Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

E INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0008427 STATE: Georgia

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Madison's great wealth of nineteenth century architecture centers around several streets: Main Street, Old Post Road, Academy Street, Wellington Road, Jefferson Street and Washington Street. The boundaries of the district are defined as follows: beginning in the northeast portion of town at the intersection of North Street and Main Street, continue as far south on Main Street to include the Charles Candler House, and including a two block portion of two streets, East Washington and East Jefferson Streets, east of Main Street; from Main Street continue northwest on Walton Street to Academy Street; from the intersection of Walton Street and Old Post Road, continue southwest on Dixie Avenue to include Bonar Hall; continue as far north on Academy Street to include the Sadie Bradley property, including Porter Street as far as the Barrow House and West Jefferson and West Washington Streets to the west of Academy Street as far west as to include the Atkinson House property on Wellington or Bostwick Road (really an extension of Washington and Jefferson Streets). The northern . boundary of this district, with the above stated exceptions of North Academy Street and North Main Street, is formed by Jefferson Street on the town square. The boundaries as defined above are intended to include property on both sides of the streets designated to the rear of the property line.

#### Main Street

The tree lined Main Street includes a variety of structures from simple Greek Revival cottages to late Victorian structures. The Ruffin House (1849) is a Greek Revival raised cottage that was once a portion of Georgia Female College. As the house stands now, it appears to be two houses joined together; however, the temple form facade with its dominating pediment has been documented by a mid-19th century picture. other cottage structures across the street have this same Greek Revival feeling. The stucco Presbyterian Church (c. 1840), according to F.D. Nichols, is "a handsome Greek Revival design very freely handled. This style is the Doric of Thrasyllus, adapted from Lafever. The triple doorways are combined into an admirable composition of three long windows crowned with a square cupola." Three bays of long, stained glass windows occur on either side. The red brick, Greek Revival style Baptist Church was built by slaves from the plantation of John Byne Walker, a Madison citizen who built Bonar Hall. Each brick bears the imprint of his name; large Corinthian columns complete the front facade. Nearby is one especially noteworthy structure, the dovecote adjacent to the Mary C. Waters House. The Nathan Hunter House, the most impressive and elaborate Victorian structure, was built by the present owner's father. This rambling, twostory house has a profusion of dowel and ball ornament. Interspersed between these more outstanding structures are several Greek Revival cottages and two-story mansions, and simpler Victorian structures that add a cohesive quality to this main artery. At the southern portion of Main Street is the c. 1840 Greek Revival style Charles Candler House.

(continued)

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	History
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☐ Architecture	□ Landscape	☐ Sculpture	
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☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Madison is an exceptional community with a wealth of 19th century architecture that was possible because of the rich cotton economy, the cultured town-life of the planters, and the building of the third oldest railroad in the United States, the Georgia Railroad, through Madison. Few towns founded in early 19th century Georgia have been able to preserve so much and had so much to offer in the first place.

Even fifty years prior to the Civil War, Madison was a flourishing cultural center for the surrounding area. During the next fifty years, wealthy planters and merchants came to Madison from older cotton-growing counties, found the soil and climate conducive to good cotton production and acquired wealth in a remarkably short time. Many of the gentlemen planters also brought with them rich cultural heritages and set about establishing educational institutions, including a college for women founded in 1849. At one time Madison was called the wealthiest and most aristocratic town on the stage coach route between Charleston and New Orleans. During the Civil War a Federal soldier wrote in his diary, "Passed through Madison. Found it the prettiest village I've seen in the state. One garden and yard I never saw excelled, even in Connecticut."

Much of what this Federal soldier saw still exists in Madison today. Unlike many of its neighbors, Madison was saved from Sherman's destruction by a plea from Senator Joshua Hill, who had been strongly opposed to secession.

The Madison Historic District is the core of the residential area of 19th century Madison. The structures range in types from a frame servant's quarters, to a mid-century mansion with a bathroom that had heated running water. Stylistically the houses include the plantation plain, well-articulated Greek Revival cottages - sometimes raised - full porticoed mansions, transitional Greek Revival - early Victorian mansions and full-blown rambling Victorian houses. The most outstanding of these are Boxwood, the Stokes McHenry House, Bonar Hall and the Nathan Hunter House, all described on the facing page.

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Macgregor, Elizabeth Z., Personal inspections, April 1973, August 1973.

Madison - A Visual Survey and Civic Design Study, prepared by Landscape Architecture Department, University of Georgia, 1964.

Mitchell, William R., Jr., Consultant, Historic Preservation Section.
Nichols, Frederick D., The Early Architecture of Georgia, University of
North Carolina Press, 1957.

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### MAR 1 1 1974 NATIONAL REGISTER

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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Georgia	
COUNTY	37
Morgan	
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(Number all entries)

Madison Historic District

7. Description, page two

As Main Street continues northward past the town square, another residential area is formed. The range is from simple Greek Revival and Victorian cottages to grander classically oriented two-story, portico mansions, and rambling, fish-scaled roofed Victorian structures. The major structures in this portion of Main Street include the Old Rebecca Latimer Felton House, the Jeptha Vining House, the Tipton House, Hilltop and the Gibbs Martin House.

#### Old Post Road

Prominent on this tree-lined section of Old Post Road are the Austin House, the Vason House, the Zender Dean Cottage (c. 1821), the Joshua Hill House (c. 1840-47), the Stokes McHenry House and the C.R. Mason House (late 1850's) which was fashioned in a smaller version after its neighbor Boxwood. These structures range stylistically from the early 1800's plain style Vason House to Greek Revival cottages like the Zender Dean House to the fully realized Greek Revival mansion such as the Joshua Hill House.

The Stokes McHenry House and Boxwood demand greater explanations. Built sometime before 1820, the Stokes McHenry House started out as a two-story, four room house with an exceptionally wide central hall. Interior details include a folding door that separates the front part of the hall from the rear, thus forming another room; an exceptional variation of an Adamesque mantel; and a full one-story early Victorian porch and most importantly an example of the Lafever inspired, Erechtheum-like doorway. Frederick Nichols stated: "The doorway with its rectangular lights is framed by trim ornamented with circular paterae and dog ears at the corners. The square antea also have paterae and are finished at the top with carved consoles."

Boxwood, 1851, the three-story house down the street, is the most prominent structure in this residential area. With two "front" facades - one early Victorian and the other temple form - Boxwood like many other houses alonge these streets faces onto more than one street. Twin boxwood gardens preface both of these facades and a two-story servants house and a carriage house are still in the yard. The main house is basically a four room central hall plan with a side addition of an original pantry, bathroom and kitchen. Remarkable in its original state of preservation, Boxwood has the original parlor furnishings, all of its ruby and cobalt engraved transom and side lights (around both "front" doors) and its original plaster. Several large, original closets occur throughout the house. The elaborate water system piped rainwater from the roof to the cistern in the basement for storage until it was pumped into a tank on the third floor, attic-storage area. From here gravity forced the water through pipes lodged in the kitchen fire-place and resulted in heated water in the nearby first floor bathroom.

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
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(Number all entries)

Madison Historic District

7. Description, page three

#### Academy Street and Porter Street

Academy Street is the other street on which Boxwood fronts. Directly across from Boxwood is the 1840 red brick Episcopal Church of Advent and its manse. To the side of the church is the three block long Porter Street with a variety of small cottages and a raised cottage called Barrow House (early 1800's) at the end. Continuing south down Academy Street are the Peacock House, an early plantation plain structure, the Godfrey and Carter Houses and the Trammel House, a neo-classical structure built around an earlier 19th century house.

North of the town square Academy Street continues with several Victorian structures including the Fred Johnson House, and the Fowley House, a newly restored Italianate-Carpenter Gothic structure, several small mid-19th century cottages and a plain type asymmetrical two-story, central hall structure known as the Gowdy Johnson House.

#### Dixie Avenue

Dixie Avenue, really an extension of Old Post Road, has three main structures in this section included in the District: Barnett Stokes House, Thurleston and Bonar Hall. The Barnett Stokes House is a raised cottage across the street from the two and one-half story, triple gabled house called Thurleston (1818). Thurleston is really two houses joined together. Bonar Hall, just outside the city limits, is already on the National Register and is a late-Georgian style plantation residence with the later addition of a Victorian porch.

#### East Jefferson and East Washington Streets

Both of these streets are pleasant tree-lined avenues. On East Jefferson is the Hunter House, a plantation plain structure that is adjacent to the Morgan County Courthouse. On East Washington Street are a number of small cottage type structures, many with simple, but nicely detailed Victorian trim.



(continued)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

Madison Historic District

7. Description, page four

#### West Jefferson, West Washington and Wellington Streets

West Jefferson and West Washington merge into Wellington shortly after passing through the town square. West Jefferson is basically a residential street with several exceptionally well detailed Victorian cottages, including the Jack Pugh House, and a two-story classical structure, the McDowell House, that has had an obvious history of changes from perhaps plain style, to early Victorian and neo-classical. West Washington Street is primarily a commercial street at present, but a few, dilapidated structures, including the Richter House, an early two-room structure and the Ted Wallace House, an ell-shaped Victorian cottage survive. West Jefferson and West Washington become Wellington Street. At 610 Wellington is the Atkinson Brick House, a story and one-half centrall hall brick structure that dates in the early 1800's. Victorian trim was probably added by the Atkinson Variety Works during the late 1800's.

#### Town Square

The town square is Madison's commercial center. One one corner is the Morgan County Courthouse, a neo-classical structure with a pedimented facade and clock dome and cupola. An old bank building, with its temple form front facade is the exception to the mid-19th century brick facade buildings that surround the grassy square, unfortunately the recent site of a new post office.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

ADDITION TO MADISON HISTORIC DISTRICT

#### Physical Description

The Bearden Chambers House was accidently omitted from the original Madison nomination. The house, built circa 1850 by Jacob W. Moore, is a raised frame cottage with both classical and Victorian embellishments. The five bay wide structure with wings (later additions) includes a three bay porch decorated with cut-out wood designs. Pilasters on either side of the facade support a wide entablature that includes brackets beneath a roof overhang and circular wood embellishments. The Victorian porch contains three arched bays decorated by hanging pendants. Shallow spandrels are embellished with a cut-out trefoil design. The house is located on South Street just below Main Street.

#### Significance

The Bearden Chambers House, a fine Victorian style cottage built in 1850, was the home of James Mann from 1851 to 1863. In 1863, Mann won the home of his friend, Junius P. Smith, in a poker game and subsequently took possession of the Smith house, while selling his own to Joel Abbott Billups. After this event, a controversy arose because the Smith house actually belonged to Mrs. Smith, although according to Georgia law women could not own property in their own name. Because of the controversy, the law was eventually changed, and in 1869 it was held that women could own property.

In addition to the historic events connected with the house, the building stands on its own as a meticulously maintained Victorian cottage. Its unusual porch decoration lends additional interest to the home. The house, an excellent example of Victorian style cottage architecture, provides an insight into the architecture of the region prior to the Civil War.

### Bibliographical References

Hunt, Caroline C., local researcher. Morgan County, Georgia.

Prepared by: Kristalia Stavrolakis (Intern)

Elizabeth Macgregor (Consultant), Architectural Historian

8-29-1974 Date Joe D. Tanner

Historic Preservation Officer

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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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FOR NPS USE ONLY

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Town Square, East Jefferson, looking northeast



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Georgia Female College, Academy St., looking northwest



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Candler House, Main Street, looking looking west

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Victorian Cottage, West Jefferson, looking northeast

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Atkinson Brick House, Wellington, looking southwest

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Boxwood, Academy Street, looking southeast

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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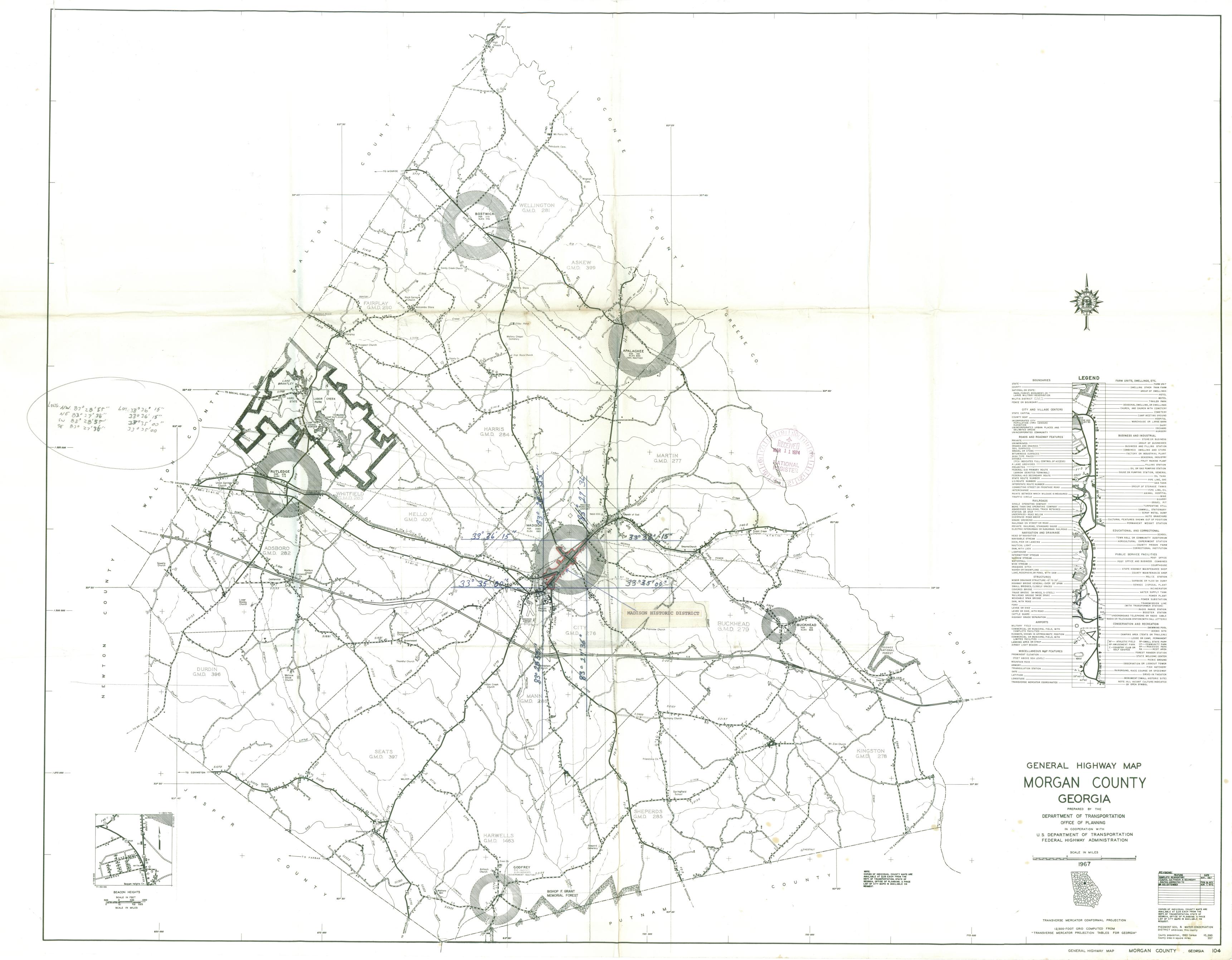
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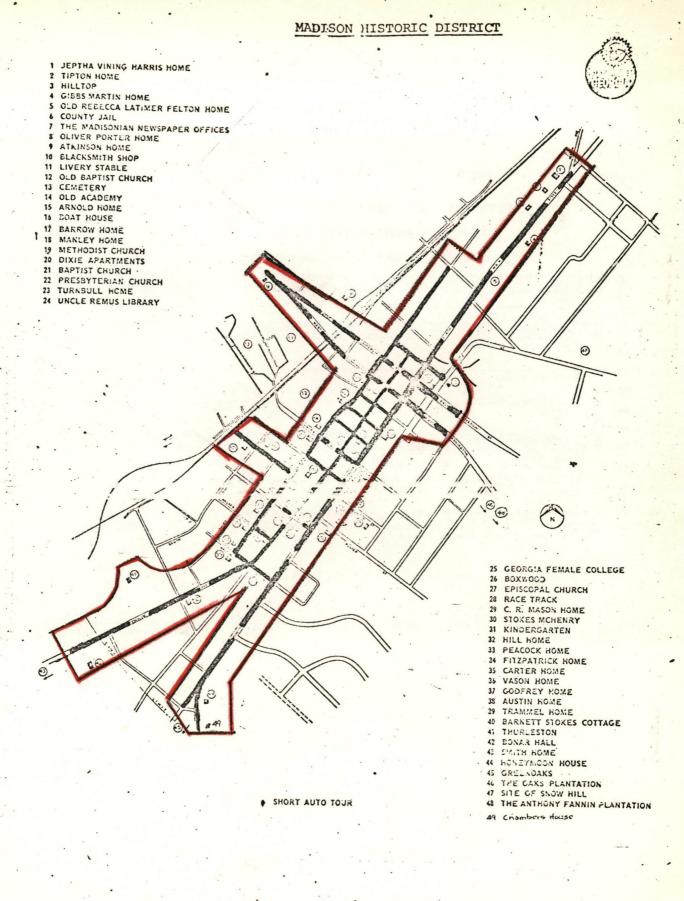
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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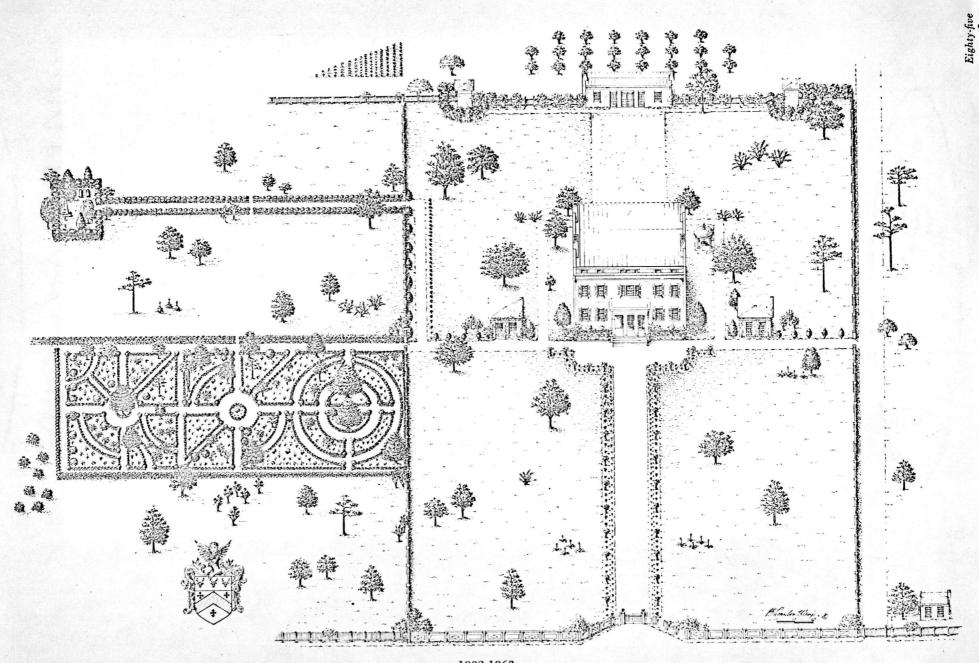
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1832-1863

An academic balance is the distinguishing characteristic of the Madison home built by Colonel John Byne Walker.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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#### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE GEORGIA

Date Entered OCT 2 9 1974

Name

Location

Madison Historic District

Madison Morgan County

### Also Notified

Hon. Sam Nunn

Hon. Herman E. Talmadge

Hon. Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

Regional Director, Southeast Region

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Jackson O'Neal Lamb, Chief Historic Preservation Section Georgia Department of Natural Resources 710 Trinity-Washington Building 270 Washington Street, SW

Atlanta, Georgia 30334 11/1/74

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