

Kenwyn

Staff Contact: C. Jeffries

Location and Current National Register Status: Kenwyn (now known as Wynandra) is situated at 6 Amphill Road in the Near West End of Richmond. It is located in the Paxton neighborhood, south of Cary Street Road. The building is not presently listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register or the National Register of Historic Places.

History and Significance: Kenwyn is being nominated under National Register Criterion C at the local level, with a period of significance from 1929 to 1957. Erected in 1929, Kenwyn is a prominent example of Georgian Revival design. The building was designed by Richmond-based architect Carl Max Lindner, Sr. for Edward Victor Williams, a Richmond tobacco executive. Lindner's detailed Georgian Revival style was enhanced by a formal landscape designed by Charles F. Gillette, a Richmond landscape architect who completed many projects in the area. Gillette produced designs for the landscape and hardscape at the property, and created additional designs for new owners through the 1950's. The two-and-a-half-story brick dwelling remains largely as it was completed, with alterations including the enclosure of an open loggia with windows and double-leaf doors, and minor interior updates made to suit modern living standards. The landscaping was refurbished in the 1980's, including the replanting, addition, and relocation of several plantings; a restoration of the lawn; the extension of the brick wall around the property; and the addition of a small soaking pool, a swimming pool, and tennis court.

Staff Recommendations and Comments: The building represents a detailed example of Georgian Revival style architecture in the Near West End of Richmond. Additionally, the structure highlights the work of a distinguished landscape architect, Charles F. Gillette. The house retains a high level of physical and historical integrity. However, staff has concerns regarding the integrity of the original landscape design.

Based on the application of the National Register criteria, staff recommends that the Commission support the nomination of the structure under National Register Criterion C.