

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

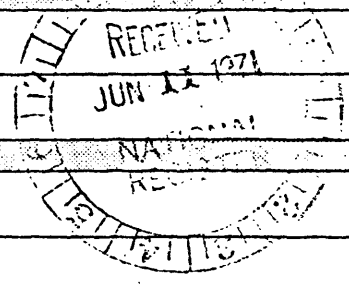
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Baldwin	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.5.10.0013	DATE 5/13/70

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Old Governor's Mansion *NHL*

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Executive Mansion



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
120 South Clark Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Milledgeville

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Baldwin CODE: 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Board of Regents, University System of Georgia

STREET AND NUMBER:  
244 Washington St., S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Baldwin County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Hancock Street

CITY OR TOWN: Milledgeville STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Building Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1934, 1936  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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 first building designed specifically to serve as the home of the chief executive of Georgia was authorized by an Act of the Legislature in 1835. From recordings in the Legislative Journal in 1837 John Pell and McClusky (sic) were each paid \$100 for the best plan for a house for the residence of the Governor. Timothy Porter of Farmington, Connecticut, superintended the erection of the building, which was completed in 1838 at a cost of \$50,000. It is located in the center of the block facing west on Clark Street, flanked by Hancock Street on the north and Greene Street on the south - all of these streets being among the original nineteen in the master plan of Milledgeville. The addition of a Gothic-style cupola, designed by John Comfort, was made at a later date. Being incompatible with the Greek Revival architecture of the house, this cupola was removed and a skylight reconstructed by architect Edward Vason Jones of Albany, Georgia in the early part of the 1960's. With the exception of the wooden blinds that were formerly attached to the house, today it appears as it did in early engravings, reproduced in Harper's Weekly in 1865. Painted white in 1920, it is now restored to the original color that has been described as a "lovely pink-tinged sunset just deepening into crimson." Major interior renovations took place, at intervals, from 1868, at which time it ceased to be the home of Georgia governors, until most recently. During the 1870's the State rented the building to various local people. From 1879 until 1890 it was used as a dormitory for cadets from the Middle Georgia Military and Agriculture College. The cornerstone for the Georgia Normal and Industrial College was laid on November 27, 1890, at the site where the Penitentiary had stood. Because of the proximity of the Mansion to this location, in 1891 the State designated this property for use as a dormitory and the president's home. It served in this dual role for more than fifty years. In 1965, by another Act of the Legislature, \$250,000 was approved for the complete renovation and modernization (i.e., central heating, air-conditioning, elevator, sprinkler system, etc.) of the building. The firm of Williams and Dean Architects of Atlanta drew plans for this work, which was executed by Donald C. Larson, general contractor, Milledgeville. On September 23, 1967, the ground and first floors were opened to the public for tours; meanwhile the second floor serves as an apartment for the president of Georgia College.

Exterior

The facade, a splendid example of the prostyle portico with a pediment, is the same used by Palladio on the Villa Rotunda, Vicenza, Italy. The Ionic order is used in the four solid brick columns, with granite capitals and bases, that are equally spaced across the porch measuring 32'4" X 10'8". The entablature of the porch maintains a low pitched gable roof. The simple granite-faced entrance has Doric pilasters surmounted by a well-designed entablature into which is carved EXECUTIVE MANSION 1838. The front door, of hand carved wood, opens and locks with original silver-plated hardware. The building consists of two main stories raised on a daylight basement (surrounded on three sides by a moat) and an attic floor. The exterior walls of brick and stucco, traced to resemble stone blocks, rise from a foundation of granite, also used as the belt course designating the main floor. Because of its permanence, granite has been used entirely as a decorative trim on the exterior. Like other formal Greek Revival houses of this period the outside chimney has been eliminated and built on the interior flush with the exterior walls. Windows on the main floors have granite lintels and sills, whereas those on



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

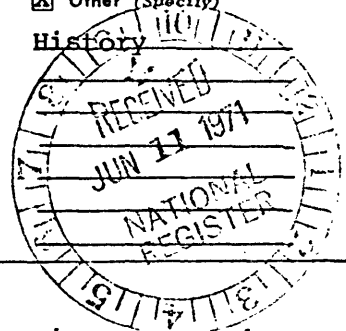
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <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) 1838

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input checked="" 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

1830-1847: The architect, Charles B. Cluskey.

The original choice of a plan for the Executive Mansion was one by John Pell, but upon close examination it was determined that the cost would be approximately \$70,000; therefore, the alternate plan, proposed by a Mr. Clusky (sic), was selected because the estimated cost for executing was only \$30,000. It has, however, completed at a cost of \$50,000. Records in the Legislative Journal indicate that both Pell and C.B. McClusky (sic) were each paid \$100 for the best plan for the Executive Mansion. Charles B. Cluskey, an Irishman by birth, was a practicing architect in Georgia from 1830-1847. His works gained recognition because they were a direct departure from the more conservative designs of rectangular shapes that had been generally used in domestic architecture. Notable examples existing in Savannah today are the Champion-McAlpin-Fowlkes and Sorrel-Weed Houses. The Old Medical College building of the University at Augusta is considered one of his masterpieces. Like the Mansion, it is built on the rotondi parti of the Villa Capra. The Executive Mansion is, without question, his most perfect example of the Greek Revival house. Following Cluskey's departure from Georgia in 1847, he was consulted on expansion of the Capitol and Executive Mansion in Washington, but his ideas were never used. He died before 1856.

1839-1868

Jared Irwin, the first chief executive residing in the new capital, occupied a log cabin. Three other house, of clapboards, later served as the official residence until the present building was completed in 1838. Governors occupying the Mansion from 1839 to 1868 were: George R. Gilmer, Charles J. McDonald, George W. Crawford, George E. Towns, Howell Cobb, Herschel V. Johnson, Joseph E. Brown, James Johnson, Charles J. Jenkins, and Brigadier General Thomas H. Ruger. Ruger, serving from January to July 1868, was appointed by General George H. Meade, Commander of the Third Military District which Georgia was a part during Reconstruction. General William T. Sherman established his headquarters in the Executive Mansion in November of 1864. From that time through Reconstruction the stately Mansion suffered many tragic moments. On May 9, 1865 Governor Brown was arrested in the building by Federal troops.

1869-1971

The Executive Mansion suffered great abuse when it was being used as a boarding house in the 1870's. In 1879 the State of Georgia loaned the property to the newly established Georgia Military and Agriculture College.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Beeson, Leola Selma, "One Hundred Years at the Mansion," pub. 1938.  
 Bonner, James C., "The Governor's Mansion at Milledgeville," unpublished.  
 Nichols, Frederick Doveton, The Early Architecture of Georgia. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1957.)  
 Sherwood, Adiel, A Gazetteer of the State of Georgia. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1939, reprint of original 1827 publication.)

**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	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		33	04	42
SE	° ' "	° ' "		83	13	53
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Miss Mary Jo Thompson, Manager, Old Governor's Mansion

ORGANIZATION: Old Capital Historical Society DATE: May 1, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Milledgeville 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 Juvett Date \_\_\_\_\_

Title State Liaison Officer ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Date May 7, 1971 \_\_\_\_\_

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

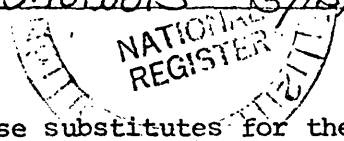
William J. Mustang  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
 Keeper of The National Register

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7. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION, page 2.

the basement level have granite sills and the belt course substitutes for the lintels. Surrounding the house is a wide simple entablature deceptively supported at the four corners of the building and where the bay is joined. The roof, originally copper, was replaced with tin in 1868 by S.F. Hancock and Father, of Milledgeville. The dome, constructed in the attic, is not an outstanding feature of the exterior. The roof is slightly angled to a circular skylight projecting from the dome.

a. South View:

A small stoop, 5'X5', with ten steps, designated the entrance to the main floor from the garden. Entry to the ground level is beneath this. The overhang is arched and partially brick-faced.

b. East View:

The bay structure, so popular in this era, is used here and is in perfect symmetry with the total exterior design. It runs from the roof line to ground level, from where one enters a foyer, designated as the Carriage Entrance.

c. North View:

A reconstructed brick wall (resembling one in an early photograph, c. 1888) encloses a brick patio, from which one enters into the State Dining Room.

d. West View: (Ground Floor)

Entry here is beneath the front porch, which provides a breezeway. A room enclosed underneath the front steps has an open doorway and three recessed arches that probably served as a wine cellar. Legend holds that this was the starting point of a tunnel that terminated at the Capitol, but there is no evidence to substantiate this.

Interior

Frederick Doveton Nichols has expressed the architectural significance of this building in his Early Architecture of Georgia: "Outside of Virginia, the finest Jefferson inspired design and one of the most sophisticated plans in Georgia is the Governor's Mansion in Milledgeville." A variety of room shapes - octagonal, round, rectangular and square - divide the floor plan. One enters a broad entrance hall and passes into a central rotunda. A coffered dome, of plaster, with gilded ornamental design outlining trapezoidal shaped panels, is the most commanding interior feature. A projecting cantilevered balcony encompasses the circumference of this room. In the Drawing Room are matching mantels of black Italian marble with broad flat pilasters and anthemion capitals. These fireplaces have linings of cast iron. Three acanthus-designed medallions, measuring 4' in diameter, are recessed in the ceiling. Identical medallions appear in the entrance hall and parlor. A single recent addition to this room is the eleven-member dentil molding. An octagonal room is on axis with the rotunda. Though not altered structurally, it serves as entry to a small water closet and storage closet added during the last renovation. A floor replacement has been made here due to a fire that occurred in the 1870's. The main stair, placed in a side corridor is flanked by two rooms. The Parlor and Dining Room, designed as perfect cubes 24' X 24', are unaltered except for

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7. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION, page 3.

an elevator shaft that has been placed in the corner of the dining room. Upstairs the President's Apartment has been adapted to family living. Downstairs one sees the original winter kitchen, typical of Cluskey's plans. This fireplace was revealed when plastering was removed in the early 1950's. Beautiful hand-made brick doubled for hearth and floor. Entry to a minor stair is in an adjoining room. This service stair, placed in a concealed area, by-passes the main floor and exits into a hall on the second floor. The State Dining Room corresponds in size to the Drawing Room. Early plans indicate that servants' quarters also comprised a part of this basement area.



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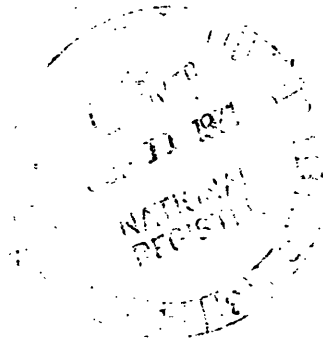
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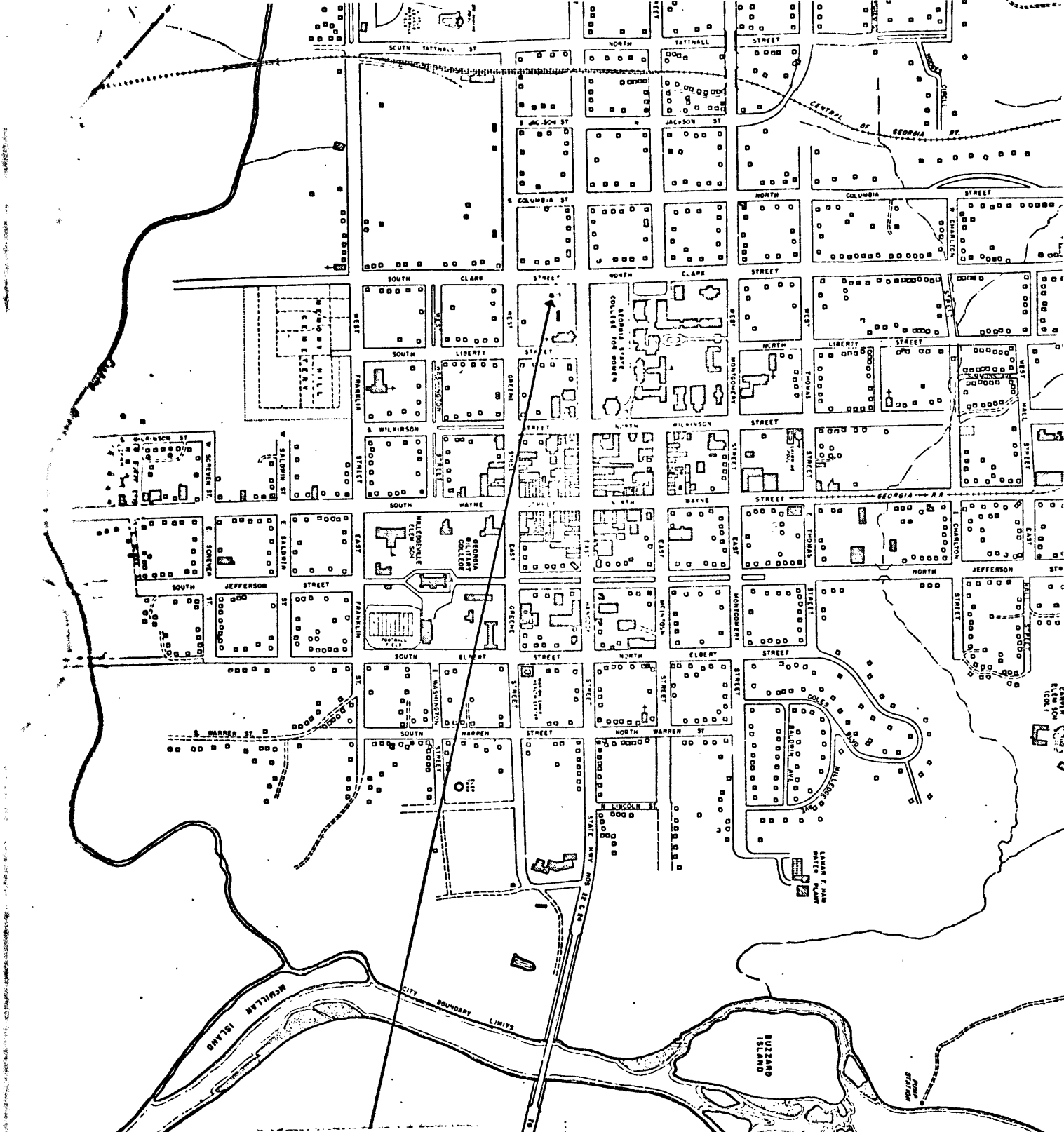
8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, page 2.

Scars of that occupation can be seen in the initials that were carved in the lovely marble mantels. Georgia Normal and Industrial College was chartered in 1889 and following construction of the first academic building the Mansion was occupied as the first dormitory and president's residence for that institution. All succeeding presidents have continued to live in this building.

The Old Governor's Mansion has had local, state and national architectural, historical and cultural significance from 1838 until the present. On September 23, 1967, the ground and first floors were opened to the public for tours. The second floor serves as an apartment for the President of Georgia College. After visiting hours for tourists are over, the President and college have access to the first two floors for receptions.

William R. Mitchell, Jr.

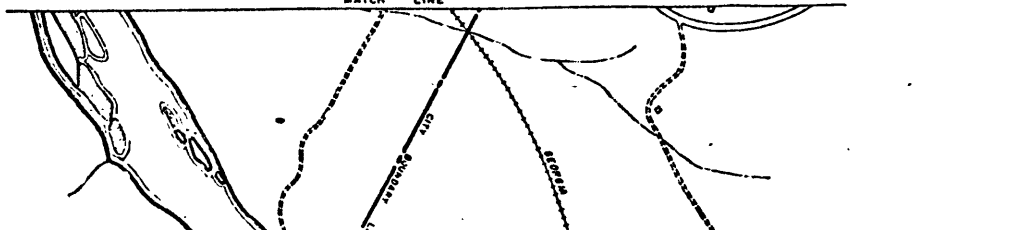




OLD GOVERNOR'S MANSION

LATITUDE 33° 04' 42"  
 LONGITUDE 83° 13' 53"

MATCH LINE





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