Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FRIOR		STATE	Ξ:

Mississippi

Carroll

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections) I. NAME COMMON: George Law Office James 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Street between Lexington and Green Streets CITY OR TOWN: Carrollton STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE 38917 28 015 Mississippi Carrol1 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY ACCESSIBLE OWNERSHIP STATUS TO THE PUBLIC (Check One) District Public Public Acquisition: Yes: x Building Occupied X Restricted ☐ In Process 🗴 Private Site Structure Unoccupied Unrestricted ☐ Both Being Considered Object 😠 Preservation work ☐ No in progress PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Park ☐ Comments ☐ Transportation [ Industrial Commercial Private Residence Other (Specify) ☐ Military Educational Religious Entertainment X Museum Scientific OWNER OF PROPERTY 4. OWNER'S NAME: <u>Cherokee Rose Garden Club</u> œ Ø Œ CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE gq Carrollton Mississippi 38917 28 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Office of the Chancery Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: rro Lexington Street CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Mississippi 38917 28 Carrollton 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING OUR VEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY DATE OF SURVEY: deral ☐ State County □ Local DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY USE STREET AND NUMBER: ONLY CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE

7.	DESCRIPTION							
		(Check One)						
	COMPLETION	Excellent	🕱 Good	☐ Fair	☐ Det	eriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
	CONDITION		(Check Or	ie)			(Che	eck One)
		☐ Alter	ed	<b>▼</b> Unaltered			☐ Moved	Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Z. George Law Office, measuring approximately 22 feet in width and 34 feet in depth, is a two-room structure of clapboards and matched boarding painted white. Although the building is only one story in height, the steep rear slope of the roof gives it the shape of a New England The portico consists of a heavily molded trisaltbox house. angular pediment supported by two square wooden columns on three-foot plinths. A pair of 9 over 9 windows flank the front door, constructed with wooden pegs in a simple pattern of rails and stiles topped by a three-pane transom. On the west elevation there is a slight return of the cornice which extends beneath the roofline of the façade. The rear door is identical to that on the front, although a reconstruction in part and protected by a small projecting roof rather than a portico. and the two rear windows are framed by broad planking, whereas no decorative statement is attempted in the narrow, utilitarian casings of the façade openings.

The first of the two rooms on the interior of the office features vertically paneled wainscoting, grooved eight-inch baseboards, and narrow cornice. The brick surround of the fireplace is newly laid, although the wooden pilasters, unadorned frieze, and mantleboard are presumably original. The Cherokee Rose Garden Club, currently furnishing the room as a setting for its meetings and for public events, has acquired on loan a number of nineteenth-century pieces, including a hand-crafted walnut secretary which belonged to Judge William Cothran, builder and first occupant of the office.

The rear room has a minimum of detail, namely a chair rail, several segments of which have been replaced, and a massive brick fireplace. On the wall to the left of the latter is a small panel showing the original laths, left exposed under glass after a recent replastering of the room. Wooden flooring throughout the building is new, and lighting is provided in the front room by a three-branched brass and crystal chandelier and in the rear by a converted coal-oil ceiling lamp, neither of which is original. In keeping with the terms of the 1940 deed whereby George's son, J. W. George, conveyed the property to the garden club, the rear room will eventually be a re-creation of the library of a nineteenth-century lawyer and maintained as a memorial to George.

The building which adjoins the law office (a slender Doric pilaster marks the juncture) is contemporary with it and very similar in style and size, although its triangular pediment lacks columns and the front door is more ornate and more recent, probably early twentieth century. Originally the location of the first bank of Carrollton, the interior has been modernized into office spaces and is rented from the Cherokee Rose Garden Club by the Carroll County Cooperative Extension Service.



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 Applicab	le and Known) ca.	1838	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Approp	riate)	
Abor iginal	Education	₩ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
☐ Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			

James Zachariah George was born in Monroe County. Georgia, in 1826 and moved with his family to Carroll County, Mississippi, in 1836. George received no formal education beyond several years' attendance at the common, or public, schools of the period but was self-taught in the profession of A special act of the state legislature having declared him legally of age, he was admitted to the Mississippi bar before he was twenty. In the Mexican War, George served as a private in the regiment of Colonel Jefferson Davis, and upon his return to Carrollton, he was married to Elizabeth Young Brooks, sister-in-law of William Cothran. Cothran, attorney, state senator, and circuit court judge, reputedly built what is now known as the James Z. George Law Office in 1838, a year after his arrival in Carroll County. The office was used by George throughout his professional life except for the years 1872-1887, when Jackson was his residence.

In 1854 and again in 1860, George was elected reporter of the Supreme Court of Mississippi, during which terms he prepared ten volumes of reports covering the decisions of the court, 1855-1863. He was a Carroll County delegate to the January, 1861, secession convention in Jackson and achieved the rank of brigadier general in the war which followed. As chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee in 1875, George directed the political campaign which ousted the Republican party and ended Reconstruction in Mississippi. He was appointed a judge of the Mississippi Supreme Court in 1879, and his associates took the unusual step of immediately voting him chief justice.

The final and most significant phase of George's career was in representing Mississippi in the U. S. Senate, 1881-1897. He participated in formulating the Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 1890 (the only Democratic senator on a committee of five) and introduced the bill to create the U. S. Department of Agriculture. George was a member-at-large to the state convention which framed the Mississippi constitution of 1890 and is accorded chief responsibility for that document. He successfully defended it when its clauses dealing with suffrage



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9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RI	FERENCES								
	Garner, James W., "The Senatorial Career of J. Z. George."										
	Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, VII.										
	1903, 245-62. "George, James Zachariah." Dictionary of American Biography.										
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Date April 28, 1971

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Carroll Carroll	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 13 19	1/2

STATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

and apportionment were challenged in the U. S. Senate. At the time of his death in 1897, George had partially completed The Political History of Slavery in the United States, published in 1915. Mississippi is represented in the Hall of Fame in the United States Capitol at Washington by statues of two of her famous sons - Jefferson Davis and James Z. George. They are the only Mississippians thus honored.

The James Z. George Law Office presently serves as a meeting-place for the Carroll Society for the Preservation of Antiquities and is headquarters for the annual Carrollton pilgrimage.

9.

George, James Z., The Political History of Slavery in the United States. (New York: The Neale Publishing Company, 1915), ix-xix.

Johnston, Frank, "The Public Services of Senator James Z. George."

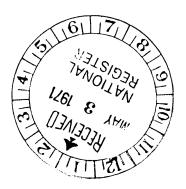
Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, VIII,

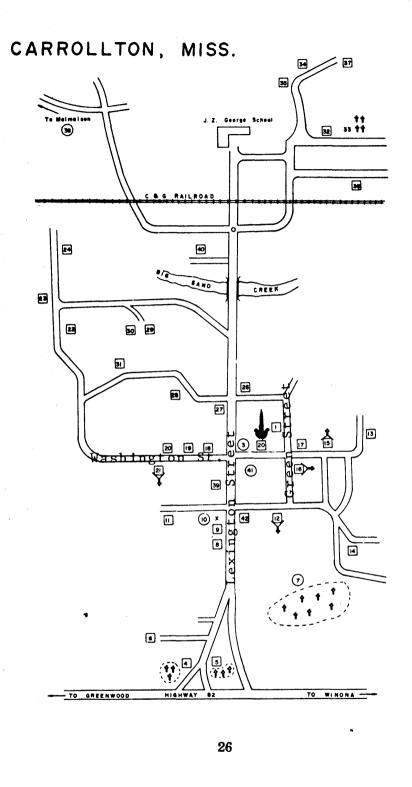
1904, 201-26.

Land Deed Records, Book 28, p. 278, Office of the Chancery Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse, Carrollton, Mississippi.

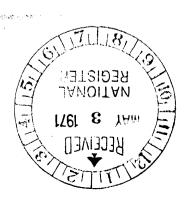
Peck, Lucy Bryant, "The Life and Times of James Z. George."
Master's thesis, Mississippi State University, 1964.

Work Projects Administration. "History of Carroll County: Bar' (typescript). Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi.





20 - James Z. George Law Office



Form 10-301 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE
Mississippi
COUNTY
Carroll
FOR NPS USE ONLY
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JAN 13 1912

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	(Type all entries - attach to or	enclose with map)	ENTRY NUMBER	1972 ATE
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AND/OR HI	STORIC:			
LOCATION				
STREET AN	ID NUM BER:			
Wasl	hington Street betwee	n Lexington an	d Green Streets	
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