Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES



6th Congressional District STATE:

GEORGIA

BIBB INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER (Type all entries - complete applicable sections) 1. NAME COMMON Carmichael House AND/OR HISTORIC: Raines - Miller - Carmichael House 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 1183 Georgia Avenue CITY OR TOWN: Macon STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE Georgia 13 021 Bibb 3. CLASSIFICATION ACCESSIBLE CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS TO THE PUBLIC (Check One) Z \mathbf{x} Public Public Acquisition: Building Occupied District X 0 Restricted Site Private In Process \mathbf{x} Unoccupied Structure Both Being Considered Unrestricted 🔲 Preservation work Object in progress □ No: X C PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Government Agricultural Transportation Comments 2 Industrial Private Residence Commercial X Other (Specify) Military Educational Religious \Box Museum Scientific Entertainment [\Box OWNER OF PROPERTY Z OWNERS NAME: J. and Katherine W. Carmichael and Katherine C. Oliver ш ш 1183 Georgia Avenue CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE GEORGI Georgia Macon 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Bibb County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE BIBB Georgia Macon APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately 1 acre 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: I. The Mistorical Architecture of Macon by Carl Feiss and Russell Wright DATE OF SURVEY; 1970 Federal 🗔 State County Local 🗶 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: FOR NPS Middle Georgia Historical Society Macon Coliseum CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE Georgia Historical Survey by Middle Georgia mistorical Society

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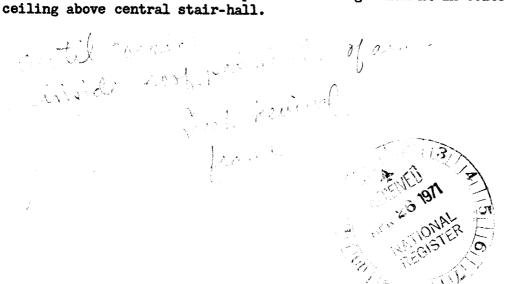
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This house was built in the late 1840's.

"The design is that of a modified Greek Cross, with rooms branching off in four directions from an octagonal hall. A free-hanging stairway sings itself upward to a cupola high above the second story."

Originally the Ionic-columned front porch followed the line of the house between the arms of the cross. Later it was given a rounded front. The interior of the house, with large bay window recesses at the end of each room, no doubt, presented a major problem in decoration. Happily, its various vistas are enhanced by exquisite eighteenth-century mahogany furnishings and an overall effect of unity heightened by just the right fabrics and colors."

The front porch has been changed; originally it broke back following line of walls making three sides of an internal octagon. This house has an unusual plan forming a cross with equal arms and octagonal stair and entrance hall in center, and with porches between each arm of the cross. A spiral stair-case carries up to attic. Restoration, changing the aspect of the original building include changes in front porch and the woodwork of the central hall. Central plaster ceiling ornament in color at attic ceiling above central stair-hall.



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

This house is one of the most prominent architectural beauties of Macon, at the intersection of two main arteries, College Street and Georgia Avenue, in the heart of the College Hill area.

This house was designed by the great architect-builder, Elam Alexander, in the form of a modified Greek Cress and was built in the late 1840's by Cadwallader W. Raines.

Howard Major in his book, "The Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic", uses this house to illustrate the variety of detail and the striking individuality often achieved within the Greek Revival style. Godey's "Lady's Book" is said to have printed the plans followed in 1846 in building the Carmichael House.

Judge Raines died in 1856 and his wife in 1860, leaving no issue. The house was sold in 1869 to John E. Jones, president of the Central Bank of Georgia. By a family connection it came into the possession of Dr. and Mrs. George T. Miller, before being purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Joseph Carmichael.

The Carmichaels maintain the house and grounds in a most careful manner, making 1183 Georgia Avenue one of Macon's most important historical and architectural landmarks.

Elam Alexander, Macon's great builder, left this city a great architectural legacy by means of this beautiful home, Jerry Cowles' cottage (now located on Riveli Drive in Macon) and Cowles' Mansion (now Stratford Academy). Alexander is also credited with designing the outstanding Holt-Peeler-Snow House and the original Wesleyan Female College. Through his will, Alexander provided for funds to build public schools, four of which have been erected and named in his honor since his death in 1863.

	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL R Jones, Mary Call		eritage	in Arch	i tectur	e. Macon	ı, Ge	orgia,
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1	Major, Howard.	The Domestic Arch	ni tectur	e of the	e Early	America	n Re	public.
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NATIONAL LANDMARKS STATEMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE CARMICHAEL HOUSE, MACON

The Carmichael House, prominently situated at the intersection of two of Macon's main arteries, was constructed in the late 1840's for Judge Calwallander W. Raines by the Macon builder-architect, Elam Alexander. Alexander used plans published in W. H. Ranlett's The Architect. The result is architecturally superb; classical details such as Ionic capitals, a full entablature, and pedimented gables are combined with aspects which express approaching Victorian characteristics - a spacious modified Greek cross plan, bay windows and multisided third story tower. Major interior features include an elaborate columned niche found in the main stair hall and repeated in several rooms and the magnificient tour de force of a spiraling staircase in the central tower. Alexander's merit as an architect is exemplified in his other Macon structures, the Jerry Cowles Cottage, the Cowles Mansion, the Holt-Peeler-Snow House, and the original Wesleyan Female College, anyone of which might qualify as a national landmark in architecture. This is however, the most exemplary untampered with survivor.

Located at the intersection of College Street and Georgia Avenue, the Carmichael House is in the heart of the College Hill area. Howard Major in his book, the <u>Domestic Architecture</u> of the Early American Republic uses this house to illustrate the variety of detail and the striking individuality often achieved within the Greek Revival style.

The Carmichael House is in good condition and is essentially as it was in the late 1840's.