S Z 2 Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

1. NAME

COMMON:

2. LOCATION

STATE

The General AND/OR HISTORIC:

STREET AND NUMBER:

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

CITY OR TOWN: Kennesaw

Georgia 3. CLASSIFICATION

District

Agricultural

Commercial

▼ Educational

CITY OR TOWN: <u>Atlanta</u>

None DATE OF SURVEY:

TITLE OF SURVEY:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Entertainment

OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER: Capitol Square

STREET AND NUMBER: Capitol Square

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

☐ Site

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE I NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL	REGISTER	OF HISTOI	RIC PLACE
INVEN	ITORY - NO	OMINATION	FORM

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ГАТЕ	Ξ:			_	•	

		PH0012	<u>8/5</u>
10-300 UNITED STATES DEPART 6-72) NATIONAL PA		Georgia	
NATIONAL DECISTED	OF WISTORIC DI ACES	COUNTY:	
NATIONAL REGISTER ( INVENTORY – NO		Cobb	
INVENTORT - NO	MINATION FURM	FOR NPS US	E ONLY
(Type all entries comp	lete applicable decision	\ <del>                                    </del>	1 0 1072
ME		JUN JUN	1 9 1973
OMMON:	- A RECEIVEU	<del>-                                    </del>	
The General	1073	[4]	
ID/OR HISTORIC:	FEB 21 1973		
	10 MATIONAL	[O]	
CATION	REGISTER	$\mathcal{N}$	
REET AND NUMBER:	(c)	(9)/	
Big Shanty Museum, Chero	kee Street 8	GRESSIONAL DISTRICT:	
	7th	Congressional Dist	rict
Kennesaw	CODE COUN	n W. Davis	CODE
Georgia		obb	067
ASSIFICATION			1007
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE
(Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	TO THE PUBLIC
District Building 🔀 Public	Public Acquisition:	☐ Occupied	Yes:
Site 🔲 Structure 🔲 Privat	e In Process	☐ Unoccupied	▼ Restricted
X Object ☐ Both	☐ Being Consid	dered Preservation work	
		in progress x On Exhibit	□ No
RESENT USE (Check One or More as App	ropriate)		
Agricultural Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	Comments
Commercial Industrial	Private Residence	Other (Specify)	
Educational Military	Religious	On exhibit	
Entertainment Museum	Scientific Scientific		
NER OF PROPERTY			
VNER'S NAME:			G st
State of Georgia (State	Properties Control C	Commission)	Georg
REET AND NUMBER:			rg
Capitol Square		STATE:	CODE
		Georgia	
Atlanta CATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION		Georgia	1 13
URTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET	C:		O.
Secretary of State Office	e. State of Georgia		Cobb
REET AND NUMBER:			Cobb
Capitol Square	·····		
TY ÖR TOWN:	1	STATE	CODE
Atlanta		Georgia	13
	/EVc		
PRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURV			The state of the s
None			EN TR
TE OF SURVEY:	☐ Federal ☐	State County	Local
POSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	La La		S C
			1 %
REET AND NUMBER:			Ta l
TY OR TOWN:	S	TATE:	CODE

				(Check One)		
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	🗶 Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
	(Check One)				(Check One)	
	∑ Alter	red	☐ Unaltered	·	Moved	Original Site

The General, an eight wheel American type (4-4-0) steam locomotive was built by the Rogers, Ketchum, and Grosvenor Locomotive Works (construction #631) and completed in December 1855. Its physical statistics are as follows: the locomotive and tender is 50' 10 and 1/4" long; the highest point, the cab roof, is 8' 1/2"; the four drivers are 62" in diameter and the cylinders are 15" in diameter with a stroke of 22". Tractive effort of this engine is rated at 8500 pounds.

The Georgia-owned Western and Atlantic Railroad bought the General for \$8,500 and under its ownership, the General served for some thirty years. The Union Raiders' theft of the General in April 1862 caused the engine to have minor repairs. Later in the Civil War, the General was heavily damaged by the explosion of an 81-car ammunition train when the Confederates were abandoning Atlanta after rail exits had been cut off. In 1865, the General was reported as "needing general repairs"; and in 1871, at the W & A Railroad Shops in Atlanta, the General was extensively changed. An extra steam dome, the ankle rails and the strap iron pilot disappeared and the engine was altered to its current configuration. It was also converted to burn coal, and provided with a diamond stack. Its last reported service was in March 1886.

By 1891 the General was condemned. It was restored and re-equipped with its distinctive balloon type stack in 1891-92 by the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, which acquired the W & A Railroad by lease in 1890. To enable the historic locomotive to make public appearances under its own steam it was reflued in 1914 and again in 1961-62. The last extensive work was performed by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, having acquired the General in 1957 by merger with the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway. The engine was converted to burn oil and airbrakes were added to meet Interstate Commerce Commission requirements.

The W & A Railroad began numbering their locomotives in 1866 and the General was assigned number 39 as it was the thirty-ninth locomotive to be acquired by the railroad. Prior to this time locomotives were not numbered but named. About 1880 it was given the number it still carries, 3.

The L & N Railroad turned the <u>General</u> over to the State of Georgia in near running condition on February 18, 1972.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)			
Pre-Columbian 16th Century		18th Century	20th Century	
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century		
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1855.	April 12, 1862		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)		
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning	
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	▼ Other (Specify)	
Historic	Industry	losophy	History	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science		
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture		
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	FFR 2.1 1072	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	10/0	
Communications	Military	Theater		
Conservation	☐ Music	X Transportation		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The General, a steam locomotive, was built for service on the Georgiaowned Western and Atlantic Railroad by the Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor
Locomotive Works of Paterson, New Jersey and completed on December 14, 1855.
It was one of the principle locomotives in the Andrews Raid also known as
the "Great Locomotive Chase" during the Civil War. It continued in service
until 1886. Since the late 19th century, the General has been on display
in traveling exhibits in Chattanooga, Tennessee and presently in Kennesaw,
Georgia.

The Anderson Raid happened in this way: On April 12, 1862, a civilian James J. Andrews and 19 Union soldiers seized the General and three box cars at Big Shanty (now Kennesaw), Georgia and headed north toward Union lines. Their mission was to destroy the railroad and cut off communications from Atlanta, a major supply point for the Confederacy. In conjunction with the Raid, General Ormsby M. Mitchel was to move from Shelbyville, Tennessee, to Huntsville, Alabama, and then via the Memphis and Charleston Railroad to capture Chattanooga. The raiders were pursued by Confederates on foot, by push car and by three locomotives - the Yonah, the William R. Smith and the Texas. After a run of 87 miles, the General was abandoned two miles north of Ringgold, Georgia, for lack of fuel. The raiders attempted to make their way to Union lines but all were captured within a week. Eight were executed and the remainder either escaped from jail or were exchanged. Nineteen of the Union soldiers involved in the "Great Locomotive Chase" were awarded the Medal of Honor. This was the first presentation of the Nation's highest award for valor.

The General was soon back in service and was later used to transport ammunition during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The locomotive was heavily damaged by exploding ammunition in the evacuation of Atlanta, September 1, 1864. It was repaired and in active service until 1886. In 1891 the General was in storage at Vinings Station, Georgia and was listed as "condemned, value \$1500." In 1891-2 the General was restored to its wartime character and began a career of extensive public display.

Except for occasional visits out of the state, the General was on display at Union Station, Chattanooga, Tennessee, from 1894 to 1961. In 1961 the L & N Railroad, by then having acquired the General, gave the locomotive to the State of Georgia. The City of Chattanooga contested this act because of the General's long association with the city. After a series of court (continued)

Date

GPO 931-894

February 14, 1973

Date

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE	
Georgia	<del></del>
Cobb	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	1 9 1973
JUN	

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

### 8. Significance

actions, the L & N Railroad's ownership was reaffirmed and the <u>General</u> was presented to the State of Georgia in February, 1972.

The <u>General</u> is now displayed in Kennesaw at the Big Shanty Museum. Interpretative exhibits and an audio-visual show, tell part of its exciting history. Never having lost its identity, this 53 ton locomotive is a vivid physical reminder of that daring Civil War event and of the era of the steam locomotive.

The story of the Andrews Raid has captured the imagination of Americans. Two films recounting this Civil War event have been produced: "The General", starring Buster Keaton (considered a silent film landmark); and "The Great Locomotive Chase," a Walt Disney film.



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Georgia
County
Cobb
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
JUN 1 9 1979

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

Thomas, Edison H., ed., "The Story of the General", The Louisville and Nash-ville Railroad Company, Louisville, Kentucky, 1962.

Townsend, Billy L., Exhibits Consultant, Big Shanty Museum, and Staff Historian, Georgia Historical Commission, Presented first draft of National Register form, on file at Georgia Historical Commission.

White, John H., Jr., American Locomotive, An Engineering History, 1830-1880. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1968.)

