincial style of architecture which has become so identified with Bermuda and Nassau. Its lines are traditional but its forced air heat has outlets and return ducts in each room. Its kitchen offers tiers of shiny cabinets over the latest in ceramic tile. Colorful asphalt tile, bright bathrooms, and gay wallpaper give an airily modern affect. Numerous French doors frame the unsurpassed vista which gives “Beauvoir” its name.

Across the Avenue of Pines from “Beauvoir” can be seen the setting of virgin pines for “Beauteigne”. This formal house must bow to old Nachez on the Mississippi for its architectural lines. Yet the traditional is complemented by the modern. Its furnace is measured to the last BTU, its oak floor is of the finest, its bedrooms situated to catch the cool night wind.

A spacious two story house has left the drawing boards of its designer, Ted Waters, to be developed on a large tract next to “Wormsloe”. Its design is old New Orleans and another river vista beckons from its balcony, railed in ironwork actually from the Louisiana city.

One block down Richmond Drive are rising the white columns of a traditional style house adapted so popularly to the modern in Ponte Verda and Palm Beach.

To the East on the water is “Harlan Hall”. Its long double porches follow the lines of the famed Maupas house on Abercorn Street in Savannah. On Noble Glen Drive a thoroughly modern cottage has been completed for the Ross Allens. It was designed after the study Col. Estill had built for himself years ago.

Another “Carsten Hall” solidly built of brick has risen expansively on the foundations of its predecessor. The Old South and the Old English figure in other of the houses which have been completed.

Each of the houses is spotted to capture the delights of “Wymberley”. This one catches the glint of the sun on the water or the yachts sailing the Florida Passage, or the wonder of winter trout breaking the surface. That one listens for the sound of oysters crackling in the night—the tantalizing cackle of the marsh hen. Another marvels at a flock of white heron against a low sun sky. Another catches the vista of a broad avenue of oaks, the background of mimosa and myrtle and magnolia. All of these add up to the “Wymberley” of today, the “Wymberley” which still holds that wealth of unique charm which has always marked its acres with distinction.



ENTRANCE VIEW OF "BEAUVOIR"



RIVER VIEW OF "BEAUVOIR"

WYMBERLEY - Its Future

*"The heavens forbid, But that our loves and comforts should increase,
Even as our days do grow!"*

SHAKESPEARE

"WYMBERLEY" has a future—just as surely as you know you have one. Its future holds a promise for you—an invitation to grow and to find the ultimate of your living in its park-like atmosphere.

A country life on the water awaits you but with it are all the conveniences of a municipality. Layne-Atlantic Company is installing a well for a modern municipal water system of such capacity to supply a water pressure of 45 - 55 lbs. to each home. Electrical and telephone services are available and heating and cooking fuel such as propane and fuel oil are regularly distributed. An established bus service passes before "Wymberley's" main entrance.

Two short blocks away is the community center of the Isle of Hope where you will find churches, school, playgrounds for children, stores and markets, a community club house, and other recreational facilities. Yet—as there are no drawbridges to impede traffic, the heart of Savannah is only twenty minutes away by bus.

The architects and engineers have designed a plan for "Wymberley" for spacious living. No lot has less than 100 feet in width—the average being 125 feet wide—and on the main drive the average frontage is 150 feet. Restrictive covenants provide lasting protection to the property owner. Lots and homes in "Wymberley" are F. H. A. approved, and plans of financing are available for your lot as well as the construction of your new house. We have made arrangements which will allow veterans to secure a 100% loan.

The Wymberley Yacht Club, open for membership only to property owners, is being formed to manage two waterfront properties. Here you will have access to deep water for boating, fishing, and swimming on the blue spans of the Skidaway River.

Here in "Wymberley" your home will be a neighbor to the famous azalea and camellia show gardens of the Isle of Hope. Your children will enjoy a well-balanced living, educationally, socially, and recreationally. And you? You can garden in "Wymberley's" rich soil, or fish leisurely in the river, or just sit in the breeze and rock.

The awakening "Wymberley" is YOUR FUTURE.

James S. Richmond

President

WYMBERLEY ESTATES
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