

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Florida</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Leon</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>714.12.0008</b>	DATE <b>4/16/71</b>

216  
43  
N  
E

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**The Columns (Benjamin Chaires House)**

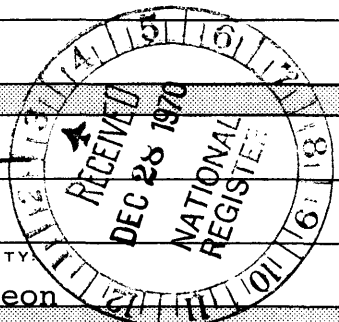
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**The William "Money" Williams Mansion**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: **100 N. DUVAL STREET**  
~~Corner of Adams Street and Park Avenue~~

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Tallahassee**

STATE <b>Florida</b>	CODE <b>12</b>	COUNTY <b>Leon</b>	CODE <b>073</b>
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious	<b>Unoccupied, but has been a library, sunday school and</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<b>restaurant</b>	

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
~~First Baptist Church~~ **Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**College and Duval**

CITY OR TOWN: <b>Tallahassee</b>	STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE: <b>12</b>
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Leon County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Monroe Street**

CITY OR TOWN: <b>Tallahassee</b>	STATE: <b>Florida</b>	CODE: <b>12</b>
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**HABS - (FLA-158) and Tallahassee Historic Buildings Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1967**     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**(1) Library of Congress (2) City-County Planning Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**(2) Leon County Courthouse**

CITY OR TOWN: <b>(1) Washington (2) Tallahassee</b>	STATE: <b>(1) D.C. (2) Fla.</b>	CODE: <b>08 &amp; 12</b>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: <b>Florida</b>
COUNTY: <b>Leon</b>
ENTRY NUMBER <b>714.12.0008</b>
DATE <b>4/16/71</b>
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Columns on East Park Avenue is characterized by four great round masonry columns, by its great size, and by its huge chimneys, which rise flush with the gable ends. The brick is a dark red color made from native clay from a few blocks away. There is a legend that a nickel is molded in every brick, but this is probably tied to the actual cost of brick in those days. The entrance is simple and beautiful. On entering the front door, you see at the back of the hall the stairway with the Dominican mahogany rail leading to the floor above. There is another legend that says when the house was built, the owner had the stairway run down thru his bedroom on the first floor for fear his beautiful and rich young daughter would elope with someone who loved her only for her money. The Columns, in the heart of Tallahassee, looks today much as it did when originally constructed.

Architectural Information

Prepared by F. Blair Reeves, College of Architecture and Fine Arts, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

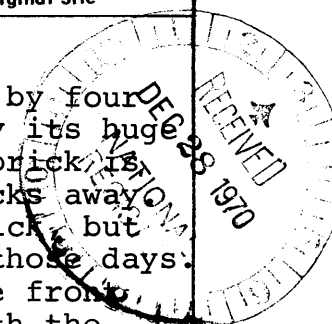
A. General Statement

1. Three-story brick structure of Greek revival style with four columned portico, a good example of mid-19th century town house construction.
2. Condition of fabric: Good. Although the interior has been extensively remodeled.

B. Technical Description of the Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: Approximately 94' (North) x 78'
2. Foundations: Brick foundation walls
3. Wall construction: Brick bearing wall, deep red hand-made brick 2 5/8" x 8" exposure, common bond.
4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads: Four columned portico with porches at first and second floor, wood floors, wood railings with turned balusters. Triangle fan louver in portico gable. Doric porch columns on piers, stuccoed masonry.
5. Two brick chimneys, four flues each.
6. Openings:
  - a. Doorways and doors: Doorway with transom of old glass in diamond shaped lights. Two doors, four panels each with beveled edge glass one panel.
  - b. Windows and shutters: 6/6 double hung windows. Some wood louver shutters remain.

(continued...)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                             |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |  |  |

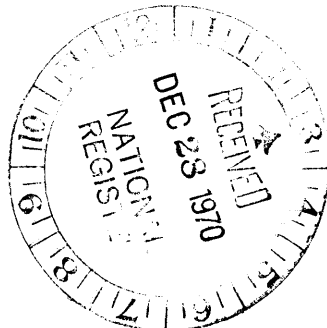
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

One of Tallahassee's oldest buildings, its early history is closely connected with the Union Bank which it adjoins to the rear. It was built circa 1830 by Benjamin Chaires under contract to William "Money" Williams. Chaires, the architect and builder, was a large plantation owner with many slaves.

The Columns became Chaires' town house. It was used as a refuge for women and children during the Indian wars. After Chaires died in 1838, his son sold the Columns, its gardens and the Union Bank Building behind it in 1847 to Gen. William Bailey, a Jefferson County, Florida, planter and industrialist. In 1862, General Bailey moved his family to the Columns. The house was next owned by Dr. and Mrs. A. B. Hawkins. Mrs. Hawkings was a daughter of General Bailey and they exercised hospitality on a lavish scale. The little building called the slave quarters was used by Dr. Hawkins as his office at this time.

The Columns, and its little servants quarters house along with the Union Bank Building are significant, not only to Tallahassee and the State of Florida, but these buildings are of national significance. We cannot estimate the full significance of the men and events that gave these buildings to us. They should be preserved and restored as living reminders of our cultural heritage.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bullard, James, "The Columns, A Local Landmark," Tallahassee Democrat, Aug. 14, 1966.  
 Waldrom, Ann, "Tallahassee's Columns Survives as Monument of Indian Warfare Refuge," Tampa Tribune, May, 1961.  
 Hadd, Donald, "The Columns 1830-1860", Tallahassee Historical Society, delivered February 11, 1960.  
 Henry, E. W., "Old Houses of Tallahassee", Tallahassee Historical Society Annual, February, 1934.  
 Knowles, Rev. Joshua, "Methodism In Tallahassee in 1836", from the True Democrat, Oct. 2, 1908.

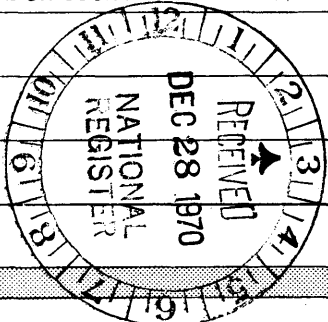
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		30° 26' 33"	84° 17' 02"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
J. P. Schuck, Chief, Bureau of Historic Preservation  
 ORGANIZATION: Department of State, Division of Archives DATE: 2/25/70  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
The Capitol  
 CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:  
 National  State  Local   
 Name: [Signature]  
 Title: State Liaison Officer  
 Date: December 18, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.  
[Signature]  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
**APR 16 1971**  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: **MAR 12 1971**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Florida	
COUNTY	
Leon	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71412.0008	4/16/71

100 N. Duval St

(Number all entries)

The Columns

7. Description - page 2

7. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: Gable roof over house and portico. Sheet metal covering.
- b. Cornice and eaves: Simple wood cornice with boxed eave.

C. Technical Description of the Interior

1. Floor plans:

- a. Ground floor; large spaces for storage. One space has been used for laundry, kitchen, etc., brick hearth remains.
- b. First floor; central stairhall flanked by four rooms of original house, to misc. modern rooms in rear, and to ground floor.
- c. Second floor; central hall flanked by four rooms, stairs to attic. 1 screened porch (in portico)

2. Stairways:

"U" shaped left hand wood stairway to second floor, two rectangular balusters 1 tread. Volute at bottom newel, molded mahogany railing. Stair to ground floor under second floor stair, lighted by fan light into stair hall.

3. Flooring: Pine boards 5 1/2" wide.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster on wood lath. Plaster on brick walls extending from ground to attic.

5. Interior doorways and doors: Wood doors, generally six panels, mortised and tenoned with pegged joints.

6. Trim: Simple fireplace trim with cornice and pilasters. Simple molded chair rail.

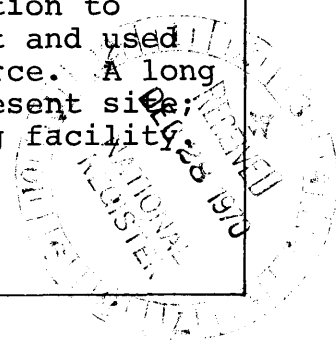
7. Hardware: Butt hinges on interior doors 1/4" plate and appear to be original. Some shutter hardware remains.

8. Lighting: Modern electrical

9. Heating: Fireplaces in each room with space heaters.

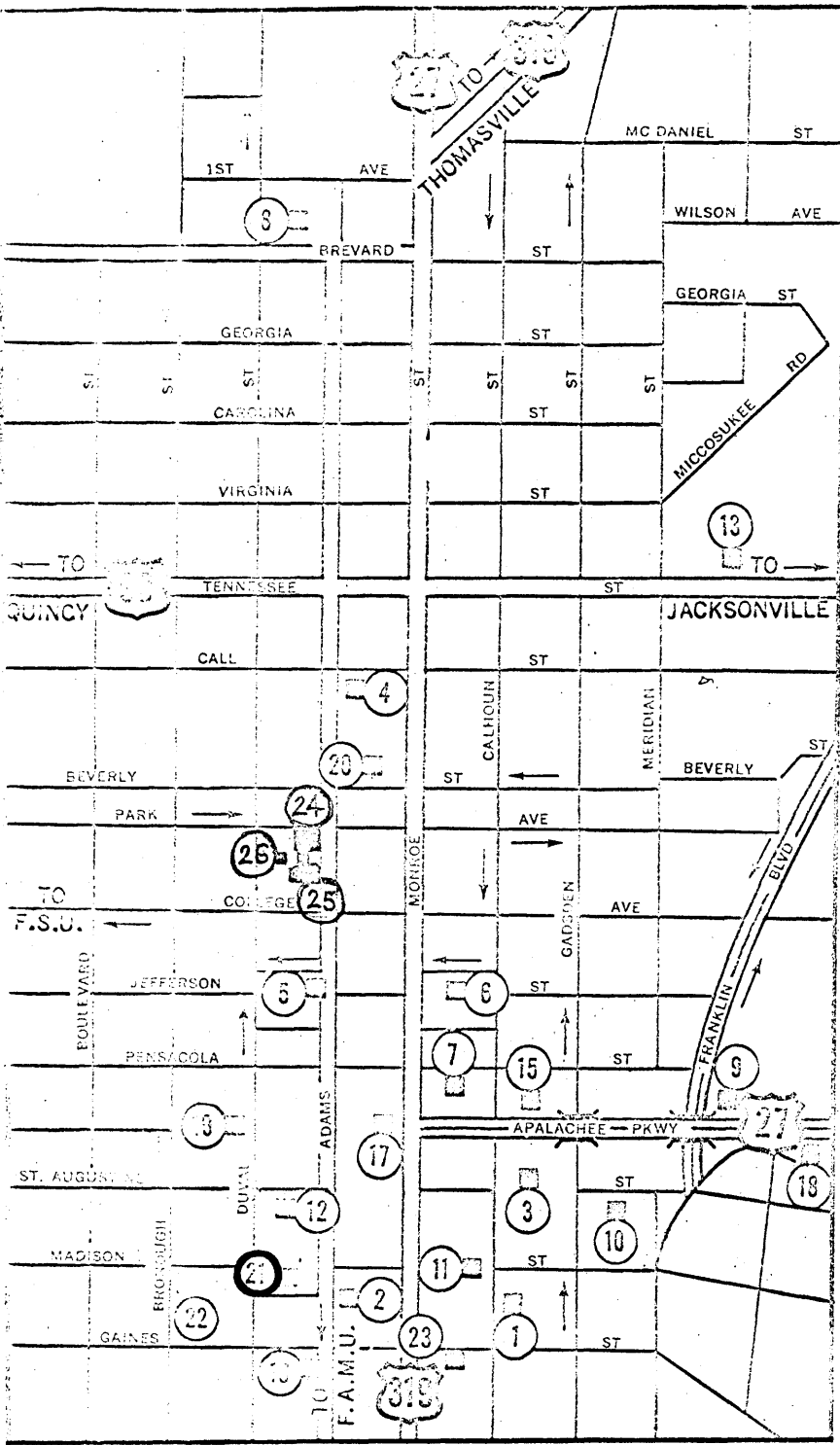
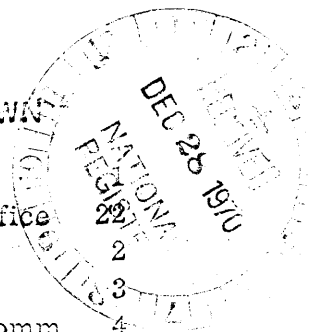
D. Site Description: Immediately north of the Bank of Florida (1828) and across Park Street from the First Presbyterian Church (1832).

The Columns will be moved from its present location to another site within the Tallahassee Historic District and used as headquarters for the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. A long battle was fought to preserve the building on its present site; but the owner must make room for a multilevel parking facility.

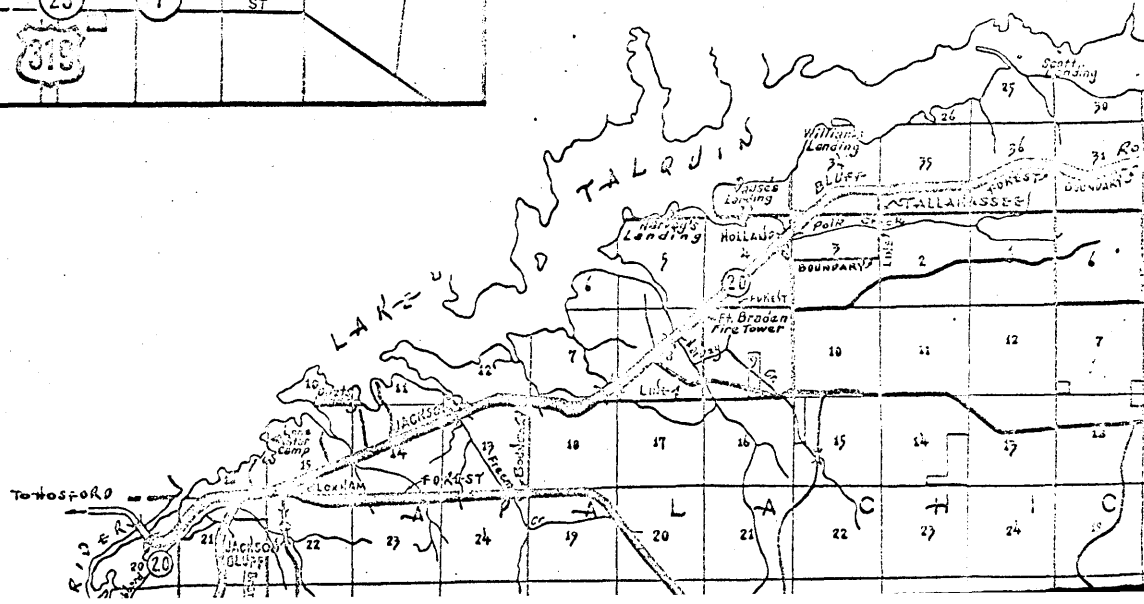


# STATE CAPITAL CENTER

DOWNTOWN



- Brevard Bldg
- Bronough St Office
- Caldwell Bldg 2
- Carlton Bldg 3
- Chamber of Comm 4
- City Hall 5
- County Court House 6
- Elliott Bldg 7
- Florida Bar Head- Qtrs Bldg 9
- Game & Fresh Water Fish Comm 10
- Governor's Mansion 8
- Hayden Burns Bldg 18
- Holland Bldg 11
- Knott Bldg 12
- Larson Bldg 23
- Leon Hi 13
- Leroy Collins Bldg 16
- Mayo Bldg 15
- State Capitol 17
- Supreme Court Bldg 19
- U.S. Post Office 20
- Whitfield Bldg 21
- Columns 24
- Union Bank 25
- Slave House (Columns) 26



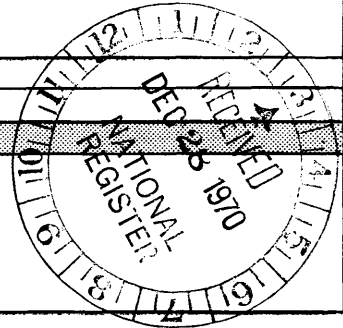
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71412.0008	4/16/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: The Columns			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The William "Money" Williams Mansion			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Corner of Adams Street and Park Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Tallahassee			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Leon	073
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
Dolphs Map of Greater Tallahassee			
SCALE: 3/4 inch to 1/4 mile			
DATE: 1969			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



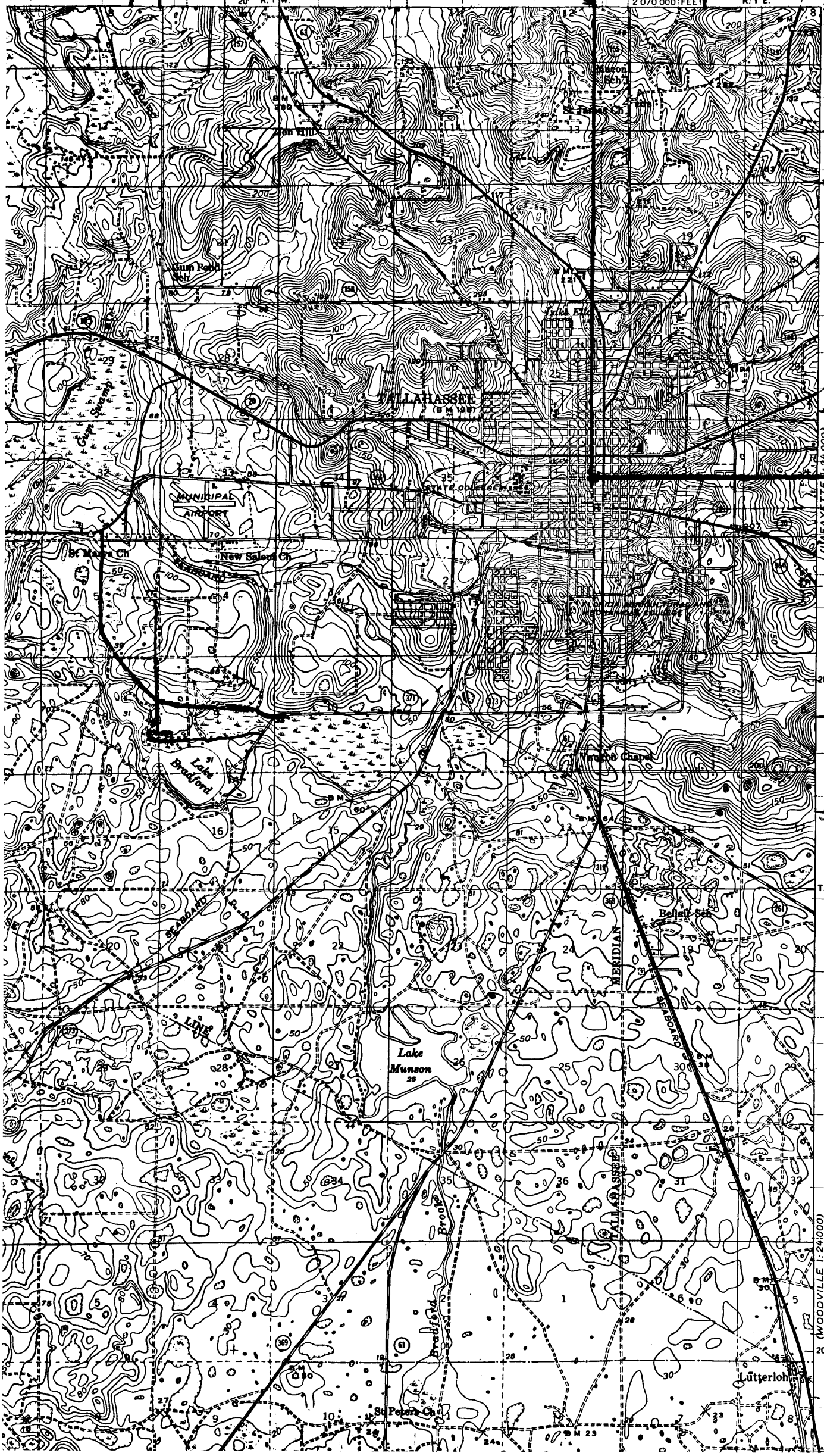
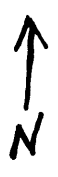
84° 20' 45" MURAT HOUSE  
84° 20' 00" ESCAMBA  
84° 19' 00" ESCAMBA

RAINBRIDGE (JUNC. U.S. 44) 39 MI.  
HAVANA 10 MI.

THE COLUMNS  
184° 16' 54"

FLORIDA  
TALLAHASSEE QUADRANGLE  
15-MINUTE SERIES

THOMASVILLE (JUNC. U.S. 19-44) 30 MI.  
BRADFORDVILLE 5 MI.



30° 29' 30" ESCAMBA  
FEET

30° 29' 10" ESCAMBA

30° 27' 30" G' WOODVILLE  
MONTICELLO 24 MI.  
MADISON 46 MI.

27'  
THE COLUMNS  
30° 26' 30"  
30° 26' 16"  
CAPITOL  
26'  
LAFAYETTE 24 MI.  
PERRY 50 MI.

30° 24' 46"  
MURAT HOUSE

24'

T. 1 S.

(WOODVILLE 1:24,000)



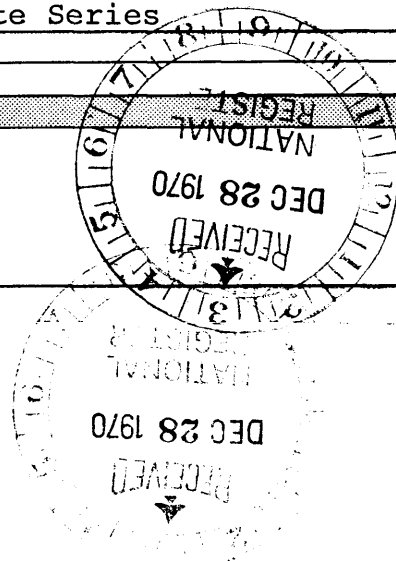
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	Leon
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	71412.0008
DATE	4/15/74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: The Columns (Benjamin Chaires House)			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The William "Money" Williams Mansion			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: Corner of Adams Street and Park Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Leon	073
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: Tallahassee Quadrangle 15 Minute Series			
SCALE: 1:62500			
DATE: 1940			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



PH002 2438

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	APR 30 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 21 1975

**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

The Columns

AND/OR COMMON

The William "Money" Williams Mansion

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

100 N. Duval Street

\_\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Tallahassee

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Florida

12

Leon

073

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input 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"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: offices,

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce

Tallahassee Area  
Chamber of  
Commerce

STREET & NUMBER

100 N. Duval Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Florida

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Leon County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Monroe Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

Florida

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic American Building Survey

DATE

1967

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Washington

D.C.

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT                       DETERIORATED  
 GOOD                                 RUINS  
 FAIR                                  UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE 1971

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Columns is a very good example of a style common in the South known as Jeffersonian Classicism. While the early examples of this style are associated with Thomas Jefferson's work, it became popular throughout the South during the early nineteenth century. The Columns contains many of the characteristics of the style, being built of red brick in common bond with a white portico dominating the east (main) facade. This portico is composed of four massive, Tuscan style columns supporting a simple cornice and classical pediment with a triangular sunburst decoration in the center. The first and second story porches in the portico are enclosed with turned balustrades. The main entrance which is set into the central bay of the portico consists of glazed double doors with circular medallions in the lower panels. The glazed panels and medallions are surrounded by egg and dart moldings. A transom with a diamond pattern of glass is above the door. The classical symmetry of the building is maintained by two six-over-six double-hung sash windows, with Dutch arches, on each side of the entrance. This fenestration is repeated on the second story with a single panel door with glazed transom opening onto the porch. The structure is topped by a transverse gable roof with massive brick chimneys in the gable ends.

The west facade contains several enclosed openings which were formerly doors. They have been boarded up and painted white. The most striking of these are two large round arched openings in the south end of the facade. The second story level most likely repeated the west facade in its original state, but there are presently two enclosed openings in the north end of the wall which opened onto a wood addition which was removed during relocation.

The south facade is interrupted by a one-story, brick ell with hipped roof which projects from the southwest corner of the wall. This structure contained the banking offices in early days. The south wall of the ell is penetrated by narrow double glazed doors which are recessed. They are presently sealed with no access from the ground. The west wall contains twelve-over-twelve double-hung windows, the only ones in the structure. The second story of the south facade has three windows in regular fenestration. Above them in the gable end are three small six-over-six double-hung windows.

In the center of the north elevation of the building is a small wood frame extension enclosed on the first story level with one-over-one double-hung windows. This structure is supported by concrete block piers with lattice infill. The second story and gable ends repeat the fenestration of the south elevation.

# 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c.1830-31

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1828 Florida was without its own bank which hindered the financial situation in the state. The Florida Legislature of that year chartered the Bank of Florida by overriding the veto of Governor William P. DuVal. Again in 1829, in an effort to recharter the bank, the legislature passed the charter over the veto of the governor. The president of the Bank of Florida, the first in the state, was William W. Williams. Williams had been a private banker and money lender for several years in Tallahassee. In 1830 the bank opened its books for subscription of stock. In this year Williams lived in and operated the bank on the west side of Monroe Street between Jefferson Street and College Avenue.

On November 23, 1829, Williams purchased lot 183 at the southwest corner of Adams and Park for five dollars. It was soon after this that construction on the Columns was probably started. While the actual date of construction remains vague, it is known that Williams moved into his new home and banking office in 1831. It cannot be determined from available documentary evidence the identity of the contractor or the designer (if any) of the house. The bricks for the new building were probably provided by Jesse H. Thomas who owned a brickyard near Tallahassee.

From 1831 until 1833 the house served as residence for the Williams family. The Bank of Florida was operated in the ell extension of the house which contained a vault. In 1833, Williams moved out of the house and sold it and the property to the Central Bank of Florida (the second chartered bank in the state).

The history of the structure between 1833 and 1847 is not clear. It is known that the ell housed the Central Bank of Florida and possibly the Union Bank (the third chartered bank in the state) which later moved to its own building (the Union Bank) east of the house. The basement housed law offices and probably some bank offices. As for the main house, it is assumed that it functioned as a residence for someone, but their identity is obscure. It has been suggested that John Parkhill and his family lived there for a short time.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre *u.m. ok 30*

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	7,6,0	9,0,0	3,3	7,0	7,5,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C							D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Phillip Werndli, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Div. of Archives, History, and Records Mgmt.

DATE

September, 1974

STREET & NUMBER

Dept. of State, The Capitol

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Florida

## 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

April 25, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

MAY 21 1975

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

5/20/75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED	MAY 21 1975

The Columns

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The interior of the house is typical of construction in the South during the period. It has a central hall with a staircase to the second floor on the north side. The hall on both stories opens into two rooms on either side. The walls are plaster painted white with simple chair rails and picture moldings. The floors are hardwood with natural finish.

In 1971 the structure was moved two blocks to its present site with little damage to it. A new brick foundation wall of running bond was constructed to form a basement level which is partitioned to house offices. Small wood casement windows, the same as in the original foundation wall, penetrate the foundation at irregular intervals. The interior has received very little alteration except for painting and necessary repairs. A central heating and air conditioning system has also been installed. The structure is very stable and is in a satisfactory state of preservation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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The Columns

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

From 1847 the building functioned as a boarding house for an undetermined period. The outbreak of the Civil War probably idled the structure. From 1870 to 1925 the house served as a private residence for several families. Since 1925 it has served as offices, apartments, Sunday school, and the popular Dutch Kitchen Restaurant. In 1970 the owners of the property decided to build a new structure in place of the two historic buildings located there, the Union Bank Building and the Columns. Instead of demolition, the two buildings were offered to anyone who would pay to move them.

In an attempt to preserve the oldest remaining house in Tallahassee, the Columns was donated to the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. In the summer of 1971, Walter Sullivan and Sons of Atlanta, Georgia, relocated the structure for the Chamber at the corner of Park Avenue and Duval Street. The structure occupies a commanding position on one of Tallahassee's most beautiful streets. While no attempt has been made to restore the building to its original state, the structure has been stabilized through adaptive use. It now functions as the headquarters of the Tallahassee Area Chamber of Commerce.

While relocation of a structure is generally not advisable, it was considered imperative to save the Columns. In view of the danger posed by probable destruction of two of Tallahassee's most important historic structures, the decision was made to move them in order to provide a visual and physical link to the City's past. The move was supported by state officials as well as the general citizenry of Tallahassee.

The house had long been a major landmark and there was strong sentiment in favor of saving the building--public sentiment being one of the greatest boons to historic preservation at the local level.

The Columns is one of the few examples of Jeffersonian Classicism remaining in Tallahassee. It is the oldest building still intact in the city as well as the earliest remaining site of the first bank in Florida. The structure itself is an important remnant of Florida's capital city's past, so much so, that even on a relocated site it deserves to be recognized as an historic place.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

The Columns

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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The Columns

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE

Additional Information Requested May 5, 1975

The relocation of the Columns has had a minimal effect on the visual integrity of the building. The structure was moved one block from a northward orientation on a corner lot to an eastward orientation also on a corner lot. While the house originally faced onto the esplanade created by Park Ave., the house is now perpendicular to the green space of Park Ave. but retains its close association to the park.

In the original setting, the building was located in a mixed use area of commercial and residential structures. It was flanked on the south by the single story Union Bank and on the west by a small brick house. Presently the house has vacant lots on its flanks which closely approximate the original situation since the smaller surrounding structures did not affect the house's character. In addition, the building remains in its original mixed use neighborhood.

The new landscaping around the house does not attempt to reproduce the foliage in its original setting but the plantings remain in scale and are adequate.

When all factors are taken into account it is clear that the Columns has not lost its integrity because it has been preserved in extremely close proximity to its original location.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 09 1975
DATE ENTERED MAY 21 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

**NAME**

HISTORIC

The Columns

AND/OR COMMON

The William "Money" Williams Mansion

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Tallahassee

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Leon

STATE

Florida

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE Phillip A. Werndli, Div. of Archives, History, &  
Records Mgmt., Dept. of State, Tallahassee, Fla.

SCALE

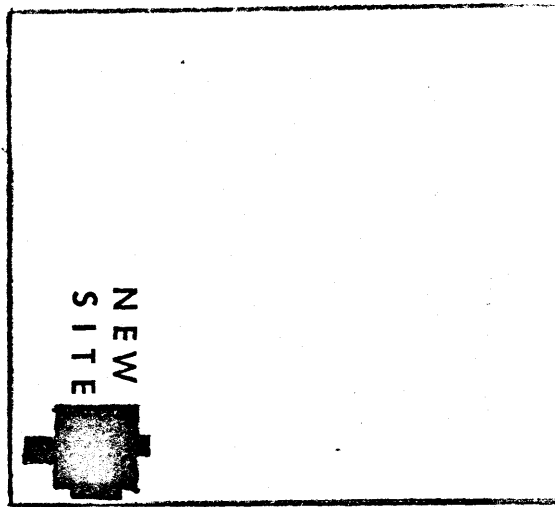
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May, 1975

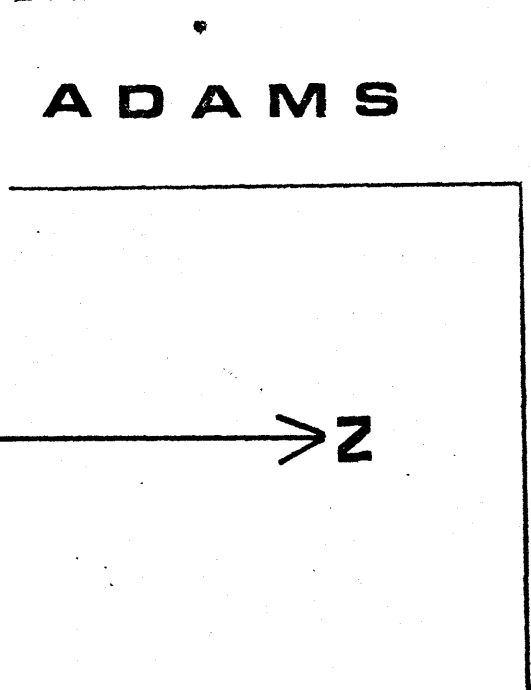
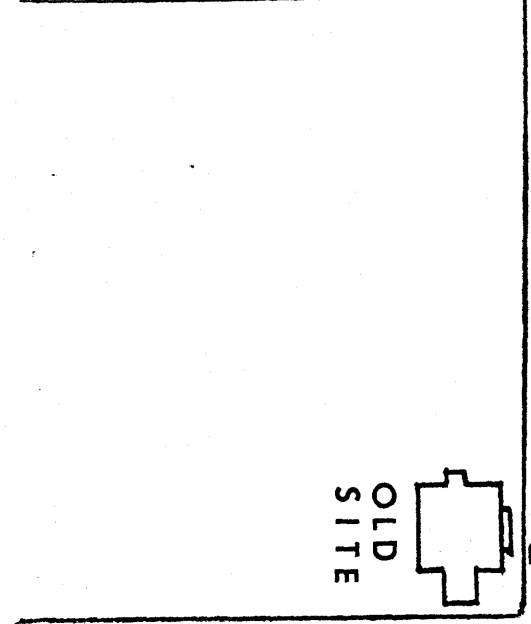
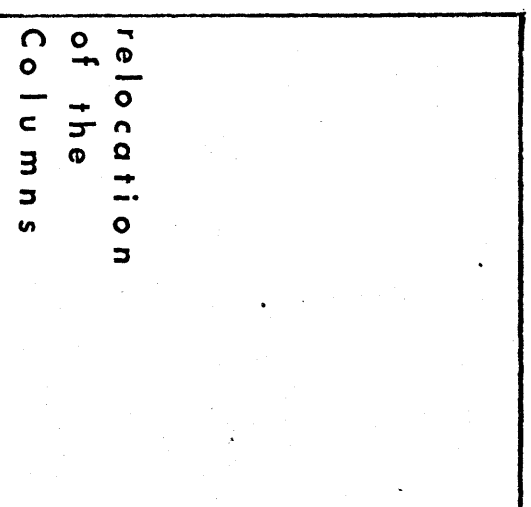
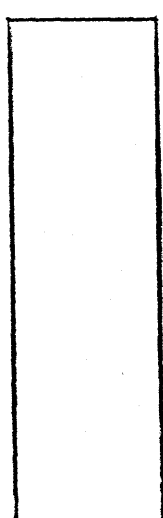
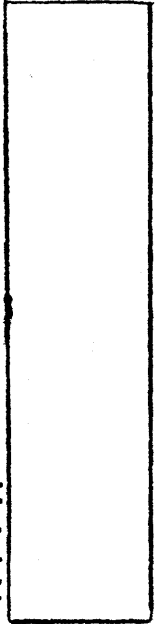
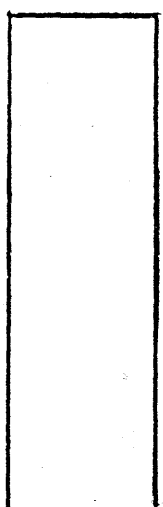
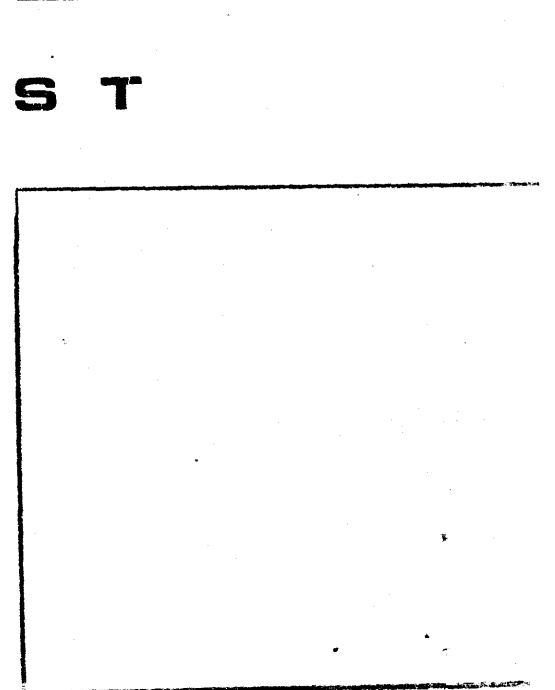
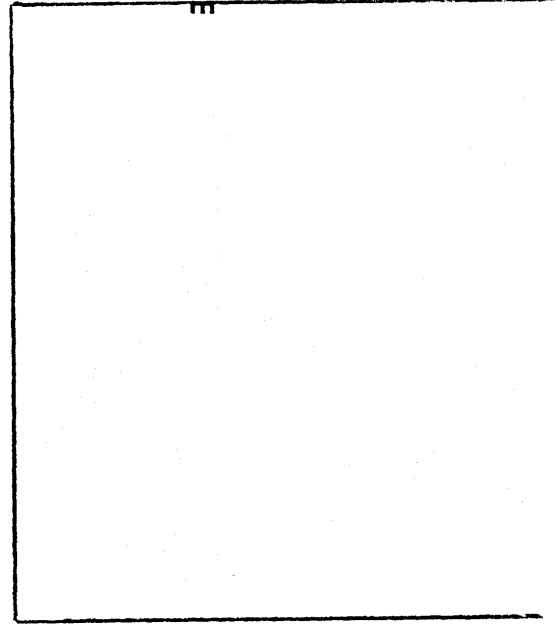
**REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



NEW SITE  
MAIN FACADE



DUVAL ST

PARK

ST

AVE

PARK

MAIN FACADE

AVE

DUVAL

ADAMS

relocation  
of the  
Columns  
1971

