

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The John Chapman Plantation consists of a main plantation house known as "Hollywood" with its informally landscaped grounds, associated domestic and agricultural outbuildings, three tenant farm houses, several non-historic structures and the known sites of several previously existing outbuildings. The main residence is a two-story Greek Revival style house dating from the mid-nineteenth century. The plantation occupies 846 acres of gently rolling fall line countryside, variously wooded and in field, immediately east of the Jeffersonville city limits in Twiggs County, Georgia.

"Hollywood", the main house, is a four-over-four room wood-frame carpenter Greek Revival style residence with a separate dining room/kitchen wing attached to the house at the southeast corner. The house has a brick pier foundation with brick infill. It is weatherboarded, except on the front facade of the main house and two facades of the dining room wing which are sheathed with wide flush boards. The main roof is pyramidal; the dining room and kitchen roofs are hipped. The main house has four interior end chimneys, and the dining room wing has one on its east side. Except on the first floor of the front facade where the sash are six-over-nine, windows throughout are six-over-six double hung sash with simple wood surrounds and wooden blinds. The five bay front facade features a full-width, two-story Doric style portico with six square columns. Its full entablature extends around the entire house. The trabeated entranceway has double six-panel doors flanked by sidelights and surmounted by overlights and a pediment-like lintel. The side and overlights in this entrance are cobalt blue glass, believed to be original to the house. Above the main entrance is a simpler trabeated entrance which provides access to a cantilevered balcony. Two similar entrances are located on the first and second floors of the rear facade. The rear has a full-width one-story porch, now screened in, with a balustrade above. The porch extends to the east forming the portico of the dining room wing and attaching it to the main house. This portico, also screened in, features three square columns that reflect the design of the main house. A kitchen/bathroom wing was added to the rear of the dining room in 1906 and connected to the dining room by a breezeway. At the same time, a porch was constructed along the western side of the dining room to tie the main house to the kitchen/bathroom addition. In 1918 another porch was constructed along the eastern side of the kitchen addition, and the breezeway connecting the dining room and kitchen was enclosed. All the rear porches were screened in in 1940. In 1958 a small one-story bathroom/dressing room addition was attached to the east side of the main house.

The interior of the house has a four-over-four room with central stairhall plan, with the dining room/kitchen area attached at the southeast corner. Finishing details are particularly rich. Walls and ceilings are plastered, and floors have wide boards. The downstairs rooms feature wide baseboards, picture rails, ceiling moldings in one room and elaborate cornices and ceiling medallions. The dining room and southeast room with their simple medallions of concentric circle moldings and classic wood cornices have the simplest treatment. The hall and other three rooms all have elaborately molded plaster medallions featuring various acanthus leaf designs in high relief. The northeast room has the ceiling molding, and the two west rooms, joined by pocket doors, have ornate plaster cornices formed of bands of acanthus leaves, grapes and grape leaves molded in high relief. Windows and doors in these rooms have wide molded trim that meets at patera blocks; elsewhere in the house is found simple architrave trim. Upstairs finishing details are less elaborate, featuring baseboards and picture rails in all four bedrooms and the central hall. The two east bedrooms have built-in closets

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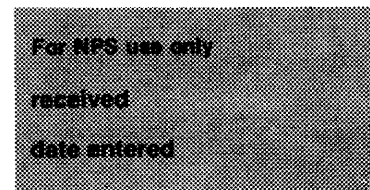
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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

between their shared wall. Wood mantels in all rooms have simple Greek Revival designs. The central stairhall has an open single-run stair with simply turned balusters and a walnut handrail.

Hollywood sits on a rise amidst its informally landscaped grounds. Foundation plantings surround the house and many varieties of native trees, planted by the first owner, including holly, live oak, magnolia, sweet gum and arbor vitae, are scattered around the grassed area to the front and sides of the house. Forty varieties are said to have been planted originally, and many remain, although some were destroyed in a 1953 tornado. The original drive led straight to Hollywood's main entrance, but this was later replaced by a semi-circular drive of which only the west half remains in use. This now curves around to the west towards a collection of agricultural buildings before leading back to Irwington Road. The plank fence surrounding the yard was first built in 1906. To the rear and west of the house stretch out the associated domestic and agricultural outbuildings and a dirt road which leads to three tenant houses and the plantation lands, used presently for cattle grazing, a commercial hay crop and limited tree farming.

Closest to the house, directly to the rear of the dining room/kitchen wing, is a ca. 1906 water tower, a forty-foot open iron-framed structure supporting a wooden water-tank. Just beyond is the original kitchen/laundry dating from 1850-1860. This is a wood frame, gable-roofed, weatherboarded structure sitting on brick piers. A massive central chimney with large fireplaces in each of the two rooms rises through the structure. To the east of the kitchen building are a ca. 1935 one-story weather-boarded chick brooder house and a wood post and galvanized pipe scuppernong arbor built about 1900. Beyond these to the south is the kitchen garden. Adjacent to the kitchen garden on its west is a pecan grove which backs up to a hipped roof, sheet metal-covered garage/utility shed dating from ca. 1920. To the west of the main house is a one-story, weatherboarded, hipped roof structure, built about 1906-1907, that served as a doctor's office for Dr. Mark H. O'Daniel, a later owner of the plantation. Eight agricultural outbuildings are located to the southwest of the house along the driveway extension. On the south of the drive are a ca. 1880 mule barn and storage barn, both in deteriorated condition. Both are balloon-framed weatherboarded structures with sheet-metal covered gable roofs. Just opposite them, across the drive, are a ca. 1920 sheet metal-covered post and frame storage barn and a ca. 1970 metal equipment shelter. Further to the west are a ca. 1975 covered cattle corral, a ca. 1969 sheet metal covered hay and equipment barn and a ca. 1935 concrete block and novelty siding milking barn which is attached to a ca. 1935 dairy of similar construction. Along the road leading back through the plantation at regular intervals are three ca. 1880 tenant houses with their wells and the archaeological evidence of earlier structures or landscape features. The most northerly house is a one story saddlebag structure covered with sheet metal with a front porch and rear additions. Next along the road is a one-story, two room, asphalt covered, weatherboarded house with rear additions. Its end chimneys have collapsed, and the whole structure is in very deteriorated condition. Two small storage sheds are associated with this house. Farthest to the south is a similar house, also seriously deteriorated, whose weatherboarding is still exposed.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 3

BOUNDARY

The nominated property, outlined with a heavy black line on the enclosed USGS map, consists of the 846 acres still associated with the historic plantation. This is just less than one-half of the original 2,000 acre plantation. The nominated property includes all the known residences, outbuildings and archaeological sites historically associated with the plantation. There is a small discrepancy between the 805 acres described in the property deed and the 846 acres reported in a recent land survey. This is believed to be due to an error in the deed.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in August, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1850 **Builder/Architect** "Mr. Sessions of Virginia"

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The John Chapman Plantation is historically significant in the areas of architecture, landscape architecture, agriculture, local history and historic archaeology. Architecturally, the John Chapman plantation is significant for its collection of historic buildings and structures that represents the development of a Georgia plantation from the mid-nineteenth through the mid-twentieth century. "Hollywood", the main plantation house is a fine intact example of a mid-nineteenth century carpenter Greek Revival-style residence. In terms of landscape architecture, the plantation is significant for the way in which it demonstrates how the natural terrain was utilized for the various purposes of a plantation and for its front yard which is informally landscaped with a variety of traditional Southern plants. In terms of agriculture, the plantation is significant as a major historic plantation in Twiggs County, on the southern edge of Georgia's cotton belt. Cotton was grown here into the twentieth century, when dairy farming and commercial timbering were introduced. In terms of local history, the plantation is significant as the home of a succession of wealthy and influential Twiggs county planters. John Chapman, the original owner of the plantation, was one of Twiggs County's wealthiest mid-nineteenth century citizens, and his early twentieth century successor, Dr. Mark H. O'Daniel, was a locally prominent physician as well as a farmer. William B. Gettys, a third important figure to own the plantation, is credited with originating the commercial timber industry within the area. In terms of historic archaeology, the plantation is significant for its inferred potential for providing additional information about the architectural, agricultural, and social aspects of plantation economy. The above areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register Criteria A, B, C and D.

Architecture - The various buildings and structures at the John Chapman plantation, established about 1850, represent nearly a century of architectural building types. The variety of agricultural buildings, dating from the 1880's to the present, illustrate changes in building technology and the conversion of the property from a cotton plantation to a dairy farm. The three tenant houses, although in deteriorated condition, provide excellent documentation of early tenant house types. The detached kitchen building documents the common Southern practice of separating the kitchen from the main part of the house.

"Hollywood", the main house, built about 1850, is a fine intact example of a Greek Revival style antebellum plantation house designed by a carpenter/architect. It is one of only two such large residential structures in this style remaining in Twiggs County. Its design, construction, materials, workmanship and detailing are of the highest quality for its style, type and period. Its interior finishing details, including the ceiling medallions, ceiling moldings and elaborate plaster cornices of acanthus and grape leaves in high relief, are particularly outstanding. These plaster medallions and cornices are attributed to a Savannah craftsman, Francis McDermott, who is associated with some very similar work at two ca. 1848 houses in nearby Hancock County. The architect of Hollywood is believed to have been a "Mr. Sessions of Virginia" who is also purported to have designed a number of residences

(CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 846 acres

Quadrangle name Jeffersonville, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	7
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2	8	2	4	2	0
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3	6	1	7	9	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Zone Easting Northing

B

1	7
---	---

2	8	3	7	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	6	1	8	0	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

 Zone Easting Northing

C

1	7
---	---

2	8	4	6	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	6	1	7	0	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

D

1	7
---	---

2	8	4	6	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	6	1	5	7	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

E

1	7
---	---

2	8	3	9	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	6	1	5	0	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

F

1	7
---	---

2	8	2	5	2	0
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3	6	1	7	0	8	0
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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

are included in Section 7.

The boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher

organization Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

date June 2, 1982

street & number 270 Washington St., SW

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 6/23/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Delores Byrum</u> Keeper of the National Register	Entered in the National Register date <u>8/11/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet Significance Item number 8 Page 2

and churches in Twiggs and the surrounding counties. Extensive research has failed to turn up significant information about Mr. Sessions, and he may possibly have been a free black entrepreneur. He clearly played an important role in the architectural history of the area. The date of the house is somewhat problematic, most recorded histories and local sources dating it to 1849-1850 and family tradition to 1857. Either date is possible, although as Sessions' known work in Georgia falls between 1844 and 1852, the earlier date seems more likely.

Landscape Architecture - The setting of Hollywood on one of the few knolls on the gently rolling Chapman Plantation property is an example of typical antebellum plantation house siting. Planters, whenever possible, seemed to have selected the highest, driest point on their lands to locate their houses. The grounds of Hollywood are of particular interest because of the many varieties of native southern trees planted there informally by the first owner. Family tradition holds that John Chapman, upon the completion of his house, had his slaves "go down to the swamps of the Ocmulgee River and dig forty varieties of trees for the yard." Many of these original trees, which include holly, boxwood, oak, magnolia, mulberry and arbor vitae, remain today.

Agriculture - The John Chapman Plantation, originally encompassing 2,000 acres, was a major antebellum cotton plantation in Twiggs County which continued to produce cotton into the twentieth century. In the 1860 agricultural census, the plantation is listed as producing 136 bales of ginned cotton. The existence of the ca. 1880 tenant houses document the post-bellum transition from a slave labor plantation to one worked by tenant farmers. The ca. 1930 switch from cotton to dairy farming and timbering illustrates the demise of Georgia's cotton economy about this time, due to the destruction caused by the boll weevil and the wildly fluctuating price of cotton. The Chapman Plantation is important as an example of a large agricultural complex that has been in continuous operation for over one hundred years.

Local History - John Chapman (1820-1892), first owner of the plantation was deeded the land by his father William Chapman who died in 1848. These lands had been associated with the Chapman family since 1807 when William drew Land Lot 111 during the 1807 Land Lottery. By 1830 he had acquired Land Lot 112 and part of Lot 85, which together constitute the core of the historic plantation holdings. John Chapman became one of Twiggs County's wealthiest citizens and major plantation owners who married four times and left nine children. After his death in 1892, the plantation was run by his widow and children until 1906, when it was sold to Mrs. Pearl Napier O'Daniel, wife of Dr. Mark H. O'Daniel (1861-1915), an important Twiggs County physician. Dr. O'Daniel worked for eight years as a doctor at the Insane Asylum at Milledgeville before setting up his office at the plantation. In 1905, he organized and served as the first president of the Twiggs County Medical Association. Soon after O'Daniel's death, the property was sold again to William B. Gettys (1863-1926), a third important Twiggs County figure credited with originating the commercial timber industry within the area. Gettys bought up large tracts of timberland around Jeffersonville and established a large and highly successful sawmill which he sold before moving to Hollywood in 1918. The property remains in the Getty family today. Beginning in 1931 Eloise Getty Duggan and her husband Charles Duggan began developing

(CONTINUED)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

Date entered

Continuation sheet Significance

Item number 8

Page 3

the plantation into the modern agricultural operation, including a commercial dairy, cattle-breeding stock, timberlands and contract crop planting, which it is today.

Historic Archaeology - The plantation is significant for its inferred potential for providing additional information about the architectural, agricultural, and social aspects of plantation economy. A number of historic archaeological sites have been identified on the property by the present owners, and these sites could provide information on otherwise undocumented aspects of plantation economy and could corroborate written documents and oral traditions.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

Page 2

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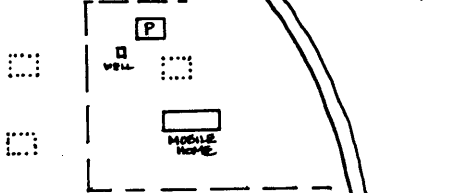
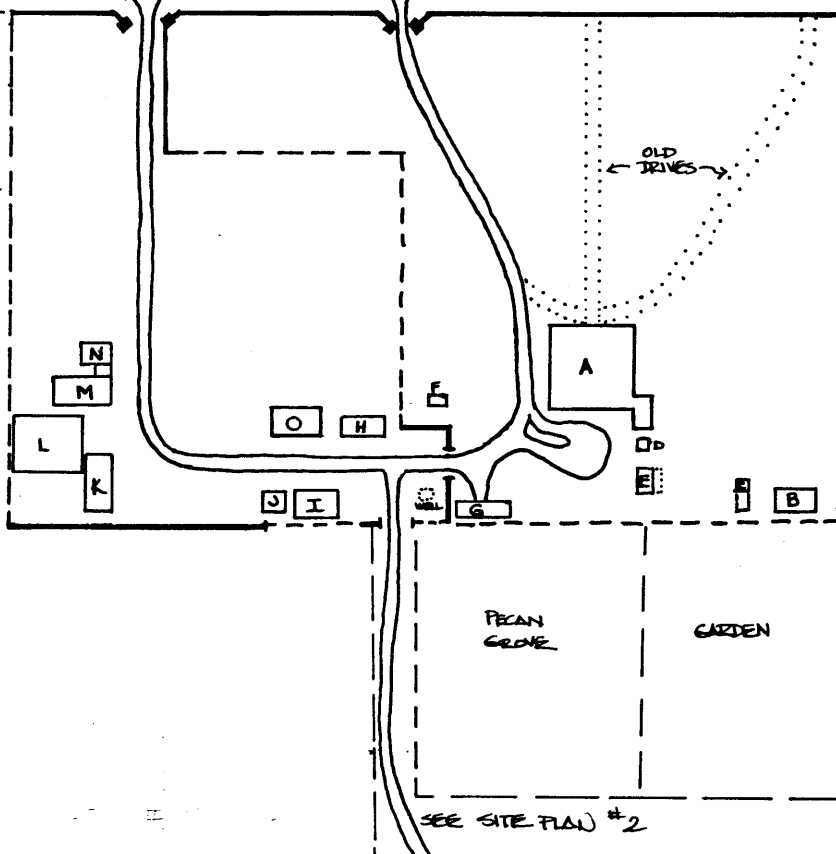
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← JEFFERSONVILLE 2 MI.

IRWINTON ROAD - GEORGIA HIGHWAY 96

PASTURE

PASTURE



BUILDINGS KEY:

A. MAIN RESIDENCE	J. STORAGE BARN
B. SCRAPPER/LOG ARBOR	K. CATTLE CORRAL
C. CHICK-BROODER HOUSE	L. HAY/EQUIPMENT BARN
D. WATER TANK	M. MILKING BARN
E. KITCHEN/LAUNDRY	N. DAIRY
F. DOCTOR'S OFFICE	O. EQUIPMENT SHELTER
G. GARAGE/UTILITY SHED	P. TENANT HOUSE
H. EQUIPMENT BARN	Q. TENANT HOUSE
I. MULE BARN	R. TENANT HOUSE

- Extant Structure
- Archeologic Evidence (structural or landscape)
- Wooden (permanent) fence with Gate Post
- - - Barbed Wire/Electric Fence

JOHN CHAPMAN PLANTATION
 Jeffersonville Vicinity, Twiggs County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

North: ↑

