UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INITERITORY RICHARDA MICHAEL PORTA

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Survey of	f Putnam County, by W	illiam Moffatt		
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SURVEY RECORDS I	Historic Preservation	Section, Dept. of		
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#### CONDITION

#### **CHECK ONE**

**CHECK ONE** 

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XORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Woodland", located on Harmony Road in Putnam County, is representative of the Georgian Greek Revival style which was popular in the mid-to-late 19th century throughout the South. Although a large rear addition was contructed circa 1880, the original dwelling remains completely intact. This nomination includes five acres of "Woodland" plantation and contains two of the original outbuildings. Within this area are also several other dwellings presently used to store farm produce and equipment. To the northeast of the house stands a single tombstone marking the grave of a nephew of the original owners of the property.

Both front and rear facades have a center entrance framed respectively by six and seven transom lights and ten sidelights. The facade, which faces north towards the road, has four columns made of flat tapered boards which create an indented grooved surface. They are placed on square bases at the front corners of the porch and at the sides of the center steps. Front and rear facades also each have entablatures consisting of a simple, wide two-band architrave and dentiled cornice. A sloping hipped roof extends over this entablature and over the open front porch extending the width of the house. The exterior corners and door frames of the house contain pilasters with dentiled cornices. Each of the sixteen window openings of the house are all the original nine-overnine with louvered blinds and a visually dominant wood frame. Constructed of painted hewed timber, the house is low and broad, and rests on its original foundation of granite block piers with several openings to allow for storage cellars.

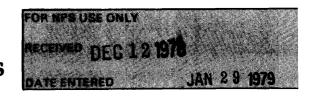
The two-story addition with a lower foundation rises only slightly above the one-story house. The windows on each floor are six-over-six and the roof, though also hipped, has a greater pitch. A large two-story porch enclosed by screens was contructed circa 1880 on the east side. The Greek Revival two-story corner pilasters help to integrate the new structure with the old.

As the use of the kitchen as a separate outbuilding became impractical a second addition was contructed. Its design, a one-story room with gable roof, compliments the first addition by using similar window and door frames and identical clapboard. The final addition to the house, constructed circa 1900, was a small room protruding from the west facade bewteen the junction of the first addition and the original house. It served as a small porch until it was remodeled as a bathroom.

In the original house three rooms were used as bedrooms while the fourth room, located at the northeast, served as a formal parlor. The central hall appears as an extension of the main exterior walk right through the house and served frequently as the sitting room. Clarity and simplicity reflect the Greek Revival influence, as exhibited by the hand-made grained pine interior door and window frames and the solid walnut front and rear doors which have entablatures with pilasters. The ceilings throughout the house are approximately ten feet high and like the floor are the original "old heart" pine. Every room has a

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**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

Description

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fireplace with a simple Greek Revival mantel. The bedrooms are mostly wood panelled including the unusually large wall closets, one of which is a walk-through connecting two of the rooms.

The additions were constructed with plantation materials but the beautiful woodwork of the original structure was not duplicated. The floors are of short wood boards, the walls are plastered and painted and the ceilings are low. A dog-leg stair leads upstairs from the narrow porch where, at the junction of the original house and dining room, the bathroom is located. The upstairs has two bedrooms adjacent to which is a crow's nest with its own straight stair leading onto the side porch. This screened porch served as an outdoor living room, sitting room, sleeping area and dining room. The actual dining room as well as the bedrooms located above look onto the porch.

The original outbuildings included the kitchen, smoke house, barn and slave cabins. Two of these still stand. The carriage house, located to the east of the house, was built of weatherboard with a gable roof. Although it has deteriorated, its intricately designed cross-system of supports has enabled the struture to remain standing throughout the years. The other structure, a corn bin built of large hewn-squared logs fitted together, is still in prime condition. A tin roof which is rapidly deteriorating now covers the original gable roof and added shed. The building is presently used to store hay.

"Woodland" served as a private residence until it was vacated four years ago. Although it has remained intact, the house, especially the rear addition, has begun to rapidly deteriorate. The family which has inherited "Woodland" is decended from the second owners and they intend shortly to commence restoration of the house.

#### PERIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_\_PREHISTORIC \_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC \_\_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_RELIGION \_\_1400-1499 \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC \_\_CONSERVATION \_\_LAW \_\_SCIENCE \_\_1500-1599 \_\_AGRICULTURE \_\_ECONOMICS \_\_LITERATURE \_\_SCULPTURE XARCHITECTURE \_\_1600-1699 \_\_MILITARY \_\_EDUCATION \_\_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN \_\_1700-1799 \_\_ART \_\_ENGINEERING \_\_MUSIC \_\_THEATER X\_1800-1899 \_\_COMMERCE \_\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_PHILOSOPHY \_\_TRANSPORTATION \_\_1900-\_\_COMMUNICATIONS \_INDUSTRY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT \_OTHER (SPECIFY) \_\_INVENTION

#### SPECIFIC DATES

#### **BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Woodland", representative of Georgian Greek Revival architecture, displays a distinctive and exceptionally well-proportioned facade which has remained totally intact. Two of the several outbuildings characteristic of a late antebelum Southern plantation remain: a corn bin of large squared logs and a carriage house with an unusual cross section.

Wesley Gaines Kimbrough, a Georgian farmer and mason, designed and began construction of "Woodland" in 1858. In 1860, he and his bride, Martha Williams, moved into the house situated on 450 acres of wooded property, appropriately naming it "Woodland". The house changed ownership in the early 20th century when Kimbrough's daughter, Mattie Davis, sold it to Florence Williams Scott, a sister of Kimbrough's wife. It has remained to this day in the Scott family.

The elegance and grandeur of "Woodland" can be attributed to its fine work-manship exhibited in the painted timbered exterior with its full entablature, chamfered columns, pilasters, transom and sidelights. The materials used to construct the house were native to the plantation grounds.

Distinctive features of the house are the exceptionally striking large wood-paneled wall closets, one of which is a walk-through connecting two of the rooms. The wood of the interior door and window frames has been grained, a popular painting technique of the time. The massive proportions of the woodwork produces a striking contrast to the plaster areas of the interior. Also noteworthy are the cellars under the house used to store jars of preserves and other delicacies. The plantation, whose main crop was cotton, also provided items for all the plantation's needs.

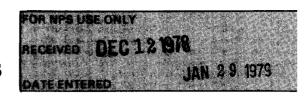
It is reported by Mrs. Marjorie Callaway, granddaughter of W. G. Kimbrough, that after the burning of Atlanta in 1864, a detachment of Sherman's troops came through Putnam County stopping at "Woodland". Mrs. Kimbrough, with her husband off at war, fed them well and as a result the troops left peacefully without destroying any of the plantation property.

The significance of "Woodland" is attributed to its structures which, in remaining intact, are characteristic of a Southern plantation and reflect the Greek Revival influence prevelant in the South in the late 19th century. For these resons "Woodland" has architectural importance in the State of Georgia.

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Calloway, Gelbloom,	Mrs. Marjori Mara. Perso Calbot. <u>Greek</u>	e. Personal i nal inspection	, February 1977		cy 2, 1977. Dover Publications,
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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

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### Major Bibliographical References

Linley, John. <u>Architecture of Middle Georgia - The Oconee Area</u>. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1972.

Nichols, Fredrick. <u>The Architecture of Georgia</u>. Savannah: The Beehive Press, 1976. Scott, Mrs. Gail. Personal interview by Ellen Albert, January 28, 1977.

#### Geographical Data: Verbal Boundary Description

Plat of Estate of Mrs. Woodlief S. Parks, on file in Putnam County Courthouse, Eatonton, Georgia, dated September 11, 1973. The nominated property is a portion of parcels A and C of this plat, on land lot numbers 349 and 350. This boundary includes the dwelling house on parcel C and the barn and dairy (B and C) on parcel A.

Beginning at an iron pin on the road leading from Jefferson to Georgia 44 at the northwest corner of the nominated property and running 320 feet along the highway in a northeasterly direction to another iron pin; thence south along the A and C parcel division line 431.9 feet to another iron pin; thence at an 142° angle from the previous boundary approximately 275 feet to a point; thence westwardly 400 feet parallel to the highway to a point; thence due north at a right angle to the previous boundary 94 feet to an iron pin on the border of the two parcels; thence approximately 400 feet along a line connecting the aforementioned iron pin to that at the southeast corner of parcel D (Jeff H. Davis); and thence 194 feet due north back to the point of origin.

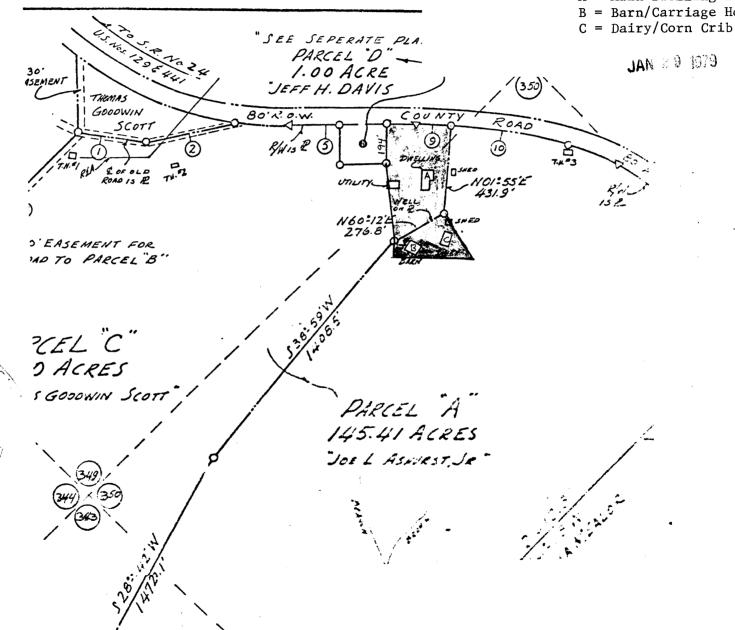
#### SKETCH MAP

Woodland, Eatonton vicinity, Putnam County Source: Plat of Estate of Mrs. Woodlief S. Parks, 1973, on file Putnam County Courthouse, Eatonton, Georgia

Key: Shaded Area = Nominated Property

A = Main Dwelling House

B = Barn/Carriage House



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