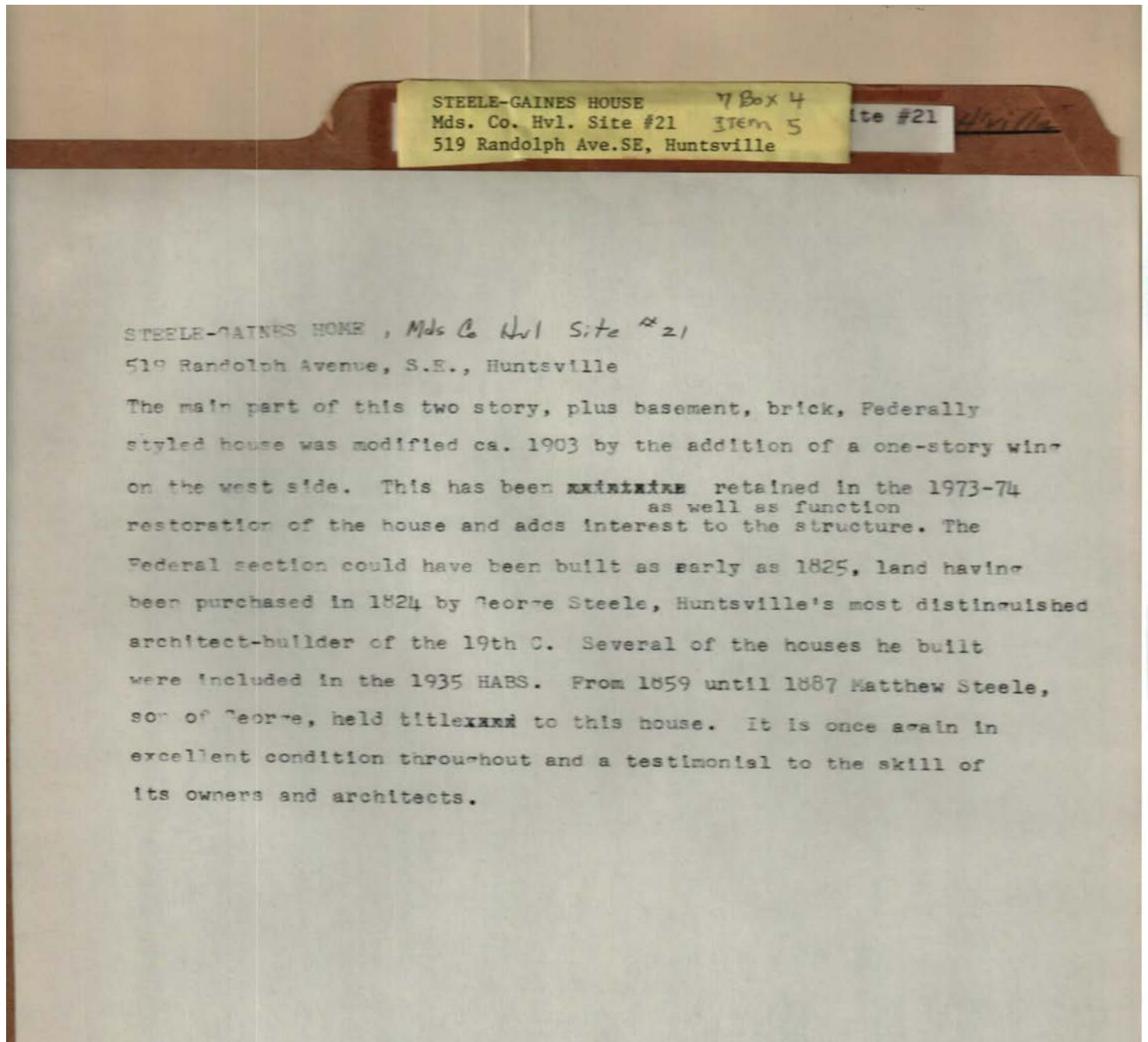


Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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Names:

Steele, George

Steele, Matthew

Steele-Gaines Home

Places:

Huntsville, AL

Types:

essay

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Alabama
 COUNTY: Madison
 FOR NPS USE ONLY
 ENTRY NUMBER: DATE:

1. NAME
 COMMON: Steele-Gaines home
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Matthew Steele place

2. LOCATION
 STREET AND NUMBER: 519 Randolph Avenue
 CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville
 STATE: Alabama CODE: COUNTY: Madison CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
 OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. James M. Gaines
 STREET AND NUMBER: 1703 Bluff Cove Road, Southeast
 CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville STATE: Alabama CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Madison County Courthouse
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville STATE: Alabama CODE:

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE OF SURVEY: 1) TARGOG And 2) TWICKENHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT
 DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 1) TARGOG, Huntsville, Alabama
 2) % secretary, #1 Curse Alley, Huntsville, Alabama 35801
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville STATE: Alabama CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE
COUNTY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

Names:

Gaines, James, Mr. & Mrs.

Steele, Matthew
 Steele-Gaines Home

TARGOG

Twickenham Historic District

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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7. DESCRIPTION		
CONDITION	(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
	(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE		
<p>Two-story, plus half-basement, brick residence. Solid masonry construction. Two room, onestory wing added to Federal main house by Mr. Daniel H. Turner before or in 1903, modified and retained in 1974 renovation.</p> <p>The main floor of the house has six rooms, plus hall. Ceilings in the original part are ten feet six inches high; those in the wing are twelve feet high. Upstairs are three rooms, plus hall. The half-basement runs under the whole of the original house and contains (8' ceilings) three rooms plus hall. Roofs are gable type, except that of the recently renovated entrance porch which is flat. One chimney is center-end; the other is interior. Another small interior chimney served the wing-addition. Windows are nine panes over nine. Most of the glass is original. Woodwork in the original section is Federal, except for the living room or parlor where Greek Revival styling was apparently added. The staircase is a lovely Federal example. Original floors are wide random, quarter-sawn pine. Basement fireplaces are without mantels. The wing has mantels of the late Victorian period, while the rest of the house has Federal styling.</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Gaines are presently restoring the house. Harvie P. Jones is their architect; Floyd M. Rutledge, their builder. Work started in 1973.</p> <p>Mr. Jones has commented that the basement kitchen with its large cooking fireplace is most unusual.</p> <p>Some of the original hardware is still in place. Hand-hewn beams exposed in the restoration are peccod.</p> <p>It is interesting to note that George Steele, builder and father of Matthew, had his brick factory nearby and that most of the brick probably was made there. The factory was on what is now Steele Street, between Clinton and Holmes Avenue.</p>		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Names:

Gaines, James, Mr. & Mrs.

Jones, Harvie P.
Rutledge, Floyd M.

Steele, George
Steele, Matthew

Turner, Daniel H.

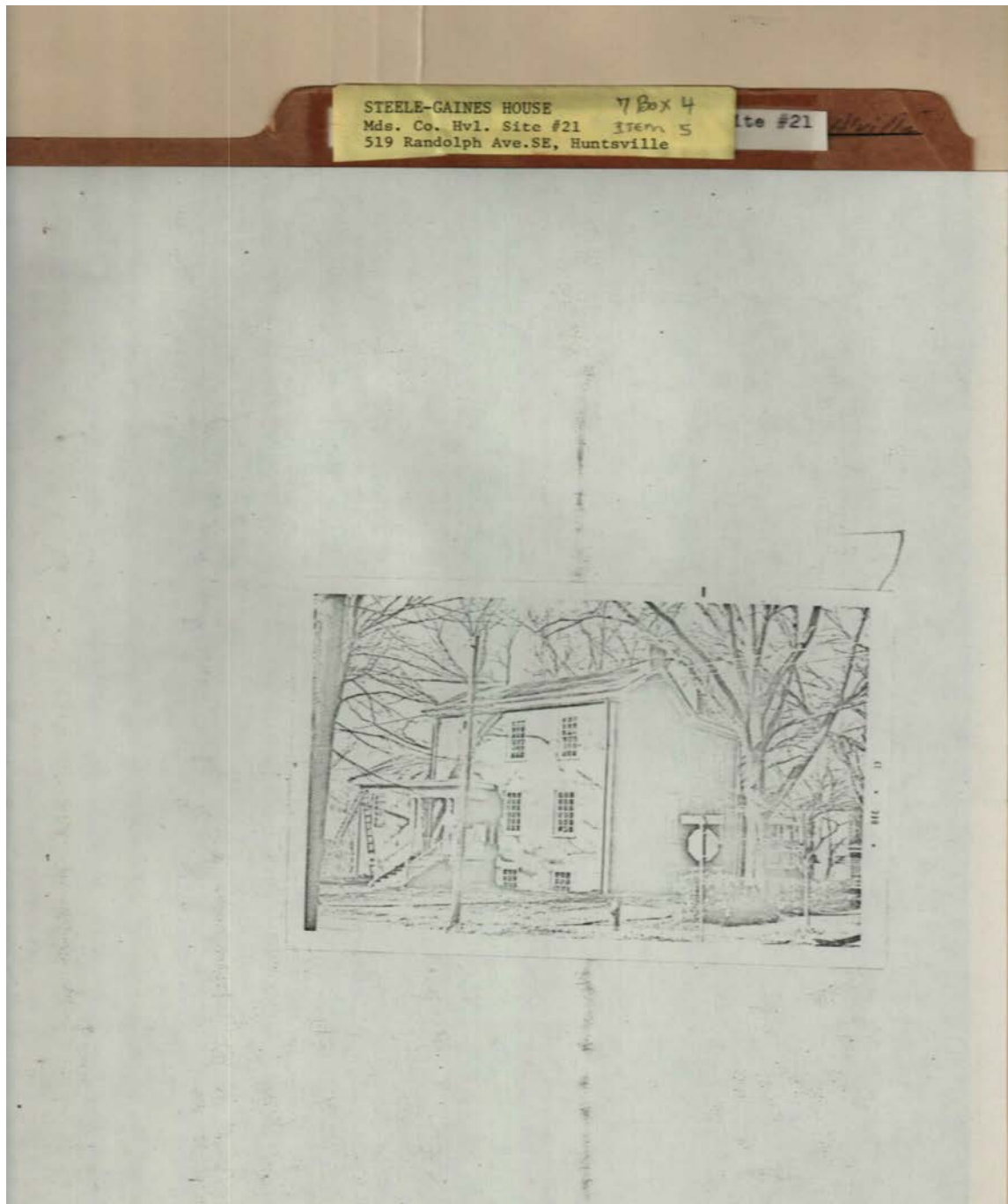
Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

Image 4 r07_04-00-005-0051 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Steele-Gaines Home

Types:

photo

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
 Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville Site #21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-301 (Dec. 1968)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)	STATE Alabama COUNTY Madison FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE
1. NAME		
COMMON: Steele-Gaines		
AND/OR HISTORIC: Matthew Steele house		
2. LOCATION		
STREET AND NUMBER: 519 Randolph Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville, Alabama		
STATE: Alabama	CODE	COUNTY: Madison
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE:		
SCALE:		
DATE:		
4. REQUIREMENTS		
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS		
1. Property boundaries where required.		
2. North arrow.		
3. Latitude and longitude reference.		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)	STATE Alabama COUNTY Madison FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE
1. NAME		
COMMON: Steele-Gaines house		
AND/OR HISTORIC: Matt new Steele house		
2. LOCATION		
STREET AND NUMBER: 519 Randolph Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville		
STATE: Alabama	CODE	COUNTY: Madison
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT: Hendricks & Hendricks		
DATE OF PHOTO: December, 1973		
NEGATIVE FILED AT: TARCO?, Central Bank Bldg., Huntsville, Ala.		
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Front and side view		

Names:

Hendricks, Thomas

Steele, Matthew

Steele-Gaines Home

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
 Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5 Site #21
 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)			
AREA OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<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			
<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; margin-right: 10px;">SEE INSTRUCTIONS</div> <div> <p>The house was built by George Steele, lived in by his family, sold by Catherine and Matthew Steele to Daniel H. Turner in 1887, by Turner to James H. Mayhew in 1903, by Mayhew to Blanche Esslinger, wife of W. F. Esslinger in that year, the Esslinger family sold to J. D. Hays in 1951, Hays sold to Robt. A. Martin in 1965, and Martin to Gaines in 1972. Actual date of construction is not known. George Steele had title to the property in 1824. He held it until 1850 when a deed was executed to Wm. Atwood who sold it to Matthew Steele in 1859. Perhaps the house should be called the George Steele house instead of using the name of his son, the second Steele to own the property.</p> <p>George Steele was unquestionably the most renowned Huntsville architect of the nineteenth century. His most famous work is the design of the First National Bank building. He also designed the second Madison County Courthouse, another beautiful Greek Revival building, demolished in 1914. Steele designed improvements for the Leroy Pope home, the Thos. Fearn home, and built many lovely houses which are still comfortably lived in and testify to his skill and taste. His home, Oaks Place, is endangered presently.</p> <p>Matthew W. Steele was educated in the law, a builder, businessman, merchant, aide-de-camp Confederate States Army serving throughout the war. He married Catherine Steele in 1848. She was the daughter of his father's friend, Dr. Thos. Fearn. One of their sons, Matthew Forney Steele, was aide-de-camp to Gen. Joe Wheeler during the Spanish-American War.</p> <p>Financial reverses appear to have caused his removal with his family to the Birmingham area. He was elected mayor of Avondale in 1907 and in 1920 apparently still resided there. His brother, John, who also lived in the house, is credited by legend with being the person who suggested the name of Birmingham for the city of Elyton, Alabama</p> </div> </div>			

Names:

Atwood, William
 Esslinger, Blanche
 Esslinger, W. F.
 Fearn, Catherine
 Fearn, Thomas, Dr.

Gaines, James, Mr. & Mrs.
 Hays, J. D.
 Martin, Robert A.
 Mayhew, James H.

Oaks Place
 Steele, Catherine
 Steele, George
 Steele, John

Steele, Matthew
 Forney
 Steele, Matthew W.
 Turner, Daniel H.
 Wheeler, Joe, General

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
 Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville Site #21

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES				
Over , Thos. McAdory, <u>History of Alabama</u> , Chicago: S, J, Clarke Publishing Co., 1921				
Record, James, <u>A Dream Come True</u> , Hicklin Printing Co., Huntsville, Alabama, 1970				
Williams' <u>Huntsville Directory</u> , Vol. 1 1859-1860, reprinted by Strode Publishers, Huntsville, Alabama				
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
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "
SE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "
SW	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: about 2 acres				
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES				
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE	
11. FORM PREPARED BY				
NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. Leroy A. Simms, Historical Research Coordinator				
ORGANIZATION TARCOG			DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER: Central Park Building, Suite 350				
CITY OR TOWN: Huntsville		STATE: Alabama		CODE
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 <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.	
Name _____			Date _____	
Title _____			ATTEST:	
Date _____			_____ Keeper of The National Register	
			Date _____	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Names:

Clarke, S. J.
McAdory, Thomas

Record, James

Simms, Leroy A.,
Mrs.

TARCOG
Williams,

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

ITE #21 *Huntsville*

TARCOG
HISTORICAL NOTES
HISTORICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR
VERIFIED DOCUMENTATION FORM

County: Madison
Coordinator's Name: Martha H. Simms
Historical Notes Number: 90
(Red Ink)
Photograph Record Number: 18, 19 Roll 3
(Blue Ink)

1. Name: Matthew Steele house

2. Location: 519 Randolph Ave. -
Huntsville, Ala. 35801

3. Classification: Building used as home

4. Owner of Property: Mr. Mrs. Jas Gaines
519 Randolph Ave.

5. Location of Legal Description: Madison County Courthouse

Form HS-3
p. 1

Names:

Gaines, James, Mr. &
Mrs.

Matthew Steele
House

Simms, Martha H.

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4 Site #21
Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

6. Representation in Existing Surveys: CS-2246
101 S. 92 St
N Y 10002

7. Description: half
+ basement floor-
2 story brick residence. East section Federal;
2 porches
East wing added to West during Victorian era. Federal woodwork
Greek Revival woodwork in parlor and dining room. Federal
staircase. Floors wide, random quarter-sawn pine - original in
most of house. Windows original for most part.

19 73-74 Tasteeful restoration, Harvie P. Jones, architect; Floyd M.
Rutledge, builder; Mr. & Mrs. Gaines owners -
woodwork details

From upper floor - 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, 6 - kitchen 3 - living,
multiple closets - dead?
center hall - 10-6 - 12' dining - 12-6 - 9' - 8' - 8' - 8' - 8'

8. Historical Significance
A. Period: ca. 1890.
B. Specific Dates:

Form HS-3
p. 2

Names:

Gaines, Mr. & Mrs.

Jones, Harvie P.

Rutledge, Floyd M.

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
 Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5 Site #21
 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

8. Historical Significance (continued)

C. Areas of Significance: Architectural
Historical

D. Statement of Significance:

Matthew Steele was son of Jee Steele, leading architect of early nineteenth century, designing First National Bank building and many other distinguished residences and public buildings. Matthew himself was a builder and business man. Huntsville first city directory, 1859-60 has following listing:

Steele, M.W.
 Architect and Builder, Planning Draft, Brick, Bone and Blend
 Birmingham, a brick [?][?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?]
 before [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?]
 He does to say that his residence was of the best materials available.

Preservation of this residence is particularly important historically and architecturally because there is great likelihood that the residence of George Steele cannot be saved from demolition by its present owner.

Form HS-3
p. 3

Names:

Steele, George

Steele, M. W.

Steele, Matthew

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville Site #21

9. Specific Bibliographical Reference: _____
*Williams' Huntsville Directory, City Guide and Business Manual,
Volume 1-1859'60 - Huntsville - Coldest and Snow, 1859. Reprinted
1972 by Stone Publishers, Huntsville, Alabama*

10. Verified Geographical Data: _____

Date of Completion: _____

Form HS-3
p. 4

Names:
Williams,

Types:
inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

TARCOG *I feel that this is a very fine example of the Surveyor's Office House with Corridor at the Surveyor's Office*
ARCHITECTURAL--HISTORICAL NOTES
FIELD SURVEYOR
RECORDING FORM

County: Madison
Field Surveyors' Names: Thomas Hendricks
Historical Notes Number: 80
(Red Ink)
Photograph Record Number: 100 (Roll 3)
(Blue Ink)

1. Name: Gaines (Nancy Smith)
Steele-Gaines House on Randolph

2. Location: Randolph St.

3. Owner of Property: Mr. & Mrs. Gaines

4. Geographical Data: _____

5. Acreage: _____

6. Classification: _____

7. Integrity: _____

Form HS-1
p. 1

Names:

Esslinger Home
Gaines, Mr. & Mrs.

Gaines, Nancy Smith
Hendricks, Thomas

Steele-Gaines Home

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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STEELE-GAINES HOUSE 7 Box 4
Mds. Co. Hvl. Site #21 Item 5
519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville Site #21

8. Condition: This renovation now underway

9. Present Use: _____

10. Areas of Significance: _____

11. Architectural Description: Similar to Cabaniss Patent
House across street.

12. Sketches of structure or site when applicable:

Date of Completion: _____

Form HS-1
p. 2

Names:

Cabaniss-Roberts
House

Types:

inventory

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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[Image 5](#) (r07_04-00-005-0052)

[Image 6](#) (r07_04-00-005-0053)

[Image 7](#) (r07_04-00-005-0054)

[Image 8](#) (r07_04-00-005-0055)

[Image 9](#) (r07_04-00-005-0056)

[Image 10](#) (r07_04-00-005-0057)

[Image 11](#) (r07_04-00-005-0058)

[Image 12](#) (r07_04-00-005-0059)

[Image 13](#) (r07_04-00-005-0060)

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Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 7, Box 4, Item 5

Steele-Gaines House, modified circa 1903 - Madison Co. - Huntsville Site #21, 519 Randolph Ave. SE, Huntsville

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Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection

Preferred Citation: Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection, Archives and Special Collections, M. Louis Salmon Library, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL.

Collection Scope and Content: The Collection of 114 Linear ft. includes a total of 156 Archival Boxes. The Frances Cabaniss Roberts collection covers the historical records of the Cabaniss Roberts family. This collection contains extensive correspondence records of the Cabaniss Roberts family circa 1830 to 1930.

Archives/Special Collections Access Restrictions: None

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Provenance: Gift of Johanna Shields on October 28, 2006.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

**The UAH Archives and Special Collections
M. Louis Salmon Library**