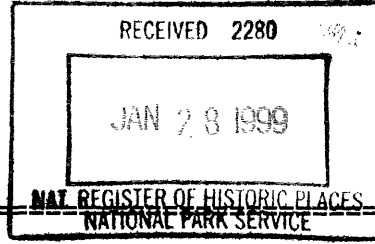


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Dry Forks Plantation
other names/site number Tait, James Asbury, House

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication N/A
city or town Coy vicinity x
state Alabama code AL county Wilcox code 131 zip code 36435

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 1-15-99
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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:
- entered in the National Register
 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] _____
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson H Beall 2-26-99

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

USDI/NPS Registration Form

Property Name Dry Forks Plantation

County and State Wilcox County, Alabama

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check only one box.)

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u>1</u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Number of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: single dwelling
secondary structure

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant/Not in use Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic
Other: Two story central passage double pile

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
 roof metal
 walls wood-weatherboard
 other _____

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

USDI/NPS Registration Form

Property Name Dry Forks Plantation

County and State Wilcox County, Alabama

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- x A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
x C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.) N/A

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
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 significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Settlement
Ethnic Heritage--Black

Period of Significance 1834-1855

Significant Dates 1834-1835

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Hezekiah (enslaved African American builder) Elijah (enslaved African American builder)
Tait, James A. (owner, designer, & contractor)

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 form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- 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
x recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # AL-137
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- [] State Historic Preservation Office
[x] Other state agency
[] Federal agency
[] Local government
[] University
[] Other
Name of repository
Alabama Department of Archives and History

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property 209

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 <u>16 465480 3529570</u>	3 <u>16 466670 3529150</u>	5 <u>16 465480 3528360</u>
2 <u>16 466670 3529570</u>	4 <u>16 465460 3528370</u>	

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Johnathan A. Farris/Survey Coordinator and Trina Binkley/AHC Reviewer
organization Alabama Historical Commission date September 16, 1998
street & number 468 South Perry Street telephone (334)242-3184
city or town Montgomery state Alabama zip code 36130-0900

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name James and Gail Tait
street & number 305 Basswood Road telephone (888) 295-2658
city or town Lake Forest state IL zip code 60045

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

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Narrative Description

Dry Forks (the James Asbury Tait House) is located on open table lands north of Wilcox County route 12, approximately a third of a mile east of the intersection of Wilcox County route 12 and Alabama route 41. The main house at Dry Forks faces south and is surrounded by a yard enclosed in a wire fence on wood posts and a row of historic cedar trees which frame the house yard in a square fashion. An enormous historic crepe myrtle occupies the yard immediately east of the house.

Dry Forks Plantation, constructed 1834-35, is a two-and a half-story, five-bay, double pile, side gabled frame house with some Federal and Neoclassical details. Plain weatherboards clad the five-bay wide building. A two-tiered pedimented porch frames the central bay of the front facade of the structure. The porch possesses four rectangular piers and two pilasters corresponding to the outer piers on each level. The pediment of the porch is decorated with a dentilled raking cornice. Located under the eaves of the pediment are square plaques with four drilled holes, which presumably are architectural cousins to guttae. The central bay is also articulated by a double door on the first story and a single leaf door on the second. A seven-pane transom and two four-pane sidelights surround the front double door. The lights are framed with rectangularly patterned beaded molding. A square ornamental panel articulates the meeting of the sidelights and the transom. Eight panels stacked in pairs adorn the front doors themselves. The front door that leads on to the second story porch consists of a single leaf and has no sidelights or transom. The railings on the first story of the porch have simple rectangular balusters, while the railings on the second tier of the porch are constructed with "wheatsheaf" pattern supports. The plantation house originally had four exterior brick end chimneys on the side elevations, of which only two remain. A one-story shed roofed porch stretches across the rear facade. The shed roof is supported by six rectangular piers. The rear door is also a double door, but it is surrounded by ornamental panels rather than sidelights and a transom. The eastern most bay of the rear porch was enclosed in a single room at some point in the early 20th century to accommodate a bathroom. The house rests atop a brick pier foundation with later brick infill on the front facade but absent elsewhere. The roof is clad in seam metal. Nine over nine pane sash windows light the first story, while six over nine pane sash windows light the second story.

The interior is arranged on a central hall plan, with two rooms to each side of the passage. A straight staircase with delicate rectangular balusters, rounded hand rail, and a simple chamfered newel post occupies the passage. The stairs run from the rear of the house towards the front. There is a heavily reeded summer beam that bisects the ceiling of the first floor passage. At the rear (north) end of the upstairs passage, a window is flanked by two heavily paneled closets which are original to the house. Flush board is the interior wall cladding for the central passage both upstairs and down, while the rooms are plastered. A secondary staircase communicates between the northwestern downstairs and upstairs rooms. This staircase was originally not enclosed but is currently. It also has simple rectangular balusters and a rounded hand rail. This staircase was originally the only way to access the upstairs northwest room, but at some point in the 19th century a door was put in between that room and the upstairs passage. The attic is unfinished but easily inhabitable, with a six over six pane sash window at each gable end. The rafters are joined by a simple lap joint and are further joined by a cross brace. The presence of lath work in the attic hints at an abandoned attempt to finish the space.

In some rooms both chair rail and baseboard remain, while only baseboards are present in others. A double parlor occupies the eastern side of the first floor. Separating the front and rear rooms of the double parlor is a five leaf folding door. The front half of the double parlor contains picture rails in addition to hand rails. Elaborately reeded and carved mantles are present in seven of the eight original rooms, while one of the upstairs mantles, having been damaged by fire, has been removed to the attic. The mantles are basically vigorously reeded variations on the three-part Federal style mantle typical of settlement period Alabama architecture. The mantle in the front parlor is in some ways the most restrained but is also the most formal in its composition. Its central panel is the only one in the house which displays a "fan" or "sunrise" motif. The mantles in the western first floor chambers have rather heavy cornices and the mantle in the northwest chamber (traditionally held to be the master bedroom) is perhaps the most vigorously reeded in the house. The most notable mantle of the upstairs is in the southeast chamber, where the sunken panels flanking the central raised panel contain small reeded boxes surrounded by repeating chevron patterns, giving the composition an almost textile-like appearance. The remaining mantles, although all slightly different from each other in detail, are less elaborated variations on the theme.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation
County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

Four remaining outbuildings are situated to the rear of the house. Inside the yard fence a few feet from the back porch is an approximately three- and a half-foot tall shed roofed frame early 20th-century well house with a seam metal roof, single leaf door, and brick pier foundation. Outside but aligned with the western fence sits a side gabled one-story garage or storage shed from the early to mid-20th century, with weatherboarded walls, a seam metal roof, and a brick pier foundation. The south two bays of this building are dedicated to the garage, the northern bay is enclosed with a single leaf door. A few feet directly north of the garage/storage shed is a small frame early twentieth-century weatherboarded building with a corrugated metal shed roof and a stone pier foundation. Outside of the yard fence several yards to the northeast is an early 19th-century front gabled single pen log structure with half dovetail corner notches, a front gabled corrugated metal roof, and a stone pier foundation. The latter is considered a contributing building as it probably dates from around the time of the construction of the house, thus falling within the period of significance. The other three 20th-century buildings and structure are considered noncontributing because they fall outside the period of significance.

The plantation site may well retain rich archaeological potential for the study of settlement period, antebellum, and Reconstruction era plantation life. The site may in particular yield archaeological information about slave life: at least two slave quarters on the property are known to have lasted into this century.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

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Statement of Significance

Dry Forks Plantation is significant under Criterion C for architecture. The house at Dry Forks (built 1834-35) is an outstanding example of a late Federal style double pile house form. It contains outstanding examples of folk versions of Federal style woodwork. It is the work of owner James A. Tait acting as his own general contractor and slave carpenters/joiners Hezekiah and Elijah. The house, therefore, reflects not only a type or method of construction but an episode in the very history of the building trades themselves. It maintains an exceptional degree of integrity of materials, design, and craftsmanship, given the integrity and presence of all original woodwork details.

Dry Forks is significant under Criterion A for ethnic heritage: Black. Dry Forks is one of few firmly documented and attributed houses built largely by slave labor. The craftsmanship of the enslaved African American artisans Hezekiah and Elijah is well-illustrated in the house, with its paneled doors, decorated cornices, and elaborate mantles. More research could yield information on how African artistic heritage influenced the details of the house, particularly the suggestive textile-like patterns of the mantle in the upstairs southeast room. Additionally, potential remains for significance in this area contingent on identification of archaeological remains, as builder James Asbury Tait was one of the largest slave holders in Wilcox County. Great numbers of slave sites potentially exist on the property (at least two quarters lasted into the 20th century in the vicinity of the house). As Tait proscribed for the quarters to be moved every few years, the result would be very chronologically specific archaeological deposits. This sort of artifact distribution would be an unusually valuable tool to finding out how slave life changed over the course of the antebellum period.

Dry Forks plantation is eligible under Criterion A for settlement. Dry Forks is actually the oldest documented house in Wilcox County. It was probably the first plantation "great house" in the county and was definitively the residence of one of the first settlers of the county. The house's two-story double pile house would set the pace for the domestic aspirations of the wealthy planters of Wilcox County, establishing a model of conspicuous consumption that would be followed by the wealthier planters of the Alabama River region of the county until the eve of the Civil War.

Historical Summary

James Asbury Tait was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on September 8, 1791.¹ He was the son of Judge Charles Tait and Anne Simpson. His father (a citizen of Virginia, Georgia, and Alabama sequentially) was a politically and socially well connected U.S. Senator from Georgia and later the first Federal district judge in Alabama.² James Tait, himself, rose to the rank of captain during the War of 1812.³ During that war, he served at Fort Claiborne, in what is now Monroe County, Alabama, under General Ferdinand L. Claiborne.⁴ During his service there, he resolved to purchase land in that vicinity of Alabama, which he did in 1817.⁵ Tait would christen the plantation, in what is now Wilcox County, "Dry Forks." James started out a wealthy planter, and was the largest slaveholder in Wilcox County in 1820, with 69 slaves and two freed blacks in his

¹Family Papers Index. Alabama Department of Archives and History (in Conjunction with the National Endowment for the Humanities), 1986.

²Owen, Thomas McAdory. History of Alabama and Dictionary of ALabama Biography. Vol. 4. (Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1921). p. 1640.

³Family Papers Index. Alabama Dept. of Archives and History.

⁴ibid.

⁵ibid.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

household.⁶ By 1850, Tait had real estate valued at \$40,000 and 316 slaves.⁷ Though hardly an abolitionist in any sense, James Asbury Tait was an interested contributor to the Colonization Society of Liberia.⁸ This organization promoted freeing slaves and sending them to Liberia as a sort of "semi-repatriation." James A. Tait and his progeny were Democratic in politics and Methodist in religion. He was involved in founding the "Black's Bend" Methodist Church at Black's Bluff--the church in time became known as "Tait's Chapel."⁹

James A. Tait had married Elizabeth C. Goode around 1815. With her he had four sons: Felix, Robert, James Goode, and Charles. The family also had several daughters, though less is known of them. The first three sons became large planters in their own right while Charles was forced to flee to Texas after having been accused of the murder of W. W. Rives at Dry Forks.¹⁰ After their father's death on February 10, 1855, Felix, Robert, and James all inherited plantations in Wilcox County. Felix, who was a major in the Confederate Army and later a state senator, built White Columns Plantations.¹¹ Robert became a second lieutenant in the Confederate Army and built Countryside Plantation (NRHP 2/24/95). James Goode Tait, a Harvard graduate, inherited Dry Forks and lived there with his mother, and later his own family. He managed the Dry Forks Plantation through the Civil War. Records of James G. Tait's attempts to come to economic terms with reconstruction exist in the form of contracts that he wrote with freed slaves in order that they may stay on as tenants.¹² James G. Tait gradually grew so far in debt that he had to file for bankruptcy in 1871, but managed to maintain ownership of his property, unlike his two brothers who lost their Wilcox County plantations.¹³ James Tait died in 1911 at Dry Forks (then called Nellie).¹⁴ The Tait family is still in possession of the house and plans are underway by yet another James Tait to restore and reinhabit the building. It is perhaps because only one family ever owned the house that the house has maintained such a high integrity. The only major change to the house since its original construction is the addition of a small enclosed room on the back porch to serve as a bathroom.

Dry Forks was constructed in the years 1834-35, with the owner, James Asbury Tait, acting himself as contractor and in

⁶1820 Alabama Federal Census.

⁷1850 Alabama Federal Census. Note also that his eldest son, Felix, already had 21 slaves as well.

⁸Cochran, John P. "James Asbury Tait and His Plantations". M.A. Thesis, University of Alabama, 1951. p. 48.

⁹West, Anson. A History of Methodism in Alabama. (Spartanburg, SC: Reprint Company, 1983). p. 537.

¹⁰regarding the murder, see Tait Family Papers. Auburn University Archives. RG 345, Box 3, Folder 49.

¹¹Owen, Thomas. Dictionary of Alabama Biography. pp. 1640-1641.

¹²Tait Family Papers. Auburn University Archives. RG345, Box 3, Folders 39-40.

¹³ibid.

¹⁴ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 5

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

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a broad sense the designer.¹⁵ "Hired" slave artisans Hezekiah and Elijah did all the framing and joinery.¹⁶ The bricks were kilned by a man named Hillman and the chimneys actually constructed, two by a Mr. Hightower and two by a Mr. Oliver.¹⁷ Tait recorded all of the work on the house with its prices in his memorandum book, now residing in the Alabama Department of Archives and History. The memorandum book also contains a sketch plan of the house, notes on the kilning of brick, a recipe for paint, and notes on the construction of cross-brace framing, among other writings on the building project.¹⁸

Tait undoubtedly directed his enslaved artisans to follow a hierarchy in the interior decoration of the house, although he probably allowed them freedom as to the particular motifs they incorporated in their work. In most ways, the front room of the double parlor can safely be considered the most important room of the house. The visual signals of this are the formal mantle, with its fan-shaped motif, and the picture rails, which were once clearly in use and allowed the display of high status items like portraits and other paintings. Next in the hierarchy is what traditionally was the master bedroom, the northwest chamber. This room has a mantle with more elaborate reeding than most of the others, as well as a particularly vigorously molded mantle sill. The northwest chamber also originally had sole access to the upstairs northwest room, traditionally held to be the daughters' room. Interestingly, in the plan, it seems that James A. Tait was ensuring close control over access to his daughters in order to protect their morals and worth as a sort of social capital which he might use to forge important alliances through marriage. The upstairs southeast room also seems to have a more elaborate mantle, but why this may be is not currently known.

Dry Forks is the earliest documented house remaining in the county. The second oldest is the A.C. Ramsey I-house (Oak Hill Historic District, NRHP 6/26/98) in the eastern section of the county. While Tait's planter contemporaries in Wilcox County would mainly construct their large plantation houses in the 1840s and 1850s, many of them chose a smaller or less showy house form, particularly the I-house, coastal cottage, or Greek Revival central passage cottage. For those who wanted to display that they had arrived in the true plantation elite of the county, however, the two- or two-and-a-half-story central passage double pile form of Dry Forks provided the model for conspicuous consumption. Among the fine Wilcox County examples of the house form that would follow in the 1840s and 1850s are Youpon, the Hawthorne House (NRHP 3/7/85), Liberty Hall (NRHP 1/5/84), Cathcart House (destroyed), and the Purifoy House.

The significance of Dry Forks plantation is not limited to the planter and his family. It extends to issues of plantation life in general and African American history in particular. James A. Tait maintained several overseers over the years and seems to have had trouble of one sort or another with a great many of them. By 1855, Tait had learned from experience to specify what he expected of an overseer in a precisely worded contract.¹⁹ Tait, of course, always owned a great number of slaves, and what living and laboring conditions he specified for them takes much of the space of his own writings.²⁰ Tait appointed set numbers of rows of crops for slaves to tend according to their age. He also specified when there were to be breaks in the workday in the "sickly seasons." Tait in fact clearly intended to build a brick slave quarter at one point:

¹⁵James A. Tait memorandum book. Alabama Dept. of Archives and History. LPR 35, Container 3, Folder 10.

¹⁶ibid.

¹⁷ibid.

¹⁸ibid.

¹⁹see Tait Family Papers. Auburn University Archives. RG 345. Box 2. Folder 22.

²⁰see James A. Tait memorandum book. Alabama Department of Archives and History. LPR 35. Box 3. Folder 10.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 6

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

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"A brick house for my negroes at the old place, estimated as follows. The house to be 30 feet long, the two walls to be 18 ft. apart in the clear. To be 8 ft. high. 1 chimney but a double one, to each apartment. Apartment of 30 feet in lengthwise of the [unreadable], making each room 15 by 18 ft...."²¹

Though there is no evidence that this was ever built, the frame quarters photographed by HABS in the 1930s at Dry Forks follow an identical plan to the one outlined in the memorandum book. Quarters at Dry Forks were, according to the memorandum book, supposed to be moved every two years or so with the intent to keep slaves' surroundings clean and healthy:

"Negroes houses ought to be moved regularly once in 2 or 3 years. This is essential to health. The filth accumulates under their floors so much in 2 years as to cause disease. This is cheaper and easier than to pay doctors and nurse sick negroes. The putrid sore throat which prevailed in the winter of 1837-38 was caused by filth under their houses, I have no doubt."²²

There is in this statement an economic concern, if not a personal one, for the health of slaves, but there is also implicit racism, in the inference that slaves did not know what was best for their own health.

There is very likely an outstanding archaeological record at Dry Forks plantation. Archaeology combined with documentary research offers outstanding potential for information retrieval at this site. At least two slave quarters of the dimensions, if not the material (brick was intended), that James A. Tait specified in his memorandum book existed on site into the twentieth century (see HABS photographs). Additionally, if James A. Tait also moved slave quarters every three years as he had specified, this would mean that discreet archaeological deposits with very specific time frames likely exist on the plantation. This offers exceptional potential for the archaeological study of slave life, particularly as it changed over the course of the antebellum period.

For the purposes of this nomination, the period of significance assigned to the property begins at the main house's construction in 1834 and ends at the death of James Asbury Tait. This was determined to be the most logical termination date of the period since he was the first generation settler and two of his sons began a new period of building on their inherited plantations after James A. Tait's death (which is in essence the second period of development on the Tait land holdings). Although the period of significance could possibly be extended upon archaeological investigation of the site, the early 20th-century outbuildings must necessarily be considered noncontributing as they do not fall under the areas of significance identified here. The log outbuilding is considered contributing, as judging from its construction it dates from the settlement period.

Dry Forks Plantation is at the center of many approaches to the study of 19th-century plantation life in the Black Belt, and the house today remains to give important first-hand experience of the hierarchy, craftsmanship, and values of 19th century-Alabama.

²¹Tait, James A. Memorandum book. LPR 35, Container 3, Folder 8.

²²ibid.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9.10 Page 7

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

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Bibliography

Alabama Federal Census, 1820-1860.

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Owen, Thomas McAdory. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography. (Chicago: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1921).

Tait Family Papers. Alabama Department of Archives and History. LPR 35.

Tait Family Papers. Auburn University Archives. RG 345.

West, Anson. A History of Methodism in Alabama. (Spartanburg, SC: Reprint Company, 1983).

Geographic Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of Dry Forks Plantation is as follows: The NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 and the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the NW 1/4 of Section 27, T-11-N, R-7-E, Wilcox County, Alabama; less and except all property south of the Greenville and Black's Bluff Road and east of paved highway in east half of Northwest quarter of said section 27, sold to J.J. Watson in Deed Book TT, page 566, Probate Office, Wilcox County, Alabama; less and except that certain 4.79 acres, more or less, conveyed to D. Harold Tait and Caralie Tait in Deed Book 7-O, page 218, Probate Office Wilcox County, Alabama, and lying in the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 27, T-11-N, R-7-E; also less and except that certain 0.25 acre tract deeded to Clarke Washington Electric Membership Cooperation by deed dated February 6, 1951, recorded in Deed Book 4-Q, page 256, Probate Office, Wilcox County, Alabama, and lying in the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4, Section 27, T-11-N, R-7-E; and also less and except that certain right of way for a public road conveyed to Wilcox County by deed dated October 16, 1956, and recorded in Deed Book 5-B, page 285, Probate Office, Wilcox County, Alabama, and lying in the NW 1/4 of Section 27, T-11-N, R-7-E, Wilcox County, Alabama.

Boundary Justification

The boundary lines of Dry Forks Plantation were drawn to encompass the current legal boundaries of the property associated with the main house, which consists of land which was historically part of Dry Forks Plantation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

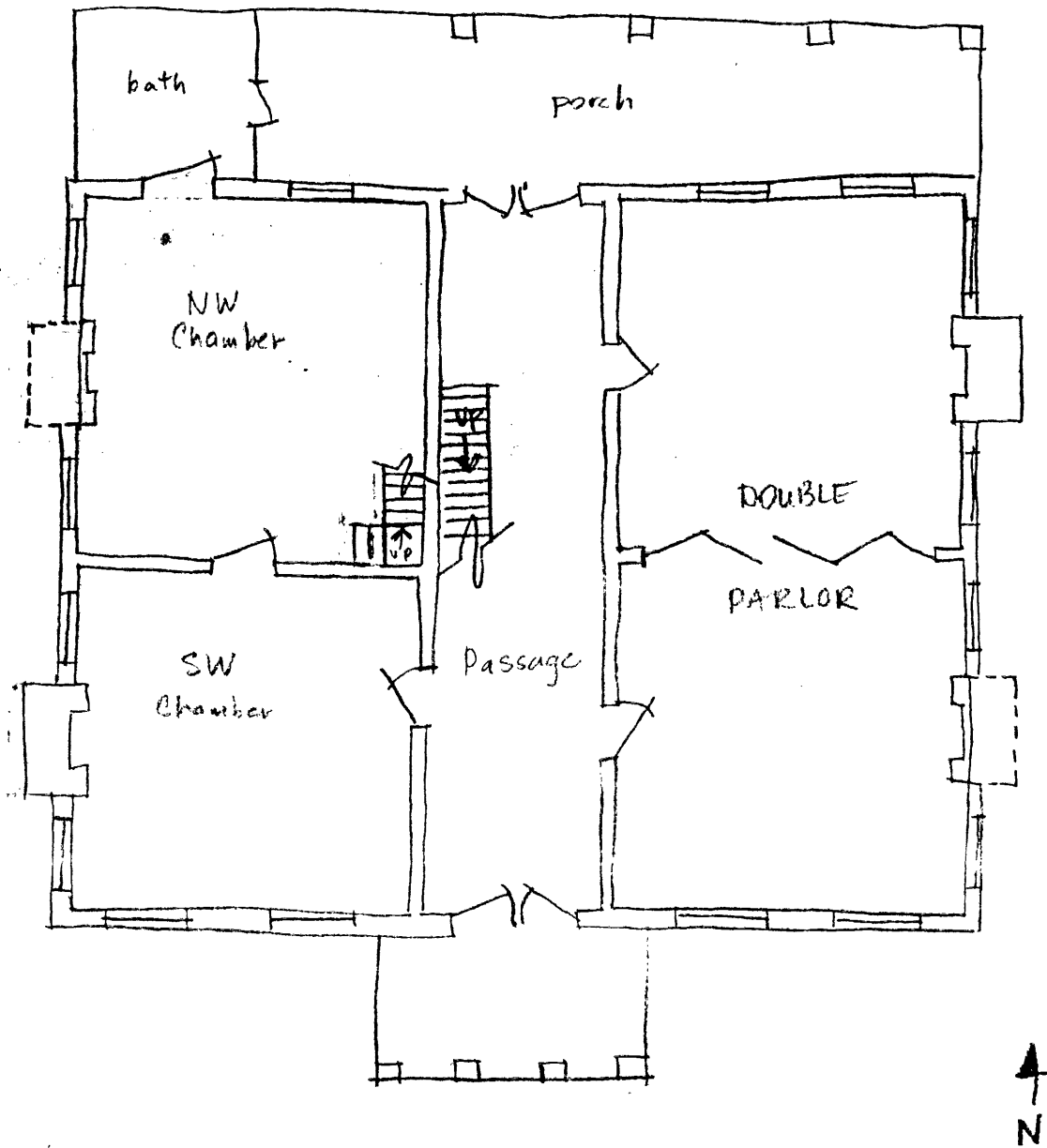
Section photos Page 8

Name of Property: Dry Forks Plantation

County and State: Wilcox County, Alabama

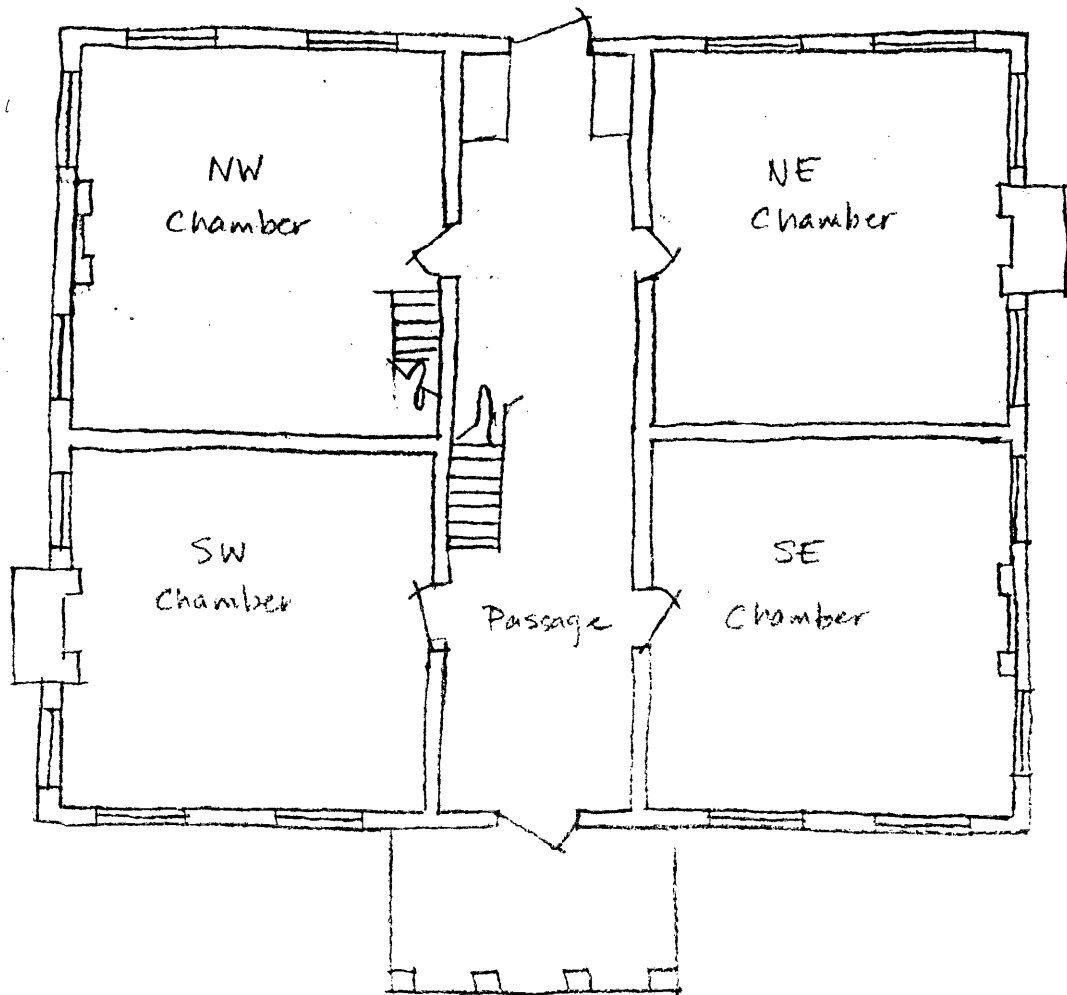
Dry Forks Plantation, Coy vicinity, Wilcox Co., Alabama
Johnathan Farris, photographer
August 1998
Negatives maintained at the Alabama Historical Commission

1. Front elevation and yard landscape facing north
2. Front elevation facing north northwest
3. Front elevation facing northeast
4. Rear elevation facing south southwest
5. First story front door facing north
6. First story front door reedwork detail facing north
7. Second story front porch railings facing south
8. Cornice details on front elevation facing northeast
9. Rear door from interior facing north
10. Newel post and stairs on first floor facing west
11. Reeded summer beam in first floor passage facing north and up
12. Newel post and railing in second floor passage facing north northwest
13. Paneled closet in second floor passage facing northwest
14. Five leaf folding door in double parlor facing north
15. Attic interior facing east
16. Mantle in first floor southwest chamber facing west
17. Mantle in front parlor (first floor southeast room) facing east
18. Mantle in back parlor (first floor northeast room) facing east
19. Mantle in second story southwest room facing west
20. Mantle in second story southeast room facing east
21. Mantle in second story northwest room facing west
22. Log outbuilding facing northeast
23. Well house facing west southwest
24. Garage/storage shed facing west



FIRST FLOOR

DRY FORKS
WILCOX COUNTY, ALABAMA
NOT TO SCALE



SECOND FLOOR



DRY FORKS
WILCOX COUNTY, ALABAMA
NOT TO SCALE