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NATIONAL REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cullum, George W., House
other names/site number Jones House, Caffey House

2. Location

street & number 1915 Old County Road NA not for publication
city, town Daphne NA vicinity
state Alabama code AL county Baldwin code 003 zip code 36526

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] May 7, 1990
Signature of certifying official Date
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet. 6/14/90

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic-Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic-Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: Gulf Coast Cottage
Mid-19th Century: Greek Revival

foundation Brick
walls Wood
roof Asphalt
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The George W. Cullum House sits on a high bluff overlooking Mobile Bay. The house may be reached by a paved driveway from Old County Road. The house itself encompasses two distinct building phases. The first, in 1846, is represented by the central mass of the house. This portion is a one-and-a-half-story, frame, 5 x 4 bay Gulf Coast Cottage with a gable roof to the sides. About 1855 the flanking one-story wings were added to the house. This took place under the ownership of William Jones, whose financial means transformed the Gulf Coast Cottage into a more formal Greek Revival house. The wings are each 2 x 2 bays with a gable roof to the front. Their recessed porches project on either side of the central mass, which also features a recessed porch. The south wing is set off about four feet from the central mass, allowing the porch to partially wrap around between. All the porches connect and feature box columns with capitals and balustrading. A louvered rain porch across the central five bays was added by the present owners in 1982. The wings have pedimented gables with lunette vents and box cornice. The central mass has a pair of interior chimneys near the gable ends, the south wing has an interior chimney as well. The central entrance, with double leaf doors, has sidelights and a transom with eared architrave surround. The windows have a panel below the sash, replacing the original jibbed doors. The gable half-story windows have original plank shutters.

The interior plan includes a central hall with three rooms across the back, and the north and south wings. The center rear room opens out off a hall, and the two are delineated by an open doorway with lattice-filled sidelights and transom. The doorway has an eared architrave surround. This center rear room was originally an inset back porch, filled c. 1870. The front rooms, to either side of the hall, have eared architrave surrounds around windows and doors. The marble mantels with a central shell motif date from the Jones period (1855). These mantels are highly significant as only one other house in all of Baldwin County has one (the Walker-Goldsby-Warren House, placed on the National Register as part of the Gulf Coast/Creole Cottage Thematic nomination in 1987).

Jones tied the whole together with similar porch treatments and eared architrave window and door surrounds. All interior walls were plastered and marble mantels placed in the front parlors. These mantels, though common in downtown Mobile, are almost unheard of along the Eastern Shore where houses remained simple vacation retreats. Indeed, while most summer houses along the Eastern Shore remained relatively unadorned, with plain plank interior walls, Jones' house was the first formal architectural expression of this type. Though still a summer house the details make it formal in spirit.

Today the house looks much as it did after Jones' improvements. About 1870 a subsequent owner enclosed the inset rear porch and the present owners added a rain porch across the facade in 1982.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1846-1870

Significant Dates
1846, 1855, 1870

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Significant Person
NA

Architect/Builder
Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The George W. Cullum House is significant under National Register Criterion C as one of the finest Gulf Coast/Greek Revival houses in Baldwin County. Its formal arrangement and architectural details, including eared architrave door and window surrounds and marble mantels, are rare elements in a county dominated by the vernacular. The house is further significant in its evolution from a Gulf Coast Cottage to a formal house with flanking wings, all tied together by the porches. This transformation from a vernacular to a higher style, while still remaining a summer house, is unprecedented in Baldwin County.

Despite these high style elements, the George W. Cullum House is well within the tradition of the Creole/Gulf Coast Cottage folk type. The Creole and Gulf Coast Cottages of Baldwin County are significant as distinctive regional forms of Alabama vernacular architecture. The Creole style is distinctive for its massed floor plan with no interior passageways, a French building preference, whereas the Gulf Coast Style is distinctive for its central hall and exterior chimneys, Eastern Seaboard influences.

The Creole Cottage derives from a long tradition stretching back to the 17th century houses in Normandy. French settlers in the West Indies and Canada added full length galleries and more steeply pitched gable roofs to the house form they had known in Europe and concentrations of these houses remain in New Orleans and Saint Genevieve, Missouri.

These houses featured central chimneys, one on the front slope and one on the rear slope of the roof. The lack of interior passageways was one of the most distinctive features of the style; four interconnected square rooms with smaller "cabinets" at the rear, often containing a stairway to the half story. Benjamin Henry Latrobe commented on this plan in 1819 and noted that the French employed their space to better advantage by excluding interior hallways. These Creole Cottages were popular in Mobile and New Orleans from 1790 to 1850 and continued to be built all along the Gulf Coast well into the 20th century.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Mary O. Carney. "Yanks Take Over Eastern Shore." Unpublished manuscript, 1949. In the papers of Kitt Caffey, Daphne, Al.

Francis D'Olive Scott. Daphne. Privately printed. No date.

Mobile City Directories, 1839-1860. Mobile Public Library.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS): NA

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Mobile Historic Development Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5.6

UTM References

A 16 412680 3386020
Zone Easting Northing

B _____
Zone Easting Northing

C _____

D _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Begin at a point on the west side of Old County Road 540' N of Belrose Avenue. Thence west to the shore of Mobile Bay a distance of 1400', thence N approximately forty feet, thence east 236' to a point, thence in a northeasterly direction for 253.33' to a point, thence 100' N to a point, thence east 929' to Old County Rd., then See continuation sheet south 250' to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary corresponds to the present legal dimensions of the lot.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Sledge/Architectural Historian; Melanie Betz/AHC Reviewer
organization Mobile Historic Development Commission date 30 September 1989
street & number P.O. Box 1827 telephone (205)438-7281
city or town Mobile state Al. zip code 36633

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

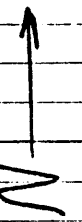
The Gulf Coast Cottage is distinguished by its central hall and five bay facade which became popular in Alabama during the 1830s. This plan came from the Eastern Seaboard and owed its genesis to the Georgian architectural traditions of England. This American, or more popularly, Greek Revival, floor plan nevertheless continued Creole traditions of building a full length recessed porch under a sweeping gable roof. Chimneys were located along near or outer walls as no heating was desired in the hall. Gulf Coast Cottages were generally of frame construction and were raised two to three feet off of the ground on brick piers. These houses were popular from 1830 to 1870.

The George W. Cullum House had its beginnings in this Gulf Coast Cottage tradition. In 1845 George W. Cullum, a coffee house and saloon keeper in Mobile, bought a portion of the Alexander Grant in Daphne overlooking Mobile Bay. He sold the property to William G. Jones in 1850, for more than \$3000 over his original purchase price. The present owners have also discovered a brick in the house which bears a date of "July 1846", scratched on it by a builder. It thus seems certain that Cullum erected the house. Cullum's effort closely resembled the other Gulf Coast Cottages along the Eastern Shore, most of which were summer houses. It was a one and a half story, frame building with a gable roof to the sides and recessed porch with central hall.

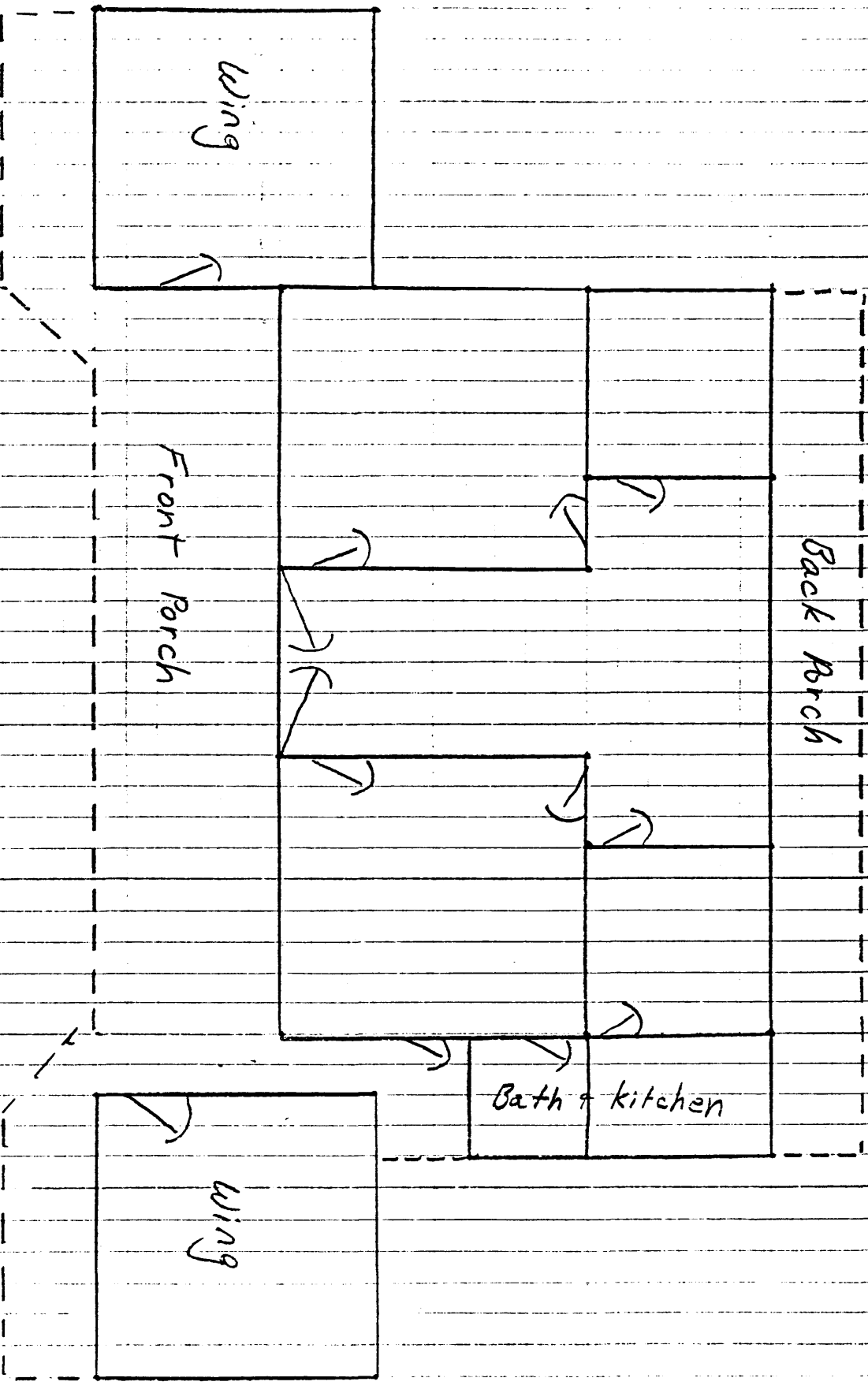
William G. Jones was a man of some means. A partner in the law firm of Jones and Armstead, his many holdings included a house in Mobile and a plantation in Pickens County. Though he used his new Daphne house as a retreat with his wife, Jones decided to lavish money in improving the structure. About 1855 he added two gables to the front wings at the north and south ends of the house. These wings are very formal Greek Revival expressions with pedimented gables and boxed columns and cornices. The central mass of the house does not have box cornices and its original columns were no doubt simple as well. Jones tied the whole together with similar porch treatments and eared architrave door and window surrounds. All interior walls were plastered and marble mantels placed in the front parlors. These mantels, though common in downtown Mobile, are almost unheard of along the Eastern Shore, where houses remained simple vacation retreats. Indeed, while most summer houses along the Eastern Shore remained unadorned, Jones' house was the first formal architectural expression of its type. Though still a Gulf Coast Cottage, these alterations moved the house firmly into the Greek Revival building traditions.

Today the house looks much as it did after Jones' improvements. About 1870 a subsequent owner enclosed the inset rear porch and the present owners added a rain porch across the facade in 1982.

George W. Gullam House
Daphne, Al.



App. scale 1" = 16'



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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photo-
graphs Page 1

1. George W. Cullum House
2. Daphne, Baldwin County, Alabama
3. John Sledge, photographer
4. September 21, 1989
5. MHDC Negative File--MB #172

Photo # Description (Frame #)

1. Facade, Camera facing E (22)
2. General, Camera facing SE (25)
3. Facade of N Wing, Camera facing E (23)
4. Side Elevation, Camera facing S (26)
5. Rear, Camera facing W (27)
6. Porch, Camera facing N (29)
7. Interior, Entrance Hall, Camera facing W (31)
8. N Room, Camera facing NE (32)
9. Center Rear Room, Camera facing S (33)
10. Upstairs, Camera facing N (35)