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## Residential Developments are Under Way: Outlying Sections for Fine Homes

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# No Expansion of City Boundaries in Many Years

## LARGER INDUSTRIES ARE OUTSIDE LIMITS

Huntsville's claim to be "the biggest city of its size" is based on the fact that its corporate limits have not been extended in many years. During that period, the city has grown industrially, and the majority of its big cotton mills are located in the suburbs.

The mill villages contain a population larger than that of urban Huntsville. This population, with an enlargement of the boundaries, would properly belong to Greater Huntsville, as the entire community is now called.

The present city limits embrace an area of three square miles. Greater Huntsville has a territorial area of eight square miles. This includes the Merrimack village, West Huntsville and the Dallas and Lincoln villages.

The 1920 census gave to Huntsville proper a population of 8,018. An estimate made by multiplying the names found in the city directory by two and one-half, the [factor observed] in obtaining the actual population, would give Greater Huntsville 23,349 souls. This estimate is considered conservative, as the directory does not contain the names of married women or children.

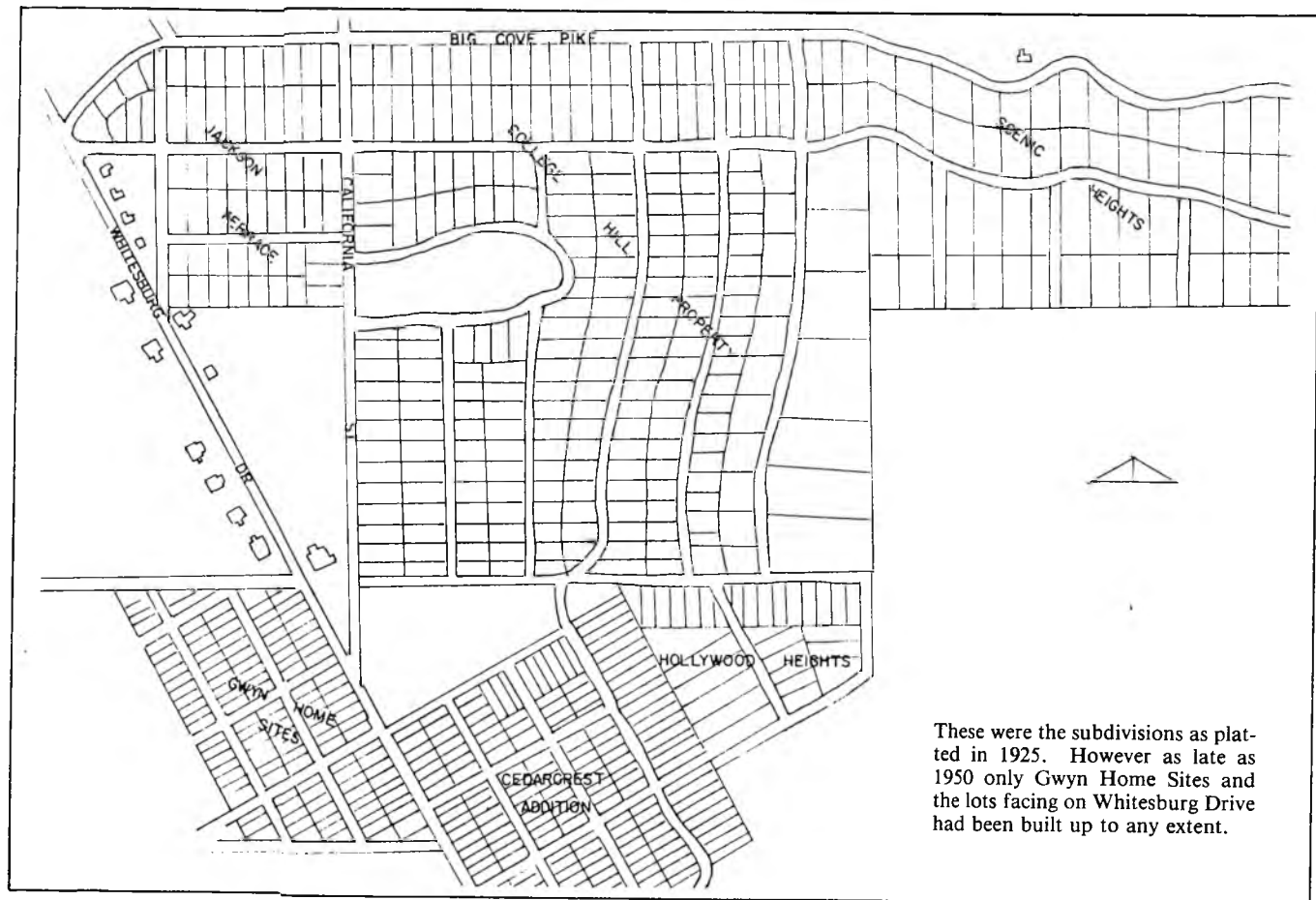
These figures show that Huntsville has an undisputed claim to the title of "the biggest city of its size." While other municipalities have spread their corporate boundaries, Huntsville has gone on apace without any expansion. The result has been harmful in a way, as the outside world has not been fully able to grasp the fact that the Madison County capital is a city of nearly 25,000 inhabitants.

# Residential Developments Are Under Way

## OUTLYING SECTIONS FOR FINE HOMES

Perhaps the most significant feature of Huntsville's expansion, accented in the last few months by the letting of contracts for the erection of a 7-story office building, a hospital at a cost of \$150,000, the

breaking of ground for the new \$100,000 Baptist church, and many minor improvements, is the opening, for the first time in the city's history, of a number of exclusive residential developments.



These were the subdivisions as platted in 1925. However as late as 1950 only Gwyn Home Sites and the lots facing on Whitesburg Drive had been built up to any extent.

Beginning on the west side of the Whitesburg pike and extending in an easterly direction, skirting the rim of the mountain, five subdivisions have been recently platted and will be offered for sale within the next twelve months. These are: Jackson Terrace, owned by Harry Rhett, 26 acres; Scenic Heights, owned by I. A. Burdette, D. C. Monroe and Charlie Lane, 40 acres; College Hill, owned by Eugene R. Gill, Ben Matthews and R. L. Lytle, 160 acres; Gwyn Home Sites, owned by C. R. Gwyn, W. A. Conner, Milton Lanier and Miss Rachael Tomlinson, 80 acres; Hollywood Heights, owned by Dr. Carl A. Grote and I. A. Burdette, [about 12 acres].

The property lying adjacent to the Whitesburg pike and the new Lee Highway is beautifully situated. In its topography it ranges from the grass-covered levels of Gwyn Home Sites to the picturesque elevation of Scenic Heights.

The Lee Highway, being built across the mountain as a part of a national route from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean and connecting at Big Cove, is a stretch of the Florida Short Route. This asphalt highway is the key to the entire development. It will be bordered, within a few years, with attractive and costly homes.

The new subdivisions will offer to the investor and to the home builder the combined conveniences of city and country. Owing to the fact that the corporate limits of Huntsville extend but a half-mile from the heart of the city in this direction, the developments are the reflection of a natural expansion that has been repressed for a long period and that has resulted in congestion within the residential sections of the municipality. This congestion has reacted in a growing sentiment in favor of

more expansive home sites, the fresh air of the suburbs and an untrammelled view of the glorious scenic setting of the Queen City of the Tennessee Valley.

Large sums are to be expended in the laying of streets, the extension of water mains, the conduiting of electric current, and the installation of all those conveniences demanded by the home owner of the Twentieth Century. Already the water mains have been laid out the Whitesburg Pike, following the lines of the newly-paved highway, and a 2-inch pipe has been extended to Scenic Heights. College Hill owners have announced that they are planning to spend \$50,000 on the improvement of their property before it is placed on the market next year, and other owners are also arranging to expend large sums for utility and beautification purposes.

The four main traffic arteries extending in this direction are Franklin Street, Madison Street, Adams Avenue and California Avenue. These are to be extended through the new residential section, and will place every home there within a three-minute drive of the court house.

The new hospital, ground for which will be broken Monday, will be erected at the end of Madison Street and will be an imposing building enhancing the value of the contiguous property.

All of the developments are to impose restrictions as to the character of homes to be built, and one of these will be that only those of the Caucasian race can dwell within this favored area.

The approach to the developments is an ideal one, as it is by way of broad streets, well paved, and along which there has been no industrial development.