

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

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## **House Types: Split-Level**

## **Resources**

• National history of the Split-Level House

Split-Level Houses are a common sight in many mid-20th-century Georgia neighborhoods. Never as numerous as their Ranch House counterparts, they were nonetheless a popular alternative. Characterized by their unique form – three staggered half-floor levels – they clearly distinguished themselves from the more prevalent one-story Ranch Houses and the occasional full-two-story houses. Yet they wore the same architectural styles -- including the "plain" or "red-brick" style -- and they were designed by many of the same designers and built by many of the same builders.

## • The Split-Level House in Georgia

The hey-day of the Split-Level House in Georgia was from the mid-1950s through the 1960s (and on into the 1970s – we'll be getting to those in a few years). From being a somewhat quirky alternative to the one-story Ranch House in the early years, by the 1960s the Split-Level House had turned into a strong economical contender due to rising costs of land, smaller subdivision lots, and increasing foundation construction costs – all of which made Ranch Houses more expensive to build and the Split-Level House a "better buy" in its latter years.

<u>"The Ranch House in Georgia: Guidelines for Evaluation"</u>
Split-Level Houses can be documented using the same field and research techniques recommended for the mid-20th-century Ranch House

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