

PH0501107

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
JUL 14 1977	
DATE ENTERED	1978

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Kennedy House  
AND/OR COMMON  
Kennedy House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
300 Kirkland Street (Main Street)

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2

CITY, TOWN  
Abbeville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE  
Alabama

CODE  
01

COUNTY  
Henry

CODE  
067

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Abbeville Community Improvement Council (c/o Mrs. Daniel Webster)

STREET & NUMBER  
311 Kirkland Street

CITY, TOWN  
Abbeville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE  
Alabama

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Henry County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
Abbeville

STATE  
Alabama 36310

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kennedy House, which faces east on a corner lot near downtown Abbeville, is a fine example of a late Creole Cottage constructed after the close of the Civil War. The one-and-a-half story, braced frame structure has a gabled roof, end-exterior chimneys and a full width recessed gallery. Four square columns with Doric capitals support a deep frieze and a simple cornice. Pilasters terminate the gallery which is of shiplap siding, while the remainder of the structure is finished with clapboard. Tapered native stone piers form the foundation; however, some of the interior supports are of cut logs. The original wooden shingles are still in place, but have been covered with modern asphalt material.

Two single, six paneled doors are centered on the Eastern facade and are flanked by double-hung, 9/9 windows. Exterior trim for windows and doors, like the interior trim, is very simple. The house lacks a central hall and each door opens directly into a front room measuring approximately 15'x15' with simple interior trim. Two original mantels remain. One is simple while the other has fluted pilasters, a broad frieze, unadorned corner blocks and a shelf supported by a series of mouldings. Each room opens into a smaller rear room. An enclosed stair leading to the finished attic above is located in the room to the north side of the house.

Originally the house had a rear porch and breezeway leading to a detached kitchen; however, these were removed in the early 20th Century to make space for additional bedrooms. When the property was acquired by the Board of Education, the rear additions were removed and two large metal school rooms were constructed within 20 feet of the rear of the building. Restoration plans call for the screening of these two buildings with large shrubs.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      c. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Kennedy House is one of the oldest remaining structures in Abbeville and is an unusual house type for this section of the state. Based on the Creole Cottage, which was abundant along the gulf coast but less common further inland, the Kennedy House retains one of the earliest features of this house type, the lack of a central hall.

Dr. William Calvin Bethune, a prominent medical doctor who was wounded during the Civil War, returned to Abbeville and in 1870 constructed this home for his family at the intersection of Kirklnad and College streets. Bethune apparently occupied the house for only a few years, as it changed hands three times prior to being purchased by Walter K. Stokes in 1878. Stokes retained the structure for seven years, selling it to William and Mollie Kennedy in 1885.

The Kennedy family owned and farmed land in rural Henry County, but chose to occupy this house near the center of the county's largest town. The house remained in the Kennedy family until 1974 when it was acquired by the Board of Education. Recently it was purchased by the Abbeville Community Improvement Council for use as a community center.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 6	66 6 0 0 0	34 93 3 4 9 2 6 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot is 142 feet x 100 feet. Northeast corner of Kirkland and College streets.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director and Ellen Mertins

ORGANIZATION

Alabama Historical Commission

STREET & NUMBER

725 Monroe Street

CITY OR TOWN

Montgomery

DATE

June 27, 1977

TELEPHONE

(205) 832-6621

STATE

Alabama 36130

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Mrs. B. Howard Jr.

TITLE

SHPO Alabama

DATE

June 29, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Warner Floyd

DATE

1-5-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

W. Warner Floyd

DATE

1-9-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER