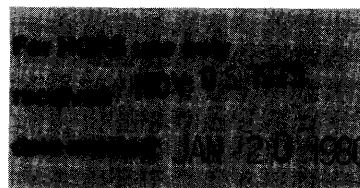


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



## 1. Name

historic  Jacob Green House

and/or common "Vaughn Spring Place"

## 2. Location *E of Ashville on SR 33*

street & number East side of St. Clair County 33, approximately 0.3 miles  
south of Junction with U.S. 411  not for publication

city, town Ashville  vicinity of congressional district 4

state Alabama code 01 county St. Clair code 115

## 3. Classification

| Category                                        | Ownership                                   | Status                                         | Present Use                            |                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input type="checkbox"/> occupied              | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> park                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress      | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                              | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process         | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted       | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific             |
|                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted     | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation         |
|                                                 |                                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no         | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none |

## 4. Owner of Property

name see continuation sheet

street & number

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Clair County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Ashville state Alabama

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1978-present  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

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## 7. Description

---

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

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Jacob Green House stands on a low, wooded knoll and faces west toward the old Ashville-Gadsden Road. To the east, the land falls away behind the house toward the Neeley Henry Lake and the Appalachian foothills beyond. The dwelling is a two-story, frame, rectangular (31 feet by 21 feet) structure with a gabled roof and tall, flanking end chimneys. The mortised-and-tenoned substructure of the house rests on rough-hewn limestone piers, while each of the massive brick chimneys (approximately 6 feet and 6 inches wide by 2 feet and 6 inches deep) is underpinned with a corbeled stone base. At the rear of the house, the outline of a one-story, gabled wing, slightly inset from the southeast corner, may be traced on the weatherboarding. It is possible that the wing was original, as are those at Sweet Hall and the Warburton House, both Tidewater Virginia hall-and-parlor type dwellings.

The symmetrical, three-bay front has central doorways above and below with the first floor entrance being surmounted by a narrow, rectangular transom. The configuration of the original porch is uncertain. A small porch, which enframed the lower doorway and supported an open balustraded deck, was removed several years ago. The slender chamfered posts stored in the house suggest that elements of the porch date from an early period and that the porch itself may have been original. Sashing is generally 6/9, except for the upper front windows where 6/6 sashing is employed. At the rear, a single, fixed 9-light sash fills the small, square opening above the traces of the rear wing.

The front door opens directly into the 17 feet by 20 feet "great room" or "hall", which is divided from the smaller "parlor" by a thin partition fashioned of wide, vertical boards 1 inch thick. The partition is embellished on the "hall" side with a paneled dado and molded chairrail, which is continued in each of the rooms, except the parlor, and along the stairway. Indications exist that the parlor also had a dado at one time. The remaining original doors are of a typical six-panel pattern, while the walls -- except for the central partition -- are finished with random-width, horizontal, flush-boarding above the dado.

All of the mantels remain; the most ornate is located in the "hall". Framing an unusual, segmentally-arched fireplace opening, over 3 feet in height, the mantel is composed of slender reeded pilasters carrying a wide, breakfront frieze with a raised elliptical center panel repeated in reduced form above the pilasters. The frieze is topped by a heavily-molded mantel shelf.

Along the rear wall of the great room, a stair, its bannister now removed, ascends to a small landing in the southeast corner of the room, thence in a short right-angle flight to the second floor. The stair is paneled beneath the stringer and there is a closet under the landing. The volute-like trim beneath each tread is incised with a quadrant sunburst pattern. Water damage has weakened and partially destroyed the short upper flight of the stair, so that ascent to the second floor is now impossible. The upstairs plan is identical to that of the lower floor except for the insertion of later closets.

## 8. Significance

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

**Specific dates** c. 1828 **Builder/Architect** Richard A. Crow (?)

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed in the early 19th century, the Jacob Green House is significant as an example of the survival of an essentially 17th-century architectural form: the hall-and-parlor plan. Uncommon today, even in eastern Virginia and other areas of early colonization, the hall-and-parlor plan had virtually gone out of use by 1800.<sup>1</sup> Few examples of this plan-type have been recorded in Alabama. The Jacob Green House is unusual in that the arrangement of a "great room" ("hall") and an adjacent smaller room ("parlor"), behind a symmetrical facade, follows through two full stories rather than occurring -- as is more common -- in a story-and-a-half dwelling. Additionally the house is one of only two known Alabama examples of the use of diapering as a decorative device in brickwork,<sup>2</sup> occurring here in the massive north chimney, where glazed headers spaced vertically in a diamond pattern are employed as embellishment. Moreover, the interior trim, with its 5½ foot mantels and paneled dado, is a fine example of rural cabinetwork.

The first owner of the house, Jacob Green (1767), lived in York District, S.C., before emigrating to Alabama around 1819. The following year, he entered the tract on which his house stands, and presumably, the dwelling was completed within the decade. Whether it was Green or his wife, Fanny Acre, or master-builder Richard A. Crow -- traditionally credited with building the house -- who determined the hall-and-parlor layout may never be discovered. The other extant houses attributed to Crow post-date the Green House and adhere to the conventional center-hall plan; for example, the Anzi Byers and Dr. James Bothwell houses in nearby Ashville. Certainly, however, Green could have known the plan in upper South Carolina, an area culturally influenced by heavy 18th-century immigration from Southside and Piedmont Virginia.

After 1822, the Green House served as a stagecoach stop on the Huntsville-to-Ashville postroad. In 1832, Green and his wife moved down the fertile valley to operate a ferry on the Coosa River. Greensport, the community which developed around the ferry, and a second house, more typical in plan, which Green built, was inundated in the 1950's by construction of the H. Neeley Henry Dam. Jacob Green and his wife are buried at the Hopewell Cemetery, less than 2 miles from their original homestead. Later known as "Vaughn Spring Place" because of its proximity to a flowing spring and its ownership by the Vaughn family, the Jacob Green House is currently part of the Jim McEntyre estate.

<sup>1</sup>Henry Chandlee Forman, Virginia Architecture in the Seventeenth Century. (Williamsburg, 1957), pp. 39-58.

<sup>2</sup>The other example of diapering is found at the Sellers House in Millers Ferry, Wilcox County.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreage of nominated property one-half acre

Quadrangle name Dunaway Mountain

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

|   |            |             |              |            |            |              |
|---|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| A | <u>116</u> | <u>5811</u> | <u>61210</u> | <u>317</u> | <u>419</u> | <u>61610</u> |
|   | Zone       | Easting     | Northing     |            |            |              |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| B |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| C |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| D |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| E |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| F |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| G |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

|   |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|---|------|---------|----------|--|--|--|
| H |      |         |          |  |  |  |
|   | Zone | Easting | Northing |  |  |  |

Verbal boundary description and justification

see continuation sheet

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

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Gamble (Ellen Mertins)

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date October 31, 1979

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone (205) 832-6621

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama 36130

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Wills B. Howard Jr.

title SHPO - Alabama

date Oct. 31, 1979

|                                                                          |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| For HCERS use only                                                       |                     |
| I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register |                     |
| <u>Sally Gold</u>                                                        | date <u>1/20/80</u> |
| Keeper of the National Register                                          |                     |
| Attest: <u>Wesley A. Innes</u>                                           | date <u>1/10/80</u> |
| Chief of Registration                                                    |                     |

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| FOR HCRS USE ONLY |             |
| RECEIVED          | NOV 05 1979 |
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 1

Mr. and Mrs. Hercshel H. Wilkerson  
Route 4, Box 573  
Gadsden, Alabama 35904 /

Ms. Blanche Biddle  
Route 4, Box 573  
Gadsden, Alabama 35904 /

Mr. Lacy McEntyre  
Route 4  
Gadsden, Alabama 35904 /

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

The house has been unoccupied for two decades. Twentieth-century modifications include replacement of much of the original feather-edged weatherboarding with shiplap siding, installation of new doors and a new transom on the facade elevation, and as indicated, removal of the front porch and rear wing. The interior remained in sound and little altered condition until the mid 1970's when the roof was partially destroyed by a falling tree. Now open to the elements, the inside of the house, particularly the southeast staircase corner is deteriorating rapidly. At present the walls and most of the flooring are in fair condition.

A low stone wall, incorporating a stone-curbed well, runs eastward from the rear northeast corner of the house. Except for a c. 1940's garage, all outbuildings have disappeared, although the rural setting of the house is still undisturbed.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

Barley, M. W. The English Farmhouse and Cottage. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1967.

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. Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States,  
Philadelphia. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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|-------------------|-------------|
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

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In the southeast quarter of Section 21, Range 5 East, Township 13 South: Beginning at a point on the east side of St. Clair County Road 33, 1900' due north of southern section line, and extending 150' north by northeast along east side of said road to a point, thence east by southeast 150' in a right-angle turn to a point, thence south by southwest 150' in a right-angle turn to a point, thence west by northwest 150' in a right-angle turn to the point of beginning, comprising .51066 of an acre.