

I. IDENTIFICATION

PROPERTY NAME:	Stovall Homeplace	HISTORIC NAME:	Stovall Homeplace
STREET ADDRESS:	114 West Avenue	CITY:	Lavonia
PRESENT OWNER:	(See attached list)	MAILING ADDRESS:	
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP CODE:
CURRENT USE:	Vacant	ACREAGE:	113 acres (nominated) of 133 acres (20 acres located outside city limits)
U. S. G. S. QUADRANGLE:	Lavonia, Ga.-S.C.	U. T. M. REFERENCE:	(A) Z17 E 305910 N 3812020 (B) Z17 E 305400 N 3811080 (C) Z17 E 305080 N 3811450 (D) Z17 E 305290 N 3812140
V. B. D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER:	319-005-1		

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION:

Two and one-half story frame residence built on a central hall plan. Roof is gabled with gables projecting on east (front) and north facades. Front gable is wide with fish-scale shingles and a small Palladian window. Gable on the north side is less elaborate, with fishscale shingles and rectangular-shaped attic vent, and is located above a two-story bay. A similar bay without the gable is located on the south side of the structure. The front door is half glass with a rectangular transom. The entrance area is recessed in an archway. The front door and screen door are original. A decorative window with small square panes of colored glass bordering a large central pane is located on the north side of the entrance area. The design in this window is repeated in the glass of the front door. A one-story porch supported by plain square posts extends across the front facade, wraps around the north facade, and ends at the gabled bay. A one-story room forms a wing on the rear of the structure, with a shed porch extending across the remainder of the rear facade. The original well is located under this porch shelter.

Windows are one over one and two over two and are original. The structure has three internal chimneys with drip courses and tapered openings. The original shingle roof is still intact beneath the existing asphalt shingles.

The interior of the house contains wood floors, plastered walls, and handcrafted mantels and molding. A large room at the front of the structure contains an open staircase and extends into the central hall. The other front room is entered through sliding wood doors. The structure is in fair condition.

The house is sited in a grove of pecan streets, with formal plantings of holly and crepe myrtle trees and flowering shrubs lining the drive. To the south of the house there is a collection of outbuildings which includes several barns, a root cellar, and a blacksmith shop. These structures line a dirt drive which leads to the former farmlands. Bear Creek forms the southwest boundary of the 133 acre tract with a smaller creek running through the middle of the property. The city limits of Lavonia forms the southern boundary of the nominated property, with a portion of the property (20 acres) extending into the county. Most of the land in the southern portion of the tract is open pasture land and terraced farmland. The property extends into gently-rolling hills covered by an oak grove in the northwest section. A one and one-half acre rectangular-shaped tract which fronts on West Avenue/State Route 59 on the

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: (CONTINUED)

northeast side of the northern boundary was carved out of the larger Stovall tract for a former residence of a Stovall descendant (See Number 3).

III. HISTORY

ORIGINAL OWNER: Thomas Aiken Stovall

ORIGINAL USE: Residence and Working farm

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown

HISTORIC ACREAGE: 200 acres

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1884

DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: None

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT):

Thomas A. Stovall and his wife, Emily Yow Stovall, moved to the Lavonia area in the early 1880's from the Poplar Springs Community, located in the southern portion of Franklin County. Stovall was a descendant of George Stovall, Sr., a Revolutionary War soldier from Franklin County who had been born in Granville County, North Carolina. Thomas Stovall purchased approximately 200 acres from Judge Tribble, a Franklin County Ordinary who owned large tracts of land in the western section of the multiple resource area.

Stovall established his residence and began a large farming operation on the approximate 200 acre tract. At the time of purchase this tract was located approximately one-quarter mile from the corporate limits of Lavonia. This appears to have given the Stovall family the best of both worlds -- a large farm in the country with easy access to the conveniences of the city. It was probably important to Stovall that his family reside near schools since the family included 14 children. In 1896 the city limits were extended three-fourths of a miles and encompassed the Stovall property.

Stovall constructed his residence in 1884, and apparently several of the extant out-buildings were also built at that time. One barn has been documented by a family member as being constructed in 1897. Stovall's use of the property was a self-sufficient enterprise. A brick foundry located along one of the creeks producing bricks. The land was timbered for materials in the construction of the outbuildings and residence, a blacksmith shop was maintained, and a diversified farming operation produced row crops, cows, chickens, and pigs.

Following Stovall's death the residence was occupied by two of his daughters. One daughter, Sarah Stovall, was a local elementary teacher who taught in the Lavonia City Schools for 40 years. Bob Stovall, a son who left Lavonia and became active in farming and dairying in Bibb County, Georgia, returned to the family farm and lived with his sisters. Bob continued the farming operation until the mid 1970's and died shortly thereafter at the age of 98. The house and one acre of land were recently sold by the Stovall heirs. Many of the Stovall descendants now reside in the Atlanta area.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

N. R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, LEVEL: Local Agriculture, Local History, Exploration and Settlement.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL):

Architecturally the Stovall residence is important as one of the earliest and most elaborate examples of Victorian-inspired design within the multiple resource area. The

IV. SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (CONTINUED)

recessed and arched entrance, the large foyer which features an open staircase, and the small Palladian window in the front gable are unique features within the multiple resource area. The variety of outbuildings located to the south of the structure are also important as the most intact example of outbuildings within the multiple resource area. It is interesting to note that the division between the location of these utilitarian buildings and the residence is expressed on the facades of the residence. The formal front and side (north) facades with projecting and detailed gables are oriented away from the collection of outbuildings. The remaining south and west facades are less elaborate. As an example, the two-story bay on the south side of the structure projects only slightly and does not contain a gable.

In landscape architecture the Stovall residence is significant for its hillside setting and orientation and its surrounding landscape design. The family residence is sited on the highest point within the original 200 acre tract, with the wrap around porch and majority of rooms oriented on the north and east sides. The main residence is surrounded by formal plantings which contrast with the utilitarian pecan grove surrounding the outbuildings. The open fields which dominate the remainder of the Stovall tract exemplify the rural character of development at the edge of the multiple resource area.

In agriculture the Stovall Homeplace is important as an example of a diversified farming enterprise operated by the same family for almost a century. In a region where cotton was considered the only crop, it is unusual to find a farming operation which produced a variety of goods -- crops and livestock. The property is also significant as an example of a typical county-sized farming operation which functioned within the city limits and is the only example which contains a majority of its original acreage and outbuildings within the multiple resource area.

In local history the property is important for its association with the Stovall family. This family was prominent in the Lavonia community for almost a century. Members of the family were instrumental in the establishment of the Baptist Church, and Sarah Stovall, a daughter of Thomas Stovall, was a teacher in the Lavonia schools for 40 years.

This property is also important in exploration and settlement since Thomas A. Stovall was one of the first individuals to establish a permanent residence in the Lavonia area. The large tract which functioned as a residence and farm is a good example of early settlement patterns which developed around the area proposed for the Lavonia community.

V. SOURCES

FORM PREPARED BY: Dale Jaeger
 Preservation Planner
 Post Office 1720
 Gainesville, GA 30502

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Mountains APDC

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 404-536-3431

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Historic Structures Field Survey
 Ga. Department of Natural Resources

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Phillip Stovall
 Mrs. Jeanette Weldon
 Chamber of Commerce Committee



PHOTOGRAPHER: James R. Lockhart

DATE: August 1982

NO. 1 of 1.

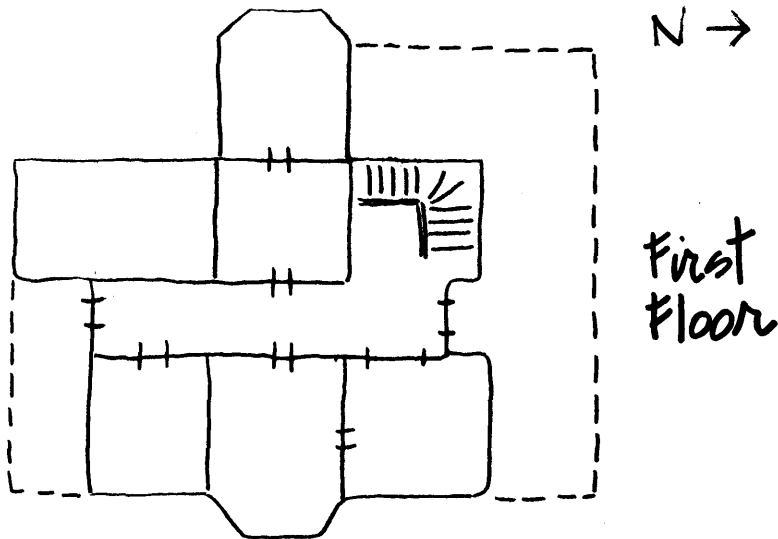
NEGATIVES FILED:

Georgia Department of
Natural Resources

DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: S

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

WEST AVE. O.R. 59



Floor Plan

N/A

PHOTOGRAPHER: James R. Lockhart

DATE: August 1982

NO. ____ of ____.

NEGATIVES FILED:

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

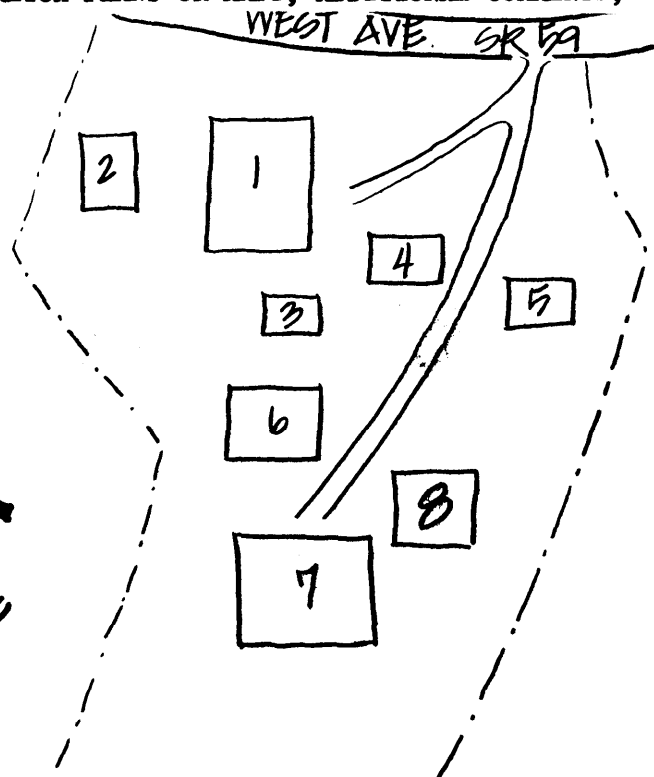
DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING:

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT. SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

Buildings/Structures

- 1. Residence
- 2. Frame Barn
- 3. Root Cellar
- 4. Frame One-Story Storage Bldg.
- 5. Two-Story Frame Outbuilding
- 6. Frame Barn
- 7. Frame Barn with Round Log Construction
- 8. Frame Barn

north ↑
no scale



Sketch Map

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF LAVONIA, FRANKLIN COUNTY

Stoval Homeplace

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PROPERTY _____

PROPERTY OWNERS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1):

Frank Stovall
4317 Rickenbaker Way
Atlanta, Georgia 30342

D. Lee Stovall, Jr.
4265 Castle Pines Court
Tucker, Georgia 30084

Arthur K. Stovall
c/o William A. Stovall
973 Arden Avenue, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Larry Hudson
Highway 59
Lavonia, Georgia 30553

(Owns house and one acre)