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ESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (<i>If known</i>) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE The Albon Chase House, now a 6-unit apartment building, is one of the few extant 19th century residences in the present-day downtown commercial area of Athens. This Greek Revival structure, built in 1840-41, is a two story brick, scored- stucco building, with a slightly raised central, one-story temple form portico. The plan is that of an almost square, four room central hallway design. A low hipped roof surmounts a simple wooden cornice and there are four stuccoed, interior side chimneys. The lot to the rear completely exposes a full daylight basement on three sides. The exterior has been little changed from its original appearance: asphalt shingles on the roof are invisible from street level, the shutters have been removed (hinges show their former presence) and narrow porches on the back of the house have been enclosed. The square, one-story porch, with its four Doric columns and two pilasters, is crowned by an unusually faithful Doric entablature, complete with triglyphs and metopes. Only on the First Presby- terian Church (1855) is there elsewhere in Athens such fidelity to the	CONDITION	<u>}</u>	(Check O	ne)		(Ch	eck One)	
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building, has also been converted into apartments. The Albon Chase House is located on the western edges of downtown Athens; the area surrounding the house is wholly commercial, zoned B-3 (business). Adjacent to the south side of the house is a bus station; and the house is only one block from U.S. 78, two blocks from a large motel and within four blocks of five antebellum houses and two old churches.	DIOCKS OI	IIVE ANCED				RECEIVED MAR 1 8 19 NATION/ REGIST		

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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	le and Known) 1840-4]		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
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Conservation	Music	Transportation	

Built in 1840-41, the Albon Chase House is significant not only for its simplicity with classical design, but also as the home of one of 19th century Athens' most prominent citizens.

Albon Chase (1808-67), builder of the house, was born in New Hampshire and came to Athens in the 1830's. He bought and edited an Athens newspaper, renamed the <u>Southern Banner</u>, ancestor of the present <u>Athens Banner-Herald</u>. Reflecting the views of the editor and of Howell Cobb of Athens, leading lawyer and politician, the paper supported the Union Democrat faction led by Andrew Jackson, as opposed to the Southern Rights Democrat faction led by John Calhoun. However, after 1850, Cobb and the paper were secessionist. With Dr. John Linton, Chase established one of the South's early paper mills, the Pioneer Paper Mill on the Middle Oconee River near Athens, for which he was agent or manager. Chase was also general agent and secretary for the Southern Mutual Insurance Company, a leading Athens business.

Albon Chase bought the unimproved lot, site of the Chase House, in July 1840 (Clarke County Deed Book R, p. 63) and sold the property in 1860 (Deed Book W, p. 83). Examination of the tax record for the two decades leads to the conclusion that the house was built in 1840-41. From 1888 to 1906 the house was owned by the (First) Presbyterian Church of Athens, founded 1821, serving as its manse. The present church building, three blocks away of Greek Revival style, is itself one of the outstanding built dings in Athens (built 1855).

The significance of the house's architectural worth is found in its four square simplicity, reminiscent of some Federal buildings, yet soundly within the Greek Revival style with its fine temple form Doric portico and classical cornice and door treatments. Its comfortable, moderate size offers a refreshing contrast to the ostentatious dimensions of most of its surviving contemporaries.

Presently, the house is threatened by the ever present and encroaching commercial area surrounding it. A bus station is on the south side of the house. Yet, if well-maintained and carefully landscaped, the house could become a pivot of a pleasant walk or drive for visitors viewing the several other notable 19th century structures in the immediate four block area.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brooks, R.P., editor, "Howell Cobb Papers," <u>Georgia Historical Quarterly</u>, Vol. V, No. 1 (March 1921), p. 59 ff.
Coleman, Kenneth, <u>Confederate Athens</u>, (Athens, 1967), p. 115.
Cooper, Patricia Irvin, Submitted first draft of nomination form and all primary research, on file.

Hull, A.L., <u>Annals of Athens, Georgia, 1801-1901</u>, (Athens, 1906), pp. 110-11. Macgregor, Elizabeth, Personal Inspection, November 1973.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Patricia I. Cooper, Researcher

Elizabeth Macgregor, Architectural Historian, Historic Sites Survey

Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources 3/11/74

270 Washington St., S.W.

Date Il Much

	CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE	l
	Atlanta	Georgia	13	ĺ
12	STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION		ļ
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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 c-iteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

Local Z National State TitleJ

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

eeper of The National Rec 2.79 Date

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