

<b>I. IDENTIFICATION</b>	<p><b>PROPERTY NAME:</b> Dixon Residence</p> <p><b>STREET ADDRESS:</b> <del>Bridge Street</del></p> <p><b>PRESENT OWNER:</b> Mrs. Cona Dixon</p> <p><b>CITY:</b> Clarkesville</p> <p><b>CURRENT USE:</b> Residence</p> <p><b>U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE</b> Clarkesville</p> <p><b>V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER:</b> CL-16-22</p>	<p><b>HISTORIC NAME:</b> <u>Griggs-Erwin House</u></p> <p><b>CITY:</b> <u>Clarkesville</u></p> <p><b>MAILING ADDRESS:</b> Bridge Street</p> <p><b>STATE:</b> Georgia <b>ZIP CODE:</b> 30523</p> <p><b>ACREAGE:</b> Approximately 1.5 acres</p> <p><b>U.T.M. REFERENCE:</b> Z17 E268320 N3833300</p>
<b>II. DESCRIPTION</b>	<p><b>ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION:</b> Two-story plain-style residence, Greek Revival-style design influences, boxed cornice and returns, pilaster-like corner boards, trabeated doorway with sidelights; Victorian-style porches added to the front, with scalloped cutwork in pediment of second story balcony, chamfered posts on first story wrap-around porch; two interior chimneys in main portion of house; originally a two over two plan with central hall, later addition of back wing; separate entrance in exterior staircase to second floor reflects historic use as boarding house; interior detailing includes simple plank ceilings, modest mantels and trim; simple landscape setting, lawns, foundation shrubbery, and two large water oaks in front yard. Good condition.</p>	
<b>III. HISTORY</b>	<p><b>ORIGINAL OWNER:</b> James E. Griggs</p> <p><b>ARCHITECT/BUILDER:</b> James E. Griggs ?</p> <p><b>DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:</b> c. 1860</p>	<p><b>ORIGINAL USE:</b> Residence</p> <p><b>HISTORIC ACREAGE:</b> One acre</p> <p><b>DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS:</b> Front porch and rear wing added-late 19th century; back porch enclosed-1960's; baths added in 1940's.</p> <p><b>HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT):</b> Structure appears to have been built in the late 1850's or sometime in the 1860's. James E. Griggs purchased a one acre tract in 1857 from the estate of local land speculator, James R. Wyly. Bridge Street on which this structure stands was a new street in 1857 and led to the Soque River. A deed reference from the Porter property to the north refers to house and lot being occupied by Griggs in 1870. The property was sold to William S. Erwin in 1873. Erwin, a lawyer in the Clarkesville area and Captain in the Civil War, took his wife to this residence as a bride. It remained the Erwin residence into the 1900's and for a time the Erwins took in boarders. (CONTD)</p>
<b>IV. SIGNIFICANCE</b>	<p><b>N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE:</b> Architecture, Local History <b>LEVEL:</b> Local</p> <p><b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL):</b> Architecturally, this structure is significant as an example of an "evolved" work of architecture, with significant architectural features from two major periods of occupancy. The original owner, James E. Griggs, was responsible for the main portion of the house, a typical plain-style structure with modest Greek Revival detailing. The subsequent owner, William S. Erwin, added more rooms to the rear and the Victorian porch and balcony to the front. This evolutionary architectural process characterizes many 19th century houses in Georgia, and it shows how new owners tried to make their old houses more fashionable and up to date in appearance. (CONTD)</p>	
<b>V. SOURCES</b>	<p><b>FORM PREPARED BY:</b> A) Dale Jaeger, Planner <b>ORGANIZATION:</b> A) Georgia Mtns APDC                  B) Richard Cloues, Architectural Historian B) Historic Preser. Sec, DNR</p> <p><b>ADDRESS:</b> A) P.O. Box 1720, Gainesville, GA <b>GATELEPHONE NUMBER:</b> A) 404/536-3431                  B) 270 Washington St. Atlanta B) 404/656-2840</p> <p><b>REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:</b> Historic Structures Field Survey:                  Habersham County, GA -#73</p> <p><b>SOURCES OF INFORMATION:</b> Mrs. Cona Dixon, Ms. Beatrice Erwin, Deeds.</p>	



PHOTOGRAPHER: James R. Lockhart

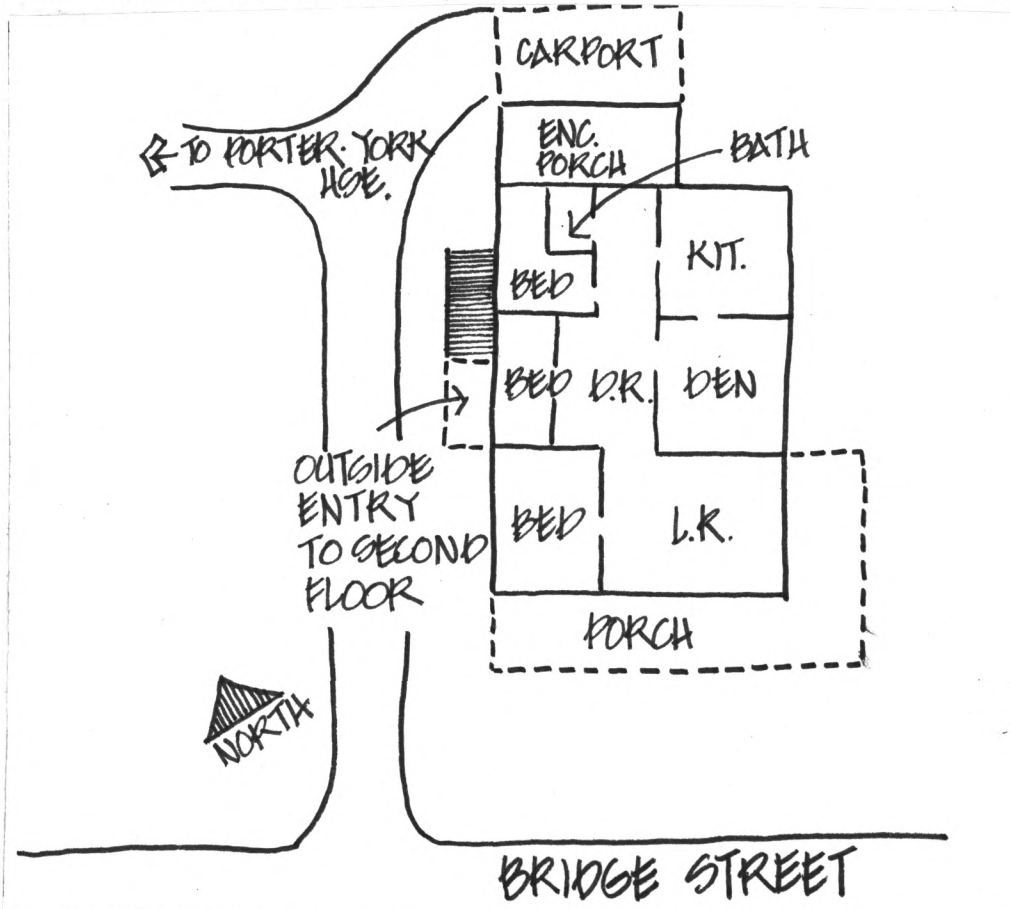
DATE: November, 1980

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ROLL NO. -- FRAME NO. ---NEGATIVES FILED: Georgia Department of Natural Resources

DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: East

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.



Property Griggs-Erwin House

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CONTINUATION

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

The property passed through various owners and served as a rental. It was bought by the present owner, Mrs. Cona Dixon, in 1946 and has been a family residence since that time.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

In terms of local history, this house is significant as the home of William S. Erwin, a Civil War captain and local attorney, during the second half of the 19th century. As such, the house reflects the relatively unpretentious architectural tastes of many of Georgia's solidly middle class citizens in the 19th century.