

NHL

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Tupper-Barnett House NHL

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Washington

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Wilkes CODE: 317

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Marion Barnett

STREET AND NUMBER: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Clerk of Superior Court, Wilkes County

STREET AND NUMBER: Court Street

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Washington Comprehensive Plan, Historic Area Study

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Georgia Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER: 116 Mitchell Street

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Wilkes

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

(Number all entries)

NATIONAL LANDMARKS STATEMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

TUPPER-BARNETT HOUSE

The Tupper-Barnett House, according to Frederick D. Nichols is "the ultimate example of a peristyle entirely around a house". To that should be added that it is the most successful instance in Georgia of converting a smaller scale Federal Period house into a monumental Neo-Classical mansion by the addition of a colonnade. This is the paragon of many attempts at such conversions made in Washington, Georgia, and throughout the state, as cotton became King. The colonnade, about 1860, was skillfully joined to an earlier Federal style, two-story, eight room house, built about 1832 by William H. Pope of Washington. The 1860 addition was made by Henry Allen Tupper, a Baptist minister who acquired the house as a gift from his father-in-law. The fine detailing of both columns and entablature, the well proportioned relationship between the colonnade and the original house and the ingenious manner in which they are joined suggests an architect or carpenter-designer of considerable talent. Unfortunately no document has been found to provide the name of the designer.

In 1908 Edward Augustus Barrett, who was Mayor of Washington during World War I, bought the property and moved into town from his plantation eight miles west of Washington. From this townhouse Barnett supervised his lands in the country. Still in the hands of the Barnett family, the house is in a fine state of preservation.

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tupper-Barnett House is a two-story, white frame structure on a high daylight basement, surrounded by a splendid peristyle Doric colonnade. A divided stairway leads from ground level to this portico. The colonnade, c. 1860, has been so skillfully wrapped around an earlier Federal style house, c. 1832, that it appears to be a part of the original fabric of the home.

A bold and simplified entablature on eighteen fluted Doric columns has been attached to the earlier structure by slanting its roof in to meet the line of the older hipped roof, thus providing a logical connection for the added feature. Brick piers carry the line of the columns to the ground and define a covered walkway under the porch. A front entrance into this lower floor where the study and kitchen are located, is framed by side lights. The main entrance doorway with its elegant elliptical fan light and side lights is framed by slender fluted pilasters. This motif is repeated above a delicate iron balcony. An iron fence which matched this balcony once surrounded the house on the south and east street sides, but was taken down many years ago and replaced by the white picket fence. The iron fence between brick piers that stands in front today is of similar vintage as the house but was originally built for a house in Augusta. The only other post-bellum changes are an exterior staircase to the upstairs and a later bathroom wing that have been inserted in the back on the portico.

The house was built on the common 1840's type of simple, four-room central hall plan with a straight run stairway returned on itself to the upstairs at the back of the hall. The two front parlors are larger than the rear bedrooms and have wide openings into the hall that can be closed by folding doors. Mantels in these parlors are richly elaborated by sunbursts raised on a center panel in the entablature and framed by slender pilasters. The entablature and cornice are projected at the ends as well as in the center panel. In the bedrooms there are no sunbursts but otherwise the detailing is similar. Mantels on the basement floor are lower and simpler versions of this general arrangement. All of the detailing such as these mantels and the moldings, door and window frames is handled with a high degree of craftsmanship.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) C. 1832, 1860

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tupper-Barnett House, Frederick D. Nichols says in The Early Architecture of Georgia, is "the ultimate example of a peristyle entirely around the house." Indeed, the quality of this colonnade which has been so skillfully joined to an earlier Federal style house, is outstanding. The fine detailing of both columns and entablature, the well-proportioned relationship between the colonnade and the original house and the ingenious manner in which they are joined, suggests an architect or carpenter-designer of considerable talent. Unfortunately, here, as with the other Washington houses, no document has been found that would provide the name of the designer. Neither does a designer's name remain for the handsome Federal style house which the columns encircle, but again the fine detailing of its doors, windows and mantels is well handled. When considered in the context of the general history of the Greek Revival in Georgia and the rich antebellum heritage of the town of Washington, the Tupper-Barnett House is clearly one of the finest examples of its kind.

The home was brought to its present form about 1860 by a distinguished citizen of Washington, Henry Allen Tupper, a beloved and respected Baptist minister. Born in Charleston and educated at Madison College (now Colgate University, Hamilton, New York), Tupper came to Washington in 1853 and became a man of considerable influence. After twenty years as pastor of the Washington Baptist Church, he accepted the office of corresponding secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention and moved to Richmond, Virginia. The house to which Tupper added the colonnade c. 1860 was a gift, June 25, 1853, from his wife Nancy's father, Ker Boyce of Charleston.

This house was the two-story, eight-room Federal style house built by William H. Pope c. 1832. William Pope had bought from his brother Alexander Pope in January, 1832, for \$200 town lot number eighteen. This was one acre which had changed hands several times previously for an average \$100 price. The lot apparently contained a small house lived in by a Negro man called John the Shoemaker and each time the purchaser assumed the care of this man. By 1837, when William H. Pope sold his house and lot with some added acreage this stipulation was omitted and the price was \$6200. By 1843 Francis T. Willis, later the donor of Washington's library, was living in the house and early in the 1850's the property was sold, first to Benjamin Bowdre and second to John R. Semmes. It was from John Semmes that Ker Boyce bought it in 1853.

After the Tupper's lived there the house was sold to Mrs. Catherine R. Chase from South Carolina, whose daughter Hattie Chase Kemme apparently gave it to her children, Katie Kemme Jones and John Chase Kemme. It is reported that Mrs. Kemme kept a quality boarding house there at one time.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

From the Kenme family Edward Augustus Barnett bought the property on November 20, 1908, and moved into town from his plantation about eight miles west of Washington, much in the manner of the planters of ante-bellum days. Barnett, who was mayor of Washington during World War I, made this his townhouse from which he supervised his lands in the county. In 1937 it became the home of Barnett's son, Marion Hill Barnett and his wife Mary Ficklen Barnett.

The Barnetts have kept this house in excellent condition befitting its fine architectural quality. Its surroundings have changed. The boxwood maze garden in which Reverend Tupper walked and counselled the young people of Washington disappeared some time ago; a new Baptist Church has been built next door; and business buildings have moved down West Robert Toombs Avenue opposite its iron fence; but the Tupper-Barnett House, the dignified, columned townhouse which graced this corner during the Civil War, still stands.



GA
159-WASH

Tupper-Barnett House,
Washington, Wilkes County, GA

1940
Courtesy of HABS

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i>
Tupper-Barnett House		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Georgia	Wilkes	Washington
STREET AND NUMBER		
101 West Robert Toombs Avenue		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Ga. Historical Commission	1970	Ga. Historical Commission
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		
Rear, from north		



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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101 West Robert Toombs Avenue		
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Ga. Historical Commission	1970	Ga. Historical Commission
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Three-quarter view from southeast



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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COMMON

Tupper-Barnett House

AND/OR HISTORIC

NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)

2. LOCATION

STATE

Georgia

COUNTY

Wilkes

TOWN

Washington

STREET AND NUMBER

101 West Robert Toombs Avenue

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Ga. Historical Commission

DATE

1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Ga. Historical Commission

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Interior

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

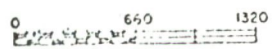
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Tupper-Barnett House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington			
STATE: Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Wilkes	CODE 317
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: State Highway Department			
SCALE: 5/8 inch = 660 feet			
DATE: 1969			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PLANNING
IN COOPERATION WITH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CITY MAP
WASHINGTON
WILKES COUNTY

SCALE IN FEET



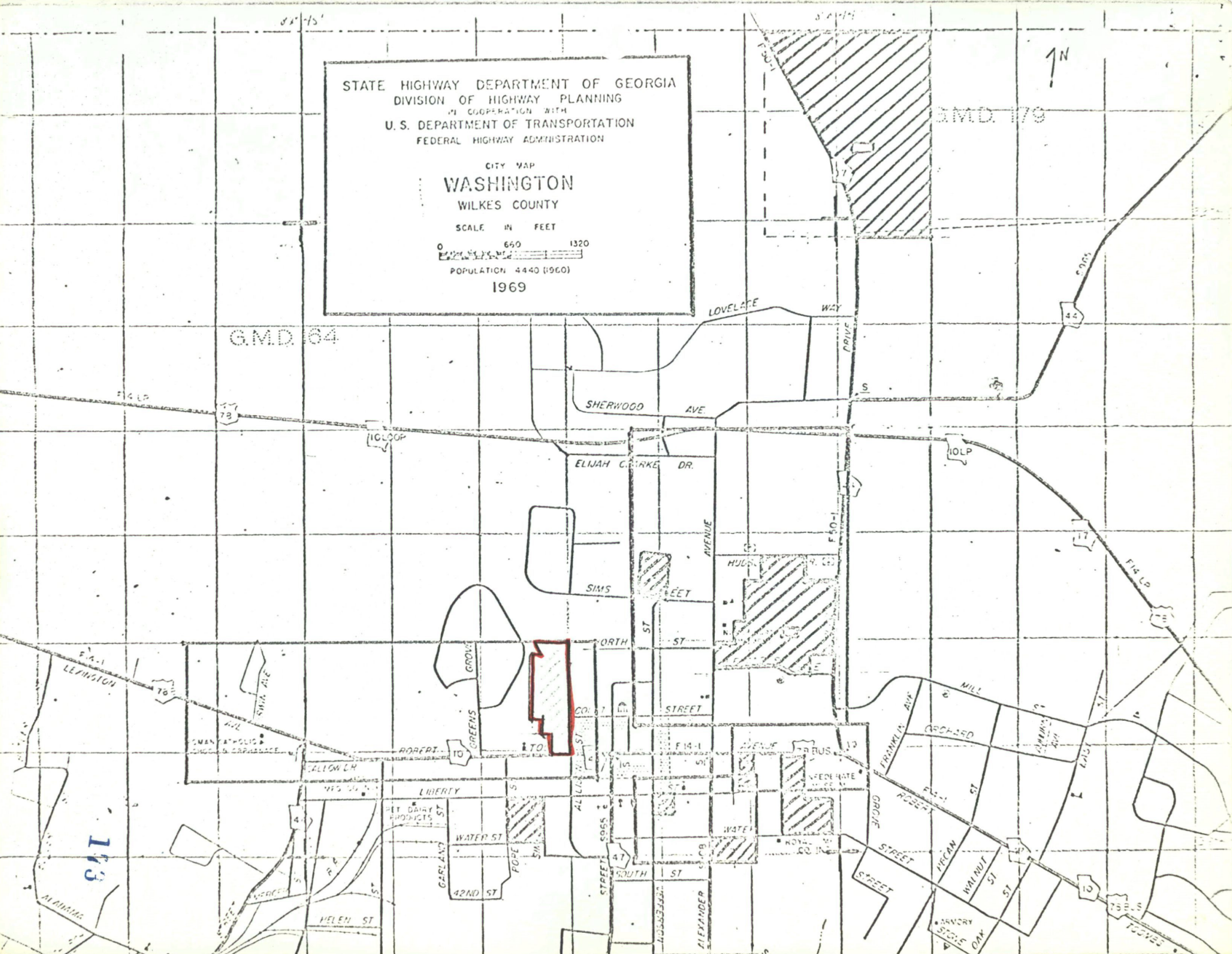
POPULATION 4440 (1960)

1969

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G.M.D. 64

G.M.D. 179



103



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

NOV 7 1973

DA
Memorandum

To: Director, National Park Service
From: Secretary of the Interior *John C. Whitaker*
Subject: Landmark Recommendations of the Advisory Board on
National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments
69th Meeting, October 1-3, 1973

On the recommendations of the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments, and pursuant to the authority contained in the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U. S. C. 461 et seq.), I do hereby take the following actions:

1. Designated as National Historic Landmarks:

Alabama

William Lowndes Yancey Law Office
Barton Hall
City Hall (Mobile)
Gaineswood
St. Andrew's Church

Alaska

Cape Krusenstern Archeological District

Delaware

Stonum (George Read House)

District of Columbia

Washington Aqueduct
Ashburton House
U. S. Military Asylum, The Old Soldiers Home

Florida

Dade Battlefield

Georgia

John Ross House
Chieftains (Major John Ridge House)
Calhoun Mine
New Echota
Robert Toombs House
Bellevue
Carmichael House
State Capitol Building
P. L. Hay House
Scarborough House (Thomasville)
The Octagon House
William Scarbrough House
Tupper-Barnett House
Governor's Mansion

Maine

Fort Kent
Fort Western

Maryland

Fort Frederick
Kennedy Farm (John Brown's Headquarters)
Peggy Stewart House

Massachusetts

Charles Sumner House
Caleb Cushing House
Joseph Story House

Mississippi

Beauvoir (Jefferson Davis House)

New York

Winfield Scott House (24 West 12th Street, New York, N. Y.)

North Carolina

Hinton Rowan Helper House
Hayes Plantation
Market House
Playmakers Theatre
State Capitol

South Carolina

Old Ninety Six and Star Fort
 The Exchange and Provost
 Snee Farm (Charles Pinckney Home)
 Governor John Rutledge House
 Colonel John Stuart House
 Ainsley Hall House
 William Blacklock House
 Church of the Holy Cross
 Parish House of the Circular Congregational Church
 Farmers' and Exchange Bank
 The Fireproof Building
 The Huguenot Church
 Lancaster County Courthouse
 Lancaster County Jail
 Joseph Manigault House
 Market Hall and Sheds
 Marshlands
 Milford Plantation
 Old Marine Hospital
 Robert William Roper House
 Nathaniel Russell House
 St. Philip's Episcopal Church
 Simons-Edwards House
 South Carolina State Hospital Mills Building
 The Unitarian Church
 Beaufort Historic District (boundaries to be the same as those
 of the National Register of Historic Places entry made by
 State nomination)

 Robert Barnwell Rhett House
 First Baptist Church
 Hibernian Hall

Tennessee

Hiram Masonic Lodge No. 7

Virginia

Saratoga (General Daniel Morgan House)
 Hanover County Courthouse

2. Designated as Registered Natural Landmarks

Alabama

Newsome Sinks Karst Area

California

Pixley Vernal Pools

Colorado

Garden Park Fossil Area
Morrison Fossil Area

Connecticut

McLean Game Refuge Natural Areas

Indiana

Hemmer Woods
Hoot Woods
Kramer Woods
Meltzer Woods
Tamarack Bog Nature Preserve
Wesselman Park Woods

Michigan

Strangmoor Bog

Montana

Bridger Fossil Area
Cloverly Formation Site

Tennessee

Big Bone Cave
Cedar Glades Natural Area
Conley Hole
Cumberland Caverns
Grassy Cove Karst Area
Lost Sea (Craighead Caverns)

Vermont

Cornwall Swamp

Virginia

Butler Cave-Breathing Cave
 Grand Caverns
 Luray Caverns

West Virginia

Greenbrier Caverns
 Greenville Saltpeter Cave
 Lost World Caverns
 Sennett-Thorn Mountain Cave System
 Swago Karst Area

Wisconsin

Abraham's Woods
 Cedarburg Bog
 Chippewa River Bottoms
 Chiwaukee Prairie
 Finnerud Forest Scientific Area
 Flambeau River Hemlock-Hardwood Forest
 Kakagon Sloughs
 Spruce Lake Bog
 Summerton Bog
 Wyalusing Hardwood Forest

Wyoming

Bone Cabin Fossil Area

3. Redesignation, as enlarged, of previously designated natural landmarks

California

Pygmy Forest

Indiana

Donaldson Cave System and Woods

Wyoming

Como Bluff
Lance Creek Fossil Area

You are directed to take such further steps as may be necessary to effectuate the above actions.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

FEB 20 1974

FEB 26 1974

The Secretary of the Interior

Rogers C. B. Morton

is pleased to inform you that the historic properties in your State described in the enclosed news release have been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States. He has, therefore, declared them eligible to be national historic landmarks, following recommendation of such action by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments. The Secretary believes this action will be of interest to you and your constituents.

Also enclosed, please find brochures explaining in detail the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service. You will note that recognition as a national historic landmark automatically places a property on the National Register of Historic Places and extends to it the safeguards provided by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Further, the owner of each property is eligible to receive, upon request, a certificate and plaque officially designating it as a national landmark. The Director of the National Park Service shortly will notify the owners of this action and provide them with the appropriate application forms.

The owners of these properties are to be commended for preserving these significant examples of our Nation's cultural heritage for the education and enjoyment of all our citizens.

Enclosures

Hon. Herman E. Talmadge
Hon. Sam Nunn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION, GEORGIA
SCARBOROUGH HOUSE, GEORGIA
P.L. HAY HOUSE, GEORGIA
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, GEORGIA
CARMICHAEL HOUSE, GEORGIA
BELLEVUE, GEORGIA
TUPPER-BARNETT HOUSE, GEORGIA
OCTAGON HOUSE, GEORGIA
WILLIAM SCARBROUGH HOUSE, GEORGIA

WHEN DATED PLEASE RETURN GREEN TO PS (HSS).

Green

bcc: Regional Director, Southeast Region

W. J. Sheehy 2/16/74

Denise 11

Hon. Williamson S. Stuckey, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION
P.L. HAY HOUSE
CARMICHAEL HOUSE

Hon. Dawson Mathis
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

SCARBOROUGH HOUSE

Hon. Andrew Young
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

STATE CAPITOL BUILDING

Hon. Jack T. Brinkley
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

BELLEVUE
OCTAGON HOUSE

Hon. Robert G. Stephens, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

TUPPER-BARNETT HOUSE

Hon. Ronald "BO" Ginn
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

WILLIAM SCARBROUGH HOUSE

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Release March 3, 1974

J. Vosburgh (202) 343-2586

17 NEW NATIONAL LANDMARKS INCLUDE NORTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA CAPITOLS

The State Capitols of North Carolina and Georgia are among 17 new National Historic Landmarks in the South designated today by Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton as significant examples of American architecture.

The Landmarks also include Georgia's former Governor's Mansion in Milledgeville; the City Hall in Mobile, Ala.; and houses in Macon, Thomasville, LaGrange, Washington, Columbus and Savannah, all in Georgia; in Fayetteville and Chowan County, North Carolina; and in Demopolis and Colbert County, Alabama.

Secretarial designation qualifies the Landmarks for enrollment in the National Register of Historic Places which the National Park Service (NPS) maintains for the Secretary. The sites were recommended by the Secretary's Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments.

NPS historians describe the State Capitol in Raleigh, N. C., built in 1833-40, as one of the country's finest examples of Greek Revival architecture. An imposing rotunda under a copper-covered dome, two-story legislative chambers with elaborate Greek ornamentation, rich detail, and an overall subdued tone distinguish the building.

The Georgia Capitol, built 1883-89, "is important in the history of 19th-Century American architecture," the historians report, "because in style, form and plan it is a perfect expression and symbol of the idea of a capitol building for the Capital of the New South, as Atlanta was called after Reconstruction.

The Governor's Mansion in Milledgeville, Georgia's capital 1804-68, has been called the finest Jefferson-inspired design outside of Virginia. Mobile's twin-gabled City Hall, built in 1858, is a late expression of Greek Revival design with especially fine wrought-iron work.

(over)

St. Andrew's Church, Prairieville, Alabama, is designated as "a modest but beautiful country church." It was built by slaves belonging to the church members. Two master carpenter slaves directed construction of the Gothic structure, including its lancet windows, high-pitched roof and a ceiling held up by pointed arch supports.

The Landmarks, though not owned or managed by NPS, are officially recognized to encourage their preservation. Each owner is invited to apply to NPS for a bronze plaque and certificate attesting to the significance of the property in American history.

Descriptions of the Landmarks follow:

Barton Hall, Colbert County, Alabama. This large house expresses a form of Greek Revival architecture unusual for Alabama. Also unusual are the stairs, facing both front and rear entrances and rising to a central landing. Two-story frame structure, built by Armstead Barton in the 1840's, has four end-interior chimneys in main block and one in each wing. Private residence with restricted access.

City Hall, 111 South Royal Street, Mobile, Alabama. Built in 1858 as a market place, this Greek Revival-style brick building with stucco finish served as a Civil War armory. Twin-gabled building has a slate roof with cypress wood cupola, cast-iron columns in courtyard, crenellated wing walls connecting to smaller outer buildings, and fine wrought-iron work. Now the center of city government and open to the public.

Gaineswood, 805 South Cedar Street, Demopolis, Alabama. Stately stone house reflects trends of American architecture, 1842-60, from Greek to Renaissance Revival and the Italianate. Building room by room for 18 years, architect Nathan B. Whitfield kept up with the latest in design. The two-story main portion has eight square pillars and four Doric columns. Alabama Historical Commission, the owner, plans restoration; access is restricted.

St. Andrew's Church, Hale County, Alabama. Beautiful country church in Prairieville was built by members' slaves directed by Peter Lee and Joe Glasgow, master carpenter slaves. Gothic design is believed to be Richard Upjohn's. Long, wide boards fastened vertically and thick board buttresses form the red-brown exterior. Pointed arch supports hold up ceiling under high-pitched roof. Except for a removed tower and added chimney, church is unchanged. Access restricted.

Governor's Mansion, Clark Street, Milledgeville, Georgia. Brick-stucco mansion has four brick Ionic columns, gilded interior dome and round, square, rectangular and octagonal rooms. Designer was Charles B. McCluskey whose works in Georgia, 1830-47, departed from the period's conservative, rectangular style. Milledgeville was State capital, 1804-1868. Mansion is publicly owned and open to the public on a restricted basis.

(more)

Scarborough House, 626 North Dawson Street, Thomasville, Georgia. Three-story Victorian mansion was built in 1880's as resort home of C. W. Lapham, Chicago shoe manufacturer. Precise form and detail by unknown builders and designers indicate emphasis of the period's affluent on resort innovations: wood or cast plaster ceilings, numerous fireplaces, stained glass, polished paneling, sliding doors. Will be open to public as a State museum.

Hay House, 934 Georgia Avenue, Macon, Georgia. After an Italian honeymoon, Macon businessman William B. Johnston built this three-story, 24-room Italian Renaissance villa, a magnificent contrast to Georgia's neo-classical antebellum mansions. Curved marble steps, elaborate interiors, octagonal cupola, 50-foot ballroom with 30-foot coved ceiling make the house unique in Georgia. Designed by T. Thomas and Sons, New York, and built 1855-60 by James B. Ayres, Macon; privately owned with restricted access.

State Capitol, Capitol Square, Atlanta, Georgia. The State made Atlanta its capital in 1877 and chose a U. S. Capitol-like neo-classical design as a symbol of rejoining the Union. Built 1884-89, the structure expressed the new nationalism of Atlanta, called Capital of the New South after Reconstruction. Winning design was by Edbrooke and Burnham, Chicago; construction by Miles and Horne, Toledo, Ohio, of Indiana oolitic limestone, and interior of Georgia marble. Georgia gold leaf was added to dome and lantern in 1960. Public access to parts of the building.

Carmichael House, 1183 Georgia Avenue, Macon, Georgia. "Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic," by Howard Major cites this house as an example of Greek Revival individuality. Built in late 1840's by Macon builder-architect Elam Alexander for Judge C. W. Raines from plans published in W. H. Ranlet's "The Architect." Superb design combines the classical with approaching Victorian trends, including a spiral staircase in a central tower. Privately owned, not open to the public.

Bellevue, 204 Ben Hill Street, LaGrange, Georgia. Built 1853-55 at height of South's Greek Revival, Bellevue verges on Victorian baroque interpretation of neo-classicism. Massive Ionic columns on three sides give powerful visual impact to visitors approaching along rising lane of crape myrtle and juniper trees. This exceptional example of neo-classical style was built by a Mr. Taylor for Benjamin H. Hill. Beautifully maintained by the LaGrange Woman's Club; open on restricted basis.

Tupper-Barnett House, 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue, Washington, Georgia. As the South's cotton-based economy boomed early in the 19th century, the affluent began to convert their Federal Period homes into monumental neo-classical mansions by adding colonnades. This house is Georgia's best example of this trend. Henry A. Tupper added the colonnade here in 1860 to an 1832 house built by William H. Pope. Identity of the skillful designer is unknown. Privately owned, open to the public.

(over)

Octagon House, 527 First Avenue, Columbus, Georgia. Cited in "Architectural Follies in America," by Clay Lancaster, this 1863 house arose as part of a building fad following publication of a book on octagon design by Squire Lawrence. In the late 1960's, it was found that a rear rectangular structure here had been an octagon, also about 1863, forming the only double octagon house in Georgia and perhaps the United States. Now a residence; open on restricted basis.

William Scarbrough House, 41 West Broad Street, Savannah, Georgia. Designed by English architect William Jay and built in "a superb style for President Monroe's reception" in 1819. Jay, skilled in the English Regency mode, is rated one of the period's most important architects; house marks the height on neo-classical town house design. Reception hall and mezzanine are one of American architecture's grandest spatial compositions. Historic Savannah Foundation, owner, plans restoration.

Hayes Plantation, Chowan County, North Carolina. Handsome mansion built about 1801 displays unusually early touches of the Greek Revival in a blend with mature Federal design. Few mansions equal the grace of this large, white, frame house with hipped roof, tall windows and dark green blinds. Tall-columned porch, approached through avenue of trees, is tied to pedimented wings by curved colonnades. Private residence, not open to the public.

State Capitol, Capitol Square, Raleigh, North Carolina. The Capitol, built 1833-40, is one of the country's finest Greek Revival structures. Ground-to-roof rotunda is covered by a low, hemispherical copper-covered dome. Subdued tone, rich detail and Corinthian assembly chamber distinguish the interior. Both chambers are two stories high and elaborate in Greek ornamentation. Town and Davis, New York, were the architects but recent research confirms that much of the interior was designed by David Paton, Scottish construction supervisor. Public building, open to the public.

Market House, Market Square, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Square building with cupola is rare example of the English form of town hall with open, arcaded ground floor surmounted by public rooms on the second floor. Unknown architect used the prevailing Classic Revival mode, incorporating Greek Revival and some Gothic elements. Owned by the city and open on restricted basis.

Playmakers Theatre, University of North Carolina, Cameron Avenue, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. After association with construction of the State Capitol in the 1830's, Alexander Jackson Davis was engaged in 1843 as supervising architect on two university buildings and in 1849 to build a one-story library. The structure, a simple temple of stuccoed brick with side and rear bays and fluted columns, is a personalized Greek Revival style. Public building with restricted basis.



Sheen
United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

MAR 18 1974

H. J. Sheely
3/18/74
W. L. ...
3-18-74

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service

Ronald H. Walker

is pleased to inform you that the historic property described briefly in the enclosure, has been found to possess national significance in commemorating the history of the United States, and is thus eligible for designation as a national historic landmark.

The purpose of landmark designation is to identify and recognize nationally significant sites and to encourage their owners to preserve them. Eligible landmarks are chosen through studies prepared by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings; evaluated by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings, and Monuments; and approved by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Historic Sites Act of August 21, 1935.

As explained in the enclosed leaflet, recognition and designation of landmark sites are accorded by certificates and bronze plaques, which are provided free of charge to the owners or administrators of these properties upon their application and agreement to adhere to simple preservation practices. If you wish to apply for the certificate and plaque, copies of the application form are enclosed. The form should be completed in triplicate and two copies returned to the National Park Service. You may retain the third copy for your records.

Designation as a national historic landmark automatically places the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Under the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, entry on the National Register provides each landmark with safeguards against damage by Federal undertakings and fulfills one qualification for participation in a grant-in-aid program to assist in its preservation. Further information about these provisions of the law is contained in a leaflet describing the National Register that is also enclosed.

We will be pleased to include this property among the sites already recognized as national historic landmarks.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Barnett
101 West Robert Toombs Avenue
Washington, Georgia 30673

TUPPER-BARNETT HOUSE, GEORGIA

Sheen

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS (HSS)

PS:HJ Sheely:kr 3/6/74
bcc: Regional Director, Southeast Region

Mar 23, 1974
(Date)

Mr. Ronald H. Walker
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Walker:

As the (owner, owners) of Tupper-Barnett House
(Name of site)

located in Washington Wilkes Georgia
(City) (County) (State)

(I,we) hereby make formal application for a certificate () and a bronze plaque, 17" x 18" () , designating this historic property a national historic landmark. (Check one or both as desired.)

1. Fully conscious of the high responsibility to the Nation that goes with the ownership and care of a property classified as having national significance and worthy of national historic landmark status, (I,we) agree to preserve, so far as practicable and to the best of (my,our) ability, the historical integrity of this important part of the national cultural heritage.

2. Toward this end, (I,we) agree to continue to use the property only for purposes consistent with its historical character.

3. (I,we) agree to permit an annual visit to the property by a representative of the National Park Service, as a basis for continuing landmark status.

4. If, for any reason, the three conditions mentioned above cannot continue to be met, it is agreed that the national historic landmark status shall cease and that until such status is restored by the Secretary of the Interior, neither the national historic landmark certificate nor the plaque will be displayed.

Sincerely yours,

Mary and Marion Barnett

MAR 29 1974

KP Ross 3/29/74
Heine
3-29-74

H3417-PS

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Barnett
Box 714
Washington, Georgia 30673

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Barnett:

Thank you for your application of March 22 requesting the certificate and plaque designating the Tupper-Barnett House as a national historic landmark. We are proceeding with the preparation of the certificate and plaque.

Our Southeast Regional Office administers the National Historic Landmarks Program in Georgia. The Regional Director of the Region will inform you when the certificate and plaque for the Tupper-Barnett House have been completed. Should you wish the help of the Service in arranging ceremonies for the presentation, he will be glad to assist you. His name and address is: Mr. David D. Thompson, Jr., Regional Director, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 3401 Whipple Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30344.

We are pleased to know that you plan to accept designation as a national historic landmark for the Tupper-Barnett House.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Benjamin Levy

Benjamin Levy
Acting Chief, Historic
Sites Survey

Enclosure

FN:P:B Levy:KP Ross:kr 3/29/74
bcc: Regional Director, Southeast Region w/c application form
Director's Reading File
DI
✓PS-Sheely w/c application form

HP - Georgia - Tupper-Barnett House

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS(HSS)

H3417-PS

Mr. H. T. Anderson
Chairman
The P. L. Hay Foundation, Inc.
934 Georgia Avenue
Macon, Georgia 31201

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for your letter of April 12 submitting the application for the certificate and plaque designating the P. L. Hay House as a national historic landmark. We are proceeding with the preparation of the certificate and plaque.

Our Southeast Regional Office administers the National Historic Landmarks Program in Georgia. The Regional Director of the Region will inform you when the certificate and plaque for the P. L. Hay House have been completed. Should you wish the help of the Service in arranging ceremonies for the presentation, he will be glad to assist you. His name and address is: Mr. David D. Thompson, Jr., Regional Director, Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service, 3401 Whipple Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30344.

We are pleased to know that you plan to accept designation as a national historic landmark for the P. L. Hay House.

Sincerely yours,

Horace J. Sheely, Jr.
Chief, Historic Sites
Survey

Enclosure

FNP:HJ Sheely:KP Ross:kr 4/18/74
bcc: Regional Director, Southeast Region w/c inc.
Director's Reading File
DI
PS-Sheely w/c inc.

HP - Georgia - P. L. Hay House

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PS(HSS)

THE P. L. HAY FOUNDATION, INC.

934 GEORGIA AVENUE
MACON, GEORGIA 31201

APR 16 1974
April 12, 1974

PH

Mr. Ronald H. Walker
Director
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: The Hay House
Macon, Georgia

Dear Mr. Walker:

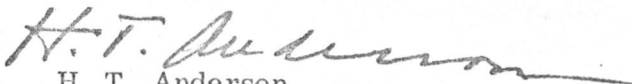
We appreciate very much your letter of March 18, 1974, confirming eligibility of the P. L. Hay House for designation as a national historic landmark.

We have completed your questionnaire and are fully conscious of the high responsibility that goes with the stewardship and care of a property classified as having national significance and worthy of national historic status. We will do our very best to preserve this historic museum.

I think it most desirable that you have for your files a brief history of The P. L. Hay Foundation showing its aims and objectives. This report will give you the financial background of the Foundation and will show our very limited funds derived from the presently small income producing endowment.

We appreciate the National Park Service and hope you will not hesitate to give us advice and suggestions.

Sincerely yours,


H. T. Anderson
Chairman

HTA:mm

Enclosures 2

NATIONAL LANDMARK
REVIEW VISIT REPORT

SITE: Tupper-Barnett House

HISTORIC OR NATURAL LANDMARK? Historic

LOCATION: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue, Washington, Wilkes, Georgia
(Street) (Town) (County) (State)

HOW TO FIND IT (If difficult): _____

DAY(S) VISITED: May 20 77
Month Day(s) Year

VISITED BY: George E. Davidson _____
(Name) (Name)

Landmarks Coordinator _____
(Title) (Title)

SERO _____
(Park) (Park)

FTS 260-9253 _____
(Phone Number) (Phone Number)

PERSON(S) CONTACTED, WITH TITLE(S) AND PHONE NUMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Barnett, owners (404)678-2264

PRESENT OWNER(S) OF RECORD (If less than 3): Same as contactees

1. Did you have any difficulty making contact with the owner or administrator in advance of your visit? Yes ___ No x If yes, please describe:

2. Did you feel that your visit was welcome? Yes not welcome? ___
If not, please describe circumstances:

3. How much time did you spend at the site?

1-1/2 hours

4. Please describe the condition of the site and its immediate environment in detail (structure(s), grounds, furnishings, etc.) If a building, use reasonable categories to particularize your review, e.g., foundation, floor, walls, etc. If a natural area, reference to original "as evaluated" condition is critical. If necessary, attach interleaves between pages 3 and 4:

All major structural elements of the house seem "in good repair". (See 10-300) Some of the piers that support the porch columns are "out-of-plumb", however, and appear to have been settling for some time. Many of the rooms are peeling but the plaster is sound.

The owners are maintaining the house in a responsible manner. The interior is not "restored" to the newish appearance it would have had in 1860.

5. Based on the reasons for the original designation, is it your opinion that the "integrity" of the site is being "adequately maintained"? Yes No If no, explain. Please take special care in reviewing threats mentioned in original evaluation, describing recent damage, and discussing new threats, external or internal, to the integrity of the landmark. Use interleaves between pages 4 and 5, if necessary:

The community is highly preservation oriented and the "downtown" location of the home does not jeopardize it.

6. Please describe the arrangement for management of the site (owner-managed, lease-managed, employee-managed, government-managed, etc.):

Owner-managed

7. In your opinion, is site maintenance adequate? Yes No
If you have any reservations, please describe:

8. Is the site used for commercial purposes: Yes No If yes, does this present any problems related to maintaining the integrity of the site?
Yes No If yes, please describe:

Owners encourage informal visitation but it is of a low-intensity and non-commercial.

9. Please describe any financial problems related to site maintenance that the owner volunteers to share with you:

None

10. What other site management problems did you observe, if any?

None

11. Specific suggestions, if any, made to the owner or administrator. Be sure to pass out Tax Reform Act sheet to historic landmark owners:

No suggestions made

12. What follow-up action do you suggest for SERO?

None

13. Is there immediate urgency regarding the suggested follow-up action?
Yes ___ No x If yes, please clarify:

14. If this site is being managed under the terms of a signed agreement, has the plaque been mounted? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, describe exact location. If no, please explain why it has not been mounted. Also, describe location of the certificate:

Plaque only recently presented, as yet unmounted.

15. If you were asked to categorize this landmark, would you consider it (a) relatively "safe" at present, (b) possibly threatened, or (c) damaged or endangered? (If your choice is b or c, you should have a substantial narrative under item 5.) a

16. Additional comments:

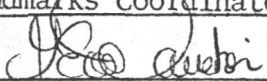
None

Please enclose slides, prints, clippings, or correspondence that will supplement original copy of this report. Original and one copy of report form are required.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Name George E. Davidson

Title Landmarks Coordinator

Signature 

Date 05/26/77

Georgia's Private 'Williamsburg'

By KEN SOBOL

WASHINGTON, Ga.—The bus lets you off a block from the town square. Across the street is a huge white 1804 Greek Revival plantation house with an encircling second-story veranda. Eighteen Doric columns, each 22 feet high, surround the house, and an elaborate double stairway climbs up to the veranda level, framing a full-size ground floor doorway underneath. Enormous old oaks shade the yard. On the grounds, among a grove of pecan trees, are several of the original work sheds belonging to the house. Beyond these, on a street lined with weeping willows, a row of tumbledown tarpaper former slave quarters disappears out of sight down the hill.

If this were any other Southern town, you might automatically look around for the elderly, hatchet-faced Daughter of the Confederacy in a clunky hoop skirt who would take your admission money and ask where y'all were from. But here in the town of Washington in the state of Georgia, the Barnett home is just another private residence. One of the more imposing ones, admittedly, but there are plenty more where it came from. Street after street of them, in fact, some dating from as far back as the 1780's.

Painted and Polished

There are well over 50 such houses, ranging from late 18th-century Federal-style rectangular clapboards to Georgian bricks to large plantation houses built out in the county and later moved into town. Some are painted and polished regularly. Their landscaped grounds are full of shady oaks, magnolias and willows, their gardens bloom with azaleas and camellias. Others are halfheartedly kept up. And a few have become completely decrepit, neglected or unoccupied for years, with dirty white paint peeling down the front columns and weeds sprouting between the stones on the



Jay B. Leviton

STILL IMPRESSIVE—But the Robert Toombs mansion shows signs of age.

of the historical continuity of Washington.

It is a continuity in which, for most of the white population, everything seems to have gone just fine, most of the time, from the day the town was founded. The countryside is lush and hilly, crisscrossed by streams winding down to the Savannah River, and it is inhabited by 20 per cent fewer people than in 1800. Which is to say that Madison Square Garden on a busy night has approximately twice the population of the entire county.

Washington was incorporated in 1780, more or less on the site of the battle of Kettle Creek, a minor Revolutionary War encounter between rebels and Tories that had taken place the preceding year. As the seat of Wilkes County, it attracted the better social element right from the start. Branches of socially prominent Virginia families (the Lindsays, Popes, Barnetts, Gilberts, Alexanders, Calloways, Stevens, Toombs, et al.) bought up the rolling hillsides and established farms. When Eli Whitney perfected his cotton gin at Mount Pleasant plantation, seven miles up the road (the main house is still standing), the cotton boom was on.

Typical Town Square

The basic layout of the town was set between 1780 and 1840. A typical Southern town square, closed off on all four sides, gradually developed. Residential streets extended the grid of the square, and the railroad station was built on the western outskirts. After the war the freed slaves settled across the tracks in an area called Fremont. Except for the few families inhabiting isolated rows of old slave quarters adjacent to the big houses, the black population is still limited to that area. As a small town ghetto Fremont is more pleasant than most, for whatever that is worth.

Since the general design of the town was so well conceived, harmoniously balancing commerce and residence, no

...ranging from late 18th-century Federal-style rectangular clapboards to Georgian bricks to large plantation houses built out in the county and later moved into town. Some are painted and polished regularly. Their landscaped grounds are full of shady oaks, magnolias and willows, their gardens abloom with azaleas and camellias. Others are halfheartedly kept up. And a few have become completely decrepit, neglected or unoccupied for years, with dirty white paint peeling down the front columns and weeds sprouting between the stones on the walks.

The most intriguing aspect of the houses is that they are all right out on the street, part of a town functioning pretty much as it did a century and a half ago, a kind of private, unself-conscious Williamsburg. Nothing much has changed here. In fact, for almost 200 years. From the start Washington was a rich, cultured, graceful settlement, favored by the gods of antebellum architecture and commerce. It has stayed that way, surviving the Civil War, the boll weevil, the crash and the New South entrepreneurs with hardly a ripple in the slow, smooth tide of life. As a result Washington gives even the most casual visitor an almost supernatural sense of what wealthy small-town life in the Old South was like.

Serene, Severe Churches

Everything about it, the streets full of splendid old private houses where people putter energetically in their gardens and sit on hanging porch swings sipping sugared Cokes and iced tea, the 19th-century business buildings, the ornate, defunct Hotel Fitzpatrick on the square, the still working local railroad, the serene and severe white churches,

KEN SOBOL, a New York freelance, is working on a biography of Babe Ruth for Saturday Review Press.



Jay B. Leviton

STILL IMPRESSIVE—But the Robert Toombs mansion shows signs of age.

The town of Washington, Ga., favored by the gods of antebellum architecture and commerce, has undergone but few changes in the past two centuries.

all conspire to make you believe that David O. Selznick really didn't invent "Gone With the Wind" at a pre-production conference.

To walk up Liberty Street, for example, past the exquisite late-Victorian brick library and Johnson's hard-goods yards to the old Campbell house, an absolutely enormous but remarkably graceful 1809 Greek Revival mansion flanked by gazebos, smothered in azaleas, willows and dogwood, one side of which runs smack along the sidewalk, is practically to become Ashley Wilkes on a visit to town. Especially when you realize that everyone who has ever come to the house came just the way you did, either walking up the road on a quiet spring day or reining in his or her carriage just where you would park your car. And short of staging an assault on the memorial at Fort Sumter or sneaking in some hounds and riding to them across the grounds of Mount Vernon while nobody is looking, you can't get much closer to the spirit of the Old South than that.

Unless, of course, you still live in it emotionally. At one point I was introduced to Marion Barnett, the owner of that huge house opposite the bus stop. A tall, courtly man of more than 80,

Barnett is still remarkably stalwart despite a stroke. He and I stood at the top of the back stairs looking out over the acres of pecan trees behind his house. With great slow pride he pointed out the old countinghouse, where the owners, himself included, had traditionally conducted business affairs; the stone block at the foot of the stairs, which served to assist the women in mounting their horses, and the board shacks where the house "nigras" had lived.

Almost automatically he grumbled a bit about today's "colored." They didn't want to work, you couldn't get help, they'd rather sit and live off welfare, and so on. But his heart wasn't in it.

He was retired and didn't really care much about them any longer.

Images from the past were what animated him: visions of the town ball team when he was a boy, of the nearby small town named for his kin, of his days at Georgia Tech and as a captain in the Army, of Saturdays in Washington when the nigras filled the square talking and laughing and spending their money, of cotton bales and land surveys out in the county, the things of his time. Not that he feels uncomfortable in the present. The South has changed tremendously, but in Washington less than in most places, and he is thankful for that.

Washington remains as faithful to Southern tradition emotionally as it is

architecturally. The blacks—now 4,000 in number, half the town's population—have never counted for anything in the eyes of many of the whites, still don't and probably never will. Not that the town can be equated with Philadelphia, Miss. It is not festering with miscegenation fantasies and redneck rage. In Washington, as in most small Southern towns, the blacks are still psychologically invisible to the whites. Despite integration, despite the relatively enlightened atmosphere, despite the uppity thunder from the outside world, the belief that blacks may be fully sentient beings like themselves is simply not part of the whites' emotional makeup.

The liberal biweekly newspaper, for example, staunchly supports the integrated public schools as opposed to the inevitable segregated private academy. Yet detecting a black face among its dozens of social and business news photos is a job for Sherlock Holmes. Nor is there such a thing as an elected black public official. No one who was asked about it had as much as even imagined the possibility. Integration may have come to Washington legally, but psychologically the two races are almost as separate as they were in the 19th century. Which is, I suppose, also part

streets extended the grid of the square, and the railroad station was built on the western outskirts. After the war the freed slaves settled across the tracks in an area called Fremont. Except for the few families inhabiting isolated rows of old slave quarters adjacent to the big houses, the black population is still limited to that area. As a small town ghetto Fremont is more pleasant than most, for whatever that is worth.

Since the general design of the town was so well conceived, harmoniously balancing commerce and residence, no one found reason to disturb it. New business moved into sites vacated by old establishments. New houses merely filled in the empty spaces on existing streets. As the antebellum years progressed, the important families consolidated their positions, economically and architecturally. They built more and more elaborate houses, added on to older ones and shifted buildings from one locale to another almost like Monopoly players.

Abandoned Brick Jail

At least half of the old houses were moved during the early 19th century. A number of them even consist of combinations of two or three houses from different sites. Most of the building was of wood, although the still attractive jail, opened in 1797, is brick. (It has long since been abandoned and today stands on a bare stretch off the square, neatly plastered with Coca-Cola signs.)

Sherman burned out the old culture in Georgia, but there were a few places too far out of the way for him to bother with. Washington was one of them and so survived the war physically intact. Many of the wealthy families also survived, retaining their land and their fine houses and getting back on their feet financially. Soon the town was prospering in cotton at an even greater

Continued on Page 26

A Private 'Williamsburg' in Georgia

Continued From Page 3

rate than before. In the 1890's the local baseball team was known as the Millionaires, for good reason.

When new blood did enter, it was influenced by the still reigning old standards. The new arrivals employed the best architects and craftsmen to build Victorian homes that would not embarrass their earlier neighbors. Most of the current town square business buildings date from this late-Victorian period, which was the last real surge of construction within the town center.

In the 1920's the rural South was wiped out again, this time by the boll weevil and the crash. By the mid-30's, however, Washington had begun to rally again. The big landowners turned to cattle ranching and timber farming and pretty soon there they were again, right back on top, still running the town, still gently excluding factories and used-car lots and all those other excrescences of the New South. Even today there are only a few factories on the outskirts, and if there is a used-car lot within the town limits, it is hidden from view. One old resident did recall the razing of three old mansions for gas station sites. That and the destruction by fire of the rococo bell tower and turrets on the old city hall, leaving it decapitated and spoiling what must have been a perfectly balanced prospect around the square, were the only major architectural changes he could recall during his lifetime. Since the town consists almost entirely of private residences (often owned by descendants of the original builders), you can't go poking your head through a parlor window to examine the wainscoting. However, Washington being a Southern town with a tradition of hospitality, if you stand gazing in admiration before a house, and the owner spots you and you are not too freaky looking, there is a good chance he will invite you in for a tour.

Family Objects Saved

One man, who preferred not to be named, invited me into his beautifully designed brick plantation house. The place has been in his family for six generations, and he is in the process of regathering family objects that had been scattered or stored over the years. He has already retrieved items such as Chippendale mirrors, Hepplewhite tables, some first-rate Hudson River School landscapes recently found in the attic, ornate goldleaf fireplace equipment for the marble fireplaces, hurricane covers, baby furniture dating from 1736, his great-grandfather's dueling pistols, some charcoal sketches by the first Mrs. Woodrow Wilson (also a relative), and so on. All are arranged in comfortable and homey fashion.

Among the other houses worth seeing, even if just from the outside, are the Robert Toombs mansion, occupied by two elderly spinster recluses, and the home of Dr. Henry Allen Tupper, one of whose granddaughters became the wife of Gen. George C. Marshall.

Visitors Welcome

And there is one splendid old house that is always open to visitors and serves as the county museum. Built around 1810, it was the home of Dr. Francis Willis, a curious man who, though long dead, deserves an appreciative nod from the present. He was an accomplished physician, but when two of his children and a favorite granddaughter died without his being able to save them, he became so despondent over his failures that he attempted to

refund to his patients all the fees he had ever collected from them.

Dr. Willis was a man of sensationally good taste, and the fact that his home, and not someone else's, was given to the county for a museum was the best of all historical blessings. The grounds, coach house and main house are conventionally impressive, but the interior of the mansion is the real masterpiece: light, airy, marvelously paneled and full of odd angles and surprises, with each floor having two different levels. And if that weren't enough, a great deal of Dr. Willis's personal furniture, art, medical equipment and machinery (he was a designer and inventor as well as a doctor), some of his carriages and lots more turned up recently in New Jersey, where it had been stored for several generations, and was returned to the house by his family.

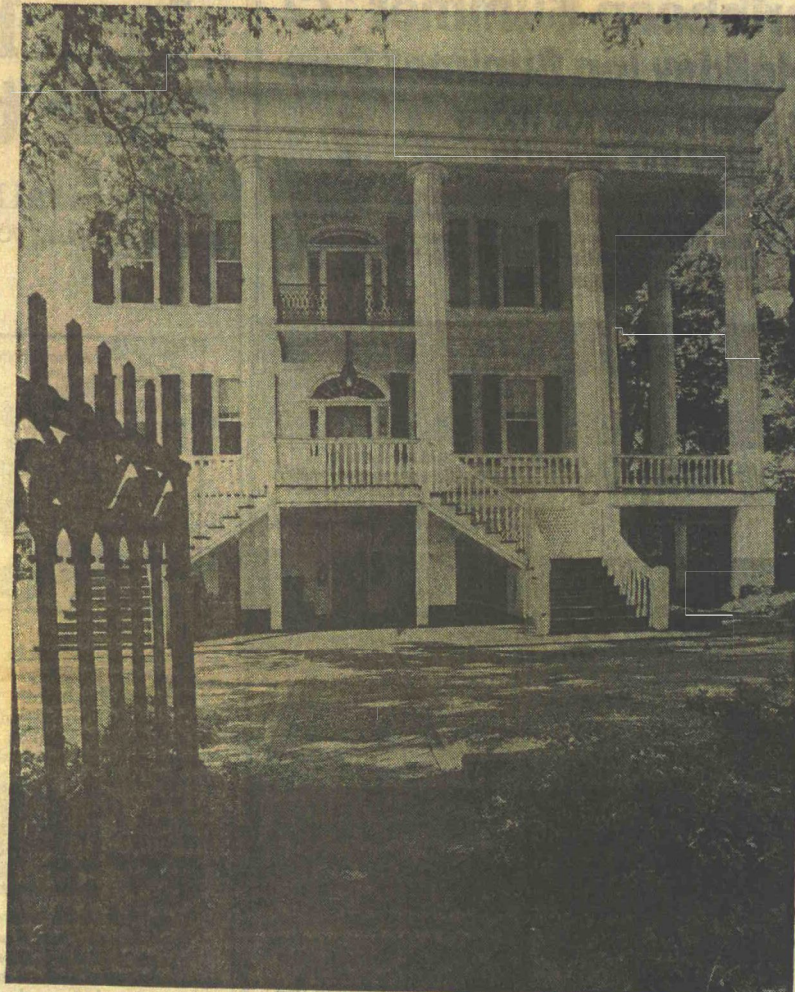
Dr. Willis moved back to Virginia after the war, but returned periodically to Washington to create monuments to his lost children. One of these is the library, a graceful late-Victorian two-story building, containing an 11-foot, three-panel Tiffany window. The figure

of Mary Willis, the granddaughter, as well as portraits of Robert Toombs, Secretary of State of the Confederacy, and Alexander Stevens, the Confederacy's Vice President, both Washington natives, are outlined in steel inside the window.

There is another museum, part of a leisurely city restoration project. It is at the old Calloway plantation a few miles out of town. The main house is half-restored, and a couple of very early houses, a 1775 log cabin and a 1790 clapboard country house, have been stuck in a grove of pine trees on the grounds. As in the town, there is no feeling of "historical" separateness. It is a 20-year project, and no one has gotten around to mowing the lawn yet.

The wholeness and harmony of Washington, the just-right architectural and landscaping choices made as a matter of course 150 years ago, the integration of business and residence, is what demonstrates the heights to which antebellum civilization had risen. Whatever you think about the moral nature of Southern society, you have to admit they had a powerful sense of grace and beauty. Maybe Selznik wasn't re-

sponsible for the Old South after all. There seems actually to have been such a thing once, at least in Washington, Ga.



Jay S. Lovitt

PRESERVED ELEGANCE—The house of Dr. Henry Allen Tupper.

If You Go . . .

. . . to Washington, Ga., don't expect to find accommodations in town. There are no hotels, motels, restaurants or bars. (The county is dry.) An occasional motel and eating place can be found on U.S. 78 either east or west of Washington, but the nearest tourist centers of any size are Athens, 50 miles northwest, and Augusta, 60 miles southeast. Atlanta is about 110 miles to the east. Washington is a fine place to spend the day—on your way to somewhere else. The museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays; the plantation restoration is open Mondays through Saturdays from May to November.