

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 12 1976
DATE ENTERED MAR 22 1976

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 *hm*
Gordon-Lee House
AND/OR COMMON
Gordon-Lee-Green House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
217 Cove Road
CITY, TOWN
Chickamauga
STATE
Georgia
VICINITY OF
7th - Lawrence F. McDonald
COUNTY
Walker
CODE
13
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
295
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Dr. and Mrs. Frank A. Green
STREET & NUMBER
217 Cove Road
CITY, TOWN
Chickamauga
STATE
Georgia
VICINITY OF

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Walker County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Lafayette
STATE
Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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 Gordon-Lee-Green House, presently a predominately Neo-Classical structure, was built in 1840-7 as a Greek Revival, north Georgia plantation house by James Gordon. The environment of the house, near the center of Chickamauga, consists of a heavily wooded elevated site, a brick smoke house, a former brick slave cabin, a log house-office, a Victorian cottage and an antebellum 1½ story log house recently moved onto the site from Hamilton County, Tennessee.

The main house, built in 1840-7 and remodeled in 1900, is constructed of American bond brick made on the property by slave labor. The house is a two story four room central hall planned building with a colossal (c.1900) Doric cement columned portico with heavy entablature, all supporting an overhung roof. A small, central balcony is directly above the central doorway with side and transom lights. (Both the portico, and balcony replaced the originals during a 1900 remodeling;) Two of the original columns were shortened and used as supports for an added side porch on the south side of the house. The windows on the sides of the house are capped with masonry square flat arches while those on the facade have wooden lintels. The first floor dining room on the south side of the house has four French doors leading to the front porch which follows the perimeter of the house around two front rooms.

The interior on both floors consists largely of four main rooms off a central hall with stairs, which appear to have been altered c.1900. The dogleg stairway breaks a central arch in the hall. The present downstairs mantels date from c.1900. The upstairs mantels appear to be original to the mid-nineteenth century house. A rear wing with open porch continues the central hall through this portion of the house with two kitchen rooms on the south side. The second story of this rear wing was added in 1900. The floors which originally had wide pine boards have been overlaid with oak flooring on the first floor. The oak flooring will be taken up exposing the original pine boards during the present restoration.

Interior changes during present renovation include addition to library of moulding pilasters, a room and chair rail in the hall as well as the renovation of two rear wing rooms for modern kitchen use.

The entire acreage is situated on a 13 acre tract near the center of Chickamauga. The Victorian cottage is located on the drive to the main house. To the left is the only extant brick slave quarters. According to archaeologist Dr. Jett Brown, six other such brick units extended in a line to the south of the remaining slave quarter. To the rear of the house is the recently relocated 1½ story log house, an original (c.1840) brick smoke house and a 2 story log house built for use as a law office.

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 checked="" 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 1840-1847 BUILDER/ARCHITECT James Gordon/1900: H. Alsup

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gordon-Lee-Green House, one of the most important plantation homes in North Georgia at the outbreak of the Civil War, was originally built c.1840 and owned by James Gordon, a wealthy planter whose extensive land holdings encompassed much of the area now known as Chickamauga, Georgia.

Architecturally the Gordon-Lee-Green House is a physical review of the classical revivals in the mid 19th century and early 20th century. Both the original construction and remodeling expressed at their own time the importance the building and its owners played in the history of the community.

James Gordon, with his two brothers, came from Gwinnett County in 1836 to Crawfish Springs, now the city of Chickamauga. Gordon's land holdings included a mill site about two miles from his residence site.

Construction on his house was begun in 1840 by slave labor under the direction of a hired superintendent. Bricks were made on the site and the pit where the lime was burned for these bricks is still visible.

The house, which survived the Civil War, was used both as a military headquarters and as a hospital. Major General William Rosecrans, Commander of the Union Army of the Cumberland, occupied the Gordon-Lee home before the Battle of Chickamauga. Rosecrans' Chief of Staff, Brigadier General James Garfield, later became president of the United States.

Crawfish Springs nearby was the site of an encounter in the overall battle at Chickamauga, now commemorated by the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park.

During the early days of the War in 1862, Company D, First Georgia Volunteer Infantry, GSA, was organized above Crawfish Springs. Clark Gordon, son of James Gordon, was elected commanding officer of this company.

From September 16 to the late morning of September 19, 1863, General Rosecrans used the Gordon home as his headquarters. From September 18 to 20, the house was also used as a field hospital under the command of Medical Surgeon R. G. Bogue, Second Division, Fourteenth Corps, according to Surgeon Bogue's own report in the Medical and Surgical History of the Rebellion 1861-1865. Local tradition maintains that the northeast downstairs room was used as the operating room. There were supposedly so many amputations that the limbs were pitched out the windows into a waiting wagon. Countless numbers of soldiers died in this house, and the floors were purported to have been so blood-stained that they were later covered with matting. Many last messages were scribbled on the walls, and after the War the J. M. Lee family made copies of them and tried to contact the soldiers' families.

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Buckley, Jean K., Historic Preservation Planner, Personal Inspection 8-1-74
 Chattanooga Times 3-24-74

Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion 1861-1865. Vol. 4; Part I. p.272
 National Park Service Historical Markers at Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park
 Official Records of the War of the Rebellion. Series I. Vol. XXX: Part I. pp. 221-227,
 258-263, 494-496 and Park III. p. 668

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY ¹³ approx. 16 acres

*LEBOUCCO
3-78-76*

UTM REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the intersection of Cove Road and the driveway adjacent to Gordon Lee School continue along Cove Road for 200 feet past the Lee Gordon House, then continue northwest for 1,000 feet, then southwest for 500 feet then southeast for 1,000 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

Jean K. Buckley, Historic Preservation Planner (Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Architectural
 ORGANIZATION Historian, Consultant

Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources December 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703-C

404-656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Atlanta

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
 DAVID M. SHERMAN

DATE

12/22/75

TITLE

CHIEF, HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

7/22/96

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

Robert B. Kellog
 Robert B. Kellog
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

3-22-76

Acting

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The first day of the Battle of Chickamauga, September 19, 1863, the cavalry brigade commanded by Colonel Edward M. McCook guarded the area around the house. By the afternoon of September 20, Brigadier General Joseph Wheeler's corps of the Confederate cavalry retook the area of the house, capturing some twenty-five Union medical officers and many wounded who were unable to escape.

James Gordon's daughter Elizabeth married James M. Lee, and the couple occupied the home for many years after James Gordon's death. They reared a large family, and their most famous son was Gordon Lee, who was elected to the 59th Congress in 1904 and served continuously in that capacity until shortly before his death in 1927. His will indicated that for twenty years no part of the real estate should be sold and that during this twenty year period and thereafter until the sale of the home, it should be "made available to my brothers, sisters, and their offspring."

Following these stipulated twenty years in 1947, the home went to the City of Chickamauga. The local bank was given \$50,000 for upkeep, repairs, and preservation of the house until it could be sold. The city held the property until it was bought by Dr. and Mrs. Frank A. Green in 1973. The Greens have agreed to stipulations concerning the preservation of the house and plan to have it open to the public as often as possible following the extensive research and restoration which is currently in process.

	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
NW	34°	52'	23"	85°	17'	46"
NE	34°	52'	23"	85°	17'	34"
SE	34°	52'	13"	85°	17'	34"
SW	34°	52'	13"	85°	17'	46"

GORDON-LEE HOUSE
CHICKAMAUGA, GA.

(MAP NOT TO SCALE)



LOG HOUSE RECENTLY
MOVED
TO THIS
SITE



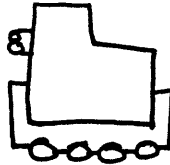
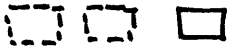
BRICK SMOKEHOUSE
c. 1840-7



LOG LAW
OFFICE c. 1900



BRICK SLAVE QUARTERS

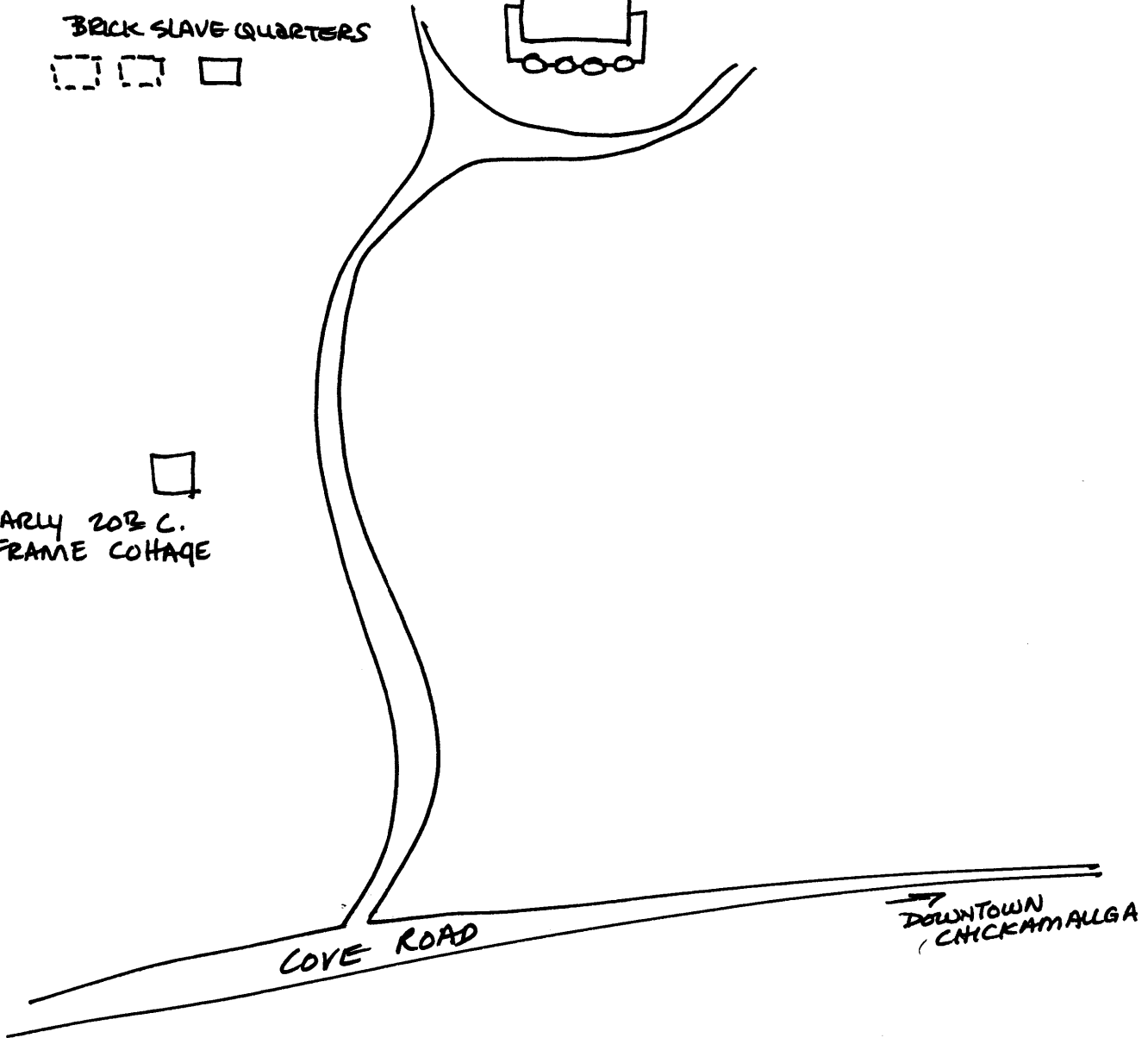


EARLY 20th C.
FRAME COHAGE



COVE ROAD

DOWNTOWN
CHICKAMAUGA



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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

NAME

HISTORIC Gordon-Lee House

AND/OR COMMON

Gordon-Lee-Greene House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Chickamauga

VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Walker

STATE
Georgia

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Elizabeth Z. Macgregor

SCALE Not to Scale

DATE December, 1975

REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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