

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received DEC 15 1983
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic John Quincy Allen House

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 345 ~~East~~ Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Buford

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia

code 013

county Gwinnett

code 135

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>N/A</u> 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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Cheeley, Jr.

street & number P.O. Drawer 380

city, town Buford

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 30518

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Gwinnett County Courthouse

city, town Lawrenceville

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:
title Gwinnett County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978

federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Quincy Allen House is a two-story, frame, Georgian Revival-styled house with a Palladian portico-entrance, circular brick driveway, coach house, tennis court, and vestiges of a formal garden. The exterior of the house is white-painted poplar weatherboard. The central entrance portico is of formal, Palladian design with a flower basket-and-garlands relief. It includes matching twelve-light insets on either side. The front facade includes pairs of French doors/windows, each of which has canvas awnings. There is a porte cochere used as a breakfast porch on the right side. Shutters flank the windows.

The interior consists on the first floor of three large rooms and a kitchen, and on the second floor, four bedrooms and a sunroom over the porte cochere. On the first floor, one enters into a living room containing a large, decorative fireplace in the center, with a Federal-style mantel. Flanking this large room on the left is a dining room; on the right, a drawing room; each with a similarly styled mantel, crown molding, and paneled wainscotting. Mahogany doors separate the rooms. The original kitchen is intact and is entered from the rear of the dining room. Several pantries and other associated facilities are off the kitchen. The second floor is reached from either of two stairs, one off the formal living room, and the other off the kitchen area. Among the bedroom features are built-in closets, two Federal-style mantels, bathrooms and multiple windows. There is a bench on the stair landing and a sunroom over the porte cochere. The interior is plaster over wood and metal lath, and the walls are unusually thick. Floors are select, knot-free oak. The hardware is solid brass, save for bronze on the French doors. Lighting fixtures are solid brass with crystal. The original heating and ventilation systems have been replaced.

The landscaped grounds are being restored, a sprinkler system has been installed, and the brick driveway repaired. The only outbuilding is a historic, two-story frame carriage house with servants' quarters atop. The tennis court has been converted to parking. A gazebo, which fell apart, will be rebuilt. The house sits in a residential area two doors away from the First Methodist Church. There apparently have been no major changes to the house save paint-color changes and new wall coverings. A rear porch was apparently removed.

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Continuation sheet Representation

Item number 6

Page 2

Representation in Existing Surveys

On January 5, 1983, this property received a preliminary certification of significance from the Preservation Services Branch, National Register Programs Division, National Park Service, Southeast Regional Office.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History

Specific dates 1911-12 Builder/Architect Not Known

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John Quincy Allen House is significant in architecture and local history. Architecturally, the house is significant as a fine example of the Georgian Revival style in a domestic structure. This home reflects restrained details and simple arrangement on the exterior, characteristic of the early-twentieth-century reaction to Victorianism. The Georgian Revival details include the Palladian portico with its flower basket-and-garlands relief on the exterior, and in the interior, the large rooms, paneled wainscoting, and Federal mantels, most of which were originally painted white, the color itself reflecting classical tastes. The house was most likely designed by a well-known architect of the time, since Mr. Allen's father, Bona Allen, Sr., employed the well-known Atlantan, Haralson Bleckley, as architect for his own house built at the same time at the end of the street, but it is not yet known which architect was involved here.

The house is significant in local history as the home of John Quincy Allen (1880-1967), who was one of five children of Bona Allen, Sr. (1846-1925), the founder of the leading industry in Buford, Georgia, the Bona Allen Tannery. John Quincy Allen built one of seven Allen family homes along the railroad that runs through the center of town, the finest being the nearby home of the father, built at the same time as this one. All of the children were multi-millionaires. John Quincy Allen married Kate Shadburn and lived here with their two children. Allen was an officer, shareholder, and director of the family firm, the Bona Allen Company. After his death, a grandson lived here briefly and then the house was sold out of the family. John Q. Allen is especially remembered for starting the "Bona Allen Shoemakers," a semi-professional baseball team that played all over the country and helped the town spirit. The Bona Allen family and Buford were inseparably linked in the sense of a company town. The great patriarch lived at the end of the street and was flanked by his children, who were ready to carry on the family name and business.

These areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria B and C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cheeley, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E., Jr., "Historic Property Information Form," 1982, based on county history, interviews with employees and family members, newspaper articles, John A. Wilson's article on Bona Allen, Inc., in the Hide and Leather, August, 1937 and 1973 centennial booklet of Bona Allen, Inc.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.28 acres

Quadrangle name Suwanee, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	6	7	7	6	5	9	0	3	7	7	9	6	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is all that the current owner owns at this location and all that remains associated with the house. It is marked by a heavy black line on the enclosed plat map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian

organization Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

date December 5, 1983

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 30334

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

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon, Ph.D.

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 12/9/83

For NPS use only

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

**Entered in the
National Register**

date 1/12/84

for Allison Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

FOUND D.E. EASEMENT
 SET S.E. SEWER
 LINE LINE EASEMENT
 LINE DA. DRAINAGE AREA
 LINE H.W. HEAD WALL
 WAY C.B. CATCH BASIN
 LINE C.D. CROSS DRAIN
 HE P.T. POINT OF
 LINE TANGENCY
 VE P.C. POINT OF
 E CURVATURE
 R. RADII

Recorded March 29, 1974

SKETCH MAP/PLAT

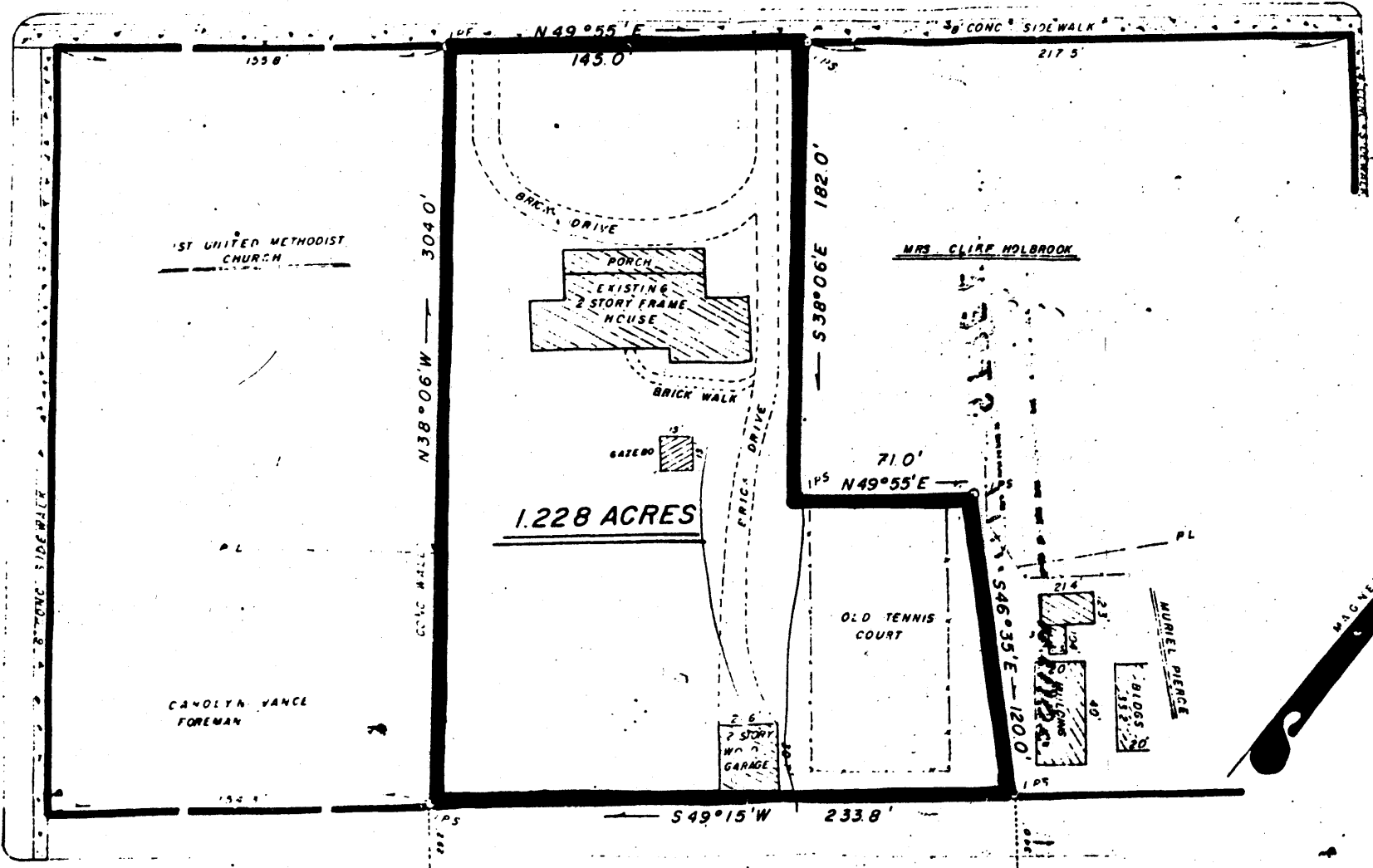
JOHN QUINCY ALLEN HOUSE
 Buford, Gwinnett County, Georgia

Scale: Not to scale
 Source: Drawn for Sale of Property
 Date: 1974

Key: The nominated property is marked in the center of the plat by a heavy black line.

EAST MAIN STREET

23.5' PAVING



SOUTH HILL STREET

1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1.228 ACRES

MRS. CLIFF HOLBROOK

OLD TENNIS COURT

CANDOLYN VANCE FOREMAN

MURIEL PIERCE

MAGNETIC NORTH

EAST MORENO STREET

18' PAVING

G-1. SKETCH OF PROPERTY WITH STRUCTURES THEREON

FLOOR PLAN

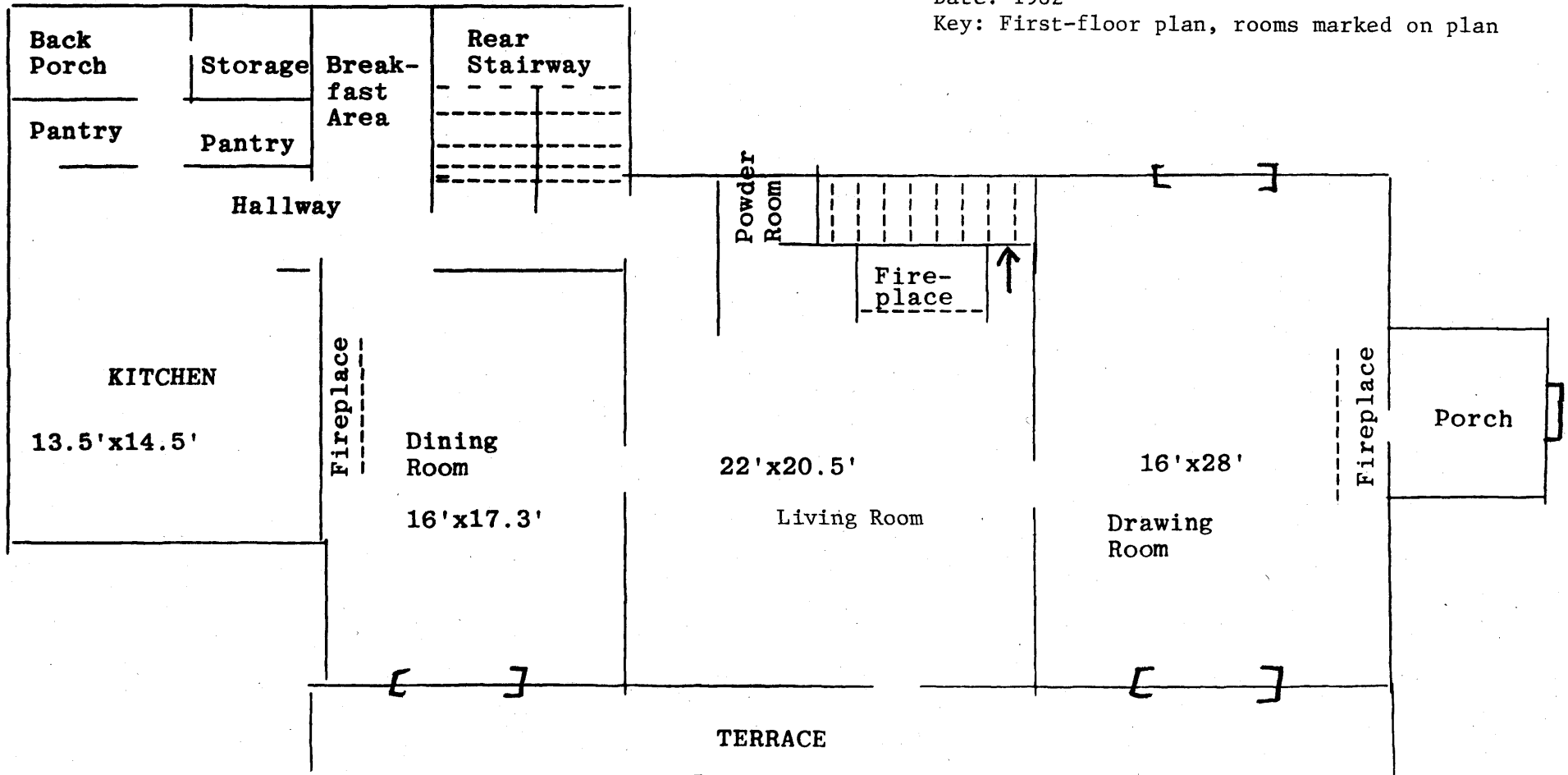
JOHN QUINCY ALLEN HOUSE
Buford, Gwinnett County, Georgia

Scale: Not to scale

Source: Drawn by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cheeley

Date: 1982

Key: First-floor plan, rooms marked on plan



F L O O R P L A N

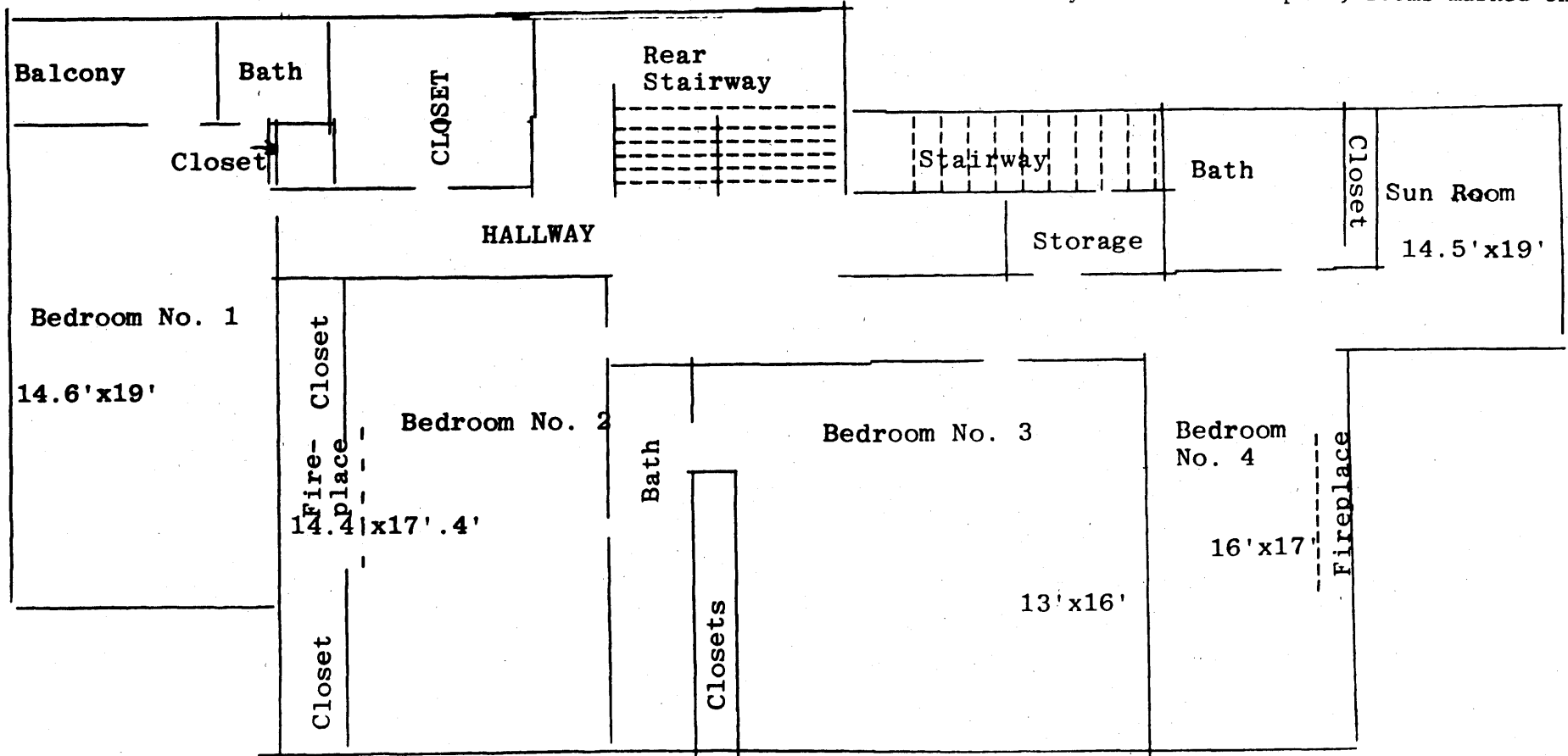
FIRST FLOOR

(Not to Scale)

FLOOR PLAN

JOHN QUINCY ALLEN HOUSE
 Buford, Gwinnett County, Georgia

Scale: Not to scale
 Source: Drawn by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cheeley
 Date: 1982
 Key: Second-floor plan, rooms marked on plan



FLOOR PLAN
SECOND FLOOR
 (Not To Scale)