

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic John A. McDougald House

and/or common McDougald-Beaver House

**2. Location**

street & number 121 South Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Statesboro N/A vicinity of congressional district First - Ginn

state Georgia code 013 county Bulloch code 031

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. John Beaver

street & number Route 5

city, town Statesboro N/A vicinity of state Georgia 30458

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Bulloch County Courthouse

city, town Statesboro state Georgia 30458

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records none

city, town state

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

### General Description

The John A. McDougald House is a large, turn-of-the-century, Neoclassical house set on a city lot along a once-fashionable residential street in Statesboro.

The McDougald House is two stories high and polygonally shaped. It features a large, two-story front portico. Neoclassical detailing is extensive and includes one- and two-story Corinthian columns, first- and second-story balustraded porches, and four fanlights. Clear, bevel-edged glass fills exterior doors and the sidelights of the front entrance. The gabled front portico has a roof ridge running from front to back. The two flanking rooms on the front of the house originally had hipped roofs, but were changed to flat roofs early in the house's history.

The interior of the McDougald House features a spacious, centrally located stair and entry hall, polygonal and rectangular-shaped rooms, transomed doorways, and generally open, free-flowing spaces. The central hall, living and dining rooms are elaborately detailed with Neoclassical wood and plasterwork, including fluted Ionic columns and pilasters and paneled wainscoting. Fireplaces and mantels are all different, but generally include a framed, mirrored overmantel and exposed glazed tiles. One fireplace has been modernized with old brick and another either walled over or torn out. The walls are for the most part smoothly plastered, the exceptions being two remodeled rooms that were sheetrocked and a 1950 side addition that was walled with sheetrock. Beaded tongue-and-groove boards are used on walls in the second-story back (west) rooms. A large linteled entrance to the living room from the central hall has been closed with French doors and a transom. These were probably added in the 1930s for conservation of heat. The structure retains its original beaded pine ceilings and floors. The stairway is L-shaped and features a bench at the base of the landing. Wainscoting follows the stairway, which is balustraded at its upper and lower landings. Dentil and egg-and-dart moldings trim newel posts and bench. Bathrooms are all remodeled and do not reflect the period in which the home was built.

The rear of the McDougald House is a simple gable with a fanlight in the peak. First- and second-story back porches were enclosed in the 1930s.

The McDougald House is constructed with a balloon frame sheathed in cypress weatherboards. Foundations consist of hard, pressed brick. The roof is surfaced with channeled sheet metal. All lumber used in the house for structural and decorative purposes is heart pine. The pedimented front portico is supported by two sets of large coupled Corinthian columns. A fanlight is set in the front pediment as well as in the pediments on the north and south exposures.

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Description

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The McDougald House is generally in good condition. The structure is sound and both the interior and exterior have been recently restored. Only the bathrooms and upstairs back rooms remain to be rehabilitated. During the 1940s, the house was subdivided into apartments, but the only partitions erected were in the upstairs rear of the house and only involve three rooms. These partitions are merely wood paneling and could be removed easily.

The grounds of the McDougald House retain little of the original turn-of-the-century landscaping. The front (east) yard consists of a broad, level lawn and a large, old camphor tree. During the past eighteen years, underbrush and saplings have choked out all original plantings. The front walk, centered on the front door, is laid with polygonal paving blocks between stone curbs. A stone-and-iron fence once surrounded the front yard; remains of this fence are evident as the foundation of the fence is still present and a few of the stone balusters are stored under the house. The south-side yard has a driveway giving access from South Main Street to the back (west) yard. The north-side yard is an extension of the front yard. In the rear (west) yard, a brick garage and three storage sheds were built in the 1940s and 1950s. Due to the fact that they did not contribute to the significance of the McDougald House and the fact that they were of poor construction and falling in, the outbuildings were recently removed. During the 1940s, an asbestos-shingled duplex was moved to the property and placed on the rear southwest corner of the lot facing Walnut Street; this structure does not contribute to the historic significance of the property. Also to the rear of the house and facing Walnut Street on the northwest corner is a small weatherboard bungalow. The date of this house has not been determined, but it appears to have been constructed shortly after the main house. The structure is thought to have been quarters for Lydia, the McDougald's faithful servant. This house is presently rented.

The surroundings of the McDougald House have changed considerably over the years. South Main Street at the turn of the century was a fashionable residential avenue with many fine houses and large landscaped lots. During the 1930s, many of the large houses were subdivided into apartments or hotels, as South Main Street was a main traffic route to Florida from the North. After World War II, the street developed into a largely commercial corridor, with new office, restaurant and commercial buildings replacing many of the earlier residences. Today it remains a commercial area, although a few houses from the turn of the century have survived. Today the McDougald House still stands as the most impressive, although it is bounded on the north by a Gulf Oil Service Station and on the south by a Pizza Hut.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				Local History

**Specific dates** July, 1911      **Builder/Architect** Builder - Benjamin Olliff

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Architect - W. B. Camp

The John A. McDougald House is significant to the architectural and local history of Statesboro, Georgia. In the former category, it is significant as one of the few remaining large wooden Neoclassical, turn-of-the-century homes. In local history, it is significant as the home of John Alexander McDougald, a locally prominent farmer, businessman and politician, and has remained in his family since it was built.

## Architectural Significance

The McDougald House is a fine local turn-of-the-century Neoclassical house. Prominent features of its design include compact, regular massing, the front portico, colonnaded front porch with balustrade, interior organized around a central stair hall with open, flowing spaces, and period detailing ranging from the monumental Corinthian columns of the portico to tiny egg-and-dart molding around doors. What makes the McDougald House locally exceptional in terms of its design is its size, scale, and elaborateness of its details, and the combination of formal yet practical exterior and interior arrangements. Also exceptional are the two sets of large coupled Corinthian columns, unusual in Statesboro's residential architecture.

The materials and craftsmanship of the McDougald House are also locally exceptional but typical of this type of Neoclassical residence in small Georgia cities. The principal building material in the house, used for structure, finish and detailing, is heart-pine wood. This strong, durable, dry, knot-free lumber was probably cut from Mr. McDougald's own timberland, and it is found in the balloon frame, floors, wainscoting, interior columns, pilasters, and ceilings. Cypress was ordered from New Orleans by Mr. McDougald for the weatherboarding. Another important construction material used in building the McDougald House is plaster, applied smoothly over lath on the walls. The McDougald House rests on a foundation of brick piers with lattice brick work between the piers. The four chimneys have recessed brick work and are thought to be the work of L.R. Blackburn, a local mason noted for his decorative work.

Over and above its intrinsic architectural merits, the McDougald House is significant as a local example of an important type of house in Georgia. Neoclassical houses were built in nearly every community and almost always they were built by men of means and prestige. Just as the Greek Revival plantation house is a symbol

[continued]

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED  
UTM NOT VERIFIED

See continuation sheet,

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .90 acre

Quadrangle name Statesboro, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	7	4	2	6	2	8	0	3	5	8	9	9	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundaries are indicated by a heavy black line on the attached plat. The nominated property includes the land that has been associated with the home since 1911.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

date December 16, 1980

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national     state     local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Elizabeth A. Lyon*  
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/21/82

For HCRS use only

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

*William H. Brannan*

date 6.21.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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of antebellum Georgia, so the Neoclassical house is a symbol representing the post-Reconstruction New South. The McDougald House is the largest and most impressive Neoclassical house remaining in Statesboro. At the time the structure was built, there was only one other of such impressiveness, the J.P. Williams home; it is now the Aldred Hotel and has been bricked over, its windows changed, a restaurant added, and most of the Neoclassical features removed. The large Neoclassical Donehoo home was built after the McDougald House and was constructed of brick, as most houses in Statesboro were after the fire in 1915 destroyed the original Donehoo home. Because of its date, its design, and the publicity attending its construction, the McDougald House must be considered as an integral part of Statesboro's turn-of-the-century architectural history.

The construction of the McDougald House was supervised by Mr. McDougald with the help of a local contractor, Benjamin H. Olliff. The architect, if any, has not been determined; the overall form, design, and materials suggest a contractor or pattern-book design source. (See Significance Continuation Sheet, page 4)

Historical Significance

The McDougald House is historically significant as the home of John Alexander McDougald (1864-1926), an important figure in the city's early twentieth-century history. The McDougald House is the principal property associated with the life of Mr. McDougald.

John Alexander McDougald was born on June 17, 1864, in North Carolina. He died November 14, 1926, at his home in Statesboro. In 1890, McDougald moved his family from North Carolina to Statesboro and became a lumberman. Within a year, he became a partner and later senior member in the McDougald-Outland turpentine still. It was with his cooperation that on the still's timberland in 1901, Dr. Charles Holmes Hertty, noted chemist, perfected the Hertty Turpentine Cup that revolutionized the naval stores industry in the South. McDougald also ran a farm north of Statesboro.

McDougald served on the Statesboro City Council in 1908, 1909, and 1910. He was elected mayor of Statesboro in 1911 and ran unopposed in 1912 for a second term. During his service in city government, McDougald played a large role in establishing the board of education, jail, fire department, paved streets, and the water, electric, and sewage systems. He was also a founder of the Presbyterian church, the Sea Island Bank and Georgia Southern College, being one of the largest contributors in securing a 300-acre site for the college in 1907. Because of the

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dedicated and generous men like McDougald, Statesboro prospered and grew. Production of superior Sea Island Cotton and the coming of turpentine stills brought much wealth and growth to Statesboro in the early 1900s. Statesboro, as the county seat, had grown from 525 in 1890, when McDougald came to Statesboro, to 2,600 people in 1911, when he built his home.

Preservation Interest

The McDougald House has remained in the family since 1911. Ruth McDougald Beaver, youngest daughter of John A. McDougald, acquired the property at Mrs. McDougald's death in 1941 and continued to make the property her home. Ruth and Roy Beaver had three children. The home and property remained in good repair until Mr. Beaver's death in 1961. At Mr. Beaver's death, the children acquired the property. Over the next eighteen years, the home began to show signs of needed repairs and gradually shrubs and trees became overgrown to the point that the home could barely be seen from Main Street. In 1975, an artist's rendition of the house was featured in the local paper on Halloween as the town's haunted house with a vulture perching atop a chimney. In 1979, the children of Statesboro knew the home only as the "Haunted House."

In November 1979, John Beaver purchased his sisters' interest in the property and is presently rehabilitating the house for commercial use. It will house prestige office suites, including the office of Beaver's real estate and insurance firm. The first and second story central halls, and the living room, dining room, and kitchen will be available to the public for meetings and receptions.

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received

date entered

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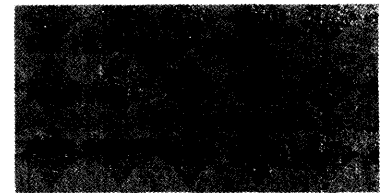
Architectural Significance

Since the completion of this nomination form in December, 1980, the architect of the McDougald House has been identified as W. B. Camp of Jacksonville, Florida.



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Bibliography

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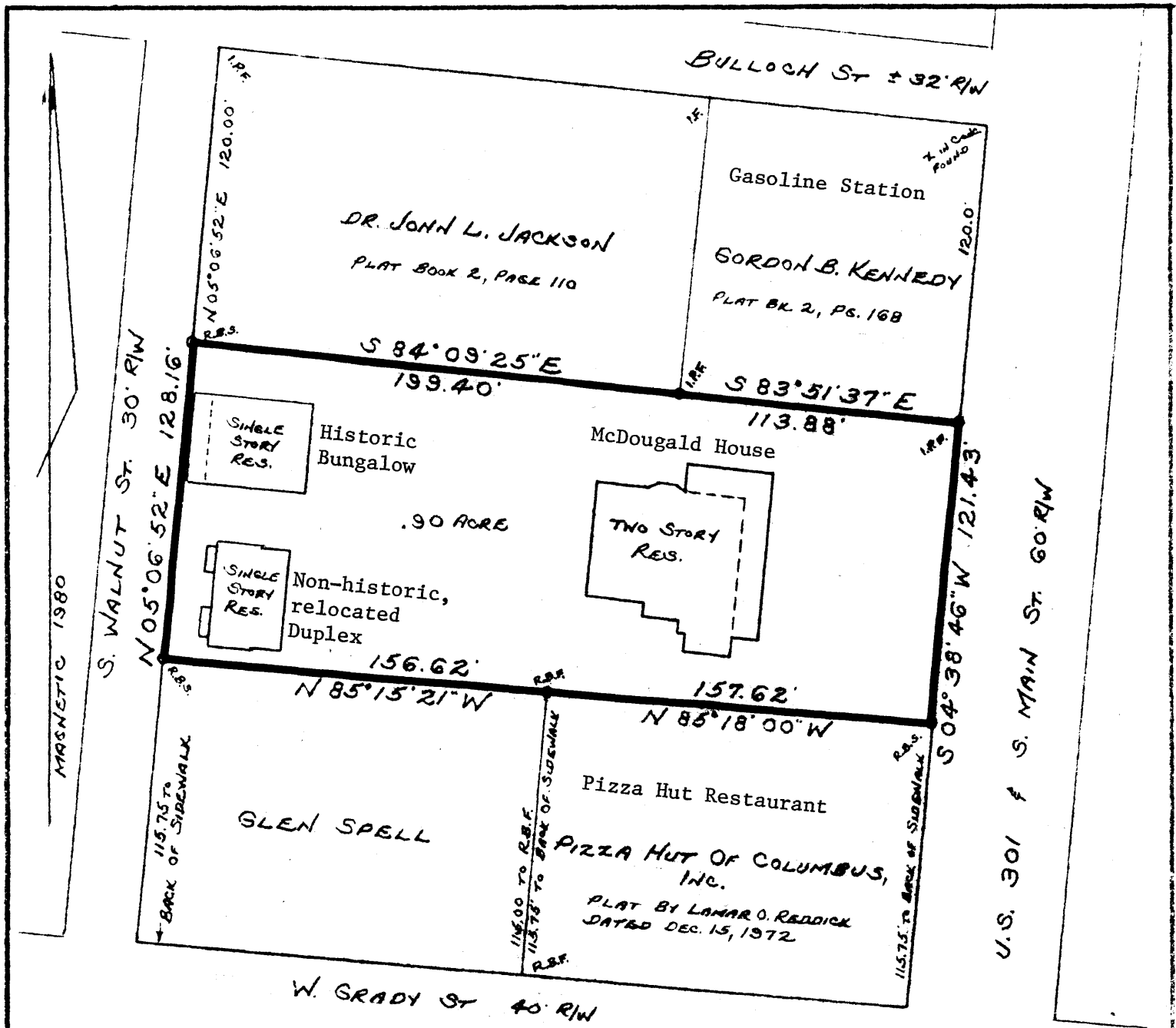


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SURVEY OF A LOT IN THE 1209<sup>TH</sup> G.M.D. OF BULLOCH COUNTY, STATESBORO, GA.

LAMAR O. REDDICK & ASSOCIATES  
LAND SURVEYORS

SURVEY FOR: JOHN W. BEAYER

John A. McDougald House  
Statesboro, Bulloch County, Georgia

PRECISION DATA

FIELD E

PROPERTY PLAT

E. O. C. FIELD 1/13563  
 ANGULAR ERROR 54" TOTAL IN 10 4'S  
 ADJ. METHOD COMPASS  
 E. O. C. PLAT 1/86729

✓ 100' SI  
 ✓ 1-16 TR  
 — 30" IR  
 — E. D. M.

Scale: 1" = 60'  
 North: ↑  
 Boundary of nominated property: —

DATE: JUNE 24, 1980



SCALE: 1" = 60'

SCALE IN FEET

