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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The McAdory home is a typical pioneer planter's home of the pre-Civil War Era. The house was originally one of three buildings which formed the residence complex. The kitchen, which originally stood some twelve yards on the left, or west of the main building, no longer exists; the main building, consisting of five rooms, a dogtrot and three porches, still exists and is in good condition. The third building of the complex was called the boys' house. This building was used as sleeping quarters for the boys in the family and for lodging overnight guests. The small, one-room "boys' house" still stands but has been modified and is presently being used by the caretaker.

The main house was constructed in 1841 by the slaves belonging to Thomas McAdory, Jr. The superstructure was built of hand hewn, heart pine timbers, notched and pegged together with pegs made from black locust trees. The outer surface was of sawn, horizontal boarding, nailed into place with square nails. The original doors with their hand forged hardware have been unaltered; the original windows exist also. The house was heated by a wood burning fireplace in each room, but only three of the early, stacked stone chimneys remain today. The roof was of hand split wood shingles but has been covered by tin. The dogtrot which divided the house from front to rear has been enclosed and now serves as an entry hallway.

Entering the house from the front, there was a porch, supported by six wooden, hand hewn, solid pine columns, which ran the full width of the front of the building. The dogtrot, originally open, divided the parlor and one bed room on the right from the dining room and two bed rooms on the left. At the rear of the dogtrot there was an extended small back porch with a door opening into the dining room. A door on the west side of the dining room also led to a small shed-like porch, allowing food which was prepared in the adjacent kitchen building to be brought to the main building for serving.

The parlor was decorated with a three foot high wainscoting on all four interior walls. The wainscoting is still in place. The original floors and interior walls have also been retained.



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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applical	ole and Known)		
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Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
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The Thomas McAdory, Jr. home is a typical example of plantation house architecture in early Alabama. The family originated in Scotland and later emigrated to America, settling in South Carolina. Thomas McAdory, Sr., father of the builder of the house, was born in South Carolina in 1776. After his marriage he moved with his family to Kentucky and later in 1818 to Alabama. He died two years later. His wife and children developed a large plantation. Each child was given a fine education.

Thomas McAdory, Jr. married Emily Owen in 1836. He purchased land near his childhood home and built the existing building for his bride in 1840. The couple reared six children, two sons serving the Confederacy during the Civil War. One son was killed in the Battle of Chickamauga; another son, Isaac, returned home and later became an outstanding educator. Isaac founded Pleasant Hill Academy and was in the Alabama Legislature in 1886-87 and later in 1897. A daughter, Nancy (McAdory) Owen, had a son named Thomas M. Owen, who was born in this house. Thomas Owen practiced law in Bessemer from 1887 to 1894. He was an historian and was founder and first director of Alabama State Department of Archives and History.

This home was also the birthplace of Robert M. McAdory, first mayor of Bessemer and early merchant.

The Thomas McAdory, Jr. home is a most significant building whose architecture reflects plantation life by people who were rooted in tradition of conservative pride in family, and in wealth; which made them singularly averse to the Classic Revival trends in the architecture of that era.



SEE INSTRUCTION

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FAMILY RECORDS OF THOMAS MCADORY FAMILY-owned by Elmore McA Bessemer, Alabama GENEALOGY OF PRUDE OWEN MCADORY FAMILIES-State Archives Owen, Thomas McAdory, HISTORY OF ALABAMA AND DICTIONARY OF BIOGRAPHY, Volume III; The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., C 1961.	ALABAMA
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Executive Director West Jefferson Historical Societ	у
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Alabama Historical Commission STREET AND NUMBER: 305 South Lawrence Street CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery. Alabama 36104 I2 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION A labama 36104 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: I hereby certify that this property is inclusion in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: I hereby certify that this property is inclusion in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: I hereby certify that this property is inclusion in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: I hereby certify that this property is inclusion in the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: National State I Local Image: Ima	CODE 01 ATION
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Alabama Historical Commission STREET AND NUMBER: 305 South Lawrence Street CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery, 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 I State I Local I Name Date 12/26/72	CODE 01 ATION

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