

PH001 2084

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Alachua	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
4	1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Matheson House

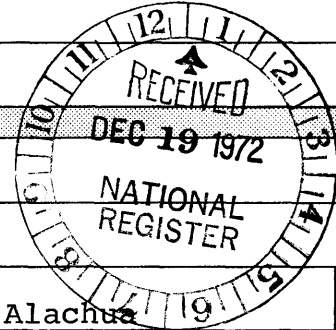
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
528 Southeast 1st Ave.

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Alachua CODE: 001



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 	<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:
Mrs. Chris Matheson

STREET AND NUMBER:
528 Southeast 1st Ave.

CITY OR TOWN: Gainesville STATE: Florida CODE: 12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Alachua County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Gainesville STATE: Florida CODE: 12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Zone 17 E 372 200
0570873
328050

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Alachua

ENTRY NUMBER: 4

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE:

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1867, the Matheson House is a two-story frame building resting on brick piers. The house is rectangular in plan with an east-west orientation. On the front of the house (west side) is a shed-type porch with six free standing square wooden columns carried all the way to the ground. There are four brick chimneys, two of which are on the exterior of the house at the gable ends. The building has, as its most significant feature, a gambrel roof of sufficient pitch to accomodate three standard narrow dormers topped by low pitched gables treated on the front as pediments. The roof is covered with cypress shingles painted green and cut into decorative patterns. Windows are scarce and in all cases are two light sash. The front door is original and has glass sidelights. Additions to the house include a lean-to addition on the east side which houses the kitchen facilities. The interior of the house has heart pine flooring and original fireplaces and mantelpieces. There is a unique balcony at the first stair landing which overlooks the entry hall. The fabric of the house is in good condition.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

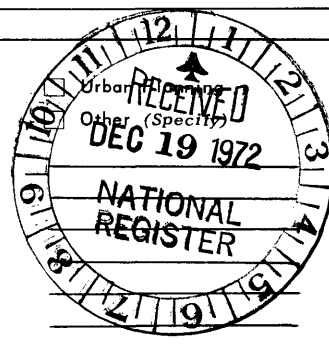
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1867**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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

James Douglas Matheson, a prominent Gainesville merchant, built this house in 1867. It was inherited by his son, the Rev. Chris Matheson, who was mayor of Gainesville for eight terms in the early 1900's and a member of the Florida legislature in 1917. The house is today occupied by Mrs. Chris Matheson, his widow.

Architecturally, the Matheson house is significant in that the gambrel roof occurs relatively infrequently in Florida. The house reflects characteristics of a transitional style between late Colonial and early Georgian. The gambrel over a single file of rooms (as the Matheson house was prior to additions) can be seen in many North Carolina and Virginia houses after 1725. The similarities, for example, between the Matheson house and the well-known Booth House in Edenton, N.C. are striking. Both have a lean-to addition at the rear and a shed-type porch at the front. Both have the chimney outside and spaced away from the gable. The main variation is in the type of dormer used, Matheson having the pedimented type.

It is possible in the case of the Matheson house that the choice of a gambrel was an economic consideration, in that less material is required and shorter rafter lengths can be used. The cutting of the cypress shingles into ornate patterns would probably not have necessitated great expense due to the fact that Gainesville was, at that time, a milling center. Existing data indicates that the Matheson house, which served as a social center in postbellum Gainesville, is the second oldest house in the city.

*In Florida, the chronology of Eastern seaboard styles is not applicable.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alachua County Records, Alachua County Courthouse, Gainesville, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. (Subgroup: Deeds).

City of Gainesville-Information on City Elections and List of Elected and Administrative Officials. Compiled by A. Clarence O'Neill. Gainesville: City of Gainesville, 1970.

Gainesville. A personal interview with Mrs. Chris Matheson. October 12, 1971.

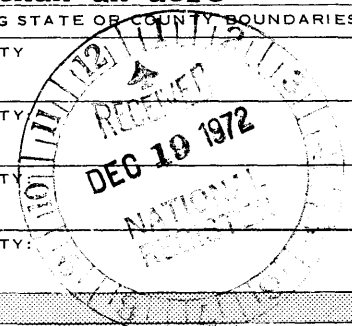
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N 29° 39' 4"	W 82° 19' 16"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than an acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Diane Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History, and Records Mgmt.** DATE: **October, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State - The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Name _____
Title State Liaison Officer

Date 6/4/73

ATTEST:
St. Paulford
Keeper of The National Register

Date Richard Williams
12/15/72

Date 5/31/73