

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received MAY 18 1982
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Asa Chandler House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1003 Old Petersburg Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Elberton

vicinity of

~~Congressional district~~

state Georgia

code 013

county Elbert

zip code 31051

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Neva George Jones and Janelle Jones McRee

street & number Route 4, Box 10

city, town Elberton

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 30635

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Elbert County Courthouse

city, town Elberton

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:

title Elbert County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975

federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Asa Chandler House, built about 1849, is a two-story Plantation Plain style residence located at the southeastern outskirts of Elberton, Elbert County, Georgia. The house and four historic outbuildings are located on the approximately twenty acre property.

The Chandler House has a traditional two-over-two room with central hall, Plantation Plain style plan with a one-story front porch, a one-story rear shed and an attached kitchen. The gable-roofed house is built with a heavy timber frame resting on stone piers. It is sheathed with weatherboarding except for the area under the front porch which is covered with flush siding. Four exterior chimneys of handmade brick on stone foundations are located on the end walls of the main part of the house and of the rear shed. Windows are, for the most part, nine-over-nine on the first floor and nine-over-six on the second. The front facade features a full-width shed-roofed porch supported by square columns embellished with jigsaw brackets. The present modest doorway is framed by a wider opening filled in with diagonal beaded tongue-and-grove boards that provides evidence of an earlier and possibly grander entrance. During the 1920's the east end of the porch was enclosed to make a sleeping porch. At the rear, a gable-roofed stair dormer is centered above the rear shed roof. An ell, enclosed with modern windows, leads to the gable roofed kitchen which was moved here from its original location further to the north behind the house.

The interior was extensively remodeled in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but retains a significant degree of integrity of plan and materials. Few alterations have been made to the original plan. The central hall is flanked by a parlor and bedroom and leads to the rear shed area with living room, stair, bath (added) and bedroom. Upstairs are two original bedrooms and a bath which has been created by enclosing a portion of the hall. The walls and ceilings of many rooms have been redone with beaverboard held in place with batten strips. However, the upstairs hall and west bedroom have original wide hand-planed boards on the walls and ceiling, and the stair wall and ceiling of the rear shed area are finished with beaded tongue-and-grove boards. The downstairs mirrored overmantels are all Victorian replacements, but in the two upstairs bedrooms the simple Federal style mantels are still in place. Doors are of various periods and designs, including two-over-two panel, six horizontal panels, half-glass and sliding pocket doors, but in the upstairs west bedroom one of the original six paneled pegged doors with lock is still in place. The open, single-run stairway in the rear shed area was no doubt installed during one of the renovations to replace an original central hall stair.

The grounds around the house are richly landscaped with mature trees, shrubbery, flower gardens and lawn. A pecan grove is located to the rear of the house. To the southeast of the house is a nineteenth century open, frame well-house which covers a granite topped well. To the rear or north of the house are two sheds, a garage and the site of a tenant house. The mid-nineteenth century, gable roofed sheds are hand-hewn log structures with half dovetail joints. The gable-roofed garage is a

(continued)

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

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

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

1930's two-bay wood frame structure. All three are covered with asphalt paper. To the northwest, separated from the house and other outbuildings by the pecan grove, is the site of the former gable roofed, late nineteenth century tenant house of saddlebag plan which was sheathed with tar paper; this tenant house was recently destroyed. The sites of two barns on the property have also been identified.

The property is located at the intersection of Old Petersburg Road and State Highway 72 at the outskirts of Elberton in a rural area with some commercial intrusions. A new shopping Center, adjacent to the Chandler property on the north side, is built on land until recently a part of the Chandler farm. The Chandler acreage is predominantly fields, with a wooded area located in the triangular section to the northeast.

BOUNDARY

The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the current legal description of the property and constitutes the remaining portion of the approximately thirty-eight acres originally associated with the house. As mentioned above, a fifteen acre rectangular parcel of farmland to the north of the present property line was sold in 1978 for commercial development. The property is outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed county tax map.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in March, 1981 still represents the character and appearance of the property. As noted above, however, the tenant house (photograph 13) was recently destroyed.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates CA. 1849 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Asa Chandler House is historically significant in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, agriculture, and local history. These areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria A, B, and C.

In terms of architecture, the Chandler House, built about 1849, is significant as a relatively intact example of a Plantation Plain style antebellum dwelling in Elbert County. This type of dwelling is common to the Georgia Piedmont and represents an important type of rural dwelling that stands in contrast to the more pretentious and contemporary Greek Revival residences. Although extensively remodeled in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the house plan and exterior retain much of their integrity. The chimneys, weatherboarding, windows and room layout remain much as they always were. On the interior, the upstairs mantels and the hand-hewn plank ceilings and walls provide evidence of the original finish materials. In addition, significant later alterations such as the Victorian mantels, doors, beaded tongue-and-groove boards, and jigsaw porch detailing reflect changes in construction materials, building technology, and design principles that correspond to the continued occupancy of the house in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Also of note is the woodgraining found on some interior woodwork such as mantels, doors, and stairway. This woodgraining, done in the 1930's, is a very late example of a traditional interior decorating craft. The presence of the two mid-nineteenth century log sheds and the well house, all associated with the historic farm activities, add greatly to the property's architectural significance.

In terms of landscape architecture, the property is historically significant for its many mature trees and bushes that represent late nineteenth and early twentieth century plant selections for domestic landscaping. The pecan grove is also an important turn-of-the-century landscape feature. The paper-shell pecan was introduced to Georgia about 1905 and soon became a popular crop.

In terms of agriculture and local history, the Chandler House property is significant as a relatively intact example of a mid-to-late nineteenth century and early twentieth century Georgia Piedmont farm. The Plantation Plain style residence, and the types of agricultural outbuildings and small acreage are all typical. By the mid-nineteenth century the land in Elbert County had already been exhausted by extensive tobacco farming, and small, low-yield farms were common. Reverend Asa Chandler, a Baptist preacher who built the Chandler House, and Walter C. Jones, a rural postmaster and mail carrier who purchased the farm in 1917, exemplify the yeoman farmer of that period who often combined small-scale farming with another occupation. Reverend Chandler, a typical country preacher, purchased the thirty-six acre property in 1849 for \$132.00 while serving as pastor of nearby Falling Creek Baptist Church. He ran the farm throughout his life, while continuing to

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 20 acres

Quadrangle name Elberton East, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7
---	---

3	2	9	5	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	4	1	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Zone Easting Northing

B

1	7
---	---

3	2	9	9	2	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	4	1	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Zone Easting Northing

C

1	7
---	---

3	2	9	8	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	4	3	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D

1	7
---	---

3	3	0	0	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	4	2	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

E

1	7
---	---

3	2	9	8	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	3	9	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

F

1	7
---	---

3	2	9	5	8	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	7	7	4	0	10	5
---	---	---	---	---	----	---

G

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See boundary statement in section 7.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher
Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources date March 3, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street, 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 Elizabeth A. Lyon
 Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/30/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>William H. Bravaman</u>	date <u>6-22-82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number

8

Page

2

to serve many rural Baptist congregations in northeast Georgia. At the time of his death in 1874 his fields were cultivated in rye, barley and corn, and a sizeable peach orchard was located on his land. His will mentions a carriage house, a saddle house, a corn crib, a barn and stables, many of which are still located on the property. In like manner, Walter C. Jones, whose two daughters still own the property, combined farming with his postmaster/mail carrier duties after his purchase of the property in 1917.

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

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

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

Coulter, E. Merton. Old Petersburg and the Broad River Valley of Georgia.
(Athens, 1965).

Haltermann, Bryan. Draft of National Register Nomination Form on file at Historic
Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Herndon, Mrs. John E. Biographical information of Reverend Asa Chandler.

History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia. (Atlanta, 1881).

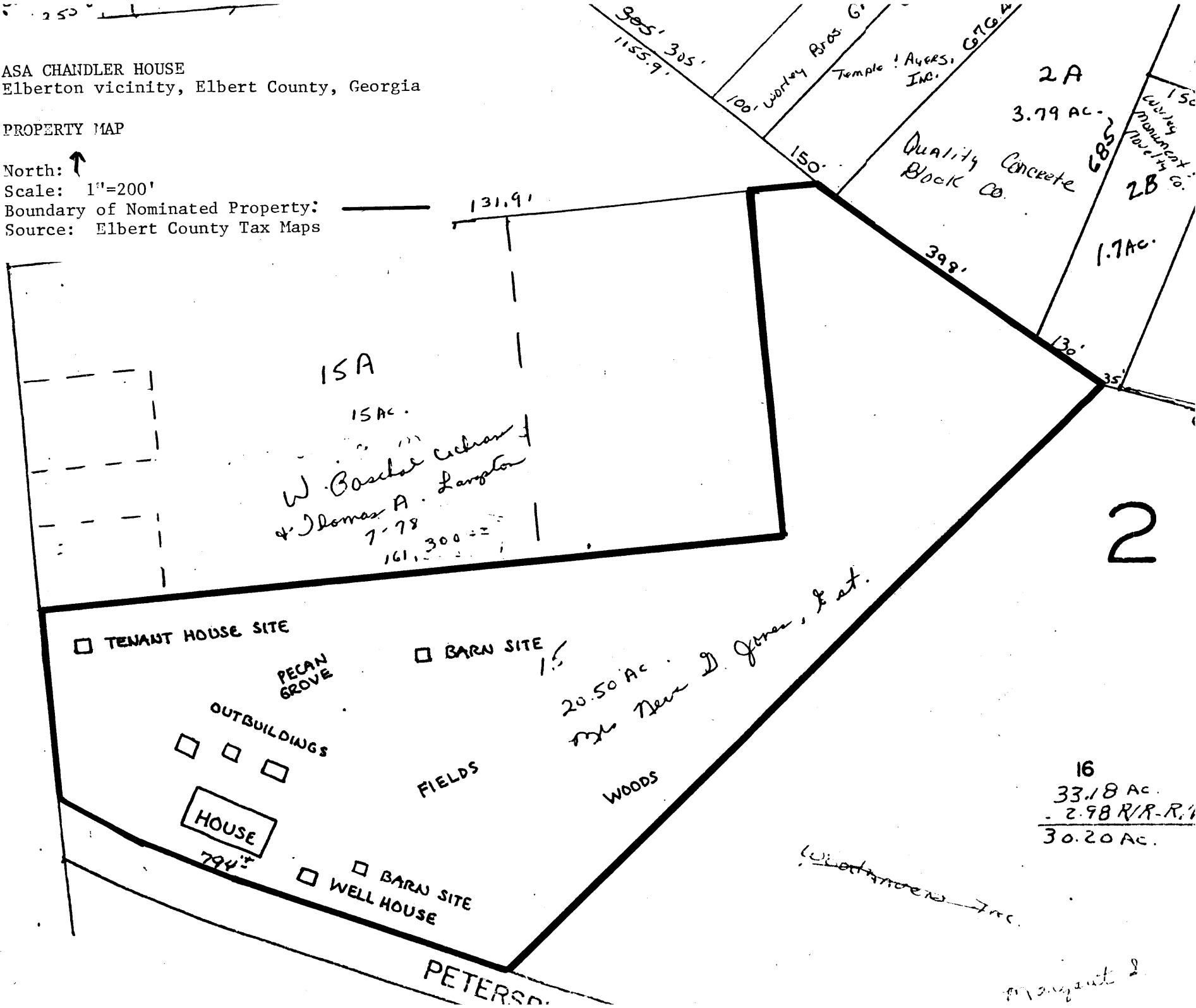
SL7

ASA CHANDLER HOUSE
Elberton vicinity, Elbert County, Georgia

PROPERTY MAP

North: ↑
Scale: 1"=200'
Boundary of Nominated Property:
Source: Elbert County Tax Maps

HWY.



15A

15 AC.

W. Baschel & Thomas A. Langston
7-78
161,300 ±

2A

3.79 AC.

Quality Concrete Block Co.

2B

1.7 AC.

TENANT HOUSE SITE

PECAN GROVE

OUTBUILDINGS



HOUSE

BARN SITE

FIELDS

WOODS

BARN SITE
WELL HOUSE

2

16

33.18 AC.
2.98 R/R-R.1
30.20 AC.

W. J. Jones, Inc.

margin 2

PETERS