

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Swift-Coles House

Other names/site number: Swift House, the Big House

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: 1 Swift Coles Lane

City or town: Bon Secour State: AL County: Baldwin Zip Code: 36511

Not For Publication:

Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

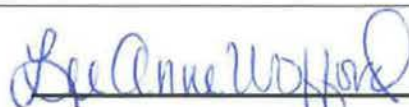
I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

	/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer	<u>10/18/16</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Alabama Historical Commission</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

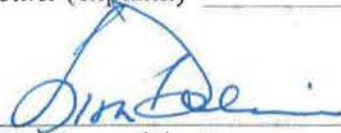
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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

12/4/16  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public -- Local
- Public -- State
- Public -- Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC, Single Dwelling, Residence

DOMESTIC, Secondary Structure, Outhouse

AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTANCE, Agricultural Outbuilding, Barn

AGRICULTURE / SUBSISTANCE, Storage, Corncrib

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE, Museum

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER, Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century Creole/Gulf Coast Vernacular

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

WOOD, Weatherboards

METAL, Tin

ASPHALT, Shingles

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Swift-Coles House, located in Bon Secour, Alabama, is a presently a historic house museum, operated by the Baldwin County Historical Commission, and open to the public for tours and events. The property is considered rural and is located near the Bon Secour River in south Baldwin County. The property consists of one large historically contributing residence (historically referred to as the Big House on various photographs), four contributing structures (outhouse, two barns, and a corncrib), and two non-contributing structures (restrooms and storage building), all located within the vicinity of the primary residence. The Swift-Coles House was constructed in 1882 as a dogtrot cabin and was expanded and remodeled in 1902 and 1908-1910 into the current two-story configuration and design. The architecture of the residence is indicative of the period of construction and climate of the region and maintains elements of detailing, massing, and functionality indicative of the Gulf Coast architectural influences. The outhouse, two barns, and a corncrib reflect localized vernacular architectural forms utilizing rural and agrarian utilitarian elements, and with the exception of the outhouse, do not reflect the architectural style of the Swift-Coles House. All contributing elements were constructed using timber and were constructed on site for the functions of a domestic residence or agricultural necessity. The overall character of the property and contributing structures combine to create a site with historic integrity, especially in relation to period and geographical relevance. The historic integrity, both in form and function of the site, reflect the period of construction, purpose of construction and use, and represent a unique period of architectural development along the Alabama Gulf Coast.

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## Narrative Description

The Swift-Coles House, and associated historically contributing structures, are all owned, maintained, and interpreted as a house museum by the Baldwin County Historical Commission. The site is open to the public for tours and special events and reflects several phases: The original dogtrot construction in 1882; the first expansion in 1902; the expansion of the Swift-Coles residence and construction of outbuildings between 1908 and 1910; the reinterpretation and alterations to the interior of the residence in 1976; and the construction of two non-contributing buildings on site and enclosure of the gallery and porch on the rear of the Swift-Coles house in 2009.

The setting for the residence and supplemental structures is rural in feeling and located near the Bon Secour River in south Baldwin County, Alabama. Bon Secour, French for "Safe Harbor," was founded as a fishing and oystering enclave and is the eastern-most town inside the coastline of Mobile Bay, when entering the mouth of Mobile Bay from the south. The seafood village was founded by the French Creole settlers c. 1800 and has thrived ever since on the commercial oystering, fishing, and shrimping industries. Water oak trees present on the grounds of the Swift-Coles house are common in the community. Due to the geography of the community, Bon Secour is openly susceptible to hurricanes and storm surges. The Hurricane of 1906 and Hurricanes Frederic (1979), Ivan (2004), and Katrina (2005) all caused significant damage to the community, including the destruction of historic properties and the removal of thousands of trees. No evidence indicating a hurricane has damaged the Swift-Coles house or other structures on the property, however the grounds lost hundreds of trees during Hurricane Frederic in 1979. The average climate is mild with winter temperatures often reaching 65 degrees, reflected in the functional exterior spaces and interior arrangement of the residence.

Constructed in 1882, the original residence on the site consisted of a simple four-room dogtrot cabin. The architect/builder of the structure is unknown, however Charles and Susan Swift purchased the modest residence and surrounding swamp and wilderness in 1898. The Swift family relocated to Bon Secour with the intent to construct a sawmill and buy and sell lumber. A sawmill was constructed to the east of the residence in 1900, near the confluence of the Bon Secour River and Schoolhouse Creek, however it burned in 1913. Remains of the sawmill are no longer present. (1) While a setback, the fire of the sawmill did not deter the Swift family as they continued to remain in the business of buying and selling lumber.

Other than seafood, lumber and timber industries have been active in south Baldwin County dating back to the original French and American settlers. The proximity to the city and port of Mobile make the location ideal, in addition to the long growing season. Charles Swift partnered with Mark Lyons of Mobile and maintained a profitable sawmill business in Bon Secour for over a decade. Charles' son, Ira Swift, served as the logging superintendent. Charles maintained an office in Mobile and the operation included a fleet of boats and barges, transporting lumber to Mobile and as far away as South America. After the sawmill burned in 1913, Charles's son,

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Robin Swift, relocated the sawmill operation to Mississippi and then again to Atmore, Alabama in 1920. (2)

Charles and Susan Swift raised eleven children on the property, resulting in the enlargement of the residence in 1902 (west wing expansion) and again in 1908-1910 (second floor addition). With the exception of the enclosure of the rear gallery and porch and the minor alteration of some interior rooms, the residence remains as a testament to the architecture and taste of 1910. It should also be noted that the 1902 and 1910 expansions were largely possible and affordable due to the fact that the pine timber and lumber for the expansion were cut on site. (3)

No photographic evidence exists of the original 1882 dogtrot cabin before the 1902 expansion, however portions of the original interior, layout, and exterior, were incorporated into the 1902 expansion. Presently the original mantles and gas fixtures remain in the original dogtrot ground floor rooms. Undated photographs, taken between 1902 and the start of the second floor addition in 1908, indicate that the dogtrot cabin was retained while a ground floor addition was added to the western elevation, creating a "T" shaped residence. The series of photographs show almost every angle of the expanded residence and feature detailing of the trim, windows, shutters, porch railing spindles, porch columns, shingles, siding, and surrounding gardens. (4, 5, 6, 7). The detailing of these architectural elements reflect a desire for a more refined, disciplined, and intentional architectural arrangement than a simple dogtrot cabin. The general architectural style and layout reflects the relationship between the natural environment and the comfort of a coastal residence. Long hallways within the dogtrot and new wing intersect allowing for cross-breezes, windows and openings are prevalent, and the original porch on the front and rear of the dogtrot are retained with a third added on the west elevation of the new wing. (1)

The third architectural phase began in 1908 and commenced in 1910 with the expansion of almost every aspect of the residence. The ground floor footprint was expanded and a second floor was constructed over every room. Exterior galleries were constructed on the north and south elevations. The original 4-room dogtrot, expanded to 8 rooms in 1902, had now ballooned into a 16 room house large enough for the expanding Swift family. The expansion also included an exterior staircase on the rear gallery and an interior staircase near the west elevation entrance. Interior rooms included an informal and formal parlor on the ground floor, a ground floor nursery, and a series of bedrooms on the ground and second floors. No closets were added or indoor plumbing. (8) The relationship between the architectural form/function and the climate of the site continued into the third phase for the residence. Vast galleries and porches were added on the north and south elevations and the interior relationship allowing a cross-breeze and ventilation was not lost in the expansion. Also reflective of the wealth of the family and architecture cultural of the period and location, the exterior of the residence became a beacon of the Gulf Coast vernacular style of architecture. Closer in feeling to a Louisiana French plantation house and Creole cottage than an upstate Black Belt Alabama plantation house, the residence was expanded in a format that accentuated the functionality of the house without adding superfluous addendums. While residences in nearby Mobile during the period were being adorned with Greek column capitals, heavy pediments, Queen Anne turrets, and Italianate brackets, the expanded Swift house reflected a style keeping in character with the climate and personality of the Bon Secour and Gulf Coast community.

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In addition to housing the Swift family, the sizable house was also often utilized by travelers using the local waterways. The Bon Secour River, located just a few hundred yards from the residence, allowed for steamboat access. Often those on business would travel on the “Baldwin Steamer” and stay at the Swift house when in the area on business. (3)

In addition to the contributing primary residence, the site also features four other contributing structures that date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. An outhouse and two barns remain in their original configurations behind the residence, all of which are part of the house museum narrative for the property. Nearby to the south of the residence is a corncrib, which was moved from behind the residence to the current location after 1976. All of these structures contribute to the domestic and rural narrative of the original function of the property and were more than likely constructed from lumber cut on the property.

Charles Swift lived in the house until his death in 1912 and his wife Susan continued to live in the residence until her death in 1932. (3) Members of the Swift family occupied the residence until it was sold to Norman “Nik” Coles in 1976. Born Norman Nicholas Colidis-Coles in Fairfield, AL, in 1923, Nik Coles would make it his mission to promote and protect the house and property until his death in 2007. While as the sole resident of the property and caretaker, Coles self-interpreted many of the rooms and described living in the house as “a romantic visit to a beautiful era—the 1800’s.” (8). While not a professional historian or museum curator, Coles paid meticulous attention to restoring some of the original spaces while also remodeling others and interpreting certain rooms with a historical theme. While owned by Coles, the residence became privately owned amateur house museum that was open to the public by invitation.

The house was placed on the “Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage” in 1978, a program facilitated by the Alabama Historical Commission in Montgomery, AL.

While the exterior of the residence was not altered by Coles, the interior did experience some alterations. The most notable alteration on the ground floor was the construction of a wall that altered the flow of the remaining original dogtrot layout. This wall essentially splits the dogtrot in half, preventing the flow between the front and back porch. Minor alterations on the second floor interior were also undertaken, such as drywall added to a bathroom and the creation of a closet in the main bedroom. Paint was also removed from most walls without wallpaper. A kitchen was added inside an existing room on the ground floor, accessible from the rear porch.

Coles was fond of giving guests a historical tour of his residence as evidenced by a series of correspondence from appreciative houseguests. Writing to Coles in 1978, J. Barton Greer (of Mobile Greer’s Super Markets), complimented Nik on his interior furnishings, thanked him for the tour, and touted, “Bon Secour, Baldwin County, Mobile County and the entire South are deeply indebted to you for the beautiful restoration job of one of the areas most interesting old mansions or homes...The grounds when you finish will be back to their normal and really we expect more beautiful appearance than they were in the early days of the home.” “The history of the family and their home that you read to us was just like being at home with a good book.” (9)

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Mickey Blackwell and Betsy Kirkland from the Charles S. Stewart Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy wrote to Coles in 1980 following a luncheon hosted at the residence. The guests thanked Coles for his hospitality and noted, "The people of this area certainly owe you a vote of thanks for the way you have renovated the "Big House" as we lovingly called it in our youth. We are especially grateful to you for caring enough to preserve Bon Secour's best known landmark, and I think it is wonderful that you are going to allow others to tour the Swift-Coles House." (10)

Coles was revered in the Bon Secour and Baldwin County community for his dedication to preserving the local landmark and for his willingness to share the history with the public. A local historical and cultural publication applauded Coles and expressed that a "debt of gratitude is owed to Mr. Nik Coles for his contribution to saving one of the most colorful and outstanding examples of the turn of the century Gulf Coast architecture in our community." ... "It has most of the charm and attributes of a tide water Gulf Coast plantation." (11)

The literature of the period and private correspondence not only underscore the importance of Coles in the residence, but also the architectural and cultural importance of the Swift-Coles house to the people of south Alabama. The structure has survived a half a dozen hurricanes and stood as a testament to the people and culture of a secluded hamlet on the banks of Mobile Bay. The social and cultural importance of the Swift-Coles house is evident by the public and private support for the maintenance, promotion, and interpretation of the house, beginning in 1976 and continuing to today. Dating from the period that the house became a private house museum in 1976, local magazines, newspapers, and correspondence to Nik Coles reflects affection for the historic property and its relationship to the people of south Baldwin County. (12, 13, 14, 15). The most telling headline promoting the general cultural and historical public significance of the property can be found in *The Onlooker*, a local south Baldwin newspaper, declaring "Historical Swift-Coles House Holds Place in Baldwin's Past." The article goes on to note the general history of the property, the role of Nik Coles, and the placement of the property on the state register of historic sites. (16) Today the site is operated as a house museum, celebrating the cultural and architectural heritage of the Swift family, the stewardship of Nik Coles, and the grater importance of the site in relation to the community.

Ownership of the Swift-Coles house, supplementary structures, and grounds were all transferred to Baldwin County in 2007. Presently the property is owned and operated by the Baldwin County Historical Commission as a public house museum. Tours are provided on a regular basis and the house and grounds can be rented for special events. Several alterations were made to the residence between 2007 and 2009, also at which time two non-contributing structures were erected to the rear of the primary residence. Alterations to the house included a new HVAC system underneath the house, new ductwork and air vents throughout the interior, and removing the architectural elements from the rear gallery and porch and replacing them with modern glazing and framing. This space was originally a screened porch and gallery and was maintained in the original formation until 2007. A ramp was also installed on the ground floor of the rear of the residence during the same period along with an asphalt shingle roof on the residence.



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The two non-contributing structures include a utilitarian storage building and a freestanding bathroom facility. Neither structure contributes to the historic integrity or character of the site, however they also do not greatly detract from the overall character of the residence and grounds due to their non-obtrusive scale and placement.

The setting of the house and all supplementary structures can be characterized as rural. Oak trees, pine trees, and other indigenous plant life surrounds the grounds. There is also a series of bricked walkways leading to the southern and western entrances of the house, a driveway, and a rear parking area for visitors. The Bon Secour River and nearby seafood establishments (restaurants and commercial fishing/shrimping/oystering operations) are all located within a mile of the site.

#### Archaeology

An archeological assessment of the study area was not completed as part of this project.

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### 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.)

- 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.
- 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.

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**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1882-1910

**Significant Dates**

1882

1902

1910

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Architect/Builder**

1882, Unknown

1902 Charles A. Swift

1908-1910 Charles A. Swift

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Swift-Coles historic house is a exemplary extant example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Gulf Coast inspired residence which has been transitioned into a public house museum. The architectural and timber building tradition of Gulf Coast residences is evidenced by the three significant periods of construction, ranging from 1882 to 1910. The residence began as a simple four-room dogtrot cabin in 1882 and was expanded in 1902 and again in 1910 to meet the residential and climatic conditions of a residence on the Alabama Gulf Coast. The interior arrangement allowing for a cross-breeze and three exterior double galleries indicate a strong relationship between the functions of the built environment and realities of the comfort and climate before the installation of electricity. Exterior architectural detailing reflects a coastal combination of detailing influenced by Gulf Coast and localized vernacular arrangements, differentiating the residence from the Greek Revival, Classical Revival, and Italianate plantation residences of the period in the upstate portions of Alabama. Having survived a century of hurricanes and the aggressive population expansion and commercial/residential development of Baldwin County in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the residence stands as an icon representative of the architectural history of Bon Secour and south Baldwin County during the period of American settlement.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ARCHITECTURE

Constructed in 1882, the original residence on the site consisted of a simple weatherboard-clad four-room dogtrot cabin with at least one fireplace and chimney. The architect/builder of the structure is unknown. Based on the remaining evidence of the structure, and photographs of the dogtrots during the 1902 expansion, the residence was indicative of the period of construction and followed the traditional second-generation dogtrot style of the region. (17) Each room contained at least one window and the central passage through the structure was the primary feature of the residence.

The residence was expanded in 1902, essentially doubling in size, with the addition of a wing attached to the western elevation of the original cabin. This arrangement followed the typical third-general dogtrot format for the period and region. The format still followed the interior

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format of the second-generation residence, the large passage openings were replaced by doors and windows along with a more refined covered porch arrangement on the west and south elevations. Per historic images taken of the residence between 1902 and 1908, the rear of the original cabin remained primitive and served as a utilitarian workspace. (4, 5, 6, 7) The introduction of doors and windows, and a “T” shaped floor plan, was also representative of the third-general dogtrot format. (17) The minimalist architectural detailing, represented in the porch spindles and porch columns, transom windows above the south and western entrances, and window shutters, indicate a subtle refinement, surpassing the second-generation dogtrot detailing.

The profiles on the spindles and columns are representative of the Queen Anne period in Alabama, a sharp delineation from the original dogtrot composition of the exterior. The transom arrangements over the newly added doors and large porches also add to the transition to a Queen Anne influenced exterior. (18) The detailing of the spindles and columns mirror the nearby Hamner-Roberts House (c. 1885), that falls into the category of a Creole Cottage.

Creole cottage and Gulf Coast elements were introduced to the exterior when the residence was expanded, doubling in size, between 1908 and 1910. Interestingly, the profiles on the porch and gallery spindles and columns actually became less intricate after the final expansion, classified merely as “beveled posts” in the 1978 “Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage” application. (19) The profiles on the gallery columns and spindles closely mirror the detailing on Williamsburg, a typical creole cottage constructed c. 1835 in Natchez, MS.

The typical Gulf Coast cottage to be found in and around Mobile is one of Alabama’s most distinctive building types, and one rooted in a folk building tradition that reaches back to French and Spanish colonial days. For this reason, such houses have long been known popularly as “Creole cottages.” Characteristically, the main part of the house is raised well off the ground, either on brick piers or over a high brick basement. A pitched roof sweeps down over a full-length front gallery that may wrap around both sides of the house and intersect a rear porch. Windows are large and plentiful, ceilings high, and the circulation pattern open and free. The gallery windows sometimes reach to the floor and may occasionally function as French casement windows. Early maps and other documents reveal that this house type was already developed, at least in primitive form, by the end of the colonial period. Summer homes along Mobile Bay and the Gulf continued to be built in this tradition until the early 1900s. (20)

Early settlers of Bon Secour built their houses to accommodate the humid, breezy Gulf Coast weather. Perfect for this area were the “Creole Cottages” and Gulf Coast (or American) Cottages, common in south Baldwin County throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Each style was popular in its own right although most people today tend to group the two architectural movements into one category, labeling them both as “Creole Cottages.” Creole Cottages, as generally accepted along the Gulf Coast, have no interior passageways, while Gulf Coast cottages have a central hall plan. Other than these differences, they have many similarities including gable roofs, recessed porches, and frame construction. Creole cottages generally have interior chimneys with back-to-back fireplaces, and Gulf Coast Cottages have exterior chimneys with an unheated central hall. The Swift-Coles house falls into the latter of these categories. Other distinctive features of the

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Creole Cottages include four interconnected square rooms with a rear “cabinet,” often containing a stairway to the second floor half-story. Although not always a feature of either plan, these houses in urban settings were often raised several feet off the ground because of crowding and poor drainage. According to Architectural Historian John Sledge, of the Mobile Historic Development Commission, a survey of over 1,300 Baldwin County houses over 50 years old was conducted in 1987. As a result, 11 Creole and Gulf Coast Cottages were placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Four of these houses were in the Bon Secour area and include the Weeks-Adams House (c. 1835, originally built ten miles from its current location in Bon Secour), the Allen-Marshall House (c. 1880), the Hamner-Roberts House (c. 1885), and the Orrell-Burnette House (1900). (21)

While the Swift-Coles house does not meet all of the standard criteria for a typical Creole Cottage of the region, it does maintain many of the elements, including a typical floor plan, porches/galleries, high ceilings, abundant windows, and simple carpentry features on the exterior wooden elements, like spindles and columns. It also does not possess any of the Classical orders. In the book *Alabama's Tapestry of Historic Places*, the Alabama Historical Commission classified the structure as “Art-Architecture” and “Creole.”(22) This description is appropriate as the structure combines elements of a localized Gulf Coast craftsmen vernacular with elements of Creole.

In addition to adding two double galleries to the residence (north and south elevations), the original low ceilings of the second and third generation dogtrot cabin were raised, allowing for greater ventilation and interior comfort. Other alterations included the addition of sidelights to the south and west entrances and expanded transoms that stretched the length of the door and sidelights. This feature was common amongst residences on the Gulf Coast and Mobile during the 1850's. (23) Along the same lines, the feel and tone of the Swift-Coles house has the feel of some of the “rural” country homes, constructed outside of Mobile during the 1840's and 1850's. Parallels include a hipped roof, broad porches and galleries, and interior central hallways that allow for access to every room and cross-ventilation. Furthermore, the lack of Greek-Revival or other common architectural stylistic ornamentation of the period reflects the rural character of the residence. (24) In feeling, style, scale, and function, the residence more closely resembles the French plantation houses of the 19<sup>th</sup> century found on the Gulf Coast and Louisiana. Along the lines of a French plantation house, many similarities can be found between the Swift-Coles house and the Oakley Plantation, constructed near St. Francisville, LA, c. 1800. The most notable differentiation between the Swift-Coles house and these tradition French large-scale residences is the lack of dormer windows, ground floor raised brick construction, and the symmetry of exterior porches and galleries. (25)

The combination of localized coastal vernacular elements, blended with features of the creole cottage and French plantation, creates a distinctive Gulf Coast architectural style, exemplified by the Swift-Coles house. It is for these reasons, and the fact that the site has maintained historic integrity, that the period of architectural significance for the Swift-Coles house ranges from 1882 to 1910.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

1. "Swift-Coles Historic Homes Tour." Informational booklet created by the Baldwin County Historical Commission, 2016. Located on site at the Swift-Coles House, Bon Secour, AL.
2. "Swift-Roberts Family of Baldwin County, Alabama," Archival papers. Located on site at the Swift-Coles House, Bon Secour, AL.
3. *Antiques Gazette*. "The Swift-Coles House. *Baton Rouge, LA, November, 1994, Vol 11, No 4*.
4. Archival photograph 1, c. 1905. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
5. Archival photograph 2, c. 1905. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
6. Archival photograph 3, c. 1905. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
7. Archival photograph 4, c. 1905. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
8. *The Pelican*. "The Swift-Coles House." *Perdido Key, FL, July 25, 1986, page 3*.
9. *Correspondence letter to Nick Coles from J. Barton Greer (of Mobile Greer's Super Markets)*. Dated March 22, 1978. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
10. Correspondence Letter to Nick Coles from Mickey Blackwell (President) and Betsy Kirkland (Public Relations) from the Charles S. Stewart Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, dated February 24, 1980. Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
11. "Baldwin Vignettes." Published by the Gulf Telephone Company. Underwood Printing, 1983, Foley, AL. p. 336
12. *The Islander*. "Swift-Coles House." November 23, 1977, p 6.
13. *The Islander*. "Swift-Coles House." December 28, 1977, p 4.
14. *Baldwin County Visitor*. "Swift-Coles House." 1978, pp 8-9.
15. Baldwin County Historical Society, *Historical and Genealogical Quarterly* 1989-1990. pp 1-4.
16. *The Onlooker*. "Historical Swift-Coles House Holds Place in Baldwin's Past." April 3, 1991.
17. Wilson, Eugene Murphy. 1975. *Alabama folk houses*. Montgomery, AL: Alabama Historical Commission, pp. 30, 35.
18. Gamble, Robert S. 1987. *The Alabama catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey : a guide to the early architecture of the state*. University, Ala: University of Alabama Press. pp.121-125.
19. "Swift-Coles House." Alabama Landmarks and Heritage application, 1978. Located on site at the offices of the Alabama Historical Commission, Montgomery, AL.

Swift-Coles House  
Name of Property

Baldwin County, Alabama  
County and State

20. Gamble, Robert S. 1990. *Historic architecture in Alabama: a primer of styles and types, 1810-1930*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press. pp 37-41.
21. National Register Thematic Nomination. "*Gulf Coast/Creole Cottages Thematic Nomination*". Mobile Historic Development Commission, 1987.
22. Alabama Historical Commission. 1978. *Alabama's tapestry of historic places: an inventory*. Montgomery: Alabama Historical Commission. p. 5.
23. Gould, Elizabeth Barrett. 1988. *From fort to port: an architectural history of Mobile, Alabama, 1711-1918*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press. p 151.
24. Gould, Elizabeth Barrett. 1988. *From fort to port: an architectural history of Mobile, Alabama, 1711-1918*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press. pp 118-120
25. Foster, Gerald L. 2004. *American houses: a field guide to the architecture of the home*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. pp 168-185.

### Historic Images

1. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1905 1" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
2. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1905 2" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
3. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1905 3" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
4. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1905 4" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
5. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1910" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
6. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1976 1" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
7. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1976 2" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.
8. Swift-Coles House, image labeled "Swift-Coles House c. 1979" Located at the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History, Bay Minette, AL.

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### 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
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

Swift-Coles House  
Name of Property

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**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 6.5 Acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 30.312783 | Longitude: -087.726481 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:             |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting:  | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |



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**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundaries of the property include the following parameters:

North: Heavily forested property line to the rear of the structures north of the primary residence.

South: The Bon Secour River

East: Forested area and swamp to the east of the primary residence.

West: Baldwin County Highway 49

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the property for National Register consideration were chosen to reflect the property lines of the site and the natural and road features that create a natural barrier.

Baldwin County Highway 49 and the Bon Secour River are the most notable and recognizable boundary features and create a natural delineation from the property.

Furthermore, the legal property lines do not cross the waterway or highway. Property lines located within a forest and swamp create the north and east boundaries, selected because of the legal property lines.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Stephen McNair, Ph.D.

organization: McNair Historic Preservation, Inc.

street & number: 2151 Government Street

city or town: Mobile state: AL zip code: 36606

e-mail: smcnair@mcnairhp.com

telephone: (334) 303-3029

date: July 8, 2016

Swift-Coles House  
Name of Property

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property:	Swift-Coles House
City or Vicinity:	Bon Secour
County:	Baldwin County
State:	Alabama
Photographer:	Stephen McNair
Date Photographed:	May 15, 2016
Location of original digital file:	2151 Government Street, Mobile, AL, 36606

Photo #1 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles1)

Exterior front elevation view of corn crib (numbered # 7 on the map) and surrounding land. Camera facing south.

Photo #2 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles2)

Entrance driveway extension of Swift Coles Lane in front of the primary residence. Camera facing southwest.

Swift-Coles House  
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Photo #3 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles3)

View of primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map) from the entrance driveway. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #4 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles4)

Grounds across from the driveway from the primary residence. Pedestrian gates to primary residence in view. Camera facing east.

Photo #5 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles5)

Pedestrian sidewalk leading to the primary entrance into the residence. View is from the front steps looking towards grass pathway that leads to the corn crib. Camera facing south.

Photo #6 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles6)

Front elevation of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Photo taken from within the entrance gates. Camera facing north.

Photo #7 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles7)

Front (south) and side wing (west) elevations of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Photo taken from within the entrance gates. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #8 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles8)

Driveway leading to the rear of the property, accessible from Swift-Coles Lane. Primary residence and rear supplementary structures in view. Camera facing north.

Photo #9 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles9)

Corner of the driveway, with one driveway leading to the front of the residence and another leading to the rear of the residence. Primary residence in view. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #10 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles10)

Front façade and western elevation and wing in view of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Camera facing northeast.

Photo #11 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles11)

Supplementary structures to the rear of the primary residence. Non-contributing storage building (numbered # 2 on the map), contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map), non-contributing restrooms (numbered # 4 on the map), and contributing barn (numbered # 6 on the map), all in view. Camera facing east.

Photo #12 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles12)

Western elevation of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Camera facing east.

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Photo #13 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles13)

South elevations of the contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map) and contributing barn (numbered # 5 on the map). Camera facing north.

Photo #14 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles14)

Non-contributing restrooms (numbered # 4 on the map) and contributing barn (numbered # 6 on the map). Camera facing northeast.

Photo #15 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles15)

South and east elevations of the contributing barn (numbered # 5 on the map). Camera facing northwest.

Photo #16 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles16)

South and west elevations of the contributing barn (numbered # 6 on the map). Camera facing northeast.

Photo #17 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles17)

Rear (north) elevation of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Camera facing south.

Photo #18 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles18)

Rear (north) elevation of the primary residence and east elevation porch and gallery. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #19 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles19)

Supplementary structures to the rear of the primary residence. Non-contributing storage building (numbered # 2 on the map), contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map), non-contributing restrooms (numbered # 4 on the map), contributing barn (numbered # 6 on the map), and contributing barn (numbered # 5 on the map) all in view. Camera facing west.

Photo #20 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles20)

Rear (north) elevation of the primary residence and east elevation porch and gallery. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #21 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles21)

East exterior elevation and south elevation gallery of the primary residence. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #22 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles22)

Southeast exterior corner of the primary residence. East and south galleries in view. Camera facing northwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #23 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles23)

Exterior front elevation view of corn crib (numbered # 7 on the map) and surrounding land. Camera facing south.

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Photo #24 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles24)  
South elevation of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map) as viewed from the corn crib. Camera facing north.

Photo #25 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles25)  
Rear exterior elevation of the corn crib (numbered # 7 on the map). Camera facing north.

Photo #26 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles26)  
South and west exterior elevations of the primary residence. Camera facing northeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #27 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles27)  
South and west exterior elevations of the primary residence. Camera facing northeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #28 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles28)  
Exterior second floor gallery on the south elevation and primary pedestrian entrance gate of the primary residence (numbered # 1 on the map). Camera facing southeast.

Photo #29 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles29)  
Exterior second floor gallery of the primary residence. Camera facing southeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #30 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles30)  
Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #31 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles31)  
Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing south. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #32 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles32)  
Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #33 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles33)  
Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #34 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles34)  
Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing south. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Swift-Coles House

Baldwin County, Alabama  
County and State

Name of Property

Photo #35 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles35)

Primary residence, second floor, interior bathroom. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #36 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles36)

Primary residence, second floor, enclosed rear porch. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #37 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles37)

Primary residence, second floor, enclosed rear porch. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #38 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles38)

Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Boy's Parlor. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #39 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles39)

Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Master Bedroom. Camera facing northeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #40 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles40)

Primary residence, second floor, interior room. Master Bedroom. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #41 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles41)

Primary residence, second floor, interior bathroom. New drywall bathroom walls. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #42 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles42)

Primary residence, second floor, interior hallway. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #43 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles43)

Primary residence, second floor, interior bedroom. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #44 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles44)

Primary residence, second floor, interior hallway and interior staircase. Camera facing southeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #45 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles45)

Primary residence, second floor, interior bedroom. Camera facing south. (numbered # 1 on the map).

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Photo #46 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles46)

Primary residence, second floor, exterior gallery. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #47 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles47)

Primary residence, second floor, interior Master Bedroom. Doorway to rear enclosed porch in view. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #48 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles48)

Primary residence, second floor, interior Master Bedroom.. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #49 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles49)

Primary residence, second floor, interior Master Bedroom. Doorway to rear enclosed porch in view. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #50 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles50)

Primary residence, second floor, rear enclosed porch. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #51 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles51)

View of rear supplementary structures from the second floor rear porch on the primary residence. Non-contributing storage building (numbered # 2 on the map), contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map), non-contributing restrooms (numbered # 4 on the map), contributing barn (numbered # 6 on the map), and contributing barn (numbered # 5 on the map) all in view. Camera facing north.

Photo #52 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles52)

Stairwell leading from the second floor rear porch gallery of the residence to the ground floor rear porch. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #53 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles53)

Primary residence, ground floor, rear enclosed porch. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #54 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles54)

Primary residence, ground floor, rear enclosed porch. Camera facing southeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #55 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles55)

Primary residence, ground floor, interior room. Staff kitchen accessible from rear ground floor porch. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

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Photo #56 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles56)

Primary residence, ground floor, rear enclosed porch. Kitchen entrance door in view beside storage closet. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #57 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles57)

Primary residence, ground floor, dining room. Camera facing south. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #58 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles58)

Primary residence, ground floor, dining room. Note the rear porch in view to the left and entrance to the parlor on the right. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #59 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles59)

Primary residence, ground floor, parlor room. Note the rear porch in view to the left and front hallway to the right. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #60 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles60)

Primary residence, ground floor, dogtrot hall. Wallpapered wall was originally open as part of a dogtrot structure. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #61 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles61)

Primary residence, ground floor, formal parlor, originally a bedroom. Original nursery entrance in view to the right. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #62 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles62)

Primary residence, ground floor, formal parlor. Camera facing northwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #63 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles63)

Primary residence, ground floor, interior hallway. Camera facing east. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #64 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles64)

Primary residence, ground floor, interior hallway. Front porch in view through the glass. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #65 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles65)

Primary residence, ground floor, southwest bedroom. One of the original four rooms of the house. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #66 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles66)

Primary residence, ground floor, southwest bedroom. One of the original four rooms of the house. Camera facing northwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).



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Photo #67 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles67)

Primary residence, ground floor, small bedroom. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #68 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles68)

Primary residence, ground floor, interior hallway. Camera facing west. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #69 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles69)

Primary residence, ground floor, interior hallway and staircase. Camera facing north. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #70 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles70)

Primary residence, ground floor, original nursery. Camera facing southeast. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #71 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles71)

Primary residence, ground floor, original nursery. Camera facing southwest. (numbered # 1 on the map).

Photo #72 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles72)

Exterior, contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map) to the rear of the primary residence. Structure interpreted as part of the house museum narrative. Camera facing northwest.

Photo #73 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles73)

Interior, contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map) to the rear of the primary residence. Structure interpreted as part of the house museum narrative. Camera facing north.

Photo #74 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles74)

Interior, contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map) to the rear of the primary residence. Structure interpreted as part of the house museum narrative. Camera facing north.

Photo #75 (AL\_Baldwin\_County\_Swift-Coles75)

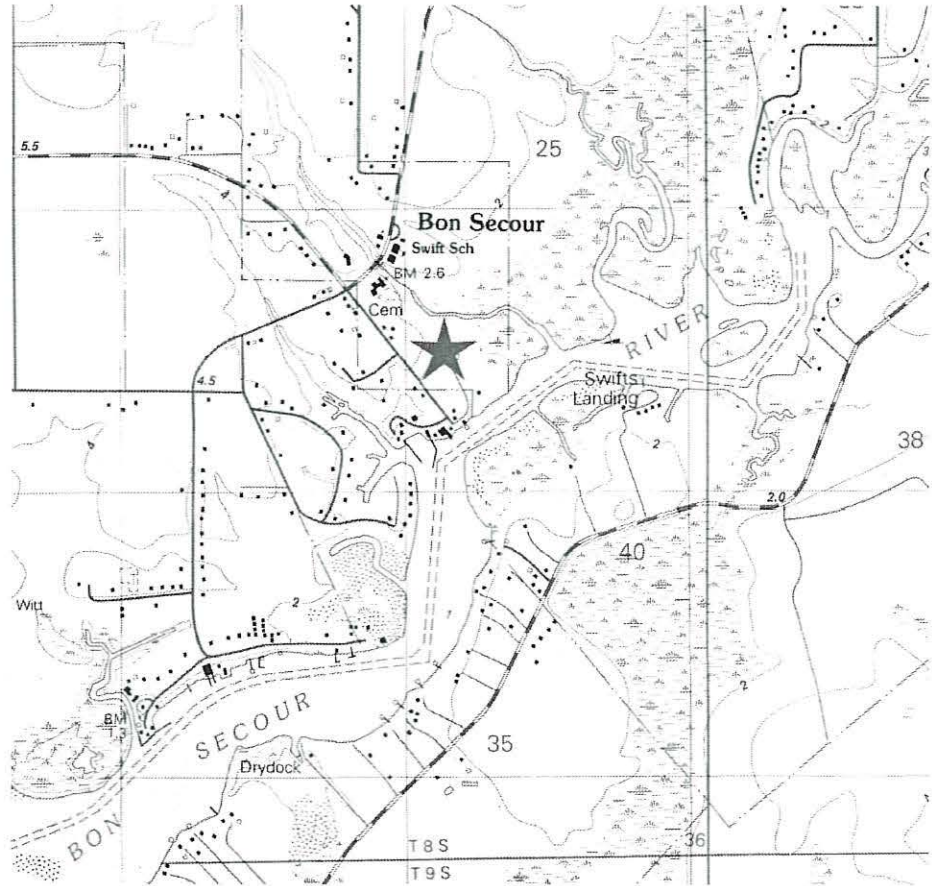
Exterior, contributing outhouse (numbered # 3 on the map) to the rear of the primary residence. Structure interpreted as part of the house museum narrative. Camera facing east.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

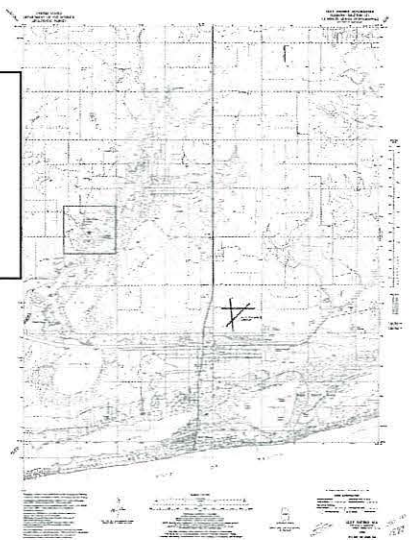
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Swift-Coles House  
Name of Property

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U.S.G.S. Topographic Map  
Gulf Shores Quadrangle  
  
Lat/Long: 30°18'46.0188"  
-087°43'35.3316"











Parking























SWIFT - COLLEGE













































*Weddings at Swift-Coles*  
Step back in time in our 6000 sq ft Historic Home under our beautiful live oak trees on Bon Secour River.













Autumn  
Leaves  
Feljowes.  
Since 1917

XT90002-001-A  
MD2

VA  
VALENTINE DAY  
McBee  
VALENTINE DAY

2001  
1/10-1/13

































Please Watch  
Your Head

















TET-COLES  
HOUSE











































Swept Path - west side (Dining Room) (Big House)



The Big House - Mammas Easter Lilies





The B.C. Home long ago

1910



64 •

SEP





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Swift-Coles House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ALABAMA, Baldwin

DATE RECEIVED: 10/21/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/21/16  
DATE OF 16<sup>th</sup> DAY: 12/06//16 DATE OF 45<sup>th</sup> DAY: 11/06/16

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000814

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 12/6/16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Architecture*  
*1882-1910*  
*local*

RECOM./CRITERIA C  
REVIEWER W. D. [Signature] DISCIPLINE [Signature]  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 12/6/16

DOCUMENTATION see attsched comments Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



# ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900  
334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477



October 18, 2016

Ms. Stephanie Toothman  
Keeper of the National Register  
U. S. Department of the Interior, NPS  
Cultural Resources  
National Register, History & Education Programs  
1201 "I" Street NW (2280)  
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Ms. Toothman:

Enclosed please find the nomination and supporting documentation to be considered for listing the following Alabama resource in the National Register of Historic Places:

Swift-Coles House  
Bon Secour, Baldwin County, Alabama

Your consideration of the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/nw

Enclosures