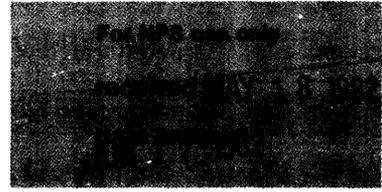


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12/14

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Wimberly Plantation

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Jeffersonville Road (GA Highway 96) between
Interstate Highway 16 and Richland Church/ Prospect Church Roads. N/A not for publication

city, town Jeffersonville X vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~

state Georgia code 013 county Twiggs code 289

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Jane Faulk Martin

street & number Jeffersonville Road (GA highway 96), P.O. Box 366

city, town Jeffersonville N/A vicinity of state Georgia 31044

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Twiggs County Courthouse

city, town Jeffersonville state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Structures Field Survey: has this property been determined eligible? yes no
Twiggs County, Georgia

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, GA Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

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

Wimberly Plantation is located on either side of Jeffersonville Road (Ga. Highway 96) about four miles southwest of Jeffersonville, in Twiggs County, Georgia. Wimberly Plantation consists of a Greek Revival style main house, known as Gleesom Hall, related outbuildings, a tenant house and a cemetery on nearly five hundred acres of land associated with an antebellum cotton plantation. Also in the vicinity of the main house are the known locations of three previously existing, historically significant outbuildings.

Wimberly Plantation is sited on a dry ridge between two watersheds. The land is mainly covered with scrub pines and hardwood that has been allowed to grow up since about 1925. A few agricultural plots remain. The main house is located near the north of the property, just to the east of Highway 96. Its surrounding grounds are informally landscaped with lawn, shrubbery and trees. In the immediate vicinity of the main house are several historic outbuildings including a mid-nineteenth century brick smokehouse, a mid-nineteenth century fieldstone and wood-framed dairy, a late nineteenth century wood-framed well-house under a 1930's "aermotor" windmill, a 1930's elevated water storage tank, and a 1930's four-bay garage. In addition, the earlier locations of a barn, cook's house and dovecote have been identified in this vicinity. Non-historic outbuildings are limited to a prefabricated caretaker's house, a metal carport and a concrete block pumphouse. Approximately half a mile to the south, also on the east side of Highway 96, is a family cemetery. To the southwest of the cemetery, across the road, is a one-story, turn-of-the-century tenant house.

Gleesom Hall, the main house, is a two-story, wood-framed, carpenter Greek Revival style plantation house, built about 1845. Attached to the rear corners of the house, and connected by a rear porch or gallery, are a nineteenth century schoolhouse and an early-twentieth century kitchen. The main roof of the house and that of the schoolhouse are pyramidal; the kitchen roof is gabled. The main roof is covered with corrugated sheet metal, all others with channeled sheet metal. The main house and the schoolhouse wing have weatherboarding on three sides and flush horizontal siding on their front facades. Windows, uniformly, are six-over-six, double hung sash with simple wood surrounds. An entablature extends around the house. The symmetrical, five-bay front facade has a two-story full-width portico supported by six square, paneled columns. Its trabeated entranceway has six-panel double doors surrounded by side and transom lights. Immediately above, on the second floor, an entrance with similar treatment leads onto a cantilevered balcony. The rear facade also features a trabeated double doorway with lighted transom which leads onto the first floor porch. Above, on the second story, the double doors of a similar entrance have been replaced with sash windows which are surmounted by the original lighted transom.

(continued)

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The one-story, one room schoolhouse has an interior chimney on the north-eastern wall. Its portico on the northwest front has three square columns and reflects the design of the main portico. The one story kitchen wing is believed to have been a detached cook's house located elsewhere on the site that was moved to its present location between 1915 and 1920. Its overhanging gable roof forms a porch along its northwest front. A small shed-roofed porch on the southwest side of the house dating from the 1920's was enclosed to provide a downstairs bathroom and an interior connection between the main structure and the kitchen wing.

The house has a four-over-four room with central stair hall arrangement. The central hall has a single run open stairway; in addition, a three-run stair that provides access to a rear bedroom is located in the south dining room. Four interior end chimneys serve a fireplace in each room. Wood mantels are original. The interior is finished with floors, baseboards, and ceilings of wood and plaster walls. The two parlors on the northeast side are connected by paneled pocket doors and have plaster cornices. Interior doors are six-paneled, and many of those on the first floor are surrounded by moldings that intersect at patera blocks.

BOUNDARY

The nominated property consists of the remaining intact historic acreage related to Wimberly Plantation. This is just less than half of the original plantation acreage. It includes all known structural and archaeological resources associated with the plantation. The nominated property coincides with the current legal description of the property as indicated on the conservation plan map and the four USGS quadrangles.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in December, 1980 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 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. 1845 **Builder/Architect** Attributed to "Mr. Sessions of Virginia"

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Wimberly Plantation is historically significant in the areas of architecture, agriculture, landscape architecture, local history and historic archaeology. In terms of architecture, Gleesom Hall, the plantation house, is an excellent example of the carpenter Greek Revival style in Middle Georgia. In addition, the remaining historic outbuildings, in their various structural or archaeological conditions, represent nearly a century of agricultural building types. In terms of agriculture, the plantation is significant as one of the earliest and largest antebellum cotton plantations in Twiggs County, on the Southern reach of the Georgia Cotton Belt. The siting of Gleesom Hall on a high ridge between two watersheds is typical of antebellum plantation site planning and makes the property significant in terms of landscape architecture. Local history significance stems from the property's association with Hardy Durham, second largest landholder in Twiggs County and a major cotton producer. The plantation was built by him for his daughter Caroline and her husband, Dr. Henry Slappey Wimberly, and was operated by them in association with the nearby Durham plantation. The property also has significance in the area of historical archaeology because of the identification of three historic outbuilding sites which, if excavated, could provide important archaeological information about nineteenth century plantation practices. Those areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria A, B, C, and D.

ARCHITECTURE

Architecturally, Gleesom Hall 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 overall form, interior arrangement, structural system, finish materials and craftsmanship are representative of the best antebellum carpenter traditions. The architect of Gleesom Hall is believed to have been a "Mr. Sessions of Virginia", who is also purported to have designed a number of other residences and churches in Twiggs and the surrounding counties. Extensive research has failed to turn up significant information about Mr. Sessions, but he clearly played an important role in the architectural history of the area.

The outbuildings around Gleesom Hall represent nearly a century of building types. The smokehouse, dairy, and wellhouse are frequently found in conjunction with nineteenth century plantations. The 1930's windmill and watertank provide evidence of early-twentieth century technology.

(continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

See attached Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 496 acres

Quadrangle name (1) Jeffersonville, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

(2) Danville West, Ga.

UMT References (3) Marion, Ga.

A

1	7	2	7	8	0	2	0	3	6	1	3	7	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

1	7	2	7	8	5	5	0	3	6	1	2	5	3	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

1	7	2	7	7	8	7	0	3	6	1	1	9	4	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

1	7	2	7	6	2	9	0	3	6	1	3	0	0	5
Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

1	7	2	7	7	1	8	0	3	6	1	3	7	9	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification All of Land Lots 39, 40 and the western parts of Land Lots 38, 41 and the eastern part of Land Lot 64. All in District 25, Twiggs County Ga. This boundary is described by a heavy black line on the enclosed maps and is justified in section 7.

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 A) John Linn Hopkins, Historic Preservation Planner
 B) Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher, Historic Preservation Section

organization A) Middle Georgia Area Planning and Development Commission
 B) Historic Preservation Section, GA. DNR date January 28, 1982

street & number A) 600 Grand Building 912/744-6160
 B) 270 Washington St., SW telephone 404/656-2840

city or town A) Macon
 B) 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 4/21/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>John A. Lyons</u> Keeper of the National Register	Entered in the National Register date <u>6/17/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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AGRICULTURE

Wimberly Plantation, large in its own right, was associated with one of the largest and earliest cotton plantations in Twiggs County. In Ca. 1844-45, Hardy Durham, second largest landholder in the county and major cotton businessman, built Gleesom Hall as a belated wedding present for his daughter Caroline and her husband Dr. Henry Slappey Wimberly. In all probability, at this same time, he deeded them the 1150 acres originally associated with Wimberly Plantation. Wimberly Plantation became a major cotton producer which was operated in association with the Durham holdings. The Wimberly land continued in agricultural use into the early part of the twentieth century, when it was allowed to revert to scrub pine.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The setting of the Gleesom Hall complex on a high, dry ridge between two watersheds is typical of antebellum plantation site planning. Whenever possible, owners selected the highest point on their land for house siting. The grounds immediately surrounding the house are purported to have been laid out by a Scottish gardener. Many informally arranged, fine old trees remain.

LOCAL HISTORY

Hardy Durham began purchasing plantation lands in Twiggs County, Georgia in Ca. 1813, and by 1853 he is listed in the county tax digest as owning 5300 acres, making him the second largest landowner in the county and a prominent local figure. His plantation plain type house located to the northwest of the nominated property was demolished in Ca. 1955. Durham's cotton business became so successful he established a freight line from his land to the Ocmulgee River in order to ship his plantation goods down river. After Dr. Wimberly and his wife occupied Gleesom Hall in Ca. 1845 they maintained their land as a cotton producing plantation in association with her father, Hardy Durham.

HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

The identification of the sites of a nineteenth century dovecote, barn and cook's house on the grounds of Wimberly Plantation imply a significant historic archaeological potential for the property. Sites of other outbuildings, including slave cabins and tenant quarters could also be expected to be located in the vicinity. No formal archaeology has been done to this date, but future archaeologic investigation could add valuable data to what is presently known about Wimberly Plantation.

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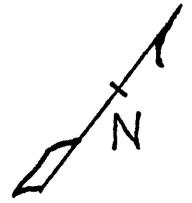
Faulk, J. Lanette O. and Billy W. Jones, Comp. History of Twiggs County, Georgia. (Easley, S.C.: Georgia Genealogical Reprints, 1960).

Faulk, J. Lanette O. Comp., Historical Collections of Richland Baptist Church (Macon: J.W. Burke and Co., 1950).

On-Site inspection by John Linn Hopkins, February 1, 1980; April 10, 1980, and conversation with owner.

GEORGIA HIGHWAY 96

WIMBERLYVILLE



OLD DRIVE WBY

DOVECOTE

GOLDFISH POND



A

H

C&D

F

B

E

G

I

D

BARN

COOK'S HOUSE

SCHEMATIC SITE PLAN

Wimberly Plantation

Gleesom Hall Twiggs Co., Ga.

Scale: approx. 1" = 100'

KEY:

- a) Dairy
- b) Smokehouse
- c) Old Well
- d) Windmill
- e) Watertank
- f) Garage
- g) New Well/Pump
- n) Carport
- i) Caretaker's Cottage
- j) Shed
- archeological structure
- == abandoned drive

