10-300 (Rev. 10-74) PH \$\text{0} 363740
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATA SHEET

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HECEIVEDEC 21 1976

SEE IN	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES (			ORMS
NAME	THE ALL LIVINIES	SOWI ELTERITIES	ABLEGEOTIONS	
-	h Gaines House			
AND/OR COMMON	••			
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER	Mention on GA 3	68		
			NOT FOR PUBLIC	
CITY. TOWN Elberton	<b>X</b>	VICINITY OF	congression 10th - Robert	G. Stephens, Jr.
STATE		CODE 13	COUNTY Elbert	CODE 105
Georgia CLASSIFICA	ATION	13	Elbert	103
CLI IUUII IUI	111011		•	4
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRESENT USE
DISTRICT _XBUILDING(S)	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICUL	
STRUCTURE	X PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMER	
SITE	_BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION	—WORK IN PROGRESS  ACCESSIBLE	EDUCATIO	
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	X.YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNA	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		
		NO	MILITARY	
OWNER OF	PROPERTY		•	<del></del>
NAME Mrs. Cla	ude Gaines	at N		
STREET & NUMBER				
Route 2				
city.town Elberton		VICINITY OF	STAT Georg:	
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR			
COURTHOUSE.	•			
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET	C. Elbert County Co	ırthouse		
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STAT	E
	Elberton	1	Georg	ia
REPRESENT	[ATION IN EXIST]	NG SURVEYS	3	
Elbert C	ounty Architectural S	Survey		
DATE November	1975			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
DEPOSITORY FOR		FEDERAL	X_STATECOUNTY _	_LOCAL
SURVEY RECORDS	DNR/Historic Preserv	ation Section		
CITY, TOWN			STAT	
Atlanta			Georg	ia '

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

CHECK ONE

\_\_EXCELLENT

X\_GOOD

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_RUINS

\_\_UNALTERED

X\_ALTERED

X ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED

DATE\_\_\_\_

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

The Ralph Gaines House is located near the east edge of Georgia Highway 368 and about 7 miles north of the city limits of Elberton in Elbert County, Georgia. This log cabin and frame cottage was built by Ralph Gaines in the 1820's. One chimney is dated 1827. The northwest room and hall of the cottage is a log cabin which may have been constructed earlier than 1820.

A rocky dirt and clay driveway cuts through two hundred feet of pasture land, passing as it approaches the house, the two log barns Ralph Gaines built in 1820. These two well weathered rectangular structures with gable roofs are made of wide cedar planks with wide chinking spaces. Their roofs originally made of cedar shingles, are now covered with tin and the wide chinked spaces are boarded up. The larger of the barns is a transverse crib with side extentions and rear appendage.

A promenade of eight tall eastern red cedars, followed on the right by a pecan tree then a shady water oak and on the left by three smaller crape myrtles, together, form a 50 foot avenue of trees leading to the entrance of the house. The dirt driveway cuts across the avenue of trees to arrive at its destination - a recent frame garage. Directly behind the house is an old chinaberry tree which sits 30' in front of a narrow rectangular log barn. To the east of the house stands an old well, now boarded up and a more recent model sitting a few feet behind it.

Around 1820 Ralph Gaines built a one room, log cabin with side hallway, enclosed stairs and single end chimney. Henry Glassie, in his book The Pattern of Material Folk Culture of the Eastern U.S. describes this plan as a variation of the traditional southern I house consisting of two-thirds of Georgian-influenced I. The chimney has a stepped base with a high rock foundation, a diaper pattern of glazed headers and a stringcourse at the stack. The interior of this original room and side hall have beaded vertical wall panels which reach up to the eight foot ceiling. A segmental arched fireplace, now closed with metal, has a pine mantelpiece five feet high with fluted pilasters rising to a four paneled frieze topped by a splayed cornice with a row of dentils. The side hall has an enclosed staircase which ascends from the rear hall and climbs to the attic space above.

Around 1840, a two room frame appendage which projected ten feet further north than the front facade of the log cabin, was added to the west of the side hall. The front facade of this appendage has a granite chimney flanked by two six over six windows. Later, perhaps around the turn of the century, frame rear additions were built to the south of the original structure.

The deep veranda which spans three-fourths of the front facade is supported by three short wooden pillars on a tall brick base. The remaining portion of the facade placed perpendicular to the original portion consists of a framed addition with an exterior granite chimney. Under the porch there are two six-over-six windows and two doors, one to the hall, the other opening into the later room perpendicular to the facade. A gable roof caps this white frame cottage which sits on a brick pier foundation. Today the house is occupied by descendants of Ralph Banks.

SPECIFIC DAT	ES .	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
		INVENTION		
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	X.EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1600-1699	X.ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	X.AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW *	SCIENCE
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RÉLIGION
PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of the Ralph Gaines house resides primarily in the original log cabin portion of the house and the log shed barns located nearby. The most salient features of the log cabin are its diaper pattern chimney and the beautiful carved pine mantelpiece. Presently the original log structure stands incognito; embraced within

various frame appendages and covered with weatherboard siding.

The only portion of the log structure that can be seen today is the chimney with its diaper pattern of glazed headers. This type of glazed brickwork is extremely rare in Georgia during the nineteenth century, but two other extant examples are known in Elbert County. of these houses, the Ralph Banks House (c.1800) may have directly influenced the design of Gaines chimney. It seems that Ralph Banks and Ralph Gaines were close friends. In fact together they built the first Coldwater Methodist Church.

While it can safely be assumed that Gaines' chimney was influenced by Bank's, it is only speculation that the same craftsman built both of them. Ralph Gaines was a craftsman in his own right. He constructed wagons and made farm tools and implements. A wooden wagon he made still stands on the property and one of the great-grandsons has a chest full of farm tools his ancestor crafted.

Selling wagons and farm implements was only part of Ralph Gaines livelihood; he also had a modest farm. His father, Billy Gaines, had moved to Elbert County from Virginia to settle and farm the fertile land around Coldwater Creek, once occupied by Creek Indians. When Ralph Gaines married, he established his own farm a few hundred feet west of his fathers farm. Only recently, Billy Gaines log cabin, which stood for over 150 years, was destroyed.

Today, two women, both descendants of Ralph Gaines live in the house. Because the occupants of the house are elderly, the acreage around the house is now pasture land.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Elbert County Courthouse records.

Macgregor, Elizabeth Z., Marie G. Golson, inspected site, June, 1976.

McIntosh, John H., The Official History of Elbert County, 1790-1935, Cherokee Pub. Company, Atlanta, Ga., 1968.

Stovers, Mr. S. R., The Coldwater Community, 1970, Heritage Papers Pub.

100	FO	GR A	PHIC	AL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 24 acres

**UTM REFERENCES** 

A|1,7| |<u>3|3,3|3,0,0|</u> 3,7,8,6,1,7,0 ZONE EASTING C|117 | |3|313|31310| 317 815 61410

3 3 3 5 9 0 3 7 8 5 7 1 0 ZONE 3 ,7 8 ,6 0 ,2 ,0 D[1,7]3 3 3 1 1 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning point is on a dirt road off Georgia highway 368, 1 1/3 miles northeast of the intersection of 368 and S986. From this point proceed 200 feet in a northeasterly direction then go 1700 feet in a southeasterly direction to a tributary of Coldwater Creek, proceed along said creek for 800 feet to the west, from here go in a northeast direction for 1350 feet back to 368 and then go 400 feet in a northeasterly direction to the beginning point.

LIST ALL STATES AND CO	OUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES O	VERLAPPING STA	TE OR COUNTY BOUN	IDARIES	
STATE	CODE . CO	OUNTY		CODE	` .
STATE	CODE . CO	OUNTY	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	CODE	
11 FORM PREPARED B	Y				: <u>1</u>
urie Gail Golson, Intern	(Elizabeth Z. Macgreg	gor, Architect	ural Historian,	, Consult	cant)
ORGANIZATION			DATE		
Historic Preservation Sect:	ion, Dept. of Natural	Resources	August 31, 19	976	
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE		
270 Washington Street, S.W.	., Room 703-C	•	404-656-2840		
CITY OR TOWN			STATE		
Atlanta	•		Georgia	•	:
12 STATE HISTORIC P	RESERVATION O	FFICER CEI	RTIFICATION	V	

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL X NATIONAL \_\_\_\_ STATE\_

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 is been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

DAVID MA

DATE

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TITLE

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 21 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 5 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET

Photographs

**ITEM NUMBER** 

PAGE

Ralph Gaines House, Elbert County Photographs by: David J. Kaminsky

Date: June, 1976.

Negatives filed at: Dept. of Natural Resources

- 1. Front facade, looking south
- 2. Outbuildings, looking northeast
- 3. Diaper pattern chimney, looking west
- 4. Mantelpiece in original log cabin, looking northeast.

Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED JUN 3 1977
DATEENTERED DCT 5 1977

SEE III	NSTRUCTIONS IN <i>HOW T</i> 1 TYPE ALL ENTRIES		NAL REGISTER FORMS BLE SECTIONS	S
NAME				
HISTORIC Dela	h Gaines House			
	ii Gaines nouse			
AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER				
			NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
city.town Elberton	x		congressional distr 10th - Robert G. Sto	
STATE		VICINITY OF -	COUNTY	code code
Georgia		13	Elbert	105
CLASSIFICA	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
x_BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY	_NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
 NAME Estate o	of Claude Ralph Gaine	s, Sr.		·····
 NAME Estate o		s, Sr.		
NAME Estate o Mrs. Cla STREET & NUMBER	of Claude Ralph Gaine	s, Sr.	owers Gaines)& Sons	
NAME Estate o	of Claude Ralph Gaine	s, Sr. Mary Elizabeth St	owers Gaines)& Sons STATE	
NAME Estate o Mrs. Cla STREET & NUMBER	of Claude Ralph Gaine nude R. Gaines, Sr. (	s, Sr. Mary Elizabeth St VICINITY OF	owers Gaines)& Sons	
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NAME Estate of Mrs. Classification of Mrs. Classification of Counthouse registry of Deeds, etc. Street & Number city. Town  REPRESENT Title Elbert Countries November	OF LEGAL DESCR  C. Elbert County Co  Elberton  TATION IN EXIST  Dounty Architectural S	s, Sr. Mary Elizabeth St  VICINITY OF  IPTION  Purthouse  ING SURVEYS	owers Gaines)& Sons STATE Georgia	
NAME Estate of Mrs. Cla STREET & NUMBER  CITY TOWN  LOCATION  COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET  STREET & NUMBER  CITY TOWN  REPRESENT  TITLE  Elbert Co  DATE  November  DEPOSITORY FOR	OF LEGAL DESCR  C. Elbert County Co  Elberton  TATION IN EXIST  Dounty Architectural S	s, Sr. Mary Elizabeth St  VICINITY OF  IPTION  Ourthouse  ING SURVEYS  OURVEY	owers Gaines)& Sons STATE Georgia STATE Georgia	
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### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_\_EXCELLENT

\_\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_UNALTERED

XORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

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

The Ralph Gaines House is located near the east edge of Georgia Highway 368 and about 7 miles north of the city limits of Elberton in Elbert County, Georgia. This log cabin and frame cottage was built by Ralph Gaines in the 1820's. One chimney is dated 1827. The northeast room and hall of the cottage is a log cabin which may have been constructed earlier than 1820.

A rocky dirt and clay driveway cuts through five hundred feet of crop land, passing as it approaches the house, the two log barns Ralph Gaines built in the 1820's. These two well weathered rectangular structures with gable roofs are made of hewn pine logs with wide chinking spaces. Their roofs, originally made of pine shingles, are now partly covered with tin and the wide chinked spaces are boarded up. The larger of the barns is a transverse crib with side extentions and rear appendage. This is the building which housed the threshing machine and the cotton gin. Cotton press was located about 200 feet east.

A tall eastern red cedar followed on the right by a white ash tree then a shady water oak and on the left by several large crape myrtles, form a 50 foot avenue of trees leading to the entrance of the house. The dirt driveway cuts across the avenue of trees to arrive at its destination - a recent frame garage. Directly behind the house is an old chinaberry tree which sits 30 feet in front of a frame kitchen (now used to store tools and patterns). To the east of the house stands an old well, and a more recent model sitting a few feet behind it.

Around 1820 Ralph Gaines built a one room, log cabin with an exterior enclosed stariway, attic sleeping area and a single end chimney. Henry Glassie, in his book The Pattern of Material Folk Culture of the Eastern U.S., describes this plan as a variation of the traditional southern I house consisting of two-thirds of Georgian-influenced I. The chimney has a stepped base with a high rock foundation, a diaper pattern of glazed headers and a stringcourse at the stack. The interior of this original room and a side hall have beaded vertical wall panels which reach up to the eight foot ceiling. A segmental arched fireplace, now closed with metal, has a pine mantelpiece five feet high with fluted pilasters rising to a four paneled frieze topped by a splayed cornice with a row of dentils. The side hall has an enclosed staricase which ascends from the rear hall and climbs to the attic space above.

Around 1840 a large high-ceilinged room was added to the west of the side hall. The front facade of this appendage has a granite chimney flanked by two six over six windows. Later, perhaps around the turn of the century, frame rear additions were built to the south of the original structure. The present kitchen has replaced the original frame kitchen which was detached and connected by a breezeway to the rest of the structure

The deep veranda which spans three-fourths of the front facade is supported by three short wooden pillars on a tall brick base. The remaining portion of the facade placed perpendicular to the original portion consists of a framed addition with an exterior granite chimney. Under the porch there are two six-over-six windows and two doors, one to the hall, the other opening into the later room perpendicular to the facade. A gable roof caps this white frame cottage which sits on a granite pier foundation.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	•
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	X AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	COMMERCE	XEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of the Ralph Gaines house resides primarily in the original log cabin portion of the house and the log shed barns located nearby. The most salient features of the log cabin are its diaper pattern chimney and the beautiful carved pine mantelpiece. Presently the original log structure is not visible; embraced within various frame appendages and covered with weatherboard siding.

The only portion of the log structure that can be seen today is the chimney with its diaper pattern of glazed headers. This type of glazed brickworkwas extremely rare in Georgia during the nineteenth century, but two other extant examples are known in Elbert County. One of these houses, the Ralph Banks House (c.1800) may have directly influenced the design of Gaines chimney. It seems that Ralph Banks and Ralph Gaines were close friends. In fact together with others in the community, they built the first Coldwater Methodist Church.

While it can safely be assumed that Gaines' chimney was influenced by Bank's, it is only speculation that the same craftsman built both of them. Ralph Gaines was a craftsman in his own right. He and his sons constructed wagons and made farm tools and implements. A wooden wagon made by his son, Peter, still stands on the property and his three greatgrandsons have chests and storage sheds of farm tools and patterns which their ancestors crafted and/or used.

Selling wagons and farm implements was only part of Ralph Gaines livelihood; he also had a modest farm. His father, William (Billy) Gaines, had moved to Elbert County from Virginia to settle and farm the fertile land around Coldwater Creek, once occupied by Creek Indians. When Ralph Gaines married, he established his own farm a few hundred feet west of his father's farm. Only recently, William Gaines' log cabin, which stood for over 150 years, was destroyed.

Today, the widow of Claude Ralph Gaines, Sr., lives in the house part-time. According to Claude R. Gaines, Jr., it is because the sons are away and there is a lack of economic incentive that the crop land is temporarily idle.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGR	APHICAL REFER	ENCES		<b>%</b>
Elbert County Courthouse of Macgregor, Elizabeth Z., McIntosh, John H., The Off Atlanta, Ga., 1968. Stowers, Mr. S. A., The Co	Marie G. Golson, ins ficial History of El	bert County, 17	90-1935, Chero	kee Pub. Company,
10 GEOGRAPHICAL I	DATA	-		
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPER UTM REFERENCES	ety <u>24 acres</u>			
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LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIE	S OVERLAPPING STAT	E OR COUNTY BOU	NDARIES
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
11 FORM PREPARED  NAME/TITLE  Maurie Gail Golson, Intern		regor. Architect	tural Historia	n. Consultant)
ORGANIZATION Historic Preservation Sect			DATE August 31,	
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE 404-656-28	40
270 Washington Street, S.V	N., ROOM 703-C		STATE	40
Atlanta		<u> </u>	Georgia	
12 STATE HISTORIC	PRESERVATION  JATED SIGNIFICANCE OF TH			N
NATIONAL	STATE_		LOCAL X	
As the designated State Historic Property for criteria and procedures set forth by	inclusion in the National Reg		has been evaluated	according to the
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFF		JMM-	- 5-24	-7/
TITLE Chief, Historic H	.DAVID M Preservation Section	/SHERMAN	DATE	•
FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS			TER DATE	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEO	DLOGY AND HISTORIC PRES	ERVATION	DATE	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL RE	GISTER		Grit E	

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 3 1977
DATE ENTERED OCT 5 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET Owners

ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 2

Mr. George H. Gaines 361 Glenhaven Drive Milledgeville, Ga. 31061

Mr. Claude R. Gaines, Jr. P. O. Box 396 Dahlonega, Ga. 30533

Mr. Charles S. Gaines 137 S. Aberdeen Arlington, Va. 22203

The family has requested that all information, correspondence, proposed action, etc., be submitted to all above parties.