

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 11 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 29 1977

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

~~XX~~ Nathan van Boddie House

AND/OR COMMON

Boddie House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Seven miles from LaGrange toward Greenville

CITY, TOWN

Mountville

☒ VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3 - Jack Brinkley

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Troup

CODE

285

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

James W. Boddie

STREET & NUMBER

Mountville Community

CITY, TOWN

LaGrange

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

30240

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Troup County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

LaGrange

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

HABS

DATE

1936-7

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

__EXCELLENT

XGOOD

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__RUINS

__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED

XALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located about seven miles from LaGrange in the Mountville Community is the Nathan Van Boddie House built by the Troup County architect-craftsman, Collin Rodgers, circa 1836. This house exemplifies the architectural transition between the Federal and Greek Revival periods.

Facing south, the front facade is that of a two story weatherboarded, five bay house with a central, three bay colossal, primitive Ionic temple form portico. The entrance way is elaborated by two identical elliptical fanlighted doorways with framing, convex fluted pilasters around diamond paned sidelights on both the first floor and balcony doorways. A large sheaf-of-wheat balustrade on the cantilevered balcony echos this same diamond patterning. Flush siding is found only under this portico area and in the tympanum. Applied to the tympanum is an elliptical, dentil edged wood arch with keystone. Small, "bracket-like" dentils occur on all facades as part of the cornice. The fluted Ionic columns feature a stick flower design between the prominent volutes in the capital. Nine-over-nine light sash windows with louvered shutters are found on each facade. Two exterior common bond brick end chimneys are on each of the pedimented end gables.

In plan the Boddie House has a two-over-two room central hall design with a 40' x 20' rear, one story dining room wing. All rooms are sheathed with horizontal paneling, except the two first floor parlors which are plastered above the wainscot. Panelled wainscot and wood ceilings occur in all of the main rooms. The central hall features a half turn stair with winders and a central landing.

Of particular interest on the interior are the outstanding sunburst mantels. The mantel in the east room has broad fluted pilasters supporting the frieze and shelf. The panelled frieze has a large, horizontal central sunburst and a vertical sunburst at each end. Other interior trim includes spiral formed, circular croisettes at the front doors.

The Boddie House, quite prominently set near the road is framed by a lane of old cedar trees.

Although the house has always been in the Boddie family it was restored in 1963-4 with only minor changes made.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1836 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Collin Rodgers

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nathan Van Boddie House is significant as one of the most outstanding early nineteenth century houses in the state. As such, it is one of four houses known to have been designed by Collin Rodgers and stylistically represents a successful transition of the Federal to Greek Revival style graphed on the plantation plain type.

Built in 1836 for Nathan Van Boddie, an ancestor of the present owner, the Boddie House was designed by a local architect-craftsman, Collin Rodgers. Little is known about Rodgers (b. 5-7-1791; d. 10-25-1845), except that he is supposed to have worked on other LaGrange area houses, including Nutwood, already on the National Register. In all these houses his carefully precise classicism and his "trademark" of the Ionic portico with the stick flower design in the capitals.

Nathan Van Boddie was born in what is now Nash County, North Carolina on October 14, 1794, and died October 14, 1857. He married Elizabeth Williams Battle in 1818, and they came to Warren County, Georgia, from North Carolina in 1819. In 1828, when he arrived in Troup County and saw his lands on the Oakfuskee Indian Trail, it was in virgin timber. His first home was a two room dogtrot log cabin, probably in the Louise community about two miles north of the present house. He built up his land, which according to oral tradition extended as far northwest as the present Highway 29, and the present house was once the center of this large plantation.

The house was next owned by Nathan's son, Dr. Thomas Alfred Boddie. He was born in 1834, educated at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and practiced in Decatur, Georgia. During this time, the house was on the stage coach route between Griffin, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama. Mrs. Boddie accomodated travelers in her 40' x 20' dining room built on for that purpose. In the yard at this time was a separate two room kitchen which also was used for weaving.

Alfred's daughters, Belle and Vandalia, lived in the Boddie House after his death in 1894. The present owner is the great-grandson of Nathan Van Boddie.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

HABS, Van Boddie House, 1936-7.

Davidson, William. Pine Log and Greek Revival, pp.57-8.

Davidson, William. Personal notes, 1976.

Smith, Cliff. Troup County History p. 190.

Macgregor, Elizabeth. Personal inspection, 1973.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 210 acres approximately

UTM REFERENCES

A	16	69	49	910	36	58	8510	B	16	69	49	910	36	57	41310
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	16	69	43	810	36	57	51410	D	16	69	43	810	36	58	8510
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING		ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning point is on the LaGrange-Mountville Road 1.85 miles west from the intersection of the Hogansville Road and the LaGrange-Mountville Road in the center of the Mountville Community. From the beginning point continue due north for 4700 feet, then due west for 2050 feet; then due south for 4300 feet; then follow the LaGrange - Mountville Road for 2100 feet to the beginning point.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources

DATE

August 1976

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington St., SW

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

David M. Sherman

DATE

1-4-77

TITLE

Chief, Historic Preservation Section

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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Van Boddie House

The nomination of 210 acres are justified on the grounds that this land was part of Nathan Van Boddie's original holdings, acquired in 1828. The cemetery, within these boundaries, is a family restingplace, where Nathan Van Boddie, his brothers and sisters, and descendants are buried. There are no other structures on the property, as all of the original outbuildings have been demolished.

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Nathan Van Boddie House, Troup County

Photographs by Jean K. Buckley, taken summer 1973.

1. Front facade and side view; photographer facing northwest
2. Front facade; photographer facing north
3. Parlor mantel
4. Central hall stair
5. Front portico column detail
6. Rear view; photographer facing southwest