NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)	OMB No. 1024-0018
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	RECEIVED 2280 249
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM	JAN 2 8 1999 MATE DECISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
1. Name of Property	NATIONAL PART AND THE PART AND
historic name <u>Furman Historic District</u>	
other names/site number <u>N/A</u>	
2. Location	:≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈
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street & number <u>N/A</u> city or town <u>Furman</u> state <u>Alabama</u> code <u>AL</u> county	vicinity N/A
state <u>Alabama</u> code <u>AL</u> county	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinior Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be con X locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional WWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWWW	l comments.) <u>1-15-99</u> Date vation Office)
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	······································
I hereby certify that this property is: [] See continuation sheet. [] determined eligible for the National Register []See continuation sheet. [] determined not eligible for the National Register [] removed from the National Register [] other (explain):	Signature of the Keeper M. Wy Date of Action 57/13/93
	Signature of the Keeper         Date of Action

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5. Classification				
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[x] private	[] building(s)		_73	25_ buildings
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walls	Wood-weatherboard
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other	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

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8. Statement of Significance					
<u>X</u> A Property is associated with events that have ma B Property is associated with the lives of persons X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristic	es of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose				
Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)        A       owned by a religious institution or used for relig        B       removed from its original location.        C       a birthplace or a grave.        D       a cemetery.        E       a reconstructed building, object, or structure.        F       a commemorative property.        G       less than 50 years of age or achieved significant	jious purposes.				
Settlement					
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)	N/A				
Cultural Affiliation <u>N/A</u>	-				
Architect/Builder Hobdy, Edmond					
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain significance of	the property on one or more continuation sheets.)				
9. Major Bibliographical References					
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this fo	orm on one or more continuation sheets.)				
Previous documentation on file (NPS) n/a preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Primary location of additional data: n/a [ ] State Historic Preservation Office [ ] Other state agency [ ] Federal agency [ ] Local government [ ] University [ ] Other Name of repository				

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10. Geographical Data	.*=====================================
Acreage of Property approximately 1030	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a c	
	ng 5-503750-3542000
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries	s of the property on a continuation sheet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries wer	re selected on a continuation sheet.)
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title <u>Johnathan A. Farris/Survey Coordinator</u> w	vith Trina Binkley/National Register Reviewer
	date September 16, 1998
	telephone _ <u>(334)242-3184</u>
	state <u>Alabama</u> zip code <u>36130-0900</u>
Additional Documentation	***************************************
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A sketch map for historic districts and properties ha	
Photographs Representative black and white photographs of th	he property.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for an	ıy additional items)
Property Owner	
Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)	
name <u>Multiple Ownership</u>	
street & number	telephone
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## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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	 • -			Wilcox County, Alabama

#### **Narrative Description**

The Furman Historic District contains nearly the entirety of the community of Furman, situated in the northeastern corner of Wilcox County, Alabama. The community is situated on what is locally called the "rocky prairies," undulating country interspersed with very flat and fertile creek bottom lowlands. The bulk of the community is situated in a linear fashion along Wilcox County Road 59 and straddles Alabama Highway 21, with a few properties on minor roads leading off one of the two main roads. The historic district begins in the north at a small but distinct hill which is capped by Old Snow Hill cemetery and then proceeds along the sunken dirt road (in the present day referred to as the Clyde Miller Road) which formed the community's main thoroughfare during the 1820s and 1930s. The district then proceeds along County Road 59 southwards until terminating at the Palmer Cemetery and the property associated with a single pen log house. The district also includes several properties on the road leading to the Dr. Burson House (inv. #48) and takes in several properties which flank County Road 59. The land is alternately wooded and open. Houses are generally on large lots and sometimes accompanied by a range of service outbuildings and an occasional barn. Between the intersection of County Road 59 with 63 and the Dr. William Gulley House site (inv. #29) is what remains of the business district of Furman. Here three front gabled, frame commercial buildings set close to the road vary the otherwise steady rhythm of the semi-rural disposition of the community.

The plurality of commercial buildings and professional offices of Furman closely follow a convention of being onestoried, front gabled buildings with front porches. The earliest remaining store (inv. #25) and Dr. Purifoy's Dentist Office (inv. #28) both date from the last quarter of the nineteenth century and follow a format that closely matches the Greek Revival precedents—a long frame building with a front pedimented portico and recessed porch on plain piers. The circa 1900 old Post Office/old Cafe (inv. #26) also is an elongated front gabled building, but its shed porch was probably added around twenty to thirty years after its original construction. Dr. William Gulley's Office remains (inv. #29A) behind where his house once stood and is also a front gabled frame structure but is more diminutive than the aforementioned buildings and possesses an attached hipped roof porch. The exceptions to these standard building conventions straddle Alabama Highway 21 and are responses to the automobile culture of the twentieth century. Furman Mercantile (inv. #18) is a small end gabled building with a central entrance and metal siding over an original cladding of weatherboard. Arnold's One-Stop (inv. #17) is a concrete block building with steel casement windows, which places it firmly within the conventions of automobile-related architecture from the period of c. 1935 to c. 1950.

Most of the houses of Furman are intact examples of traditional folk building types which to varying degrees make use of Greek Revival ornamental idioms. In fact, a simplification of the Greek Revival style becomes so intertwined with the regional folk building types in Furman that it can all safely be conceived of as one language of construction. The houses of the first period of settlement in the region (the 1820s and 1830s) were largely impermanent, by most accounts being no more than oneor two-room log houses, even when the inhabitants were planters of some wealth.<sup>1</sup> No houses of the first period of settlement survive today in Furman. The main era of domestic construction represented by surviving structures began in the 1840s, crests in the c. 1860s to c. 1880, and largely abated by 1900. Only a small hipped roof house from the 1940s and a modest 1930s central passage house speak definitively of the twentieth century, more in proportions and hardware than in form. The earliest houses in the community are both likely from the 1840s and are of the "extended I-house" type, which refers to a one pile deep two-story house with shed room extensions onto front and rear porches. The Hobdy-Carter House (inv. #33) and the Purifoy House (inv. #44) both are I-houses with one enclosed porch room on the front facade and two enclosed porch rooms on the rear elevation. Both (along with Bethsaida Baptist Church discussed later) are traditionally held to have been the work of local planter and possible builder or at least contractor Edmond Hobdy. The Hobdy-Carter house is the more elaborate of the two, with dentillated cornices under the eaves of the porches and the roof. The rooms on its interior have paneled dados, Greek Revival mantles on the first story, and tripartite Federal-influenced mantles on the second story. Notable faux-graining also appears in much of the woodwork. The now vanished Dr. William Gulley House was an I-house as well, but it traditionally

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For the traditional descriptions of some early houses in the community, see Palmer, W. B. <u>A</u> <u>History of Furman, Alabama</u>. (1916, copied by Library Project 3529, Works Progress Administration, 1937).

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was supposed to have had a classically inspired portico on its facade rather than the full length shed porch which typifies the other two Furman I-houses.

The coastal cottage house type was constructed in Furman from the 1850s well into the last guarter of the 19th century. This house type is largely one- or one-and-a-half stories tall, two piles deep, and possesses a central passage. Most distinctively, however, coastal cottages are characterized by a recessed porch over which the unbroken roofline of the main block extends. The coastal cottages also frequently possess rear service ells. The six examples of this house form in Furman have widely variable ornament and proportions, in contrast with the examples of the type in the village of Oak Hill, southwest of Furman, where the coastal cottages all maintain very similar proportions and details. The two earliest examples of the house type date from the 1850s and 1860s. One example (inv. 17) is held locally to be perhaps the oldest, but its plain and somewhat altered exterior leaves few clues as to its date of construction. The Dabney Palmer House (inv. #3) is more elaborately ornamented, featuring a fine Greek Revival door surround, jigsaw work porch railings, small brackets on the porch posts, and two Gothic arched windows on the south elevation. The Dabney Palmer House is very much an example of the introduction of eclectic details into a stylistic idiom with Greek Revival "bones" and onto a traditional folk house form. The Palmer House also features an elaboration of a fairly conventional plan with the introduction of an enclosed front room, such as seen on the Palmer and Hobdy-Carter I-houses. The Burson House (inv. #48) is commonly held to have been built in 1876. It is of very conservative design; essentially it is a Greek Revival structure with lattice work arches between porch piers which just slightly hint at the influence of the picturesque. These lattice arches actually share a close kinship to those on the Gulley House (inv. #11), which was built roughly a decade and a half before the Burson House.

The latter examples of coastal cottages are variations of the theme set by the first three. The 1880s Moore House (inv. #10) maintains the basic coastal cottage form but adds the Victorian elements of three front dormer gables and turned porch posts, as well as a much lower pitched roof. Another house from the last quarter of the 19th century (inv. # 39) wraps the basic form of a coastal cottage into an L-plan with the front projecting wing terminated by a polygonal bay. Finally, the 1880s Spier House (inv. #40) has much smaller proportions and probably represents the termination of the building type in Furman. The builder of the Spier House did not, in fact, incorporate the unbroken roofline in to the upper half story of the building, but rather projected it down over the first (and only) story, constructing a rounded vault underneath the porch eave to allow for "head room." The Reconstruction Era or earlier McCondichie House (inv. #19) is a "spraddled roof" type, which is a close relative to the coastal cottage. In the McCondichie House and other spraddled roof houses, however, there is a break in the roofline that extends over the porch and sometimes over the rear shed.

Several one- and two-room houses dot the Furman Historic District and by and large would have housed the tenants and house servants of the inhabitants of the larger houses. The earliest of these is probably a single pen log structure with a stone chimney (inv. #1). There is little to indicate a precise date for this structure, but it probably is an early tenant house rather than a slave quarter. There are two single pen board and batten tenant houses (inv. #42 & #43), as well as several double pen central chimney board and batten tenant houses (inv. #39A, #41, #47). There is also one dogtrot type servant's house (inv. #31A), which consists of two frame pens joined together by an open breezeway. This dogtrot, associated with the Purdue House, has one exterior brick end chimney. Finally, another two room servant's house (inv. #37B) follows the "shotgun" typology, that is, it is a front gabled structure with two rooms stacked front to back with no passageway.

Furman also contains a set of small houses that were clearly the abodes of independent property owners. One of the simplest of these is a small double pen house (inv. #22) with a substantial rear ell, whose owner was clearly prosperous enough to afford the extra ornamental touch of returned cornices in the end gables. The other very modest house of a probable property owner is a small turn-of-the-century double pen house with a rear ell (inv. #9), which possesses elements clearly borrowed from an older more "high style" house, including Greek Revival influenced porch piers and a twelve-pane window. With one exception, the rest of the smaller houses in Furman all share the common features of central passages and end gables. The exception is the central passage hipped roof Dr. Palmer House (inv. #45), which is double pile in depth with a semi-detached hipped roof service ell and a very late (probably 1880s) Greek Revival portico. There are three single pile end gabled central passage houses in Furman. One (inv. #24) probably started out as a dogtrot, but was enclosed to make a central passage house no more than twenty years after its initial construction. It possesses an integral rear shed with an

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unbroken roofline on one end. Another single pile central passage house (inv. #37) is clearly all of one build, and features sidelights flanking the door and returned cornices in its end gables and a later board and batten clad rear shed. The last house of this type (inv. #46) appears to date to the early to mid-20th century, and has novelty board siding and a front gabled porch.

There are five double pile central passage end gabled houses, dating from c. 1870 to 1905, in Furman. The Robbins House (inv. #4) is the most elaborate and probably the oldest (c. 1855-60) of these. It possesses a fine Greek Revival portico and a rear ell with an unusual kitchen appendage that features a coastal cottage type roof. Three houses, including the Watson House (inv. #5), the J.B. Robbins House (inv. #7), and one other (inv. #15), are all very similar in their proportions and lack of ornament. The first two are more intact than the latter and probably were built somewhat earlier, as they possess nine over nine sash windows while the other possesses six over six sash windows more commonly seen at the turn-of-the-century. The example of the house type that dates to this century is the 1905 Baptist Parsonage (inv. #34). It possesses six over six sash windows and a very plain front gabled porch. In four of these examples, end chimneys appear to have heated the front set of rooms, but not the rear set. There is evidence, however, that the Watson House (inv. #5) originally had four end chimneys so that all the rooms in its main block were heated.

The three largest houses of the community are all side gabled central passage houses that are two- to two-and-a-half stories tall. Two of these, the Gulley House (inv. # 11) and the Patience Caroline Purifoy Lee House (inv. #35) date to the Civil War era. In this same category with these two houses was a slightly earlier two-and-a-half story Greek Revival house built by the Purifov family which was moved to the town of Pine Apple, to the south of Furman, in the 1930s. The third of these "largest" houses (inv. #31), which is still in Furman, was built by a timber entrepreneur by the name of Perdue at the turn-of-the-century. The Gulley House (inv. #11), traditionally dubbed "Wakefield," is probably the most elaborate house in the Furman Historic District. It possesses recessed porches on its side elevations and enclosed porch rooms on first and second stories on the facade. A one story shed porch graces the rear elevation. All of the porches are on simple Greek Revival piers but with more "picturesque" stylistic influences in the lattice work arches on front and the sides. The Gulley House is also unusual in Wilcox County for its two interior chimneys and two exterior chimneys that relate to the shed rooms. The Gulley House also possesses a heavy cornice capping its front facade and a blending of Greek Revival and Italianate interior details. The Patience Purifoy Lee House (inv. #35) occupies a full two and a half stories and possesses a stark sobriety which contrasts with the ornamental whimsey of the Gulley House. Very few exterior details of this house are present, except a simple Greek Revival door surround with sidelights and transom. The Patience Purifov Lee House also shares a recessed porch under an unbroken roof with the more common coastal cottage house type. It does share with the Gulley House, however, the interior chimneys which are so unusual in Alabama. The Perdue House (inv. #31) has a conservative plan which belies its late date. This house is simply two rooms on either side of a central passage on both floors. It has four exterior end chimneys, much in keeping with most of the earlier double pile houses built elsewhere in Wilcox County. The Purdue House is also wrapped on all four elevations with a two tiered porch, which on the second story is also ornamented with post brackets and a balustrade. Sidelights and transoms ornament the double doors on both front and rear elevations of both stories. Two over two windows and narrow beaded board interior wall cladding firmly, however, place the building within the hardware preferences of the turn-of-the-century.

A small, hipped roof house (inv. #14) with four chimneys alone represents the latest phase of historic houses in Furman. Its paired four over four windows and poured concrete foundation place it firmly in the 20th century, as its low-pitched roof anticipates the ranch houses which would dominate the Post-World War II additions to Furman's residential stock. The houses in Furman in the last half of the twentieth century seem to illustrate a small renewal of interest in the community as a place in which to live resulting from the prominence of Alabama Highway 21 as the major route between Camden, the county seet, and the state capitol of Montgomery.

The Furman School (inv. #13), dating from c. 1923, is another one of the few reminders of the early twentieth century in the community. It dates from the era of school building that followed the founding of the Wilcox County Board of Education in the late 1910s. The school has a "T" -shaped plan and is similar in size to the school in Oak Hill, a small community to the southwest. Its brackets, exposed eave rafters, side door hood, and front porch are all elements borrowed from the Craftsman style, but are most likely a result of the available hardware and standard school plans rather than a conscious stylistic choice. Nevertheless, this building is really the only structure in the community in which a twentieth -century style actually has a

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presence. The structure's banks of nine over nine sash windows are utilitarian, allowing great amounts of light into the classrooms.

The two church structures in Furman, on the other hand, were very much constructed with the conservative Greek Revival idiom in mind. Bethsaida Baptist Church (inv. #32), the earlier and more northerly of the two, was built during the years 1858 to 1860. Originally, it was a simple, front gabled church with a paired-down Greek Revival portico, and a slave gallery inside. The Victorian era brought about an elaboration of the structure, with the addition of a stair tower projecting from the front facade (complete with Gothic arches over a central door and three windows) and a steeple. Furman Methodist Church (inv. #20), built in 1882, has a very similar aspect, with a front gabled portico on six simple Greek Revival influenced piers, and two entrances with transoms and "peaked" Greek Revival door surrounds. The only departure from the Greek Revival formula here is the Methodist Church's octagonal steeple capped by a lightning rod.

Two cemeteries contribute to the historic significance of Furman, and are in some respects the northern and southern termini of the historic district. The Palmer Cemetery (inv. #2) occupies the southern extreme of the community. It began as the family cemetery for the Palmers and probably about 1900 became the predominant cemetery of the community. The Palmer Cemetery contains both an ethnic white and black component, the white cemetery being on top of the ridge that the southern end of the community is on, the black component being on a lower but closely adjacent terrace. The white section of the cemetery is planted with oaks and cedars, with the headstones aligned in orderly rows. Oddly enough, however, there is no consistency as to whether inscriptions on the gravestones are aligned facing east or west. The core of the cemetery contains the mid-to-late 19th-century graves of the Palmer family, among which there are several very fine examples of traditional motifs. The most outstanding Palmer stones display elaborations on the "willow and urn" motif and were carved by Jarvis Turner's prolific Mobile workshop. The bulk of the cemetery consists of late 19th- and 20th-century stones, many of which are moderately well sculpted but are for the most part conventional. The graves in the African American section of the Palmer cemetery are generally low concrete markers from the early- to mid-20th century. Consequently, this part of the cemetery has much the appearance of an outdoor room whose walls are of dense moss-hung oaks and pines, while the graves themselves form the floor. Located at the northern end of the Furman Historic District, the Old Snow Hill Cemetery (inv. #38) is, on the other hand, an outstanding and almost prototypical example of an early to mid-19th century cemetery for a Black Belt planter community. It possesses many fine specimens of 19th-century folk carving and perhaps only one or two graves dating from the late 20th century. The overwhelming bulk of the stones in the Old Snow Hill Cemetery are in fact 19th century, giving it a degree of integrity of feeling and association which is almost unrivaled among the cemeteries of south central Alabama. This cemetery sits at the summit of a hill which overlooks the location of the original settlement of Furman. Most of the monuments in the cemetery are headstones, often with accompanying foot stones, which are carved with traditional funerary motifs. There are also a few obelisks and other monument-type markers. Fine variations of the willow, and the willow and (male) mourner dot the cemetery. Peaked headstones with vigorous acanthus leaf ornaments are also very common here. Among the more unusual stones is a tablet carved by the workshop of P. Stowe in Selma, portraying an urn in a niche surrounded by fluted scroll and vegetal ornaments. Also, one of the Gulley family monuments is remarkable for its combination of several motifs--it is a truncated obelisk which is surmounted by a draped urn, ornamented with a high relief wreath, and inscribed with a low relief "clasped-hands" motif. These and other monuments demonstrate that, indeed, the Old Snow Hill Cemetery is veritable outdoor museum of 19th-century Alabama sculpture.

The final structure that contributes to Furman Historic District is the Old Snow Hill Road. It is a deeply sunken dirt road now that progresses along the ridge which was the original location of the settlement period community. The road ties the Old Snow Hill Cemetery to present day Furman. During the survey, a 20th-century tenant house and a very early tenant house or possible field quarter were found along the Old Snow Hill Road but were destroyed during the survey process. The Purifoy House that was moved to Pine Apple in the 1930s was also in this vicinity. Because the road appears much as it did in the historic period, because the road is closely associated with the earliest period of settlement of the community, and because the road still serves to link two historic resources to the rest of the historic district, it is considered a contributing property. There does remain immense potential for the area around the Old Snow Hill Road to contain archaeological sites which would contribute to the district, but as no testing has been done to this point, the extent of potential future boundaries of the district has not been determined. There remains a great potential for archaeological remains throughout the Furman Historic District, particularly relating to the settlement, immediate antebellum, and reconstruction eras.

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1. House--(mid to late 19th century) one story square notched unhewn log end gabled house, corrugated metal roof on 20thcentury (circular saw) framing, log pier foundation, stone exterior end chimney on north elevation, split log ceiling beams (no ceiling currently), single leaf door on front elevation, window without glazing and with single leaf wooden shutter on south elevation (utilizes cut nails so assumed original), narrow cross-braced wooden awning on south elevation (20th c.), on interior a simple shelf-style mantle and planks nailed over gaps between logs as substitution for nogging (C)

2. Palmer Cemetery—(1831 through late 20th century) cemetery in two sections; the white section is higher in elevation than the black section; the white section is bounded by a modern chain link fence and is characterized by slab tombstones and some graves with horizontal stone or concrete coverings. While all graves appear from their foot stones to be aligned facing east (actually more northeast than true east), the inscriptions on the stones may face east or west—in fact the inscriptions of the stones in the row associated with the Burson family in fact face the inscriptions on the stones associated with the Palmer family. In fact, the stone for Evelina McKee (d. Dec. 6, 1869) faces exactly opposite the stone of her husband, J.P. McKee (d. Oct. 11, 1869). Around the Palmer section of the cemetery, there is a cast concrete curb inscribed "built by Luther B. Watson, Jr., for W. B. Palmer Sept. 10, 1920." The black cemetery consists of a large outdoor room bordered by large moss-clad pines and cedars and is characterized by simple slab tombstones (the earliest dated of which is 1897) and cast concrete horizontal slabs over graves. Both sections of the cemetery have the potential to yield interesting information regarding historic burial practices in the area (C)

**3. Dabney Palmer House**—(c. 1860) one-and-a-half-story frame central passage end gabled "coastal cottage" type house with integral recessed porch on piers with brick bases directly on the earth (carolina porch style), enclosed porch room to the south, recessed wood plank porch floor with jigsaw work railing, jigsaw work brackets on central porch post, corrugated metal roof, concrete block pier replacement foundation covered in modern latticework, rear ell, weatherboarded throughout except under porch where there is approx. 6" beaded flushboard and exterior baseboards, cast concrete front steps, double front door with sidelights, transom, and door surrounds with pilasters and lintels, six over six sash windows with louvred wooden shutters, ghosts of three exterior end chimneys since removed (two on south elevation, one on north), one small interior brick end chimney in rear ell, rear door with sidelights and transom, wrap around rear shed porch that extends the full length of ell with plank wall railing, two gothic arched windows on rear pile of main block or south elevation. Notable oaks and magnolias in yard (C)

Outbuilding:

A) early 20th-century tractor shed on log posts on the earth, two frame end walls, corrugated metal roof (C)

4. Robbins House--(c. 1855-60) one-story frame end gabled Greek Revival house, brick foundation, weatherboarded, asphalt shingled roof, front pedimented portico type porch over central bay on piers resting on a wooden plank porch floor, jigsaw work railings, flush board cladding under portico, double front doors with sidelights and transom, exterior front storm doors of glass and decorative ironwork c. 1970s, nine over nine sash windows, two stuccoed brick exterior end chimneys on main block, end gables have fully corniced pediment type ends, rear ell connecting originally detached kitchen with main block, stone cellar built into foundation of rear part of ell, the kitchen has a corrugated metal foundation, a wood pier replacement foundation, six over six sash windows, originally an integral recessed porch on posts on wood plank floor which has since been enclosed by particle board, exterior stone end chimney on kitchen, east elevation breezeway links main block, ell, and kitchen dependency though circulation is evidently now internal, not external (C)

Outbuilding:

A) 19th- or early 20th-century low brick well housing in side yard (C)

B) mid-to-late 19th-century frame pyramidal roof outbuilding with finial at peak, flush horizontal board siding, cut nails (C)

C) early 20th-century shed roofed outbuilding, weatherboarded, asphalt shingle roof cladding, poured concrete foundation, two four over four sash windows on south elevation, single leaf door on east elevation (C)

D) late 20th-century front gabled frame garage with asphalt shingled roof, modern wooden cladding with vertical grooves, aluminum garage door (NC)

E) early 20th-century front gabled quadruped barn (across street from main house), wood frame consisting of hewn log posts

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tied together with roof framing, four structural bays wide, partial poured concrete foundation, some plank siding but corrugated metal siding predominates, corrugated metal roof, manger on interior (C)

F) early 20th-century front gabled outbuilding, wood frame consisting of posts directly on the earth tied together with roof structure, plank siding, corrugated metal roof (C)

5. Watson House--c. 1870-1890, one-and-a-half-story frame end gabled house, two piles deep, concrete pier replacement foundation, rear ell and shed, front attached wooden shed porch on posts on wooden plank porch floor (early to mid 20th century), weatherboarded except for flush board on front facade, remnants of original brick pier foundation still exist on north elevation, originally there were four exterior brick end chimneys but now only bases and piles of rubble are left, double front doors with "Italianate" panels with rounded tops, front door has sidelights and transom, nine over nine sash windows throughout except in end gables where there are two four over four sash windows (C)

Outbuildings:

A) late 20th c. metal mobile home on concrete block foundation (NC)

B) early 20th c. front gabled frame weatherboarded outbuilding with exposed eave rafters, seam metal roof (C)

C) late 20th c. front gabled frame outbuilding with plywood siding, shed, metal roof (NC)

D) early 20th c. frame transverse barn with vertical plank siding and seam metal roof (C)

6. Wildcat Creek Archery Camp-c. 1975, one-story side gabled concrete block building on concrete slab foundation, asphalt shingled roof, modern side frame addition (NC)

Outbuilding:

A) late 20th-century metal "Butler building" (NC)

7. J.B. Robbins House-c. 1870-1890, one-story frame end gabled central passage house, rear ell, running brick foundation across front, adjustable steel foundation supports and concrete blocks elsewhere, weatherboarded, one exterior brick end chimney, front double door with sidelights and transom, nine over nine sash windows, c. 1990s attached full facade front porch on posts resting on modern decking porch floor although it utilizes an older brick foundation and historic stone front steps (C)

Outbuilding:

A) early 20th-century highly compromised front gabled shed with vertical plank siding and seam metal roof (NC)

8. House-c. 1955, one-story brick and stone veneered ranch house, end gabled with a cross gable towards the north end, recessed porch on steel porch supports, asphalt shingled roof (NC)

9. House--c. 1900, one-story frame end gabled double pen house, one brick exterior end chimney, attached shed porch with recycled "high style" mid-19th-century porch piers, standing seam metal roof, rear ell with shed on end, nine over six windows, individual six and four paned windows, one borrowed twelve pane window in ell, rear ell connected by breezeway. Mock orange bushes in yard (C)

A) early 20th-century makeshift shed roofed garage with diverse plank and metal siding, corrugated metal roof, housing now stationary 1930s model automobile (C)

B) early 20th-century small frame shed (probable chicken coop) with corrugated metal roof, plank siding (C)

C) early 20th-century frame shed roofed probable privy with corrugated metal roof cladding (C)

**10. Leonard Moore House**—c. 1885, one-and-a-half-story frame end gabled central passage house of the coastal cottage type, integral recessed porch on turned posts with brackets and brick bases set directly on the earth in the "carolina porch" method, wood plank porch floor, jigsaw work railing, three front roof gables with diagonal flush board siding and windows with louvred wooden shutters, integral rear shed, returned cornices on end gables, two exterior brick end chimneys, rear ell originally connected to house via breezeway (now enclosed) and ell foundation is wooden posts on brick pads, six over six sash

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windows throughout, four leaf front door with sidelights and transom, some elements suggest a c. 1895 remodeling, poured concrete front steps with curvilinear molded sides, historic magnolia trees in front yard (C)

Outbuildings:

A) early 20th c. front gabled weatherboarded frame smokehouse with corrugated metal roof, no foundation (C)
B) late 20th c. frame side gabled outbuilding with metal core (freezer?) on wood pier foundations (NC)
C) late 20th c. frame front gabled hunt club recreational building on steel pier foundation (NC)
D) c. 1925 frame front gabled garage, board and batten siding, corrugated metal roof, stone pier foundation (C)

**11. Gulley House (Wakefield)**—c. 1860, two-story frame side gabled central passage double pile house with two tiered front porch with two enclosed porch rooms on each story, flat parapet room over enclosed porch rooms, two exterior brick end chimneys for enclosed porch rooms, two interior brick chimneys between front and rear piles of main block, brick pier foundation, five bays in width, weatherboarded, with flush board beneath porches, front porch has stacked pier supports, wood plank floors, and railings with turned balusters, historic latticework with pointed drop finials on front and side porches, side porches are integral and recessed with wood plank floors and two tiered piers, also having railings on turned balusters, rear attached shed porch three bays in width with piers on brick bases set directly on the ground in the "carolina porch" manner, front doors on both stories are double with sidelights and transoms and post and lintel door surrounds with acanthus leaf brackets, secondary single leaf doors to enclosed porch rooms and side porches have plain post and lintel door surrounds, six over six sash windows throughout, windows on front and side porches have "kick-out" paneled doorlets to enable egress via the windows, rear door on first story only with sidelights, transom, and post and lintel door surround, heavy molded cornice around front parapet (C)

Outbuildings:

A) mid-to-late 19th-century front gabled frame weatherboarded smokehouse on stone pier foundation, single leaf front door, seam metal roof (C)

B) c. 1900 frame transverse barn with integral sheds and seam metal roof (C)

C) late 20th c. front gabled weatherboarded shed with double doors, seam metal roof (NC)

D) early-to-mid 20th-century tractor shed on log posts, front gabled seam metal roof (C)

E) late 20th c. small concrete block utility house with front gabled corrugated metal roof (NC)

F) mid-to-late 19th c. pyramidal roofed well house (now used to store wood underneath), asphalt shingle roof cladding, balustered railing, and finial at peak (C)

G) sizable c. 1920 sunken cast concrete block flower pit, 5 steps/shelves concentrically arranged (C)

**12. House**—c. 1965 one-story frame end gabled brick veneer end gabled ranch house on a concrete slab, side integral porte cochere, asphalt shingled roof, front gabled front porch on steel supports (NC)

**13. Furman School**—c. 1923, one-story frame T-plan weatherboarded school, novelty board sided, brick pier foundation, integral recessed and projecting one-bay wide front gabled porch on paired piers on wood plank porch floor, front door with sidelights and transom, behind projecting side wing is a secondary single leaf five stacked panel door with bracketed shed door hood, diamond-shaped asphalt shingle roof cladding, one slim interior brick stove type chimney, nine over nine windows paired on front facade, alone or in banks on other elevations, Craftsman influenced brackets in front gables, exposed rafters under eaves elsewhere (C)

**14. House**—c. 1940, one-story frame hipped roof house with side gabled side ell to north, poured concrete foundation, asphalt shingled roof, four exterior brick end chimneys, vinyl siding, single leaf front door, vinyl siding, four over four sash windows (C)

**15.** House--c. 1890, alterations c. 1925, one-story frame central passage side gabled weatherboarded house, double pile in depth, rear ell with shed wrapping from south elevation of ell to rear of main block, three extant brick exterior end chimneys all on main block, full brick foundation, added front shed porch with integral porte cochere on piers with brick bases resting on brick wall/porch foundation, porch floor appears to be cast concrete, six over six sash windows throughout, asphalt shingled

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roof (C)

Outbuilding:

A) early 20th c. diminutive shed roofed brick structure, asphalt shingles on roof, one door, directly behind rear ell (C)

**16.** House—c. 1855, one-and-a-half-story frame central passage house of the "coastal cottage" type, integral recessed porch on piers on masonry bases directly on the earth in the "carolina porch" style, wood plank porch floor, asbestos shingle siding, one exterior brick end chimney on north face, small brick exterior stove type chimney on integral shed bay of south face, asphalt shingled roof, double front door with sidelights and transom, six over six sash windows throughout (C)

**17.** Arnold's One-Stop--c. 1940, concrete block end gabled commercial building with flat parapet roofed side wing designated a laundromat, asphalt shingle roof cladding, steel casement windows (C)

Outbuilding:

A) mid-20th-century two-bay concrete block garage building, exposed seam metal end gab led roof with exposed rafters under eaves (C)

**18. Furman Mercantile**.-c. 1925, one-story end gabled frame commercial building, weatherboard siding covered in corrugated metal siding, single leaf central front door, four over four sash windows with metal bars, rear shed, east side single four pane window with wooden shutter, east side exterior small brick stove type chimney, foundation unknown, seam metal roof, braced front porch awning, west side semi-detached small prefab metal wing (C)

Outbuildings:

A) late-20th-century small prefab metal building (NC)

B) mid-to-late 20th-century frame corrugated metal sided front gabled fire station (NC)

**19. Jay McCondichie House**—c. 1875 or possibly earlier, one-and-a-half-story frame end gabled central passage house, integral rear shed and spraddle roof front porch on posts with jigsaw work brackets and wood plank porch floor with jigsaw work railings, brick pier porch foundation with brick infill, concrete block replacement pier foundation under rest of house, front facade clad in weatherboard, other elevations clad in asbestos shingles, two brick exterior end chimneys, rear ell with modern shed enlargement to south, double front door with sidelights, six over six sash windows on front facade, nine over six sash windows on side facades, single leaf wooden shutters in upper half story on side elevations, asphalt shingled roof, five enormous historic oak trees in front yard (C)

**20. Furman Methodist Church**–1882, one-story frame front gabled weatherboarded religious building with residual Greek Revival influences, integral recessed pedimented porch on piers resting on wood plank porch floor, porch railings with plain balusters, front porch piers have cornice molding "capitals," octagonal steeple belltower with fixed louvered vents and what is probably a historic lightning rod for a finial, asphalt shingled roof, stuccoed brick pier foundation, six over six sash windows on side elevations with wooden louvered shutters, rear rectangular apse with six over six sash side windows and hipped roof, front porch steps appear to be cast concrete, two front doors with three-light transoms and "peaked" Greek Revival door surrounds (C)

**21. Furman Post Office**—c. 1990, one-story brick veneer hipped roof box of a building on concrete slab foundation, steel and plate glass door and windows (NC)

**22.** House—c. 1900, one-story end gabled frame double pen house, returned cornices in gables, asbestos shingle siding, rear ell with shed on its north side and modern addition on end with brick exterior end chimney, concrete block replacement foundation, hipped roof front porch on piers on poured concrete porch floor, single leaf modern replacement door, six over six sash windows throughout (C)

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**23.** House--c. 1965, one-story frame hipped roof ranch influenced house, full brick foundation, asphalt shingle roof, modern vertical plank wood siding, modern replacement windows, single leaf front door (NC)

**24.** House--c. 1880-c. 1900, one-story frame end gabled enclosed dogtrot type house, weatherboarded, mixed wood pier, brick pier, and concrete block pier foundation, one exterior brick end chimney on north end, ruins of stone based brick end chimney on south end, seam metal clad roof, modern double front doors, northern pen has single leaf five paneled secondary front door as well as six over six sash windows stacked short end up and an integral rear shed, southern pen has two over two sash windows and a fixed louvre vent in the south gable, shed porch on piers resting on plank porch floor, concrete clad brick front porch steps, was possibly a single pen with a second pen added across a dogtrot later (C)

**25.** Store--c. 1880, one-story front gabled frame commercial building, weatherboarded except under porch where flush board is utilized, concrete block pier replacement foundation, recessed integral front pedimented porch on piers resting on wooden plank porch floor, post piers have cornice molding "capitals" in a similar usage to those on the Methodist Church, one diminutive interior brick stove type chimney, seam metal roof, double front doors of flush diagonal boards flanked by windows with sealed and barred shutters of flush diagonal boards, side loading doors on north and south elevations composed of flush diagonal boards (C)

**26.** Store (Old Cafe/Old Post Office)—c. 1900, one-story frame front gabled board and batten sided commercial building, front shed porch with exposed rafters under eaves on steel posts resting on concrete slab porch floor, concrete block replacement foundation, weatherboarded front gable, corrugated metal cladding on roof, two nine over nine windows flanking modern single leaf front door on facade, one four over four sash window on north and south elevations, two nine over nine sash windows on rear elevation (C)

27. House-c. 1970, one-story frame side gabled ranch influenced house, integral recessed porch and porte cochere, concrete slab foundation, asphalt shingled roof, weatherboard sided (NC)

### Outbuilding:

A) c. 1980 one-story front gabled corrugated metal building with low pitched roof (NC)

**28.** Dr. Purifoy's Dentist Office-c. 1885-90, one-story frame front gabled board and batten clad commercial building with beaded battens under the front porch, wood pier and concrete block pier replacement foundation, seam metal roof, rear brick exterior end chimney, small rear board and batten clad ell (probably modern levorotary addition), double front doors with three light transom flanked by two windows covered by beaded board shutters, recessed integral porch on piers with cornice molding "capitals," wood plank porch floor and wooden front steps, balustered porch railings, shuttered window on north and south sides of the rear structural bay (C)

### Outbuilding:

A) early 20th-century diminutive wood frame flush board sided gabled utility housing with seam metal roof (C)

**29.** Dr. William Gulley House Site-c. 1850, small hillock with stone retaining wall landscaping, modern metal trailer on obscured foundation where original house once stood (NC)

### Outbuilding:

A) c. 1880, one-story single pen front gabled frame office structure, weatherboarded except under front porch where flush board siding is used, brick pier foundation with concrete block infill, front attached hipped roof porch on chamfered posts resting on wood plank porch floor, porch railing with balusters, single leaf front door, six over six sash window on north and south elevations (C)

B) c. 1910, front gabled frame weatherboarded outbuilding with asphalt shingled roof currently utilized as a chicken coop,

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borrowed picket fence creating the hen yard (C)

C) early 20th-century front gabled transverse barn with sheds, seam metal roof, vertical flush board cladding, no foundation (C) D) mid-to-late 20th-century small wood frame well house over concrete slab, 2"x4" roof framing on unhewn log supports (NC)

**30.** House--c. 1975, one-story end gabled brick veneer house, modern double horizontal pane windows, enclosed frame front gabled porch, asphalt shingled roof, concrete slab foundation (NC)

**Outbuildings:** 

A) c. 1975 wood frame garage with front gabled seam metal roof (NC)

B) c. 1990 prefabricated metal shed (NC)

**31. Purdue House**—c. 1895-1905, two-story frame end gabled central passage house two piles in depth, two tiered wrap around porch on all four sides, four brick exterior end chimneys, flush board siding, porches rest on posts set on wood plank floor, balustered railing and jigsaw work brackets on upper porch tier, decorative latticework arches on first floor front elevation, some of porch floor on first level has been replaced with poured concrete floor, corrugated metal roof, double front and rear doors with sidelights and transoms on both stories, two over two windows throughout, window present in end gables, brick pier foundation with some concrete block and wood post replacements, one room kitchen wing abuts porch in rear, kitchen wing is frame and front gabled with returned cornices, kitchen is novelty board sided and has modern nine over nine sash window replacements, interior contains vertical beaded board wall treatment, straight runs staircase with turned balusters in central passage, turn-of-the-century mail-order mantles with mirror tops (C)

### **Outbuildings:**

A) c. 1900 one-story frame end gabled dogtrot type house on brick pier foundation, one exterior brick end chimney on north elevation, wire nails, extensive modern metal open shed attached to rear for farm implement storage purposes (C)
 B) late 20th-century small-scale front gabled concrete block outbuilding with asphalt shingled roof (NC)
 C) late 20th-century corrugated metal shed (NC)

**32. Bethsaida Baptist Church**–1858-1860, two story frame front gabled church with central front steeple tower, integral recessed porch on paneled piers resting on brick bases set directly on the earth in "carolina porch" fashion, brick pier foundation, mid-twentieth-century brick porch floor, weatherboard clad, tin shingle roof with metal roof comb on ridge, pyramidal steeple cap on chamfered posts flanking louvered vents, central front entrance tower with gothic arched double door and second story gothic arched window, two sets of double doors flanking central tower, outside bays occupied by single leaf doors that allow access to the "slave balcory" on the interior, six over six sash windows throughout, wooden shutters with fixed louvers, notable window placement behind altar (C)

### Outbuildings:

A) mid-to-late 19th-century double pen frame side gabled outbuilding, weatherboarded, integral recessed porch on piers set directly into ground, wood plank porch floor, brick pier foundation, seam metal roof, modern replacement one over one sash windows (C)

B) late 19th-century well house consisting of a seam metal clad pyramidal roof resting on posts and enclosed with latticework and a single leaf door (C)

**33.** Hobdy-Carter House—1840s, two-story frame central passage end gabled house (I-house with sheds), front and rear onestory shed porches with one enclosed porch room in front and two enclosed porch rooms on back (all original), porch rests on posts set on wood plank porch floor, weatherboarded, two brick exterior end chimneys, weatherboarded, seam metal roof, dentilled cornices below both roof and porch eaves, main front door is single leaf with hinged sidelights and a transom, secondary front door in western structural bay, another secondary front door on front of east structural bay (allowing access to enclosed porch room), one single leaf rear door as part of central bay enclosed porch, one single leaf rear door on shed room on west structural bay, doors typically have Greek Revival influenced "eared" molding door surrounds, six over six windows throughout, louvered wooden shutters, stair to second story starts on back (now screened in) porch, central passage has flush

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board walls with beaded baseboards, other interior rooms have flush board walls with paneled dados, many of which retain historic painted graining, simple Greek Revival influenced mantles correspond to the chimneys on the first floor, simplified Federal influenced tripartite mantles correspond to the chimneys in the second floor rooms, can with confidence be said to be one of the most intact examples of an I-house with sheds in the state (C)

### Outbuildings:

A) mid-to-late 19th c. front gabled heavy timber framed weatherboarded outbuilding, corrugated metal roof, concrete block pier replacement foundation, cut nails (C)

B) mid-to-late 19th c. brick lined well, still produces water (C)

C) early 20th c. frame front gabled barn with corrugated metal roof, currently largely obscured by kudzu (C)

D) early 20th c. frame front gabled barn with corrugated metal roof, currently largely obscured by kudzu (C)

**34. Parsonage**—c. 1905, one-story weatherboarded balloon frame end gabled house, two piles deep main block with one room rear ell, five fenestration bays wide, two exterior brick end chimneys on either end of front pile (one of which is largely demolished), brick pier foundation (piers in front of house are stuccoed), returned cornices in side gables and end of rear ell, seam metal roof, front pedimented porch with returned cornices over central three fenestration bays, plain pier porch supports on a wood plank porch floor, shed porch on ell resting on log supports, six over six sash windows on main block, four over four sash windows in ell, original front door with single pane window in upper half, five stacked panel type doors on rear and ell, plan similar to a central passage except with passage wall removed on north end in order to create a large entry room (C)

**35.** Patience Caroline Purifoy Lee House-c. 1860, two-and-a-half-story frame end gabled central passage end gabled house, two piles deep, aluminum sided, full brick foundation, two-story high integral recessed front porch on piers resting on wood plank porch floor, two interior brick chimneys situated between front and rear piles, rear enclosed shed, six over nine sash windows on bottom story, six over six sash windows on second story, modern replacement windows on rear shed, front door with sidelights and transom (C)

Outbuildings:

A) mid-to-late 19th-century brick lined well (sealed) adjacent house (C)

B) mid-to-late 19th-century brick lined well (sealed) down by road (C)

C) mid-20th c. front gabled frame aluminum sided garage with concrete block foundation (NC)

D) mid-20th c. front gabled frame aluminum sided frame shed, window opening in gable, wooden pier foundation (NC)

**36.** Old Snow Hill Road (currently dubbed Clyde Miller Road)---mid-19th-century to mid-20th-century, deeply sunken dirt road which was a main thoroughfare in the original Old Snow Hill Community and which led to the rich plantation country to the north in Dallas County. It is considered contributing up to the northern boundary of the community, typically considered the Old Snow Hill Cemetery (C)

**37.** House--c. 1900, one-story frame end gabled central passage house, weatherboarded, corrugated metal roof, returned cornices in gables, concrete block replacement foundation and wood post foundation, two brick exterior end chimneys, rear full length board and batten sided shed, makeshift mid to late 20th century rear frame (2"x4") shed porch, front attached shed porch on log posts set on brick piers resting directly on the earth in the "carolina porch" style, wood plank front porch floor with simple balustered railings, single leaf front door with sidelights, four over four sash windows throughout (C)

### Outbuildings:

A) early 20th c. front gabled shed on posts set directly on ground, corrugated metal roof, metal rear wall (C) B) early 20th c. servant house, one-story frame front gabled shotgun house type, flush board sided, corrugated metal clad roof with exposed rafters under eaves, single leaf front door, two rooms deep, concrete block replacement foundation, single bay attached shed porch on posts on wood plank porch floor, single leaf front door and side door on east elevation of rear room, six over six sash windows throughout, brick exterior chimney on rear bay of west elevation (C)

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**38.** Old Snow Hill Cemetery—c. 1825 through first quarter 20th century, very intact hilltop cemetery containing graves of many early planters in the area, characterized predominantly by slabs arranged in tidy rows and clumped by family, some obelisks also present, decorative patterns range from simple rounded slabs to acanthus leaf ornaments, to multiple variations on the weeping willow theme, to an obelisk surmounted by a draped urn, to a few elaborate rococo revival designs from the 1870s, high aesthetic value is present in the gravestones, additionally it is a very intact example of a 19th century planter cemetery with very few modern intrusions that potentially could yield clues to familial relations, gender perceptions, and emigration patterns in connection with 19th century Alabama (C)

**39.** House--c. 1870-1890, one-story frame L-plan (i.e. with projecting front wing) house with end gabled roof, two exterior brick end chimneys, one interior brick chimney, full concrete block replacement foundation, weatherboarded, front integral recessed porch on piers resting on brick bases in the "carolina porch" manner, wood front porch floor with balustered railings, rear shed and rear porch with chamfered posts on wood plank floor and exposed eave rafters, double front doors with sidelights, single leaf door on projecting wing with round headed "Italianate" door panels, front projecting wing terminates in polygonal bay with a pedimented gable, side door with transoms and pedimented side porch with exposed eave rafters on chamfered posts on wood plank porch floor (C)

### Outbuildings:

A) c. 1900-1910 one-story frame end gabled double pen house, weatherboarded, asphalt shingle roof, one exterior brick end chimney, two front doors, central front window, attached shed porch with corrugated metal roof, concrete block pier replacement foundation, tree trunk pier porch foundation (C)

B) second half of 19th century half dovetail notched hewn log pen with front gabled corrugated metal roof (C)

C) c. 1900-1910 small frame board and batten sided outbuilding with seam metal shed roof (C)

D) c. 1900-1910 small single pen frame board and batten sided front gabled outbuilding with two side sheds, concrete block pier replacement foundation, and corrugated metal roof cladding (C)

**40. Spier House**--c. 1880, one-story frame end gabled central passage house, two piles deep plus a rear ell and rear shed, two exterior stuccoed brick end chimneys in first pile, small interior stove-type brick chimney in ell, replacement concrete block pier foundation, weatherboarded, tin shingled roof, integral shed front porch on wooden piers resting on concrete pads set into the earth in "carolina porch" manner, front porch is coffered and therefore has more "headroom" than is implied by porch eaves, small board and batten sided addition on east elevation (probably a bathroom addition), front double door with sidelights and transom, nine over nine sash windows on main block of house, nine over six sash windows in ell, shed porch on west elevation of ell with corrugated metal roof and posts set onto the earth in "carolina porch" manner, rear door with sidelights and transom, single leaf ell door, notable magnolia trees, oak trees, grape vines, pecan trees, and yucca plants, once a picket fence apparently enclosed the front yard but now it is in ruins (C)

### **Outbuildings:**

A) early 20th-century front gabled frame weatherboarded outbuilding, two open side sheds, corrugated metal roof, concrete block pier replacement foundation (C)

B) early 20th-century front gabled frame shed with vertical plank siding and seam metal roof (C)

**41.** House/Agricultural outbuilding—c. 1910-1930, one-story frame end gabled double pen house, weatherboarded, corrugated metal roof, concrete block pier replacement foundation, one rear exterior brick chimney, front facade largely dismantled in conversion of building for use as farm storage, what is left, however, is a historic ruin and displays a historic trend in the area of reusing substandard housing for agricultural purposes (C)

**42.** House--c. 1885-1910, one-story frame single pen board and batten sided house, end gabled seam metal clad roof, wood and stone pier foundation, sizable exterior brick end chimney with stone base, single leaf front door with four lights incorporated into its top, seam metal roof cladding, rear board and batten sided shed, two four over four sash windows on west face, no windows on front facade, now joined to #43 via makeshift breezeway (C)

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**43.** House—c. 1900-1920, one-story frame end gabled single pen board and batten sided house, now joined to #42 via a makeshift rear breezeway, seam metal roof, concrete block and (possibly reused) brick pier foundation, front shed porch with wooden floor, single leaf front door, modern replacement windows, rear shed, was possibly moved to be used in combination with #47 as a camp house but was probably associated with the same property, in fact probably the same small topographic ridge, throughout its history (C)

**44. Purifoy House**—c. 1840s, two-story frame end gabled central passage house ("extended I-house") with one front and two rear enclosed shed rooms, weatherboarded except under porch where flush board siding is used, two exterior brick end chimneys, brick pier foundation, one-story front porch on piers resting on stuccoed brick bases set in the earth in "carolina porch" manner, recessed wood plank porch floor, asphalt shingle roof cladding on main block with seam metal roof cladding on porches, front double door with sidelights and transom, single leaf secondary front door, Greek Revival "eared" molding door surrounds on front and back doors, three back doors (two from the shed rooms and one from central passage bay, very sizable historic magnolia and oak trees in front yard as well as scattered historic cedar trees, poured concrete obelisk gate posts at entrance from road (C)

Outbuildings:

A) early 20th-century front gabled wood frame garage with corrugated metal roof and corrugated metal walls, no foundation(C) B) c. 1900-1910 detached rear frame board and batten sided front gabled kitchen, cast concrete pier foundation, seam metal roof, small interior brick stove-type chimney (C)

C) pre-1930 well housing of unknown composite material (C)

**45. Dr. Palmer House**—c. 1880, one-story frame hipped roof central passage house, two piles deep with rear semi-detached hipped roof service dependency, brick pier foundation, one exterior end chimney in first pile (there was once one on either side, but one has been removed, two small interior brick stove type chimneys in second tier of rooms of main block, seam metal roof, rear shed addition, front pedimented porch on posts with notched bases (in order to prevent rot due to water accumulation?) placed on wood plank porch floor, balustered porch railings, double front door with sidelights and transom, windows on porch are six over six sash on top of two hinged panels to allow egress onto front porch from front rooms, conventional six over six sash windows elsewhere, rear shed porch connects rear dependency to main block, two interior brick chimneys in dependency, single leaf rear dependency door with transom (C)

Outbuildings:

A) early 20th c. sunken brick lined flower pit (C)

B) early 20th c. front gabled frame board and batten sided shed with corrugated metal roof and no foundation (C)

**46.** House-c. 1930, one-story side gabled frame house, front gabled porch on plain wood posts, brick pier foundation, novelty board siding, steel sash replacement windows. (C)

**47.** House—c. 1900-1920, one-story frame board and batten sided end gabled house, corrugated metal roof, one room shed addition on north elevation, two pen main block, one brick end chimney, concrete block pier replacement foundation, individual four and six paned windows on front facade, single leaf front doors in main block and side addition, rear ell, hipped roof shed porch on posts resting on wood plank porch floor (C)

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**48. Burson House**—1876, one-and-a-half-story frame end gabled central passage house of the coastal cottage genre, integral recessed porch on piers resting on wood plank porch floor and decorated with elaborate original latticework, wood plank porch floor with ballustraded railings, weatherboarded except under porch where flush boards are used, tin shingled roof, wood post pier foundation, rear ell with apparently four building periods (i.e. rear ell with later extension with a later ell at a right angle, with an attached shed room), front door with sidelights and transom, nine over nine sash windows throughout, front yard with two terraces held in place by poured concrete retaining walls (C)

Outbuildings:

A) late 19th/early 20th-century single pen front gabled weatherboarded frame shed, single leaf front door, no foundation, corrugated metal roof (C)

B) early-to-mid 20th-century small frame weatherboarded shed roofed outbuiliding (C)

C) c. 1920-1930 front gabled frame board and batten sided garage, concrete block foundation, seam metal roof, four over four sash window in front gable (C)

No street addresses were available at the time during which this nomination was written.

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#### **Statement of Significance**

### Criterion C-Architecture and Art

The Furman Historic District is significant under Criterion C for Architecture and Art. The district includes exceptionally intact examples of traditional building typologies, and illustrates a great conservativism in design as the Greek Revival remains a primary stylistic influence through the end of the 19th century. The district contains notable intact examples of the extended I-house, the coastal cottage, and the two-story central passage double pile house types, as well as several variations on the one and two pile deep single-story central passage house. Additionally, the district contains two fine examples of Greek Revival churches, three notable examples of the front gabled frame "country-store" type commercial building, and a very intact T-plan frame school building which demonstrates some craftsman influences. The district is also significant under Criterion C for Art as the Old Snow Hill Cemetery contains exceptional examples of 19th-century stone carving, including traditional motifs such as the willow and willow and mourner but in addition several more idiosyncratic motifs such as temple-form tablets with acanthus leaf crowns. Most of the stones maintain an exceptionally high integrity of materials, design, and workmanship, and the hilltop location of the cemetery maintains a great deal of integrity of setting and feeling due to a lack of 20th-century graves which allows it truly to stand out among its fellow community cemeteries in the Black Belt.

### Criterion A-Settlement/Development

The Furman Historic District is eligible under Criterion A for Settlement/Development. The town of Furman began as a planter neighborhood named Snow Hill, probably in the 1820s. The community was centered north of the present town in the area around the Old Snow Hill Cemetery. By the time of the Civil War, the community had shifted to the south to take agricultural advantage of the fertile lands around Pine Barren Creek and other streams.<sup>2</sup> Around 1870, the Selma and Gulf Railroad arrived about two miles from what is now the town of Furman. The railroad resulted in the founding of a new town along the railroad which was given the name Snow Hill. The older planter community of Snow Hill was then renamed Furman after the town of Furman, South Carolina.<sup>3</sup> While the new town of Snow Hill became the mercantile center of the area, Furman remained the agricultural center and the center for service professions such as physicians and the blacksmith, which traditionally were second professions for farmers and planters.<sup>4</sup> Furman continued to thrive up to the turn-of-the-century as an agricultural center probably because of its proximity to the railroad, but after 1900, the town began to experience a steady decline in population. Thus, the Furman Historic District contains a range of architecture from the mid-to-late 19th century which tends to fall into restrained, traditional building typologies. The conservativism of Furman's architecture possibly reflects the consciousness of agricultural, planter roots of the community and contrasts with the more up-to-date cross-gabled Victorian cottages and other house forms more common in contemporary railroad towns. Furman thus reflects the transition of a community from a settlement period neighborhood, now vanished except for the Old Snow Hill Cemetery, the Old Snow Hill Road, and possibly archaeological sites, to a prosperous planter community thriving on fertile Black Belt soil to the south of the original community, to a late 19th-century agricultural and professional center which developed in tandem but in contrast with a nearby mercantile-oriented railroad town.

<sup>2</sup>Palmer. "A History of Furman, Alabama".

<sup>3</sup>Foscue, Virginia O. <u>Place Names in Alabama</u>. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1989). p. 61.

<sup>4</sup>Evidence of this, discussed later, can be found in Young & Co. <u>Young & Co.'s Business and</u> <u>Professional Directory of the Cities and Towns throughout the State of Alabama</u>. (Atlanta: Young & Co., 1905-06). pp. 195, 390.

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#### **Historical Summary**

The first readily apparent material evidence of the settlement period community that would develop into the town now know as Furman is the first dated grave in the Old Snow Hill Cemetery. A man named Moses Moore was buried there in 1825.<sup>5</sup> A community had definitely coalesced in the area by the founding of Bethsaida Baptist Church, in 1831.<sup>6</sup> The community was named Snow Hill after a Mr. William Snow, who patented the land on which the original town was constructed.<sup>7</sup> As the planters of the community discovered the great fertility of the creek bottoms and "prairie soil" south of the community, they began to relocate.<sup>8</sup> The original post office of the community was located at the site of old Snow Hill, but followed the town's migration to the south and was moved approximately a mile south, near the present day site of Furman Methodist Church.<sup>9</sup> The move of planters and the post office in the antebellum period partially explains the north-south oriented linear nature of the community. The town's orientation also reflects the fact that commerce-related transportation was initially conducted towards the north. All cotton and other agricultural commodities produced in the Furman area were in the antebellum era hauled along the "Centerport" Road to the Elm Bluff landing on the Alabama River in Dallas County, as all merchandise for the community's consumption was hauled along the same road.<sup>10</sup>

The Old Snow Hill (Furman) community followed the general pattern of settlement in the eastern end of Wilcox County as it, like Oak Hill and Pine Apple, really solidified into a village of sorts on its current location in the 1850s. Settlers before midcentury often set up communities in areas that were later found to be unhealthy or away from the richest agricultural lands. The Associated Reformed Presbyterians that came to occupy Oak Hill around 1850 had originally settled in a now vanished town called Hamburg. The commercial center of the eastern end of the county, Allenton, had begun to disappear by the introduction of the railroad in the 1870s. The unusual aspect of the planters of the Old Snow Hill community was that they found it necessary only to remove themselves a short distance, rather than several miles, so that the settlement period community and the mid-19th-century community overlap spatially.

The settlers of the Old Snow Hill community came largely from the Carolinas, with the exception of the Palmer family who did in fact live in North Carolina before moving to the area but who originated in Halifax County in Southside Virginia. Many of the settlers came in large extended family groups. The Purifoys, Gulleys, Palmers, and McCondichies were all large families which appeared to have moved intact from the eastern states. The Purifoys in fact owned land and residences in both Wilcox and Dallas Counties. Because of the extended family arrangements of most of the planters in this vicinity with the more independent households in the rest of the county. The 1860 Federal Census provides some basis to compare Furman's planters with others in the county. Dr. William Gulley, whose substantial I-house is now vanished but its site still indicated by a scattering of outbuildings, owned \$12,500 in real estate and 52 slaves contributing to \$90,000 of personal property, is certainly comparable in wealth to other I-house owners in the county, like Rev. A. C. Ramsey of Oak Hill.<sup>11</sup> The offspring of William's kinsman and family patriarch James Gulley, on the other hand, appear to have substantially smaller estates but are responsible

<sup>5</sup>Palmer. "A History of Furman, Alabama".

<sup>6</sup>"Furman Churches Listed on Fall Tour" in Wilcox Progressive Era. August 20, 1997.

<sup>7</sup>Palmer. "A History of Furman, Alabama".

<sup>8</sup>ibid.

<sup>9</sup>ibid.

<sup>10</sup>ibid.

<sup>11</sup>1860 Federal Census.

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for the construction of the great two-story double pile Gulley House that still exists. The completion of this "big house" was probably a family affair. It was traditionally started by John Gulley and then due to depletion of funds sold to his brother Henry, who finished it.<sup>12</sup> Sixty-year-old James Gulley himself, who was listed in the census with no real estate but 68 slaves, was apparently content to live in a now vanished double pen log house.<sup>13</sup> The houses of John and William Purifoy also display an economic self-confidence that no doubt reflects general wealth in an extended family. John Purifoy lived in an I-house, but owned a total estate estimated at \$40,000, slightly less than the average I-house dwelling of a Wilcox County planter but certainly falling into the range of a substantially self-supporting middling planter.<sup>14</sup> William Purifoy and family dwelt in a two story double pile house, now moved to Pine Apple, which is once again, slightly larger than one would expect for a planter with a total estate of \$51,000.<sup>15</sup> Edmond Hobdy, owner of another I-house still standing in Furman, had a total estate of \$48,000, which seems to fit fine within the pattern of wealth and house typology in Wilcox County when it is taken into account that he was traditionally held to have been a prominent building contractor in the area, thereby having additional capitol to use on the house in the form of his trade.<sup>16</sup> The 24-year-old Dabney Palmer was in 1860 inhabiting or about to inhabit a coastal cottage and with his estate of about \$45,000 was very comparable to the inhabitants of coastal cottages in the nearby village of Oak Hill.<sup>17</sup>

Most of the recorded information about the lives of the planters in 19th-century Old Snow Hill/Furman seems to be in the realms of leisure, politics, and religion. A rare glimpse of the festivities of planter society is captured in the recollections of the community as recorded at the turn of the century by Dr. W. B. Palmer:

"A great ball was given every year, at the Christmas times, in Furman, at the house in which Mr. R.O. Simpson now lives [the now vanished Dr. William Gulley House].... A great supper and breakfast were a part of the program. Neighbors would send coffee, tea, and all kinds of food and fruit there. Those couples who attended were required to pay ten dollars, five dollars each for the gentleman and the lady. The table would be laden with well-prepared food, so that even the most fastidious could find no fault. The music would begin "at first dark" and the Cotillion Virginia Reel, and other antebellum dances would be participated in until the day had climbed the eastern hills...".<sup>18</sup>

Also recorded in the Anti-Secession Banner, a local newspaper, was a July 4th event in 1851 commemorating the 75th year of American independence, which was held to be "a barbecue prepared in the most splendid style".<sup>19</sup> At this event, numerous toasts were made, and it is possible to hear some of the antebellum inhabitants of Furman speak for themselves:

"The statesmen and heroes of '76-may we ever cherish their memories and imitate their virtues. The boon they bequeathed us, we will annually swear to protect, cherish, and defend."--W. M. Purifoy.

<sup>12</sup>"Fall Pilgrimage Planned for September 20th" in *Wilcox Progressive Era*. August 13, 1997.

<sup>13</sup>Palmer. "A History of Furman, Alabama."

<sup>14</sup>1860 Federal Census.

<sup>15</sup>ibid.

<sup>16</sup>ibid. and "Fall Pilgrimage Planned..." in Wilcox Progressive Era.

<sup>17</sup>1860 Federal Census.

<sup>18</sup>Palmer. "A History of Furman, Alabama".

<sup>19</sup>Anti-Secession Banner. July 15, 1851.

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"The Commerce of the United States--the welcome visitor in every port--the republican bearing of its flag excites the envy of monarchy and despotism."--Mr. Hobdy.

"The United States Army--may the efforts of the over zealous and supersensitive politicians of the South, and the perfidious moralists of the North be blasted. May her galaxy of stars never be decreased--the purity of her government tarnished, the fruitfulness of her soil, or the beauty of her women diminished."-Dr. William Gulley.<sup>20</sup> "

Clearly the patriotic celebrants of that festive Fourth of July would be somewhat appalled to find themselves embroiled in the secession crisis only ten years away. Reflected in many of the toasts, too numerous to record here, were sentiments that had a surprisingly Whig political leaning, with much talk of commerce and union. In fact, when the secession crisis came to a head in the election of 1860, Bell and the Constitutional Union ticket carried the Snow Hill precinct, with 64 votes to secessionist Democrat Breckenridge's 42 votes.<sup>21</sup> The Snow Hill beat, along with the Kyser's Mill beat at current day Pine Apple, were among the very few precincts in the county which predominantly voted for Bell over Breckenridge.<sup>22</sup> When the Civil War did break out, however, Snow Hill sent its men to fight for the Confederacy in the Cedar Creek Guards, mustered in 1862 as Company C, Forty-fourth Alabama Infantry Regiment, with John Purifoy as captain.<sup>23</sup>

Sectarian debate was not confined to politics in the Old Snow Hill community. Very energetic competition between religious denominations also was a prominent preoccupation for the families of the town.<sup>24</sup> At first, "Hardshell" or Primitive Baptist was the primary religious affiliation of the community. Bethsaida Baptist Church was founded in 1831 in association with that denomination.<sup>25</sup> When the Palmer family arrived in the early 1830s, they brought their faith with them and Antioch Missionary Baptist Church was founded on the southern end of the community.<sup>26</sup> By the mid-1850s, a Methodist church had been constructed as well.<sup>27</sup> Several members of the community were also of the Christian (Disciples of Christ) denomination but there were never enough of them to build a separate church building.<sup>28</sup> The current Bethsaida Baptist Church was

<sup>20</sup>ibid.

<sup>21</sup>Woodson, Ouida Starr. <u>Within the Bend: Stories of Wilcox County</u>. (copyright by the author, 1988). p. 17.

<sup>22</sup>ibid.

<sup>23</sup>Woodson, Ouida Starr. <u>Within the Bend: Stories of Wilcox County, Book Two</u>. (copyright by the author, 1989). p. 37.

<sup>24</sup>for accounts of the debates, see Palmer. "A History of Furman Alabama". Developing a narrative for the history of religion in Furman required the blending of information from Palmer's history and an article, "Furman Churches Listed on Fall Tour" in *Wilcox Progressive Era*. August 20, 1997.

<sup>25</sup>ibid.

<sup>26</sup>ibid.

<sup>27</sup>ibid.

<sup>28</sup>ibid.

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constructed from 1858 to 1860, complete with a "slave gallery".<sup>29</sup> For some slaves to attend church with their owners was apparently the pattern in Old Snow Hill, as the Methodist Church register of 1857 included 115 slaves.<sup>30</sup> At the conclusion of the Civil War, two major changes in the community's religious life took place. Firstly, the now free African Americans began to form their own churches and ceased to go to the planters' churches. Also, in 1866, Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and Bethsaida Baptist Church united and came to meet in the Bethsaida Baptist Church building all with the Missionary Baptist affiliation.<sup>31</sup> Both Bethsaida Baptist and Furman Methodist Church continued to thrive through the 19th century, and the Methodists expanded into a new building in 1882, which is still extant.<sup>32</sup>

By 1871, the Selma and Gulf Railroad had been completed about two miles west of Old Snow Hill and on to Pine Apple to the south.<sup>33</sup> The arrival of the railroad caused the development of a new community on the tracks which was dubbed Snow Hill. This subsequently caused the planter community that had previously been called Snow Hill to be redubbed Furman. The result was not that the town of Furman disappeared, like so many other planter communities which were not economically viable in the aftermath of the Civil War, but that Furman and the new town of Snow Hill contained functions which worked in tandem, even complimented each other. The old planter families continued to remain in Furman, and supervise the agricultural undertakings in the area. The traditional professional sidelines of the planter families, particularly medicine, continued to be part of the economy of Furman, while Snow Hill became more populated with the mobile mercantile element that flocked to the railroad lines in the late 19th century. By 1906, Snow Hill had taken on the function of retail and industrial center in the area, containing four general merchandise stores, a livery stable, and a cotton oil company.<sup>34</sup> Furman, at the same time, had taken on much more of a service profession oriented cast, containing only two general merchandise stores, but three physicians, a blacksmith, a grocer, and an undertaker.<sup>35</sup> Furman reached its peak population in the census of 1890, at 195 persons enumerated.<sup>36</sup> By 1910, however, Furman's population had already suffered a substantial drop to 125.<sup>37</sup>

Although descendants of the old planter families remained in Furman well into the 20th century, the community has never been able to attain the population or prosperity it had in the 19th century. The falling prices of cotton, the early 20th-century threat of the boll weevil, and a rising timber industry all probably contributed to Furman's decline. About 1900, Mr. Perdue, a "timber baron," built his large two-and-a-half-story house with its two-tiered porch. His display of prosperity might ironically have signaled the end of Furman's prosperity. Whether because of a declining population, or resulting in declining population, much of the land surrounding Furman is planted in timber and harvested to this day. Certainly not as labor intensive

<sup>29</sup>ibid.

<sup>30</sup>"Furman Churches Listed on Fall Tour".

<sup>31</sup>ibid.

<sup>32</sup>ibid.

<sup>33</sup>Cline, Wayne. <u>Alabama Railroads</u>. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1997). p. 116.

<sup>34</sup>Young & Co. <u>Young & Co.'s Business and Professional Directory</u>. p. 390.

<sup>35</sup>ibid. p. 195.

<sup>36</sup>Owen, Thomas M. <u>History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography</u>. (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1921). p. 639.

<sup>37</sup>ibid.

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as cotton, timbering required less of the community. Furman had maintained its agricultural identity through the introduction of the railroad, only to find later that its reliance on cotton culture would be its undoing. Few alterations were made to the fabric of Furman, except with the advent of automobile travel, Alabama Highway 21 became the most important road for the survival of the remaining population, an event which is commemorated by the mid-20th-century construction of Arnold's One Stop, a gas station and garage. Today there is only one member of the Furman Methodist Church left, and only around 18 members of Bethsaida Baptist Church.<sup>38</sup> Some of the planters' and Victorian farmers' houses stand empty, while many others are used seasonally as hunting camps or vacation homes. Recent efforts by local civic and historical groups have brought more publicity to the area in the form of historical pilgrimages, and some renewed interest in the town has been witnessed in the founding of a bed and breakfast in the Gulley House.

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### **Geographic Data**

### Verbal Boundary Description

The Furman Historic District encompasses most of the structures associated with the unincorporated town of Furman and the boundaries of the district are represented on the accompanying base map.

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of Furman Historic District were drawn to include the current legal limits, which for the most part reflect the historic limits (as indicated by an 1871 plat map), of as many properties associated with the history and development of the town of Furman as possible. These boundaries reflect the development of the community, but are not necessarily intended to reflect traditional land usage. The district is not put forward under an agricultural area of significance as the field patterns in the immediate vicinity of the community are no longer intact. The land on either side of the Old Snow Hill Road was omitted because no structural resources are associated with those parcels and current land usage does not reflect historic land usage. In the instance of discovery of historical archaeological sites along either side of the road associated with the original Snow Hill community, the boundaries should be expanded to include the appropriate parcels as they will reflect the following: 1) the lots associated with extant structural resources which by and large reflect historical land acquisition and settlement patterns, 2) a historic dirt road that historically formed the major thoroughfare of the community, and 3) a planter cemetery with outstanding examples of 19th century stone carving. The boundaries therefore reflect the limits of known resources that are associated with areas of significance for which this district is being nominated.

### **Photographic Log**

Furman Historic District, Furman, Wilcox County, Alabama Johnathan Farris, photographer 1997-1998 Negatives maintained at the Alabama Historical Commission

- 1. House (inv. #1) facing south
- 2. Palmer Cemetery (inv. #2) facing northeast
- 3. Headstone of Stephen Palmer, Palmer Cemetery (inv. #2) facing east
- 4. Headstone of Stephen Palmer, detail, Palmer Cemetery (inv. #2)
- 5. African-American section, Palmer Cemetery (inv. #2) facing north
- 6. Dabney Palmer House (inv. #3) facing west
- 7. Dabney Palmer House (inv. #3), detail of front door facing west
- 8. Robbins House (inv. #4) facing south
- 9. Watson House (inv. #5) facing east
- 10. Leonard Moore House (inv. #10) facing southeast
- 11. Gulley House (inv. #11) facing west
- 12. Gulley House (inv. #11) facing north
- 13. Barn at Gulley House (inv. #11b) facing west
- 14. Flower pit at Gulley House (inv. #11g) facing west
- 15. Furman School (inv. #13) facing rorth
- 16. Furman Methodist Church (inv. #20) facing northeast
- 17. General view of Furman commercial area (inv. #25, 26, & 28) facing north

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- 18. Dr. Purifoy's Dentist Office (inv. #28) facing northeast
- 19. Dr. William Gulley's Office (inv. #29a) facing southwest
- 20. Purdue House (inv. #31) facing northwest
- 21. Dogtrot house behind Purdue House (inv. #31a) facing west
- 22. Bethsaida Baptist Church (inv. #32) facing southwest
- 23. Hobdy-Carter House (inv. #33) facing northeast
- 24. Hobdy-Carter House (inv. #33) facing south
- 25. Hobdy-Carter House (inv. #33), interior detail of central eastern first floor room facing east
- 26. Hobdy-Carter House (inv. #33), interior detail of eastern second floor room facing east
- 27. Baptist Parsonage (inv. #34) facing northeast
- 28. Patience Caroline Purifoy Lee House (inv. #35) facing west
- 29. Well at Patience Caroline Purifoy Lee House (inv. #35b)
- 30. Old Snow Hill Cemetery (inv. #38) facing west
- 31. Gulley Family monument, Old Snow Hill Cemetery (inv. #38) facing northwest
- 32. Lucinda Purifoy headstone, Old Snow Hill Cemetery (inv. #38) facing west
- 33. Wiley Shepheard headstone, Old Snow Hill Cemetery (inv. #38) facing west
- 34. Spier House (inv. #40) facing north
- 35. Spier House (inv. #40) facing east
- 36. Tenant house (inv. #42) facing north
- 37. Purifoy House (inv. #44) facing south
- 38. Dr. Palmer House (inv. #45) facing northwest
- 39. Burson House (inv. #48) facing south
- 40. Burson House (inv. #48) facing east