

DATA SHEET PH018 5582

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 27 1975
DATE ENTERED AUG 18 1975

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 Israel Causey House

AND/OR COMMON Maxham House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 5909 Maxham Road
CITY, TOWN Austell VICINITY OF 7th - Lawrence P. McDonald
STATE Georgia COUNTY Cobb CODE 067

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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Daniel W. Maxham
STREET & NUMBER 5909 Maxham Road
CITY, TOWN Austell VICINITY OF Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cobb County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN Marietta STATE Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
DATE
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 Israel Causey House, built c.1840, is a frame, one and a half story, plain style dwelling with a four room central hall plan.

The Causey House, from the exterior, has a pitched roof which extends into a shed porch on the front facade and shed additions and porch on the rear. (The front facade dormer windows were a late addition.) Two of the original exterior chimneys are still extant; one has been stuccoed.

Porch posts have been added to the original shed porch, however, the posts are built from original timbers from another part of the house. The porch floor is original.

On the interior, a central hall has been added by putting in a new wall on the left or north side of the hall. Originally, there were simply two large rooms on the front. The right wall of the hall and the front door are original.

There are three of four original fireplaces. Two (the living room and front bedroom) have had the opening narrowed in the process of modernization. The kitchen fireplace has been closed up and is not in use.

Other changes include: a rear utility room, the lowering of the rear bedroom ceiling (the original timbers are above it), and a small room built in the attic.

One flight of stairs leads to the attic. The stairs are located in the central hall and must be reached through a low doorway. The boards, over a foot wide, in the attic ceiling, walls and floor are original.

There are two outbuildings including a fruit shed and an old barn.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Israel Causey House is one of a few remaining structures of the plain style in Georgia. It is important because: it is an early Cobb County structure built during the Gold Rush; the family who lived there was among Cobb County's pioneer settlers; Union soldiers quartered there during the Civil War. Presently, the house is used as the D. W. Maxham's residence and is endangered by the widening of Maxham Road or the proposed right of way for the Austell Road Extension.

South Cobb County near Austell, Georgia was once part of a large county called Cherokee named so because it was the land originally comprising the Cherokee Nation. One strip of this area was known in the early 19th century as the "Gold Belt." Prior to 1832, Indian towns dotted the Cherokee Nation. One such town or community was Sweetwatertown, located on Sweetwater Creek and named for a Cherokee Chief of the same name.

It is the land around Sweetwatertown in Southern Cobb County on which the Israel Causey House stands.

In 1832, the lands of Cherokee County were surveyed and layed out into lots. If a lot was located in the "Gold Belt", it was laid out at 40 acres while lots outside the "Gold Belt" were set at 160 acres. The Southeastern part of the County, including Sweetwatertown, lay in the "Gold Belt." Those 40 acre lots were numbered and granted in the Gold or Land Lottery of 1832. The area of Sweetwatertown was designated District 18, Section 2, Cherokee County but the District, Section and Lot numbers were not changed and those numbers are still being used today. In 1832, no effort was made to drive the Cherokees away and the Indians, in turn, remained peaceful. Gold was discovered in Canton, Villa Rica and Acworth in 1838 and the removal of the Cherokees was ordered as a result, yet in the end, no one in the area ever made a vast fortune from a gold strike.

The Israel Causey House stands on Lot 88, District 18, Section 2 of Cobb County, Georgia formerly Cherokee County. Lot 88 was originally granted during the 1832 Land or Gold Lottery as a 40 acre gold lot to William Crow or Crown on October 18, 1834 but was surveyed on August 26, 1832. It was and is a square lot, measuring 20 chains by 20 chains. Lot 87, adjoining it on the East, was granted to William Crow or Crown, also measuring 20 chains by 20 chains. Lot 89, adjoining on the West, was granted to Abraham McKinney on February 7, 1833 and was of the same size and shape. Lot 88 was bounded South by lot 145.

Most of the records of Cobb County were burned with the Cobb County Courthouse during the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War in 1864 by order of Major-General W. T. Sherman of the Union Army. However, from remembrances of descendants of Israel Causey, a few surviving records and the structure itself, it is certain that Lots 87, 88, 89 were conveyed to Israel

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Census of 1830 and 1840, Cobb County, Ga., Ga. Department of Archives and History, Microfilm.

Clerk, Superior Court of Cobb County. Deed Books, Cobb County Courthouse, Marietta, Ga. Court of the Ordinary, Loose Estate Files, Estates of Israel and Margaret Causey, Cobb County Courthouse, Marietta, Georgia.

Cousins, Wellington Luke, Dr., Interview, March 19, 1975.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 40

UTM CK
HL

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	7,210,619,0	3,74,36,4,0	B	1,6	7,210,619,0	3,74,32,4,0 ⁵
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,6	7,210,310,0	3,174,32,4,0	D	1,6	7,210,310,0	3,174,36,4,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Northwest corner of Lot 88 on which the house stands is located 800 feet south of the intersection of Bankhead Highway and Maxham Road in Austell, Georgia. The structure itself is located approximately 1500 feet from this intersection. It is bounded East by Lot 87, West by Lot 89, South by Lot 145 and North by Lot 29. Maxham Road transverses Lot 88 running North-South, the larger portion of the lot being on the East side of the Road.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Martha F. Norwood, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION
Historic Preservation Section
Department of Natural Resources

DATE

April 17, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703-C

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 National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Jackson O'Neal Lamb

TITLE

JACKSON O'NEAL LAMB
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

June 2, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

A. R. Mansfield

DATE

8/13/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

AUG 19 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

J. M. [Signature]

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Causey around the year 1840 and that the house was built by Causey about that time.

Land Lot 85, just two lots East of Lot 88, was originally granted to David Williams on November 17, 1836. It reads, "Pursuant to 'An Act to lay out the Gold Region in the Lands at present in the occupancy of the Cherokee Indians, into small lots, and dispose of the same by separate lottery" passed on the 24th Day of December 1832, Do give and grant to David Williams of Paynes District, Meriwether County, his heirs and assigns forever, All that tract or lot of land, containing 40 acres, lying and being in the 18th District of the 2nd Section, in the County of Cherokee in said State, which said Tract or lot of land, is known and distinguished in the plan of said District by the Number Eighty-Five having such shapes, forms and marks, as appear by a plat of the same hereunto annexed...". This lot was conveyed to Israel Causey by Williams by deed dated January 28, 1851, and filed for record February 20, 1948. In the 1851 deed, the lot is described as being in Cobb County. On January 10, 1846, Israel Causey was granted Land Lot 86 in the 18th District and 2nd Section of Cobb County

Lots 87, 88 and 89 were part of the Estate of Israel Causey at his death in 1880. Dr. Wellington Luke Cousins, grandson of Israel Causey, stated on March 19, 1975 to this writer that his Mother, Sarah Ann Causey Cousins, was born to Israel and Margaret Causey in 1845 and that her birth, as well as that of three other Causey daughters, took place in the house that is and was standing on Lot 88 and is known as the Israel Causey House. The date of Sarah Causey's birth given by Dr. Cousins, matches that on her tombstone at the Shady Grove/Causey Cemetery near the Causey House.

Mrs. Sarah Blackwell Gober Temple, in her history of Cobb County, The First Hundred Years, states that Israel Causey moved to Cobb County from Villa Rica, Georgia in 1833. The Census of 1840 lists Israel Causey as residing in Cobb County, Georgia, Georgia Militia District 695 and employed in Agriculture.

Israel Causey's grant to Lot 86 in 1846, his purchase of Lot 85 in 1851, the Census of 1840, Sarah Ann Causey's birth in the house in 1845, the construction and architecture of the house, Causey's move to Cobb County in 1833 and the Estate Records of 1880 can only verify the belief that the structure known as the Israel Causey House located at 5909 Maxham Road, Austell, Georgia, was built by Causey in 1840. With that fact established, it is necessary to briefly relate the history of the house and its residents and to give a brief description of its architecture.

Israel Causey was a pioneer settler of Georgia. His parents were Ezekiel and Elizabeth Clarey Causey of Buncombe County, North Carolina, where Israel was born in 1800. But the family moved to Jefferson County, Georgia. Israel Causey was twice married, first to Susan Cowart, and second, in 1826, to Margaret Foyle, a Scotchwoman.

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Israel and Margaret Causey, according to the 1830 Census, resided in Jefferson County but moved shortly thereafter to Carroll County where Israel was overseer of the Gold Mines at Villa Rica. In 1833, he moved his family to Cobb County where he resided until his death at the age of 80 in 1880. During his residency in Cobb County, he bought and sold much land. At one time, he owned over 1000 acres of land in the Gold Belt. The area he settled on in Southern Cobb County is between Buttermilk and Sweetwater Creeks. He built his home on Lot 88, District 18, Section 2 around 1840. Although he purchased "gold lots" in the area, the amount of gold there was not enough to support his family. Instead, Israel Causey became a planter and his main crops according to his grandson Dr. W.L. Cousins, were cotton and sugar cane. He apparently had enough land for his acreage to be considered a Plantation for George White in his Historical Collections of Georgia published in 1854 states that "Sweetwater Old Town was situated upon the plantation owned by Israel Causey." Israel Causey had 11 children.

According to the Cobb County Tax Digest of 1851, Israel Causey had 1 poll, 7 slaves and 1000 acres of 2nd quality oak and hickory land. His land was listed as in the 18th District, 2nd Section of Cobb County; 19th District 2nd Section Campbell County and also Stewart and Randolph Counties. He had \$2,000 at interest and paid \$9.21.06 in taxes. The tax digest for Georgia Militia District 695 prior to that date is missing.

The Causey Plantation and the area surrounding it was the scene of much of the activity of the Atlanta Campaign during the Civil War in 1864. On Jun 17, 1864 and on several succeeding days, "the Federal Cavalry continued to operate from Lost Mountain down to Powder Springs and Sweetwater Creek..." In July 1864, General Sherman planned that "Stoneman's Cavalry would occupy a position on Sweetwater Creek to the South of McPherson." Then, on October 2, 1864, "troops began moving up from Atlanta with orders to proceed as far as the Old Confederate entrenchments at Smyrna, from which place they could open communications with the cavalry in the vicinity of Sweetwater and Nose's Creeks." A map from the Atlas of the Union and Confederate Armies of the Atlanta Campaign shows the Causey house (spelled Gorcey) to be in the same spot that it is today.

A story of an incident during the Atlanta Campaign involving the Causey House, whether totally accurate or not, gives additional color to the history of the Israel Causey House. This story has been passed down through Causey descendants and was related to this writer by Dr. W. L. Cousins, grandson of Israel Causey and son of Sarah Ann Causey Cousins. Israel Causey, hearing of the approach of Yankee soldiers, loaded his two wagons with all of the food and supplies that he thought the Yankees might want and took them to Villa Rica. While he was away, Col. McPherson and his troops arrived and took over the downstairs of the Causey House, forcing Mrs. Causey and her daughters to remain in the attic for the duration of his stay. A soldier was to bring food to them but was to come only to the top of the stairs. Col. McPherson

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instructed Mrs. Causey to make the soldier sample the food before she accepted it and not to allow him into the attic. One day the soldier, in an inebriated state, attempted to force his way into the attic. Mrs. Causey hit him over the head with a board from the attic floor with such force that he fell down the stairs and died from a broken neck.

Two of Israel and Margaret Causey's sons, Israel Putnam and Patrick H., died in the Civil War. Both died in 1862, only 4 months apart. Markers of the Confederate States of America were placed and still stand at the end of their graves at the Causey/Shady Grove Cemetery.

Israel Causey died on December 17, 1880. He died intestate so commissioners were appointed to set up a division of the Estate. The inventory of his estate shows it to be both extensive and varied. The land lots on which the house stands and the lots on the East and West of the house, designated Lots 87, 88 and 89 were appropriated to Mrs. C. A. C. Joiner, Israel Causey's oldest child and only daughter by his first wife, Susan Cowart Causey. Her full name was Celia Ann Causey Joiner. The three lots together were called Lot 1 for the purpose of dividing the Estate into 8 equal parts and the value of the lots was estimated at \$1,281.25. The division of the Estate was signed on March 14, 1881. Margaret Causey, wife of Israel, died on November 11, 1884, leaving an estate of \$2,000 real and personal.

By deed dated December 18, 1887, Celia Ann Causey Joiner sold Lots 87, 88 and 89 to Herbert O. Maxham for the sum of \$1,800.00. The description reads "all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the 18th District and 2nd Section or originally Cherokee, now Cobb County known and distinguished in the Plan of said District and Section as land lots Nos. (87) Eighty-Seven (88) Eighty-eight and (89) Eighty-nine containing one hundred and twenty acres more or less."

Herbert O. Maxham was married to the former Lizzie McIntosh. Prior to purchasing the Causey property in 1887, they resided in Michigan, California and most recently, Douglas County, Georgia. Herbert Maxham was a farmer and raised cotton and corn. They had two children, William A. and Pluma. Lizzie McIntosh Maxham died in 1902. She left her husband and 2 children as heirs. Herbert O. died in 1916 leaving his two children W. A. and Pluma as his sole heirs at law. Lots 87, 88 and 89 were left to them but Pluma Maxham conveyed her share of 88 and part of 87 to W. A. Maxham by Warranty Deed dated January 14, 1918, giving W. A. Maxham a total of 56 acres including the Israel Causey-Maxham dwelling on Maxham Road. A few acres of lot 88 were later sold to J. E. Jones and James H. Smith. W. A. Maxham was married to Arthoma Hardy. He too was a farmer. W. A. Maxham died in 1947 leaving his wife, Arthoma Hardy Maxham, two sons, Herbert and Daniel W. and a daughter, Mabel Rose, as his heirs at law. On July 24, 1954, the property with the dwelling was conveyed to Daniel Watson Maxham of Troup County. Mr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Maxham have lived in the Causey-Maxham Home for the

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past eight years. Mrs. Maxham, the former Mary Davidson, was born in 1914 and is employed as a school teacher. Mr. Maxham, born in 1913, has a peach and apple orchard adjoining the house.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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- Macgregor, Eligabeth., Personal Inspection, Winter 1974.
- Maxham, Daniel W., Interview, March 13, 1975.
- Shady Grove Cemetery/Causey Chapel, Old Albama Road, Austell, Georgia.
- Tax Digest, Cobb County, Georgia, Coxes District, 1851, Microfilm, Ga., Archives.
- Temple, Sarah B. G., The First Hundred Years, A Short History of Cobb County in Georgia Walter Brown Publishing Company, Atlanta, Ga., 1935, p.48,53-54, 68.
- White, George, Rev., Historical Collections of Georgia, New York: Pudrey and Russell, 1854, p.404.

SKETCH MAP OF ISRAEL CAUSEY HOUSE AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY

Approx. 1" = 20 chains

5909 MAXHAM ROAD, AUSTELL, GEORGIA

