

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

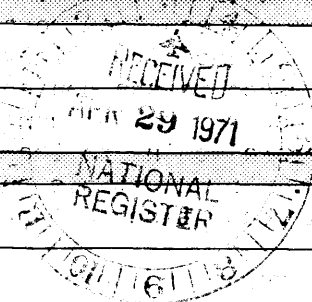
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| STATE: GEORGIA | |
| COUNTY: BIBB | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER 715.13.0007 | DATE 5/27/71 |

1. NAME

COMMON: **(Ralph) Small Place** *Small House*

AND/OR ALTERNATE: **Napier-Small House**



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **156 Rogers Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13** COUNTY: **Bibb** CODE: **021**

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|--|--|
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object: <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 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 type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input checked="" 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: **Ralph B. Small, Jr.**

STREET AND NUMBER: **156 Rogers Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Bibb County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than 1 acre**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **1. The Historic Architecture of Macon by Carl Feiss and Russell Wright**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Middle Georgia Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Macon Coliseum**

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

* **2. Historical Survey by Middle Georgia Historical Society 1970 Local**

3. HABS No. GA-14311 Maco 5 1936 Federal
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Code 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **GEORGIA**
COUNTY: **BIBB**
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: **715.13.0007**
DATE: **5/27/71**

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> | Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> | | Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input type="checkbox"/> | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This distinguished example of Greek Revival domestic architecture in America was built in the late 1840's. Its ample site facing Vineville Avenue was at that time between the Brewer-Corbin House and the Menro-Rogers-Goolsby House, and its distance from Vineville Avenue, not greatly different from what it is now. Approach to the house from the avenue on the South was through a long avenue of Cedars, reminiscent of "The Avenue" in Eatonton, where Skelton Napier lived before coming to the village of Vineville, and where he was married in 1820. In an article published in 1929, Mary Callaway Jones refers to its original foundation as "an elaborate brick basement of six rooms".

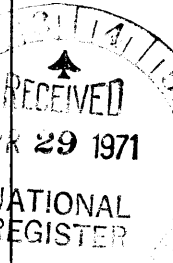
When Rogers Avenue and Corbin Avenue were opened, the land was subdivided. The house was turned to the East and now faces Rogers Avenue on a lot less adequate than it deserves. Deprived of its high basement and the enhancement it received from its former approach and entourage, it still retains its stately concept of design and detail.

In the lower South the Greek Revival temple-type house was usually built with a hexastyle portico on the principal facade, and a lowpitch hipped roof truncated with a small flat deck. The cornice of the portico usually continued around the main body of the house, but the remainder of the entablature, (the frieze and architrave) is either terminated or modified where the portico joins the main body of the structure. In all these things, the Napier-Small House is typical.

Two features set it apart from the rest. The entablature of its five-bay portico is supported on four fluted columns of the Greek Doric Order, set in antis between square columns, or antae, at either corner. There are many examples of columns in antis here and elsewhere in America; the usage dates back to Greek antiquity where the lateral walls of a temple were sometimes extended to enclose the ends of the portico. The term is generally applied to loggias recessed in the facade, or to the enframing of important doorways. There appears to be no direct precedent, in antiquity or in Greek Revival, for this example of an order used in antis for a pro-style temple type portico.

The other distinctive feature - a low wood parapet with exquisitely carved acroteria, surmounted above the entablature as a gallery or corona - is not novel, for it was in frequent usage. Seldom has it been executed as well, and used as effectively as in this example. The restrained ornamentation of this crowning sculpture in wood is a satisfying response to the theme set by the laurel wreaths of the frieze and at the same time a kind of counter-point to the baldness of the antae which terminate the colonade.

The parapet which supported the acroteria has weathered away, but we are told the carvings are in good condition in the attic, begging for restoration. The small panes of glass in the sidelights and transom of the front entrance obviously do not belong to the period. The turnings in the brackets supporting balcony over front door appear to relate more to the period when the house was re-located, than to the period in which it was built.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. 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) 1846

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> | Education <input type="checkbox"/> | Political <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Phi- losophy <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/> | Science <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Architecture</u> |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>HABS</u> |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human- itarian <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| | Music <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

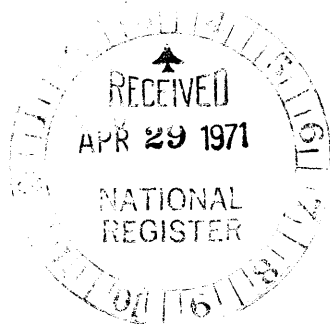
This is considered one of the outstanding Greek Revival houses in Macon and this area. It is included in the HABS records of 1936 and is written up in many publications.

This white frame house of Greek revival style was built in 1846 by Skelton Napier. According to Talbot Hamlin in his book "Greek Revival Architecture in America," it well could have been designed by the noted New England architect, Elias Carter. This house is used to illustrate the great variety of detail possible in the classic pattern by Mr. Hamlin and by Howard Major in his book, "The Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic." Noteworthy is the fact that this is the only old house in Macon with a pedimented parapet topping three sides of the roof, and finished at the corners and in the center with anthemion.

The original lot was purchased in November, 1846, by Skelton Napier of Putnam County, Georgia, brother of Colonel Leroy Napier, great contributor to the Confederacy. The house was constructed facing Vineville Avenue, approached through a double avenue of cedars. But, like several other old Macon homes, it was turned to face Rogers Avenue in adjusting itself to the city's growth.

Ralph Small, Jr. owns the house, and until recently it served as the studio for his interior decorating service, as well as his residence.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

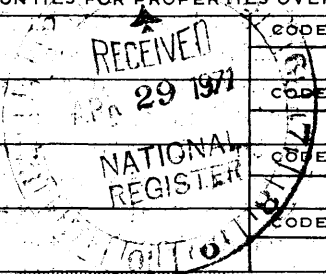
Dennis, Ward. "The Ralph Small House." Southern Architect & Building News. Vol. LVII, No. 11, November 1931.
 Hamlin, Talbot. Greek Revival Architecture in America.
 Jones, Mary Callaway. Macon's Heritage in Architecture. Macon, Georgia, 1939, revised 1957.
 Major, Howard. Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic.
 Michels, F. D. & Johnston, F. B. The Early Architecture of Georgia. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1957.
 Perkerson, Medora Field. White Columns in Georgia. New York, 1952.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | OR | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----|--|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 32° 50' 50" | 83° 39' 22" | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mr. John J. McKay, Jr., President

ORGANIZATION: **Middle Georgia Historical Society, Inc.** DATE: **March 23, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER:
c/o Macon Coliseum

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

Name Mary Gregory Jewett
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date April 19, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Dammery
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 MAY 27 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:
William B. Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date MAR 19 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| STATE | |
| GEORGIA | |
| COUNTY | |
| BIBB | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| 11.5.13.0007 | 5/27/71 |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Ralph Small Place**
AND/OR HISTORIC: **Napier-Small House**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
156 Rogers Avenue

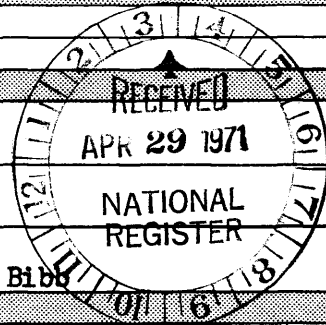
CITY OR TOWN:
Macon

STATE:
Georgia

CODE
13

COUNTY:
Bibb

CODE
021



3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: **Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Georgia Geodetic Survey**

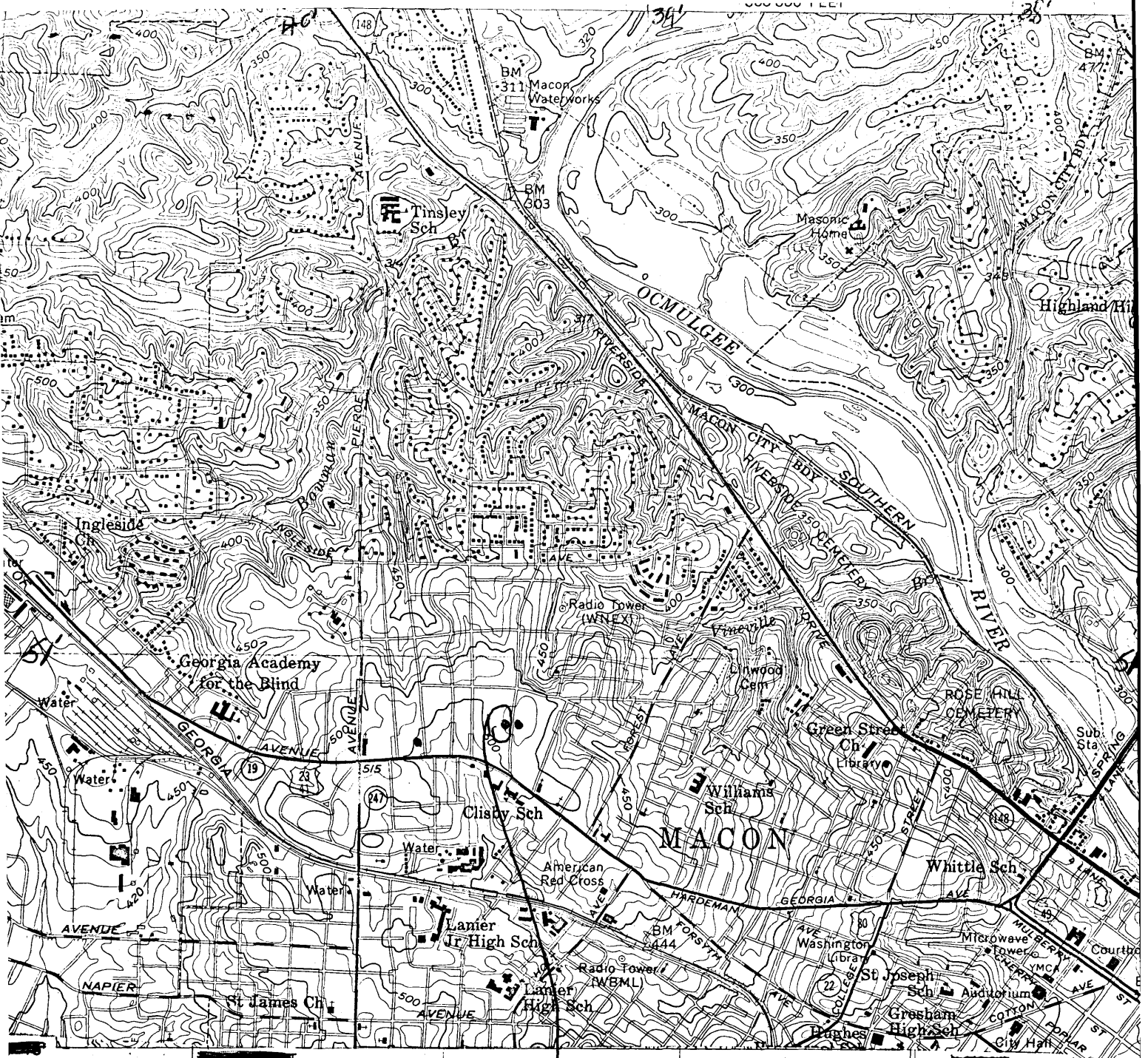
SCALE: **1" = 2,000'**

DATE: **1956**

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Georgia Geodetic Survey
 Topography from aerial photographs by Kelsh plotter
 Aerial photographs taken 1954. Field check 1956.
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Georgia coordinate system,
 west zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 17, shown in blue
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines
 visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
 Red tint indicates areas in which only
 landmark buildings are shown

SMALL
 Latitude - $32^{\circ}50'50''$
 Longitude - $83^{\circ}29'22''$

RECEIVED
 APR 29 1971
 NATIONAL REGISTER

APPROXIMATE MEAN
 DECLINATION, 1956

Scale: 1" = 2,000'

