

PH0023027

6th Congressional District

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: GEORGIA	
COUNTY: BIBB	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.5.13.0010	DATE 5/22/71



1. NAME

COMMON:
House of Hines

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Selemon - Curd House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
770 Mulberry Street

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"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input 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:
Mr. and Mrs. J. Freeman Hart, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
340 College Street

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

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Macon

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **GEORGIA**
COUNTY: **BIBB**
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER: **71.5.13.0010**
DATE: **5/22/71**

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 type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

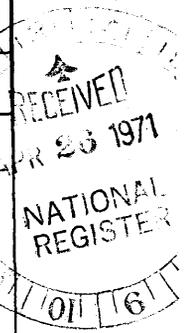
Overlooking one of the lovely median parks running the length of Mulberry Street stands a very fine provincial adaptation of a house designed in the Greek revival manner. This "in-town", two-story, wood frame house built in the 1830-40 decade achieves an impressive dignity from an extremely pleasing proportion in elevation and great simplicity of detailing. The whole presents a chaste, understated appearance of great restraint.

The dominant architectural feature is a large prostyle wood floored portico with square two-story wooden columns, which is included under the main hip of the roof and extends the breadth of the front. Capped with a stepped cavetto coved molding (a carpenter adaptation of a classic Greek style), the columns terminate at the floor with a simple plank base. Flanked by sidelights with a full width glass transom overhead, a six-panel wooden door affords gracious entrance into the house. A shallow overdoor balcony supported at the sides by small round wood columns carries a very delicately scaled wrought iron balustrade. The interesting pattern of the ironwork, which relieves an otherwise austere front suggests a design akin to Spenserian script, with two planes of graceful curved rods punctuated by stamped metal rosettes. A similar balustrade with slightly attenuated scale also extends between the two-story columns of the main portico, returning at the ends to simple pilasters at the building wall. The smooth surface of wide ship-lap boards which form the surface of the building wall are an ideal background for silhouetting the delicate tracery of the balustrades.

Clapboard siding covers the remaining sides of the house and simple unmolded plank frames surround the six over six double hung window sash. A once separate one-story cottage to the rear, formerly the kitchen facility for the house, is now connected to the right rear side of the house.

In typical fashion a wide center hall extends through the house, front to rear, with a simple stairway having square balusters and newel posts, rising from the right rear side extending to an intermediate landing and turning 180° to the second floor. The stair ends are covered with a simple scroll design. The original house contained four large rectangular rooms upstairs and downstairs, with the frontmost downstairs rooms being parlors featuring double sliding flat panel doors (now fixed in place with a single opening cut into the center) that could be opened "ensuite" with the center hall. Two interior brick chimneys with fireplaces back to back serve the original rooms of the house. One of the original chimney pieces remains in the left front parlor. It is black and caramel veined Italian marble. The interior of the house, like the exterior, is austere. The rooms are without cornices. The interior wall finish is plaster with the high ceiling first floor rooms having molded wood chair rails and wide board pine floors. The wood trim at the doors and windows is wide and molded in typical profiles of the period. All the remaining original doors have six flat panels.

The house has undergone modifications over the years. Porches at the first and second floor levels have been added across the rear and subsequently enclosed as rooms. The upstairs has been subdivided into apartments and storage or work areas for the present tenant, who runs a formal wear rental business in the house. The general condition of the exterior is good and largely unchanged, and the interior at the main floor level has been redecorated. An original door with sidelights led to the balcony over the main front entrance. This has been removed and replaced by two double-hung windows.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
GEORGIA	
COUNTY	
BIBB	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71513-0010	5/27/71

(Number all entries) Solomon-Curd House

768-770 Mulberry Street
Page 2

8. Significance

George W. Price bought the house in 1863, and two years later it was bought by John Bennett Ross, owner of a cotton plantation outside the city and a successful businessman. Ross contributed time and effort to the Confederate cause; and, after the War was elected to the State Legislature in 1872 as a delegate from Bibb County.

In 1879 this Greek revival house was bought by John C. Curd (president, at the time, of the Exchange Bank) in whose family it remained the longest time. The Curd's daughter, May, married Richard Jordan who practiced law in Macon with Andrew Lane and who was, for a time, judge of the City Court of Macon. The Jordans lived in Mrs. Jordan's old home for many years before selling it to owners who turned in into an apartment house.

Owned now by J. Freeman Hart, Jr., who is interested in the preservation of old Macon homes, the handsome old place will continue to have apartments upstairs while a formal wear shop and wedding services center occupies the lower floor.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

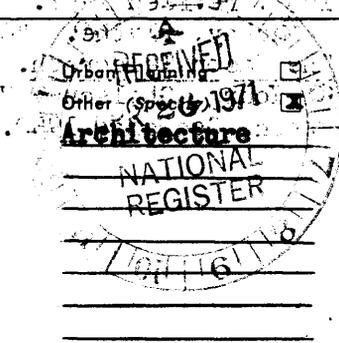
Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1830's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>	



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

This well-sited and imposing house is one of the remaining dwellings that make a significant contribution to the character of this street. Mulberry Street with its beautiful parks and complex of buildings having architectural and historical significance is certainly the most unique and interesting street in Macon's urban scene.

The six plain square columns match the pilasters on the corners of the house. The front wall is of abutted boards, the side walls, weather boarded and the pyramid roof covers the house and portico.

This typical ante-bellum house has a long history closely associated with prominent and influential people of Macon's earliest beginnings.

Three Solomon brothers, William, Henry and Peter, came to Macon in 1836 from old Marion in Twiggs County, Georgia. William, who built the house at 768 Mulberry Street in 1838, was one of early Macon's leading businessmen and a beloved member of the first Macon church, built in 1826, just across the street from this home.

In 1844 Samuel R. Blake bought the house. Blake was a great orator and was called on to speak at many public meetings, including the great Harrison convention attended by thousands in Macon on August 13, 1840. Blake also was one of the first lawyers admitted to the bar of the newly organized Supreme Court of Georgia in 1846.

Zephariah Conner owned the house from 1851 to 1853. Conner served as colonel of the 12th Georgia Regiment in Virginia during the War Between the States; and, during the Florida War of 1836, he had been a lieutenant in the Macon Volunteers.

The next owner, James Alexander Nisbet, was a brother of Eugenius A. Nisbet, Congressman and author of Georgia's Ordinance of Secession. J. A. Nisbet studied law at Litchfield Law School in Connecticut, was admitted to the bar in 1833, and began the practice of law in Macon in partnership with Poe, and later with his brother. After the War Between the States he formed a partnership composed of Howell Cobb, Judge Jackson, E. A. and James A. Nisbet which was long known as among the ablest firms in the state. James A. Nisbet was mayor of Macon in 1844-45 and later served in the State Legislature.

James Nisbet's son, James Cooper Nisbet, called the house on Mulberry Street home during his school years. During the War Between the States he formed a company in Dade County and took it to join the Georgia troops in Richmond, Virginia. He later wrote a book about his war experiences, "Four Years on the Firing Line," which has been edited by Bell Irvin Wiley and republished. After the War, Colonel Nisbet, following in his father's footsteps, served in the State Legislature.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

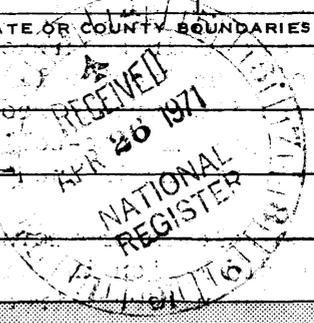
Butler, John C. History of Macon and Central Georgia. Macon, Georgia, 1879.
 Jones, Mary Callaway. Macon's Heritage in Architecture. Macon, Georgia, 1939, revised 1957.
 McKay, Blythe. "One of Macon's Oldest Homes to Shelter Business". The Macon Telegraph.
 Young, Gholson & Hargrove. The History of Macon, Georgia 1823-1949. Macon, Georgia, 1950.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		32° 50' 22"	83° 37' 54"	
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

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

James A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: MAY 27 1971

ATTEST:
William Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: MAY 19 1971

