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(Rev.	6-72)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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	CONDITION		(Check O	ne)			(Che	ck One)	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Col. William Toney House is a plantation plain type structure that dates from the early part of the first quarter of the nineteenth century.

Presently the house is located approximately 12 miles north of Ft. Gaines at the intersection of "Old" Highway 39 and a county maintained road near Walter F. George Reservoir. The house was moved from its original site near Sandy Creek, now inundated by the reservoir, to its present site in 1959.

The house is a typical plantation plain type structure, two stories, two room with wide central hall plan, shed porch and shed rear additions. Several changes however have been made to the exterior. Originally there were two exterior end brick chimneys; as yet these have not been replaced after the move, but are a part of future restoration plans. The original roof was wood shingles, now asbestos shingles; and the original eight inch pine weatherboards have been covered by vinyl siding. The shed porch floor has been cut back from the columns which are now supported by blocks. A side carport has also been added. Unchanged, and of special importance, is the wide front entrance design, Transom and side lights surround the fourpart door treatment, the two side portions of which are stable. A similar repeat of this door treatment occurs at the other end of the hall connecting with the shed addition that now serves as the dining room.

The first floor of the Toney House consists of a bedroom parlor, a wide central hall with straight-up stairs set in the wall between the parlor and hall. The rear shed addition is used for dining room, kitchen and bathroom areas. The second story consists of three rooms: originally the stairs opened directly into the left room above the parlor (now the steps have been treated in an enclosed hall.) Two other bedrooms correspond to the central hall and bedrooms below. In the four main rooms, all the original mantels still exist. The downstairs bedroom, probably the original parlor, has the most intricate and elaborated mantel with a three-part sunburst designed freize supported by pilasters embellished with a repeating leaf design. Also in each of these four main rooms is panelled wainscotting about 27 inches high. The two hall areas have wainscotting, but no panelling. All door treatments from the original two story section of the house have long vertical paneled doors.



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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	🔲 16th Century	📋 18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	le and Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One of More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	X Political	🔲 Urban Planning
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🔀 Agriculture	Invention	Science	
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Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

Built in the early 19th century in a plantation plain style, the Colonel William Toney House has played a significant role in the local history as the home of a Creek Indian tradepost manager, Col. Toney with whom as legends persist, Aaron Burr stayed after his capture in 1807 when in route for his trial in Richmond.

Although a documented date of construction for the Toney House is not available through courthouse records, the architectural features point to an early date in the first quarter of the 19th century. In general this planta tion plain style is an early form; however the entrance design as it relates to the earlier dog trot cabin designs makes the probability of its early construction even more certain. The Toney House is an early transition from the dog trot cabin to an obviously more sophisticated two story structure with hallway. The following reasons help to substantiate this thought: the downstairs "hallway" was originally opened at each end by wide doors making the door opening even wider than it presently is; the markings of some door attachment are evident near the transom light. Now permanent door panels have replaced part of the opening to which now are affixed a narrower set of double doors. It is possible that the idea of an enclosed hallway had not been firmly established at this time. The stairs are set in the wall between the "hall" and the present parlor, opening upstairs into a bedroom. The central room, that corresponds to what appears in later houses as the hall upstairs is now just another room. Basically what has happened here at the Toney House is that the dog trot is becoming a usable, enclosed area and as such is an excellent example of the transition from the dog trot plan to a more sophisticated plantation plain style plan.

The original ownership of the Toney House is attributed to Colonel William Toney (1776-1857) who came to the Fort Gaines area from Virginia during the late eighteenth century. Since documents concerning daily life in West Georgia around the end of the eighteenth century are very rare, no clear picture of Colonel Toney's life can be assembled. The records of the Creek Factory contain the only detailed information on the area at this time because this was Indian Territory. These records list a W. Toney as a trading post agent in 1798. Judging from the only ledger account referring to this man and the tone of the letter that matches the account, the 22 year old Toney was not too successful in this venture. Another semi-legible letter was signed by an almost illiterate signature which could be interpreted as "William Toney". In the ledger and journal accounts of the Creek Factory

MAJOR	BIBLIOG	RAPHIC	AL RE	FERENCES								
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Burr, Aaron, Memoirs of Aaron Burr, Dictionary of American Biography,												
Vol. II.												
King, P. C., Jr., submitted information now on file at Historic Preservation												
Section, Department of Natural Resources.												
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	STATE				
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Significance 8.

this W. Toney is also referred to as Juan A. Sandal or Juan Anthony. After these few references, Toney disappears from all the records concerning the area until the Creek Indian Census of 1832 by Parsons and Abbott. According to the census, at age 56 Toney was living with his wife in a temporary camp called Emarchee Town the site of which could be near the Toney House's original site. There is a W. Toney listed as being 20-30 on the Henry County, Alabama census of 1840. In 1857 at 40-50, this W. Toney, probably Colonel Toney's son, could have administrered the estate sale of Colonel Toney's house and land. On the 1848 Tax Digest of Randolph County, William Toney, then age 72, owned 57 slaves and 1200 acres of land. The tax digest did not list however a house or its contents. The last document that refers to Colonel Toney or his house is the deed for the estate sale of the house and land in 1858 the time of William Toney's death.

The first recorded deed in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Clay County, Georgia, in reference to the Toney House property is a deed from Administrators of Col. William Toney Estate to George R. Holloway in 1858. The property was later acquired by Mrs. M. E. Mandeville for whom "Mandville Mounds" were named. (These prehistoric Indian mounds were excavated by the University of Georgia Department of Anthropology who found pottery dating more than 1500 years old.) In 1932, the Toney house property was sold to Mary V. Henderson and Mrs. Berta Standley. In 1959, the building of the Walter F. George Reservoir necessitated the removal of the house from its original Sandy Creek site to its present site several miles away near the Walter F. George Reservoir. The present owner-occupants, the W. V. Standleys, are in the process of a complete restoration of the house.

