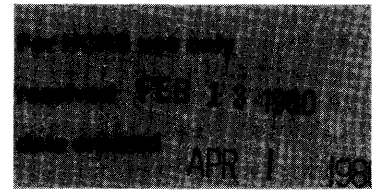


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Crawford-Talmadge House (Lovejoy Plantation)
and/or common Lovejoy Plantation

2. Location

NW of Hampton at
street & number U.S. 19 / 41 and at Talmadge Road not for publication
city, town Lovejoy Hampton Ga vicinity of congressional district 6th-Newt Gingrich
state Georgia code 013 county Henry code 151

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name ^{1.} The Honorable Herman E. Talmadge/ ^{2.} Mrs. Betty S. Talmadge
street & number ^{1.} U.S. Senate, 109 Richard B. Russell Building
city, town ^{1.} Washington, D.C. 20510 vicinity of state ^{2.} Lovejoy, Georgia 30250

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court
street & number Henry County Courthouse
city, town McDonough state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Crawford-Talmadge House is an asymmetrical, antebellum, two-story, Greek Revival plantation house. The house is built of heavy timber frame on brick piers. It stands on landscaped grounds surrounded by fields and forests.

The Crawford-Talmadge House consists of two contiguous parts built at separate times. The original structure, dating from about 1835, consists of a two-story, gable-roofed, rectangular block, approximately eighteen feet by thirty feet wide. An exterior end chimney is centered on the northeast facade. Exterior detailing and interior finish are unknown, but probably subscribed to the tenets of the prevailing Plantation Plain style. At about 1850, this part of the house was enlarged with the addition of a twelve-foot extension running the full length of the rear wall. An additional chimney was added to the northeast end of this part of the house, the roof was re-built, and a columned portico was attached to the front. This part of the house is now subdivided into two unequal-sized rooms per floor. The larger rooms are sheathed with original heart-pine boarding and feature simple wood mantels. The smaller rooms serve as a stairhall.

When the alterations were made to the original part of the house in the mid-nineteenth century, a twenty-by-thirty-eight-foot addition was joined, perpendicularly, to the southwest end wall of the original house, effectively doubling its size. This temple-form addition features a full pedimented portico on its front facade. Two rooms on each floor share a single central chimney. Interior walls are plastered; floors and ceilings are boarded. Originally, a front door opened onto the porch, but this doorway has been closed.

It was at the time of these mid-nineteenth-century additions and alterations that the house was given its Greek Revival character. Paramount are the pedimented portico and columned porch. Less obvious, but nevertheless characteristic, are the trabeated and side-lighted entrances, the flush boarding on the front facade which contrasts with the weatherboarding on the side and rear walls, the cantilevered balcony in the columned porch, the fireplace mantels, and the simple window surrounds.

To the rear of the house stands a single-story, two-room kitchen, of frame and weatherboard construction, with a gable roof. The kitchen was renovated in 1945 and connected to the main house by a "breezeway" that includes kitchen facilities and office space.

The Crawford-Talmadge House stands amidst a grove of trees on landscaped grounds. The landscaping is informal and includes irregularly spaced clumps of trees and bushes, open lawn, and an approach drive with wooden fence. Some of the plantings are obviously historic, although the overall landscape arrangement has been developed in the past thirty years.

[continued]

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		local history

Specific dates ca. 1835, 1850 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Crawford-Talmadge House is significant to the architectural, agricultural, local and political history of Georgia and possesses historic archaeological significance as well.

Architecturally, the Crawford-Talmadge House is significant as an example of the architectural preferences of antebellum planters in central Georgia, as a representation of the evolutionary character of much nineteenth-century residential architecture, and as an expression of the owner's individuality, rather than the rigid conventions of style and taste.

The Crawford-Talmadge House is essentially an antebellum Greek Revival plantation house. Its most obvious features are the pedimented porticoes, the colonnade, and the simple, perpendicular massing. Significant details include trabeated doorways with side and transom lights, flush sheathing across the front facade, and simple window and doorway trim. Less obvious but equally important aspects include hand-hewn framing timbers, heart-pine floors, walls, and ceilings, plaster-on-split-lath walls, and simple period fireplace mantels. The exterior and structure of the house has survived virtually intact since the mid-nineteenth century; the interior retains a degree of integrity of design and material, although alterations have lessened its historical significance.

The Crawford-Talmadge House was not always a Greek Revival house, however. It was first built in the mid-1830s as a basic two-over-two plantation plintype of house with a gable roof, exterior end chimneys, a hand-hewn timber frame, weatherboarding, and heart-pine interior floors, ceilings, and walls. This 1830s house now constitutes the left or north half of the house. Then, ca. 1850, a two-story addition was built perpendicular to and south of the original house. This addition featured a pedimented portico and flush sheathing on the front and plastered walls on the interior. At the same time, the original part of the house was re-roofed, a portico was installed, and flush sheathing was applied to the front facade. A one-story, two-room kitchen with central chimney, located behind the house, was most likely built at this time as well. With minor alterations in the twentieth century, this compound house is what survives today as the Crawford-Talmadge House. There are no other significant outbuildings on the nominated property.

The Crawford-Talmadge House is thus not a pedantic Greek Revival exercise but rather the result of growth, development, and response to needs. On the one hand, it reflects the increasing prosperity of cotton planters in central

[continued]

6

9. Major Bibliographical References

Draft National Register nomination, David Cavender and Cheryl Jacobs, Feb., 1979.
 Personal inspection, Richard Cloues and Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Aug. 1, 1979.
 Henry County, Ga., Tax Digest and U.S. Agricultural Census and Slave Census records.
 Moore, Joseph H. "The Crawford-Talmadge House," Georgia Magazine, Dec. 1968-Jan. 1969.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property app. 6 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Hampton, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

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 Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification All that portion of land marked on the accompanying aerial photograph of the property, this being the main house and its immediate surroundings. This was decided as the boundary due to the fact that the historical use of the house had changed as well as the surrounding acreage no longer being a plantation in the original sense.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian
 name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section,
 organization Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources date Jan. 11, 1980

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W. telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia 30334

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Elizabeth A. Lyon*
 Elizabeth A. Lyon

title Acting State Historic Preservation Officer date 2-4-80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>W. Ray Luce</i>	date 4/1/80
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <i>W. A. Dubois</i>	date 3/18/80
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet

Description

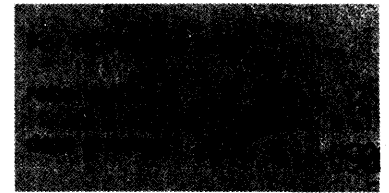
Item number 7

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Surrounding the grounds of the plantation house are open fields and woods. No historically significant outbuildings are standing on the nominated property, although the existence of some outbuildings in the area can be presumed, due to the nature of the original plantation.

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Continuation sheet Significance

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Georgia during the antebellum period. With this expansion in agricultural wealth came corresponding enlargements of plantation facilities including the main house. In this case, the main house was enlarged and remodeled at mid-century, partly to provide more expansive living quarters and partly to provide office space for the management of the plantation. On the other hand, the house reflects the prevailing architectural style of the region during the first half of the nineteenth century, as interpreted by the personal taste of the plantation owner. A simple, functional office-residence was obviously deemed insufficient; in keeping with the spirit (if not the letter) of the times, Greek Revival styling was called for, and resulted in the arrangement and detailing of the house.

Agriculturally, the house is significant in that Thomas S. Crawford (1806-1894), who built the house soon after he purchased the property in 1835, operated Henry County's third most productive cotton plantation from this house. A native of South Carolina, he had moved to the county in the early 1820s with his father, whose home still exists in nearby Clayton County. He married, in 1832, Althea Frances Dorsey. This 1,000-acre farm, in 1860, maintained forty-six slaves. Half of its 1,000 acres were in productivity, where 140 bales of cotton were ginned annually.

In local history, the house is important not only as the home of Thomas Crawford as an important cotton planter, but also for its role during the Civil War and later. According to Joseph H. Moore, "Crawford continued the operation of his plantation. When the Northern Army first approached the area [in 1864], it is said that Mr. Crawford filled the tall porch columns with grain to prevent its capture by the enemy.... The immediate lawns of the house were the scene of an engagement between Confederate and Northern soldiers." Later, after the evacuation of Atlanta, the area near the house saw much fighting. It is important that after the war, Crawford was one of the few planters who was able to reclaim his former stature and continue running his plantation in a style similar to pre-war days. Many large social functions were held there into the 1890s.

Politically, the house is significant as the home, since 1946, of Herman E. Talmadge, governor of Georgia in 1947 and 1948-55, and United States senator from Georgia since 1957. The house was bought by his father, Eugene Talmadge, from the Crawford family in 1942 while he was serving as governor. Eugene Talmadge never lived there, and his son and daughter-in-law, the former Betty Shingler, moved in during December, 1946, shortly before Eugene's death. Senator and Mrs. Talmadge restored the home and reared their two sons there. After the death of the youngest, Robert, he was buried in a private cemetery back of the main house. Mrs. Talmadge manages the Talmadge Farms and, most recently, after renaming the house "Lovejoy Plantation," makes it available for entertainment.

[continued]

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Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

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The historic archaeological significance rests in the potential study of the site due to the Civil War engagement that took place on the front lawn and the probability of there being evidence of outbuildings necessitated by plantation life that would be within the nominated property. No study of this potential has yet been undertaken.