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Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	Stewart
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAY 7 1973



#### 1. NAME

COMMON: Bedingfield Inn

AND/OR HISTORIC:

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Cotton Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lumpkin CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 3rd - Jack Brinkley

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
<u>Georgia</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>Stewart</u>	<u>259</u>

#### 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	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	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Stewart County Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Lumpkin STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clerk of Stewart County Superior Court (Public Deed Records)

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 355

CITY OR TOWN: Lumpkin STATE: Georgia CODE: 13

#### 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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	Stewart
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DATE	

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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
	(Check One)		(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

Bedingfield Inn was built for a family residence and stagecoach inn circa 1836.

The inn is a two story weatherboarded, hip roof building with seven bays and nine-over-nine, green shuttered windows. The double portico has square columns, corresponding pilasters, and a simple spoke railing. There are two entrance doors, panelled and with transom lights, on the first floor porch on either side of a central window. On the second floor, the central door is elaborated with transom and side lights. The cornices, door and window treatments are simple in design. There are two central, asymmetricaly placed chimneys. The entrance steps to the first level porch are central three-sided steps with a turn back railing. One alteration from the original structure is the omission of the exterior second floor steps on the south facade. There is presently a second story door, but no steps leading to it.

The first floor is entered by two front doors, one on the left to the smaller ladies' parlor and one on the right to the public room. Both of these rooms have stairs to the second floor and both have access to the larger dining room that extends across two-thirds of the rear of the house. Two other rooms on the first floor, a dining room and parlor-library were used by the owner's family. The second floor has a central hall that runs lengthwise from north to south. Off of this hall are family and private bedrooms and a common room, without a fireplace, for those seeking less expensive accommodations.

The furnishings of the inn are a careful selection of what would be typical of a c.1840 stagecoach inn. In the ladies parlor are empire style furnishings that include a marble top table with an urn pedestal base, and a mahogany veneered sofa and secretary. The private parlor is furnished with an early empire style sofa, tables and chairs and a melodeon. In the private dining room is a c.1835 tilt top table and a late 1830 secretary.

(A kitchen building and log cabin have been moved to the site as exhibits; however the Board of Review ruled that "inclusion of the kitchen and log cabin cannot be justified until sufficient documentation has been obtained.")

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

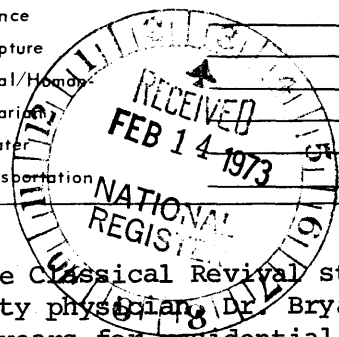
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian;       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c.1836

AREAS 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                   |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce     | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bedingfield Inn, a rural version of the Classical Revival style was built c.1836 by the prosperous Stewart County physician, Dr. Bryan N. Bedingfield, and has been used through the years for residential and commercial purposes. It now serves the community as a place for meetings and as a museum.

Bedingfield Inn is a good example of what happened to the Classical Revival in rural areas. Stately Oaks, c.1840, in Jonesboro (on the National Register) and the Moye Plantation, c.1836, in Stewart County, Georgia, are all examples of a hip roof, frame house with a central, double, square-columned hip roof porch. All of these refer in style to the Renaissance villa of Palladio with double, central, but pedimented, porticos. Here in Georgia a simplified translation of these Renaissance buildings is made.

Dr. Bedingfield, a man of some wealth and sophistication, known to have occasionally traveled to New York, built the inn as a family residence and stagecoach inn. Located about a day's travel from Columbus on the north and Fort Gaines and Cuthbert on the south, the inn was a convenient stopping place for travelers going east and west between Americus, Georgia, and Eufaula, Alabama. Thus it was a center for commercial and community activity. Dr. Bedingfield had moved "out west" to Lumpkin from Washington, Georgia about 1830. Dr. Bedingfield was not only a physician; he operated the inn, which was also his home, worked as a surveyor, laying off many of the Stewart County roads and ran a store. He was a trustee of the Stewart County Academy founded in 1831 and director of the Lumpkin Independent Academy founded in 1842. His son, Samuel, was the first white male child born in Stewart County.

Through the years, the inn changed its function. The Bedingfield family lived there about ten years, and it is not known what they called the inn. (Its name is now derived from the fact that the Bedingfields first lived there.) Before the turn of the century it was called Cuba House, used as a photographer's studio, millinery shop and about 1903 became the Ard House, known for "setting a fine table." It later served as a boarding house, low rent apartments and was used for office space.

The inn, still located on its original site across from the town square, was restored in 1965 and presently serves as a center for civic meetings and as a museum of early travel accommodations, furnished presumably as it was about 1840.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Atlanta Journal and Constitution Magazine, April 7, 1968.  
 Ballard, Jim, Tourism and Recreation Planner, Columbus; submitted first NR nomination form now on file at the Georgia Historical Commission.  
 Chamberlain, Jr., George W. Letter of Hawthorne, A Collection of Family Letters 1845-1865. Gadsden, Ala.: Frost and Frost, 1971.  
 Daily Citizen News (Dalton) August 3, 1970.  
 Dixon, Sara R., and Terril, Helen E. History of Stewart County, Vol. 1. Columbus, Ga.: Columbus Office Supply Co., 1958.  
 Georgia Magazine, January 1968.  
 Mahan, Joe. Correspondence on file at the Georgia Historical Commission.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

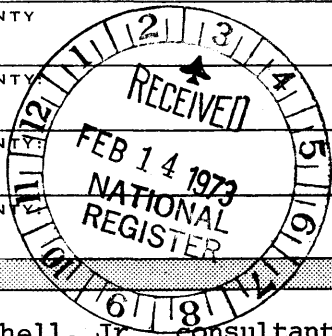
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		32° 03' 02"	84° 47' 43"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
 16/708140  
 3547980  
 CD

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Elizabeth Z. Macgregor and William R. Mitchell, Jr., consultant

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Historical Commission

DATE: Nov. 11, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 116 Mitchell St., SW

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta

STATE: Georgia

CODE: 13

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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 Gregory Jewett

Title State Liaison Officer

Date February 7, 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 5/7/73

ATTEST:  
W.D. Monty  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 9 26 73