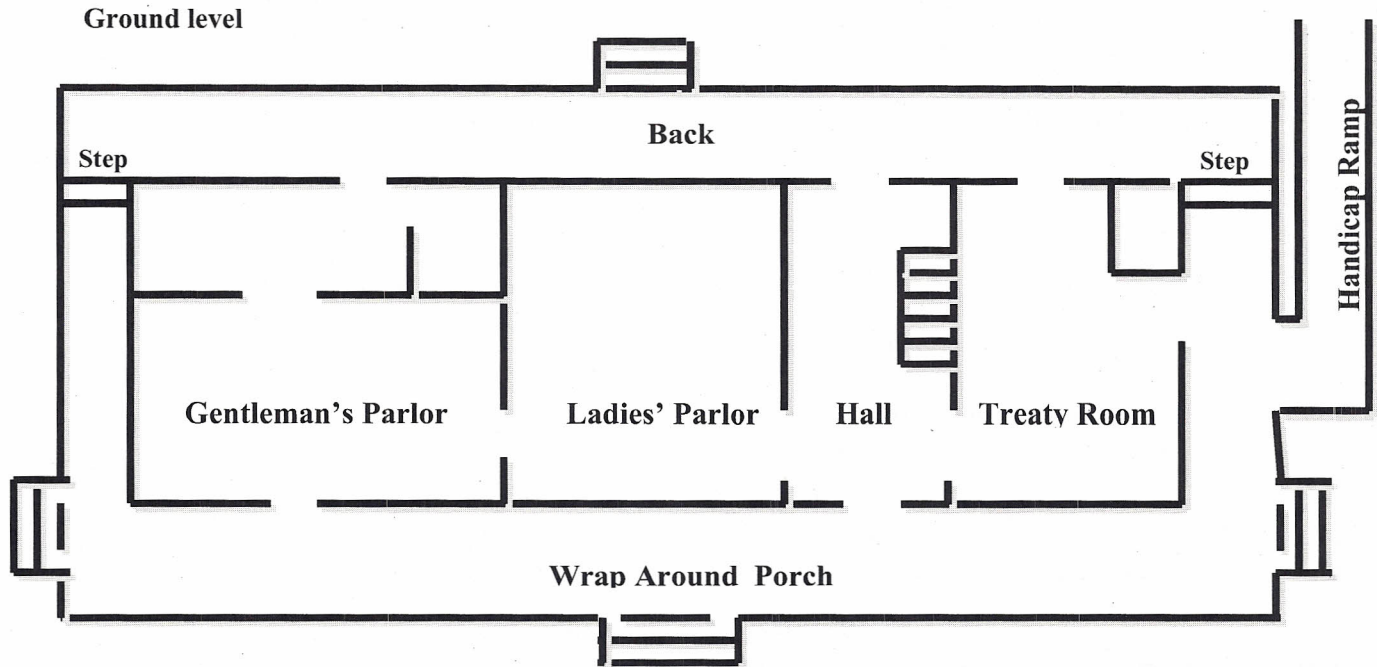


A Self-Guided Tour
of the
Indian Springs Hotel/Museum
Sponsored by the *Butts County Historical Society*
P.O. Box 215, Jackson, GA 30233
www.buttscountyhistoricalsociety.org



The Indian Springs Hotel, also known as the McIntosh House or Varner House, was built in 1823 by Chief William McIntosh and his cousin, Joel Bailey, as a stagecoach inn and tavern. The Treaty Room with the Ballroom on the second floor was built in 1825. Through the years, additions were added on each side and across the back of the hotel, but were later removed to bring the building back to its original structure in the 1823 – 1830 time periods.

The chimneys are handmade brick and have been recently restored to their original condition with a plaster base mixture for the inside. Modern flumes were inserted so that the fireplaces could again be usable. The front door facings were said to be hand-carved with the design called “Old Salem Witchcraft.” They were painted using a turkey-feathered technique made to resemble wood. All the mantles are original to the hotel and were quite stylish for that time period. The downstairs floors were replaced with the wide flooring, while the upstairs are still original to the building. Notice the wide boards throughout the building; some are at least 15 inches wide. The rooms are all painted according to a color analysis done by the Georgia Department of Preservation.

During the hotel’s illustrious history it has been owned by: William McIntosh, Baldwin Fluker, John Nisbet, Morris Matthews, Henry Dillon, Varner Family, J.H. Elliott, State of Georgia, and Butts County. It was placed on the National Register in May, 1973.

As you enjoy this historical site, please read the place cards in each room and **do not touch** our treasured items.

Treaty Room: This is where the Treaty of 1825 was signed by McIntosh. Looking outside toward the driveway, there is a large rock where Hopoethleyoholo, the Upper Creek leader and a silver tongued orator, stood and made his fiery outburst against McIntosh, calling him a “...double-tongued snake” and

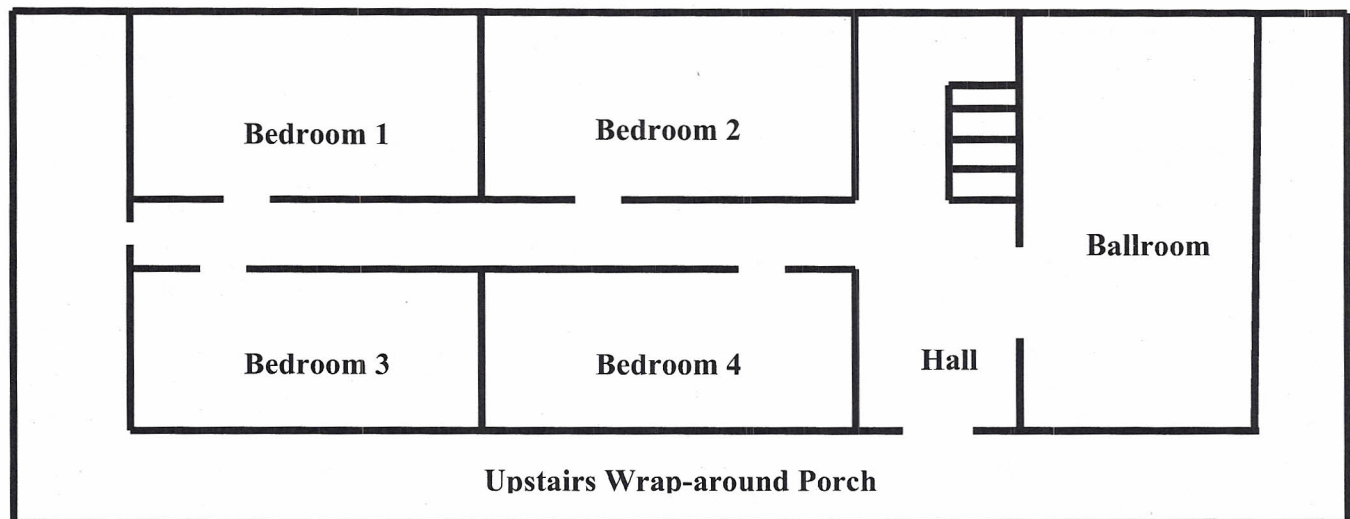
calling for an end to his life. McIntosh was killed May 1, 1825 at his home along the Chattahoochee River. Our society's gift shop is in this room.

Hall: The stairs have been replaced several times and the different sizes can be seen encased. It was decided to return to the shortest one.

Ladies Parlor: This room is painted with the colors used in that time period. The piano dates back to 1850 and it is not known when it was brought to the hotel. As was a custom, some window panes were etched with the names and the dates of 1836 and 1842.

Gentleman's Parlor: This was the only room that was plastered at one time. The fireplace was marbled by hand with an artist brush. The wood graining on the wainscoting was also done by hand with a turkey feather probably using the same technique as the outside doors. Behind the door to the ladies' room, there is a framed corner post of the building cut from one piece of wood.

Upstairs/Second Floor



Upstairs the floors are original to the building. About half way up, you can see a hand hewn board in the wall.

Ballroom: When the hotel was first built, this room was originally a ballroom, then later divided up into 4 smaller rooms, and returned to one room again. On the ceiling, the hall and rooms are clearly delineated. This room houses our museum.

Bedrooms: The bedrooms were originally partitioned creating many smaller rooms. Notice the partitions on the ceiling and where the doors were boarded up. These partitions were later removed by the Varner Family, long-time residents (103 years), to form larger rooms.

Bedroom 1: This room, given by Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kapiloff, contains an authentic rope bed with feather mattresses. Also, look for the unique fire escape in the wall.

Bedroom 2: This room is dedicated to the Varner Family and contains many articles and pictures of the Varner family that lived in the house for 103 years.

Bedroom 3: It is said that McIntosh used this room while visiting the hotel. It was close to the side door, so he could have a private entrance. This room is in honor of J.R. & Norma Carmichael by Bob, Mary Sean, & Jolene. Love in Christ.

Bedroom 4: This room is donated by Mr. & Mrs. Hampton L. Daughtery

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The Butts County Historical Society hopes that you enjoyed your visit to the Indian Spring Hotel. With your **tax deductible donations**, we will be able to continue to maintain and furnish this historic building. Thank you.