

File COPY

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

70000204
(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Fulton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Tullie Smith House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Swan House Estate, 3099 Andrews Drive, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Atlanta

STATE: Georgia CODE: 13 COUNTY: Fulton CODE: 121

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments: Being restored

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Atlanta Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
3099 Andrews Drive, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

STATE: Georgia

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
150 Pryor Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

COUNTY: Fulton

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

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DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tullie Smith House is a frequently encountered type of early Georgia farmhouse in the style Frederick Doveton Nichols calls "plantation plain." In The Early Architecture of Georgia, Nichols described such houses in this way:

Between the delicate Adam work of the Early Republic and the full fledged Greek Revival, there came a period of simple edifices, mainly plantation houses and their dependencies, which we call the "plantation plain style." They were of wood covered with weatherboard, topped with a simple gable, and had masonry or clay chimneys....Interiors were usually partially or completely sheathed with matching boarding and without cornices and with the simplest of door and window trim; the style persisted almost until the mid-century mark.

Few of these sublimely simple wooden structures have survived entirely unchanged. Their simplicity suggested-almost required-modifications. Tullie Smith House and its kitchen building are not exceptions to this rule.

A craftsman's architecture of wood, it was a style which persisted for generations and, without exception, the phases and periods of remodelings are subtle, deceptive, and maddening to perceive. Therefore, when the Atlanta Historical Society decided to restore the much-remodeled house to its original c. 1840 appearance, the structure became a laboratory for studying the phases of modifications to a ubiquitous type of old Georgia house. Consequently, what follows is a description of original appearance as determined by research. When restored to that appearance, Tullie Smith House will be a prototype for "plain style" house restorations whether public or private, educational or residential.

I. House, A. Exterior: The basic outlines of the dwelling and kitchen remain almost as they were originally. The house is a two-story clapboard structure with a low pitched gable roof and a brick chimney in each gable end; a shed roof runs the length of the rear. The whole is crowned by a simple cornice which only returns partway on each gable end. The side facades are almost unchanged except for new weatherboarding. Each gable end has, on the first floor, two windows with nine-over-six lights and directly above on the second floor are smaller windows with six lights over six. (On each side facade the windows come right up to the chimney so that no clapboarding shows on one side of each window.) Five windows light the shed rooms, one on each side of the shed and three on the back: one on the left of the back door and two on the right. The front facade was altered on the first floor level about 1875 when the original front porch was replaced by a full length shed porch and "traveler's room." Evidently the original porch was a simple pedimented affair sheltering the front entrance but neither of the front windows. The exact appearance of the front facade is still being deliberated but basically it was as follows: each floor had only two windows one above the other. The front door was off center and the porch was a gable-ended shed with simple columns.

B. Interior: Except for the loss of an original hallway which bisected the house from front to rear, downstairs the original configuration survives: two front rooms, a steep staircase, and two rooms under the rear shed roof. Upstairs is one large room where originally there were two. Original mantelpieces survive throughout as well as the original stairs, except that the stairs now descend to the rear rather than to the front of the house. This is a "plain style" interior exactly as Nichols described in the quotation above, with horizontal boarding and no plaster throughout.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
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(Number all entries)

7. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

II. Kitchen: This is a small one-story, one-room, braced-frame, weatherboarded structure. In the gable end farthest from the house is one large chimney, the lower 3/4's of which is of rock and the upper 1/4 of brick. (A typical plain style dependency, it is believed to be the only surviving detached kitchen in the Atlanta area.)

B. 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. 1835-40; 1970

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

Atlanta and Fulton County are the most populous urban centers in Georgia. Little tangible "history" survives. Tullie Smith House and its kitchen building are an almost unique exception. Atlanta's expressways and executive parks mushroomed around this house until it was isolated on a hillock and the last member of the family died. The estate demanded the sale of the valuable house site. Heirs agreed to donate the buildings and an Atlanta banker provided the money to save and move them. The Atlanta Historical Society provided a new house site on its own grounds. Here they will be restored exactly as they were when built, c. 1835-45, when Atlanta began. Their pioneer simplicity will contrast with the suburban sophistication of Swan House, the 1920's mansion headquarters of the Atlanta Historical Society. The Atlanta Junior League and the Georgia Historical Commission are cooperating with the Historical Society in this effort to provide a locally unique three-dimensional history lesson.

In Georgia with the exception of the state administered historic site "Traveler's Rest," no "plantation plain style" house-as discussed on the facing page-has been restored and opened for educational purposes. These fragile wooden documents of an important part of Georgia's state and local history are fast disappearing. Had Tullie Smith House not been moved to the Atlanta Historical Society's "backyard," it too would have disappeared. Because such houses are not of the high-style Federal and Greek Revival periods, they are often overlooked and because the pioneer citizens who built them were often "plain style" people, little is usually known about their history; indeed they are usually not thought to be historical documents. The builder of our example was Robert H. Smith who came from Rutherford, North Carolina, about 1833 and settled in DeKalb County, Georgia, on what later became North Druid Hills Road. Smith's great-granddaughter, Tullie, the last member of the family to occupy the property, gives the house its name. When it and the kitchen building are restored, a visitor may experience the sparsely settled frontier which this area was about 1835, several years before Terminus was created by a railroad surveyor's benchmark and about a decade before Marthasville became Atlanta in 1845.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Garrett, Franklin M., Atlanta and Environs, (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1954).
 Mitchell, William R., Jr., Personal Inspection Reports and other Data on file at GHC.
 Mitchell, William R., Jr. Tape recorded Interview with Robert Smith Paden, grandson of Robert H. Smith, August 5, 1970, on file at GHC.
 Nichols, Frederick Doveton, The Early Architecture of Georgia, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1957).
 Sparks, Andrew, "'Oldest House' Comes to Town," Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine, November 9, 1969.

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		W.84° 23 ' 10 "	N.33° 50 ' 30 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 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:
 William R. Mitchell, Jr., Director, Georgia Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Historical Commission DATE: October 9, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:
 116 Mitchell Street, S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta 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 G. Quirt

Title State Liaison Officer

Date 10-13-70

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS