

PH0022  
969

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

|                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| STATE:<br><b>GEORGIA</b>           |                        |
| COUNTY:<br><b>BIBB</b>             |                        |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY                   |                        |
| ENTRY NUMBER<br><b>716.13.0023</b> | DATE<br><b>6/11/71</b> |

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Carmichael House**

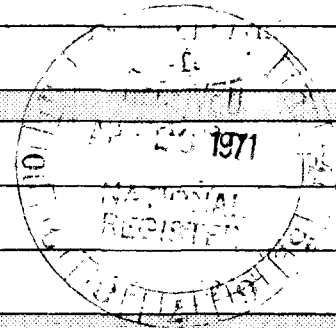
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
 **Raines - Miller - Carmichael House**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1183 Georgia Avenue**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Macon**

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



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

|                                        |                                     |                                                       |                                          |                                   |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> |                                   |
| Educational <input type="checkbox"/>   | Military <input type="checkbox"/>   | Religious <input type="checkbox"/>                    |                                          |                                   |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Museum <input type="checkbox"/>     | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>                   |                                          |                                   |

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
**R. J. and Katherine W. Carmichael and Katherine C. Oliver**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1183 Georgia Avenue**

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**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **approximately 1 acre**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **I. The Historical 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
- 3. HABS No. GA-145 11 Maco 7 1936 Federal Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Code 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: GEORGIA  
COUNTY: BIBB  
ENTRY NUMBER: 716.13.0023  
DATE: 6/11/71  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

|           |                                               |                                    |                               |                                       |                                                   |                                    |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                   |                                    |                               |                                       |                                                   |                                    |
|           | Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Good <input type="checkbox"/>      | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>                    | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One)                                   |                                    |                               | (Check One)                           |                                                   |                                    |
|           | Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   | Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> |                               | Moved <input type="checkbox"/>        | Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house was built in the late 1840's.

"The design is that of a modified Greek Cross, with rooms branching off in four directions from an octagonal hall. A free-hanging stairway sings itself upward to a cupola high above the second story."

"Originally the Ionic-columned front porch followed the line of the house between the arms of the cross. Later it was given a rounded front. The interior of the house, with large bay window recesses at the end of each room, no doubt, presented a major problem in decoration. Happily, its various vistas are enhanced by exquisite eighteenth-century mahogany furnishings and an overall effect of unity heightened by just the right fabrics and colors."

The front porch has been changed; originally it broke back following line of walls making three sides of an internal octagon. This house has an unusual plan forming a cross with equal arms and octagonal stair and entrance hall in center, and with porches between each arm of the cross. A spiral stair-case carries up to attic. Restoration, changing the aspect of the original building include changes in front porch and the woodwork of the central hall. Central plaster ceiling ornament in color at attic ceiling above central stair-hall.

*Handwritten notes:*  
 until now... of...  
 made...  
 ...  
 ...



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**SIGNIFICANCE**

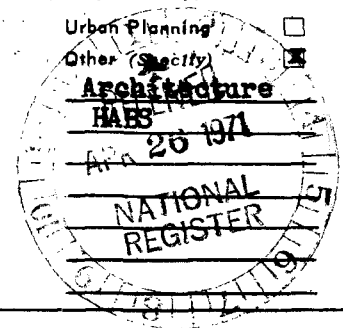
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1840's

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |                                              |                                       |                                         |                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 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/Phi- <input type="checkbox"/>  | Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>     |
| Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Industry <input type="checkbox"/>     | osophy <input type="checkbox"/>         | <b>Architecture</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>         | Invention <input type="checkbox"/>    | Science <input type="checkbox"/>        | <b>HABS</b>                                             |
| Art <input type="checkbox"/>                 | Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>    | Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>      | <b>APR 26 1971</b>                                      |
| Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>            | Architecture <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Human- <input type="checkbox"/>  | <b>NATIONAL</b>                                         |
| Communications <input type="checkbox"/>      | Literature <input type="checkbox"/>   | itarian <input type="checkbox"/>        | <b>REGISTER</b>                                         |
| Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>        | Military <input type="checkbox"/>     | Theater <input type="checkbox"/>        |                                                         |
|                                              | Music <input type="checkbox"/>        | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> |                                                         |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

This house is one of the most prominent architectural beauties of Macon, at the intersection of two main arteries, College Street and Georgia Avenue, in the heart of the College Hill area.

This house was designed by the great architect-builder, Elam Alexander, in the form of a modified Greek Cross and was built in the late 1840's by Cadwallader W. Raines.

Howard Major in his book, "The Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic", uses this house to illustrate the variety of detail and the striking individuality often achieved within the Greek Revival style. Godey's "Lady's Book" is said to have printed the plans followed in 1846 in building the Carmichael House.

Judge Raines died in 1856 and his wife in 1860, leaving no issue. The house was sold in 1869 to John E. Jones, president of the Central Bank of Georgia. By a family connection it came into the possession of Dr. and Mrs. George T. Miller, before being purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Joseph Carmichael.

The Carmichaels maintain the house and grounds in a most careful manner, making 1183 Georgia Avenue one of Macon's most important historical and architectural landmarks.

Elam Alexander, Macon's great builder, left this city a great architectural legacy by means of this beautiful home, Jerry Cowles' cottage (now located on Rivoli Drive in Macon) and Cowles' Mansion (now Stratford Academy). Alexander is also credited with designing the outstanding Holt-Peeler-Snow House and the original Wesleyan Female College. Through his will, Alexander provided for funds to build public schools, four of which have been erected and named in his honor since his death in 1863.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jones, Mary Callaway. Macon's Heritage in Architecture. Macon, Georgia, 1939, revised 1957.  
 Major, Howard. The Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic.  
 Nichols, F. D. & Johnston, F. B. The Early Architecture of Georgia. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 1957.  
 Perkerson, Medora Field. White Columns in Georgia. New York, 1952.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | OR | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE |                         |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER                                                                        | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |    | LATITUDE                                                                                         | LONGITUDE               |  |
|                                                                               | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |    | Degrees Minutes Seconds                                                                          | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW                                                                            | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |    | 32° 50' 29"                                                                                      | 83° 38' 19"             |  |
| NE                                                                            | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |    |                                                                                                  |                         |  |
| SE                                                                            | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |    |                                                                                                  |                         |  |
| SW                                                                            | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |    |                                                                                                  |                         |  |

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |
|        |      |        |      |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

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

ORGANIZATION: **Middle Georgia Historical Society, Inc.** DATE: **March 25, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **c/o Macon Coliseum**

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

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 Gwilt  
 Title: State Liaison Officer  
 Date: April 19, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest R. Ramey  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUN 21 1971

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:  
William H. Stewart  
 Keeper of the National Register  
 Date: MAY 24 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(Number all entries)

NATIONAL LANDMARKS STATEMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

CARMICHAEL HOUSE, MACON

The Carmichael House, prominently situated at the intersection of two of Macon's main arteries, was constructed in the late 1840's for Judge Calwallander W. Raines by the Macon builder-architect, Elam Alexander. Alexander used plans published in W. H. Ranlett's The Architect. The result is architecturally superb; classical details such as Ionic capitals, a full entablature, and pedimented gables are combined with aspects which express approaching Victorian characteristics - a spacious modified Greek cross plan, bay windows and multi-sided third story tower. Major interior features include an elaborate columned niche found in the main stair hall and repeated in several rooms and the magnificent tour de force of a spiraling staircase in the central tower. Alexander's merit as an architect is exemplified in his other Macon structures, the Jerry Cowles Cottage, the Cowles Mansion, the Holt-Peeler-Snow House, and the original Wesleyan Female College, any one of which might qualify as a national landmark in architecture. This is however, the most exemplary untampered with survivor.

Located at the intersection of College Street and Georgia Avenue, the Carmichael House is in the heart of the College Hill area. Howard Major in his book, the Domestic Architecture of the Early American Republic uses this house to illustrate the variety of detail and the striking individuality often achieved within the Greek Revival style.

The Carmichael House is in good condition and is essentially as it was in the late 1840's.