

PH0002280

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Georgia
COUNTY:
Butts
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
MAY 7 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
McIntosh Inn
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Varner House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Highway 42 (across from Indian Springs State Park)
CITY OR TOWN:
Indian Springs
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
6th - John J. Flynt, Jr.
STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Butts CODE: 035

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input 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"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
J. H. Elliott
STREET AND NUMBER:
537 Peachtree, N.E.
CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta
STATE:
Georgia

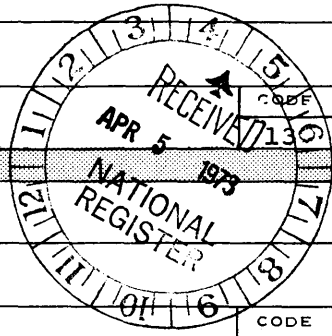
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Butts County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
Jackson
STATE:
Georgia
CODE:
13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Georgia Heritage Trust
DATE OF SURVEY: 1972
 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Department of Natural Resources
STREET AND NUMBER:
Trinity-Washington Building
CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta
STATE:
Georgia
CODE:
13

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Georgia
COUNTY: Butts
ENTRY NUMBER: 13
DATE: MAY 7 1973
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

McIntosh Inn at Indian Springs, built c.1823, is one of a very few extant structures that represent 19th century Creek Indian life in Georgia.

McIntosh Inn, as it stands today across from Indian Springs State Park, is an irregularly spaced seven bay, pitched roof structure with a square columned shed porch that extends across the front and on part of one side. Three entrances are found on the front facade. These pilaster framed doors have the "Cross and Bible" design and a high, but simple entablature. On the pilasters are vertical beading and a diamond design. All sash windows on the front facade have twelve-over-twelve lights. A long one-story shed addition extends across the rear of the structure. A fieldstone basement area consists of a small room said to have housed Indian prisoners. Seven fireplaces feed into three chimneys in the main portion of the house and at least three others connect to two smaller chimneys in the shed rear portion.

Structurally the house appears to have originally been just the two story section; the shed rear addition and the one and one-half story side addition were probably added only a short time after the main portion because window sash and interior details are of the same general period as the two story section. The front porch, according to a pre-1913 photograph, is a two story one with thin, square columns. Apparently at sometime during the early twentieth century this porch was removed and the present one-story, square columned one was added.

The plan consists of a series of rooms on either side of a hallway that runs lengthwise the structure. Both floors follow this pattern only generally as rooms appear to have been planned with little attention to symmetry. However, details such as mantels and wainscotting show a knowledge of the federal period. In two rooms, simple versions of Adamesque mantels occur. These have side, three part panelled friezes with square and beaded pilasters supporting the shelf. In other rooms there are mantels with flat friezes and corniced shelves supported by beaded, almost flush, pilasters. Wainscotting occurs in various forms on the first floor. The "office room" on the side porch and the entrance hall with its simple, square post stairs, have a narrow chair rail with a white-washed wall area above, thus creating the feeling of a wainscotting below. In the two rooms to the left of the entrance hall is found a simple form of a panelled wainscotting with a horizontal beaded area between the chair rail and the panelling.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Butts	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		MAY 7 1973

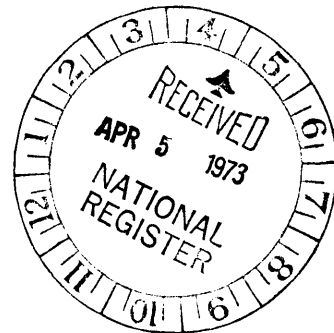
(Number all entries)

8. Significance

of early Indian-white settlement structures in unceded lands. Although obvious porch and room proportion changes have been made, the integrity of the interior details reveal features of "wilderness" sophistication as noted in the simple versions of Adam mantels, horizontal beaded wainscoting, and panelled, beaded doorways.

Indian Springs, where this treaty was signed and where McIntosh is located, has long been considered more than just healthful springs. The Indian believed it to be holy and associated with the beneficiaries of the Good Spirit. McIntosh Inn, high on a wooded hill overlooks these brownish, sulphur springs. After McIntosh's death the house passed into the hands of two men listed simply as Chief Matthews and Chief Dallas. In 1850 it became the property of the Varner family and remained in their possession until 1953, with the exception of a short while when the DAR was given ownership. (Apparently the upkeep became a problem for the DAR and the property reverted to the Varner family.) While known as the Varner House, the 35-room building became a famous resort hotel. Before and after the Civil War, Indian Springs became one of the most famous health resorts in the South. In addition to the Varner House, there flourished at Indian Springs the picturesque old Wigwam Hotel, which before it burned in 1921, was said to be the largest wooden hotel in the world. Adjacent to the inn property is Indian Springs State Park, the oldest state park in Georgia.

In 1953, J. H. Elliot of Atlanta bought the Varner House, added a collection of artifacts and furnishings and opened it to the public for a fee. Over the years McIntosh Inn has been increasingly neglected, but presently this Creek Indian site, of which there are so few, has been proposed for acquisition by the Georgia Heritage Trust, a State program set up by Gov. Carter in 1972 for the preservation of outstanding recreational, historical and natural sites.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

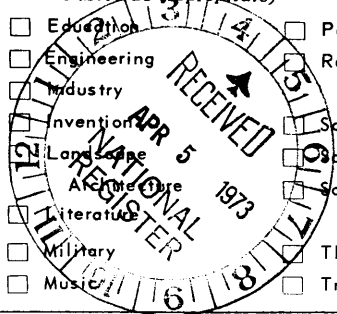
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<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) C. 1823

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/Phi-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> losophy	<u>History</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Varner House, or McIntosh Inn, built c. 1823, is primarily significant as the tavern-inn of William McIntosh, a half-breed Scot - Indian, who was the cousin of Georgia's Governor George M. Troup, and also the chief of the Coweta's, one of the leading subtribal groups within the Creek nation. McIntosh Inn, an elongated frame structure built with numerous rooms for lodging guests, served as a tavern and inn on Indian lands before the area was ceded by an 1825 treaty of Indian Springs. It was here, at McIntosh Inn, that McIntosh along with several other tribal chiefs signed this treaty; however, as a result of McIntosh's leadership role in signing the treaty without full consent of the entire Creek nation, he was later executed.

William McIntosh (c.1778- May 1, 1825) was born of a full-blooded Creek woman and a captain of the British Army, William McIntosh, whose first cousin was George M. Troup, Governor of Georgia, 1823-7. As a reward for notable service in the War of 1812, McIntosh was commissioned brigadier-general in the United States Army, and served with Jackson in the campaigns against the Seminoles. After the Indian wars, McIntosh was known as the friend of the white man and of Georgia. Troup became governor in 1823 and endeavored to secure the removal of the Creek and Cherokee Indians still occupying choice lands in the western part of the state. The Upper Creeks, long hostile to the whites, were determined to make no cession of tribal lands. The Lower Creeks, influenced by McIntosh, were disposed to conclude treaties of cession. A council was arranged at Indian Springs in February 1825, where McIntosh signed a treaty of cession; as a result of McIntosh's selling lands without full consent of the Indian nation, he was executed by the Upper Creeks at his other house.

In 1800 William McIntosh built a cabin at Indian Springs which he and his two wives and children used as a winter home. A fire destroyed this house and as a result McIntosh and Joel Bailey built what is now known as McIntosh Inn. It is said that McIntosh's slaves brought bricks from Savannah and McIntosh carved woodwork on the doors and mantels. The validity of the allegation of McIntosh's craftsmanship is not certain; but according to oral tradition McIntosh in 1805 had made a trip to visit Washington at Mt. Vernon. He brought back the seedling pecan trees, now in the yard. It has also been said that McIntosh Inn was built with reference to Mt. Vernon. Whatever the case, it is known that McIntosh was a wealthy, sophisticated man. McIntosh owned a large house on the west side of the Chattahoochee along with several thousand head of stock and 72 slaves. McIntosh Inn is, however, exemplary

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Armistead, Margaret Beauchamp, "Chief William McIntosh and the Indian Springs Treaties".
 Bonner, James C., GEORGIA'S LAST FRONTIER - The Development of Carroll County (Athens: the University of Georgia Press).
 Knight, Lucian Lamar, Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials, and Legends, 1914.
 Ledger-Enquirer Magazine, Columbus, Georgia, 11/3/68.
 Macgregor, Elizabeth, telephone interview with J. H. Elliott, March 29, 1973.
 The Georgia Review, Vol. XI, No. 3, Fall 1957.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

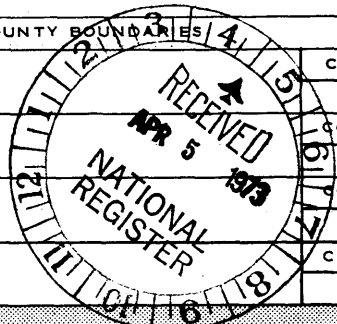
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES													
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE											
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds									
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	33	°	14	'	43	"	83	°	55	'	12	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"												
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"												
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"												

NW
CX

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.6 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
William R. Mitchell, Jr. and Staff

ORGANIZATION: **Georgia Historical Commission** DATE: **March 30, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
116 Mitchell Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Atlanta** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

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 Mary Gregory Jewett
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date April 2, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Kelly
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date 5/7/73
 ATTEST:
W. Mitchell
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date 4 26 73

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Substantive Review

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ACCEPTED

Name change from McIntosh Inn
to Indian Springs Hotel

Keeper

Amy Schloessel 9/4/87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Historic Name: Indian Springs Hotel

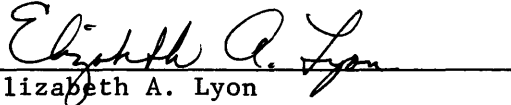
Common Name: McIntosh Inn

Section number 1 Page _____

Butts County, GA.

Please change the historic name for the property currently listed in the National Register as "McIntosh Inn" in Butts County, Georgia to be that of "Indian Springs Hotel."

This change is due to a technical error when the nomination was first proposed. Subsequent research conducted by this department produced a research report by Martha F. Norwood entitled The Indian Springs Hotel (1978) covering the 19th century history of this property as it was operated under the name which should be the historic name for the property.



Elizabeth A. Lyon
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

August 7, 1987