

PH0002658

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE:           | Georgia     |
| COUNTY:          | Bibb        |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |             |
| ENTRY DATE       | MAR 22 1974 |

#### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
**A. Peyton Balkcom Home**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**DeWitt McCrary, Home** *use this name*

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**320 Hydrolia Street (East Macon)**

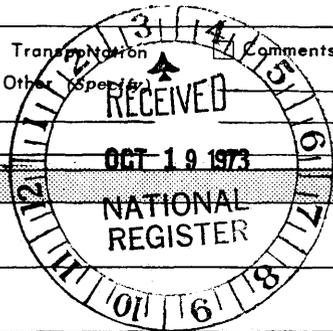
CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: **8th - Williamson S. Stuckey**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13** COUNTY: **Bibb** CODE: **021**

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY<br>(Check One)   | OWNERSHIP   | STATUS  | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC   |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input type="checkbox"/> Public<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition:<br><input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | Yes:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |

Agricultural  
 Commercial  
 Educational  
 Entertainment  
 Government  
 Industrial  
 Military  
 Museum  
 Park  
 Private Residence  
 Religious  
 Scientific  
 Transportation  
 Other (Specify)



#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**A. Peyton Balkcom**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**320 Hydrolia Street**

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

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**The Historic Architecture of Macon by Carl Feiss and Russell Wright**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1970**  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
**Middle Georgia Historical Society**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Macon Coliseum**

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

2. Historical Survey by Middle Georgia Historical Society  
1970 Local

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: Bibb

ENTRY NUMBER: MAR 22 1974

DATE: MAR 22 1974

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

|           |   |   |                               |                                       |   |                                    |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                   |   |                               |                                       |   |                                    |
|           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input 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 Balkcom House is an exceptionally nice example of an architectural style prevalent in this area during the middle to late 19th century which can best be described as "Victorian Cottage".

This house is believed to have been built shortly after the Civil War and is one of the earlier houses built on the east side of the Ocmulgee River in Macon. The exact date of construction and full name of the builder are unknown. The present owners respect the integrity of the original design and have faithfully maintained the exterior as it was originally built. Most of the inside finishes have been re-worked, a basement stair discontinued, two fireplaces have been removed, and additional bath and mechanical facilities have been included, but otherwise the interior arrangement remains unchanged. Many of the original furnishings and fixtures have been restored and refinished and still grace the interior of the house.

The site slopes toward the rear of the lot which allows a full lower level at the rear of the house. The enclosing walls surrounding the lower level are brick which combine with painted wood lattice-work to screen the space from view.

Construction above the lower level is wood frame, mostly solid heart pine. The absence of sagging, settling, or other structural inadequacies attest to the sturdiness of the framing system. The finish on the frame exterior walls is white painted weatherboard. The dominant architectural feature of the house is an extremely well detailed balustraded porch at the level of the main floor. The porch surrounds the entire house except for a small area adjacent to the right rear corner. The roof of the porch is of leanto construction framed off the main exterior wall and is supported by nicely proportioned turned wood columns with moulded capitals and sawn Victorian scrollwork brackets representing the best craftsmanship of the time.

The main roof of the house which is now roofed with asphalt shingles, is hipped and steeply pitched to a flat deck flanked by two interestingly corbeled brick chimneys. A painted half-round gutter partially obscures the crown mould of the main cornice but the cornice itself is well scaled and its elongated dentils and paired brackets make it very handsome as well as unique. Other millwork items worth noting are the floor length 15-light double-hung windows and the front entrance. The front entrance has a flat pedimented entrance frame with paneled pilasters and scrollwork brackets supporting the pediment. The door is paneled, the top panels being glazed with frosted glass of unusual configuration. The door is then capped by a stained glass transom. A copper door bell which is a very interesting and apparently very old piece of hardware adds another interesting touch to the front entrance.

A considerable amount of refinishing has taken place to the interior of the house; however, many of the original materials remain exposed to view. The floors of the uncarpeted areas are seen as mellowed heart pine. The fireplace and mantel in the living room are original with the house. Fine

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE<br>Georgia |             |
| COUNTY<br>Bibb   |             |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |             |
| ENTRY NUMBER     | DATE        |
|                  | MAR 22 1974 |

(Number all entries)

7. Description

craftsmanship is quite evident in the mirrored mantel with its delicately scaled free-standing columns, handsome mouldings and woodwork. The mantel is beautifully finished and appears to have been built of solid mahogany or close grained oak. Another unusual interior feature is the closets. The closet interiors were built and finished as furniture, with an assemblage of drawers, cabinets, and shelves - all handsomely finished complete with brass hardware. Interior trim is more or less typical for residential construction of this era. The trim mouldings are fairly heavy (about 5" wide) with moulded corner blocks at the moulding intersections. The brass chandeliers (originally gas burning) date back to very early times, and they along with most other furnishings and fixtures are in keeping with the architectural style of the house.

The kitchen and dining areas which were originally on the lower level have been moved now to the main level. The plan of the main floor is essentially a square with a center hall thru the entire house. The hall is entered from the front portion of the porch which is 7 or 8 steps above the side-walk, and feeds off to the living room, bedrooms, and kitchen, then exits onto the rear portion of the encircling porch.

The house is situated in a long-time residential neighborhood, bordering a commercial district and in close proximity to much work being done under Urban Renewal. It is in excellent condition, has little desecration of the original architectural design, is of exceptional architectural significance and is of great importance to the neighborhood.



**3. 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.1878

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Balkcom house is significant because of its architecture, its location and the prominence of its owner and occupants.

This white clapboard house with its pleasing Victorian architecture, and its porches around three-fourths of its exterior, was built about 1878 by the father of DeWitt McCrary in a prominent location at the intersection of Main and Hydrolia Streets on the east side of the Ocmulgee River in an area not far from old Fort Hawkins which was the focal point for the early pioneers who later established the City of Macon across the river.

It is probably the most outstanding building still standing in this section where Macon had its beginnings and has been a showplace throughout the years because of its attractive Victorian architecture, its continued maintenance, and the prominence of its owner, DeWitt McCrary, who was well known and greatly beloved by the people of this area and throughout Macon.

For many years McCrary operated a drugstore on Main Street, a few blocks from his home, and represented the East Macon area on the Macon City Council.

Balkcom, the present owner and occupant, also a druggist, worked with McCrary and inherited the property about 1965.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Balkcom, Mr. & Mrs. A. Peyton  
 Henderson, Freeman, A.I.A., provided physical description  
 McKay, J.J., Jr., employed for many years by Bibb Manufacturing Company in  
 East Macon area  
 Records at Macon City Hall

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

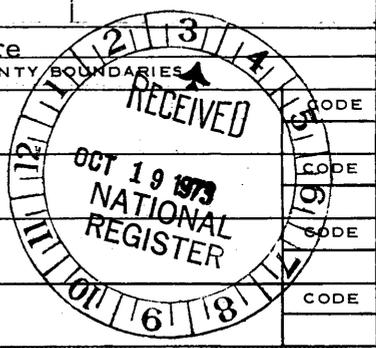
| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds   | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | 32° 50' 37"   | 83° 36' 59"             |  |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        |   |                         |  |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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 |

UTM  
 17/255100/  
 3636800



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
**John J. McKay, Jr., President**

ORGANIZATION: **Middle Georgia Historical Society, Inc.** DATE: **Nov. 10, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Macon Coliseum**

CITY OR TOWN: **Macon** 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 Historic Preservation Officer

Date Oct 16, 1973

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

[Signature]  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date MAR 22 1974

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3.25.74