

# William Henry Robertson collection of maps, architectural drawings, and plats

## Descriptive Summary

<b>Repository:</b>	Georgia Historical Society
<b>Creator:</b>	Robertson, William Henry, approximately 1881-1964.
<b>Title:</b>	William Henry Robertson collection of maps, architectural drawings, and plats
<b>Dates:</b>	1896-1954
<b>Extent:</b>	1.5 cubic feet (1 box, 2 roll boxes)
<b>Identification:</b>	MS 1672

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## Biographical/Historical Note

Captain William Henry (Billy) Robertson (circa 1881-1964) served as the superintendent of Savannah, Georgia's Park and Tree Commission from 1899-1955. As superintendent, Robertson managed the city's parks, squares, cemeteries, and city planting of trees, shrubs, and flowers. Robertson, a native Savannahian, was instrumental in designing the original Daffin Park Lake. At his retirement in 1955, a City Council resolution credited him with "much of the intensive development of our parks and squares which are major assets of our city."

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## Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of maps, architectural drawings, and plats of Savannah, Georgia. The collection is divided into five series: Daffin Park; subdivisions; parks and squares; architectural drawings and site plans; and miscellaneous. Many of the materials are in poor condition. Locations included in this collection are Daffin Park, the estate of John G. Falligant in Thunderbolt, Blue's Ranch subdivision, Fairway Oaks subdivision, Casey Canal, the Habersham Street squares, Columbia square, the Savannah Chapter American Red Cross building, Hotel DeSoto, and Bonaventure Cemetery.

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## Index Terms

Architectural drawings (visual works)  
Land subdivision--Georgia--Savannah.  
Landscape plants--Georgia--Savannah.  
Maps (documents)  
Plats (maps)  
Public spaces--Georgia--Savannah.  
Robertson, William Henry, approximately 1881-1964.

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## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Unknown.

### Preferred Citation

[item identification], William Henry Robertson collection of maps, architectural drawings, and plats, MS 1672, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Robbie Culver, 2001.

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## Restrictions

### Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

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## Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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## Container List

### SERIES 1:: Daffin Park

This series contains general plans, a list of plants, a landscape map, and a photograph of Philip D. Daffin, for whom the park is named.

#### roll\_box Item

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | Landscape map of Estill Park, Chatham Co., Ga. Survey for the Tree and Park Commission, 1896.<br>2 copies |
|---|---|---|

#### Box Item

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | General Plan of Daffin Park with cross section, Park and Tree Commission |
|   | 3 | Plan of Daffin Park, including stadium                                   |
|   | 4 | Cross sections in connection with Daffin Park                            |
|   | 5 | List of plants for Daffin Park   |
|   | 6 | Oversized photograph of Phillip D. Daffin                                |

### SERIES 2:: Subdivisions

This series contains plat maps of the John G. Falligant estate (Robertson's mother was from the Falligant family).

**Box Fldr**

- 1 7 Map of lots near Thunderbolt, Estate of John G. Falligant, 1877  
(copied 1904)
- 8-9 Plat showing subdivision of lots 9-12, 33-34, John G. Falligant estate, 1919
- 10 Map showing subdivision of lots 9-12, John G. Falligant estate, 1924.  
2 copies
- 11 Map of lots 41 and 42, John G. Falligant subdivision
- 12 Plan of proposed street layout, J.G. Falligant lots 41, 42, 44, 45
- 13 Blue's Ranch subdivision, map of lots 20-24, 47-53, 56-62, 83-90, Olympus subdivision,  
Sutlive Ward (Savannah), surveyed for Mrs. Agnes S. Schwalb, 1948
- 14 Fairway Oaks subdivision, maps of lots, 1950.  
2 copies

**SERIES 3:: Parks and squares**

This series contains plans for a proposed park in the Fairway Oaks area, a general design for the Habersham Street squares, and a preliminary sprinkler plan for Columbia Square.

**Box Fldr**

- 1 15 Sketch showing proposed park between Fairway Oaks and Casey Cana, 1951
- 16 Suggested design for Habersham Street squares, Office City Engineer, 1951.  
2 copies
- 17 Preliminary plan of sprinkler system for Columbia Square

**SERIES 4:: Architectural drawings and site plans**

This series contains site plans for Savannah's Red Cross building and the Hotel DeSoto, and two unidentified project plans.

**Box Fldr**

- 1 18 Photocopy of site plan of Savannah Chapter American Red Cross, 1950
- 19 Site plan of patron drive-in (pick-up/drop-off) at Hotel DeSoto, 1954.  
2 copies
- 20 Construction detail of framework for unidentified packing house, includes measurements  
and placement of boarding, windows, shingles, etc.
- 21 List of boards, window frames, etc. including number and measurements for unidentified

construction

## **SERIES 5:: Miscellaneous**

This series contains maps of Savannah and Bonaventure Cemetery and an unidentified aerial photograph.

### **roll\_box Item**

2            22    Map of Savannah with number lots, incomplete (very poor condition)

### **roll\_box Item**

2            23    Map of Bonaventure Cemetery (very poor condition)

### **Box        Item**

1            24    Unidentified aerial view of coastline, photograph