

PH# 363707

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 23 1976

DATE ENTERED DEC 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

J. W. Callahan House

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

200 Evans Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bainbridge

VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Georgia

13

Decatur

087

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

## OWNERSHIP

## STATUS

## PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

X OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

X BUILDING(S)

X PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

## ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

X YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Eunice Penhallegon

STREET &amp; NUMBER

200 Evans Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bainbridge

VICINITY OF

Georgia

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Decatur County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Bainbridge

Georgia

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 200 Evans Street in Bainbridge is the John Wesley Callahan House, an outstanding C.1907 neo-classical structure.

On the exterior, the Callahan House appears as a two and one half story weather-boarded structure with dormered hip roof supported by a monumental four columned portico underneath which is a curved one story porch extending around three sides of the house. In the center of the three bay front facade is a prominent doorway on each story. These doorways have elaborate beveled edge glass work with tracery forming diamond patterns. Classical elements of Corinthian columns and heavy dentil details above the freize add to the ornate and heavy quality of the classical motif.

In plan, the house follows a central hall layout with a series of rooms off of this one hall. Two bay windows, one in the dining room and one in an opposing bedroom, as well as the stairs set out of the hallway between the parlor and a rear bedroom break up the total symmetry of the plan.

The interior decorative wall details of the two front parlors and the dining room include handpainted murals painted by an unknown Chicago artist. The left parlor features rosette swags and a tiled mantel with over mirror. In the right parlor is a delicate neo-classical mantel in the Adam style. On all walls of this parlor are murals of Flint River scenes, one of which shows a boat of the Callahan Line steaming down the river.

## 8 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 type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

c.1907

### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The J.W. Callahan House is significant to the state both historically and architecturally. This house was the home of John Wesley Callahan who was a pioneer in the steamship business on the inland waterways of south Georgia and north Florida, and who was also, in his day, the largest individual naval stores operator in the world. Architecturally the Callahan House is one of the most outstanding neo-classical houses in southwest Georgia.

John Wesley Callahan was born in Montgomery County, Georgia, Nov. 7, 1858. His family owned a plantation near Mount Vernon, Ga., and because of his mother's ill health he had to leave with only eight months of schooling to seek work. He was first employed as a plough hand for three dollars a month and later as a store clerk at thirty dollars a month. After seven years he went into business for himself and eventually got into the naval stores industry. He bought large interests in Decatur and Early Counties as well as north Florida and moved to Bainbridge. Here Mr. Callahan owned and operated a large wholesale complex, the Callahan Grocery Company. In addition he operated a fleet of five steam boats on the Flint River for both commercial and recreation purposes. At one time he owned boats called the John W. Callahan, the Chipola, the John W. Callahan, Jr., and the Recreation.

Architecturally the Callahan House is significant for its high style neo-classicism shown in the monumental portico, the relative close adherence to symmetry and the house's excellent state of preservation.

Presently the house is still used as a residence and owned by a member of the Callahan family.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Penhallegon, Mrs. Eunice. Interviewed by E. Macgregor, 1973

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately two acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,6 7,3,1,8,0,0 3,4,2,1,0,7,0

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

C 1,6 7,3,1,7,0,0 3,4,2,0,8,5,0

B 1,6 7,3,1,8,0,0 3,4,2,0,8,6,0

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

D 1,6 7,3,1,7,0,0 3,4,2,1,0,6,0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning just west of intersection of S. Broad Street and Evans Street, continue east on Evans Street to Academy Street, south along Academy Street to East Greene Street to a midpoint between West Street and Academy Street; then north to beginning point.

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

Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources

DATE

April 15, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington Street, S.W.

TELEPHONE

(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_

STATE X

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

DAVID M. SHERMAN

TITLE

Chief, Historic Preservation Section

DATE

8-17-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Attest: DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/12/96

DATE

12/6/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

J.W. Callahan House

Photographs taken by Van Jones Martin, Winter 1973

- 1) Exterior View, front facade; photographer facing south
- 2) Front hall view of side stairs
- 3) View of two front parlors and hall
- 4) View of two front parlors and hall
- 5) View of dining room