

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **OCT 17 1979**

DATE ENTERED

DEC 27 1979

**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

Weeks-Kimbrough House

AND/OR COMMON

Weeks-Kimbrough House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Avenue (U.S. 80, Ga. 41)

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Talbotton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

Third - Jack Brinkley

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Talbot

CODE

263

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___ DISTRICT

___ PUBLIC

___ OCCUPIED

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ STRUCTURE

___ BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

___ EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ OBJECT

___ IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ BEING CONSIDERED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ NO

___ MILITARY

OTHER:
Unoccupied

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Eugene B. Culpepper

STREET & NUMBER

College Avenue (P.O. Box 57)

CITY, TOWN

Talbotton

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

31827

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Superior Court

STREET & NUMBER

Talbot County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Talbotton

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Structures Field Survey: Talbot County, Georgia

DATE

1976

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Historic Preservation Section, Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia 30334

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Facing almost due west and situated on the crest of a gently rolling lot of 3.80 acres, the Weeks-Kimbrough House is a one-story wood-frame building of mortise, tenon and peg construction. The Greek Revival house contains a central hall flanked by four rooms with a double-stack chimney centered between the two rooms on each side of the hall. Matching north and south wing rooms each have a single-stack chimney centered on the east wall, and constructed flush with the exterior weather-boarding. Walls and ceilings are plastered. Mantels are original in simple Greek Revival style. Doors are six-panel, except two, which are three-panel. Windows are nine-over-nine with paneling beneath those in the wing rooms. Floors are six-inch-wide, tongue-and-groove, yellow-pine boards. The hip roof extends over an eight-foot-wide porch running along the entire length of the front facade. The porch is supported by twelve fluted columns in a simple local version of the Doric order. The front facade is plastered and scored, the remainder is weather-boarded. Most of the original blinds are on the house and in good condition.

The double front doors contain six rectangular panels. The upper portion of the door is in the form of a Greek cross with shortened arms rather than the usual Latin-cross detail, flanked by side lights and a thirty-nine-pane transom. Back double doors have side lights and a nine-pane transom. A one-bay back porch with square wood pillars has a cantilevered roof extension on each side, which once covered a double set of steps. A two-room English basement, constructed of local granite fieldstone, is located beneath the back two rooms and hall. One of these rooms was used as a cellar, and the other for servants quarters. The original brick floor has been removed, and the floor is now clay.

The house is eighty feet wide and fifty-four feet deep through the center section. All rooms are approximately seventeen feet square. The house has been altered by the extension of the back porch. A small shed room was added behind each of the wing rooms (date unknown). One was used as a kitchen, the other a bathroom. These rooms were removed in 1977. The structural integrity of the original exterior has not been seriously damaged by the addition and removal of these rooms. In 1978, the original roof of hand-cut shingles, a second roof of machine-cut shingles, and a third of tin were removed and replaced by plywood decking, felt, and gray-asphalt shingles. The original porch flooring of one-by-six-inch boards was also replaced by new one-by-six-inch boards.

The interior wood trim, floors, doors, windows and mantels are in good condition. More than fifty percent of the plaster in the house is in good

(continued)

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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condition. The house is located in a residential area and is surprisingly well preserved in spite of years of neglect.

There are no other buildings or structures remaining on the lot. The house lot borders on the railroad and has done so for at least 100 years, precluding any extensive range of outbuildings.

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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			Local History

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1845

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Weeks-Kimbrough House is of architectural significance because it is the only remaining example of a style prominent in this area before the Civil War; it is significant in local history because its builder-owner, John Weeks, was an important merchant in this community. Before the Civil War, Talbot County was one of the largest and most important cotton-producing counties in Georgia. In 1860, 2.2 percent of the state's cotton was produced there. Of the 132 counties in Georgia at the time, only seven produced more cotton than Talbot County. The house is a rare example of the excellent proportions, craftsmanship and simplicity of this time.

John Weeks settled in Talbotton as a young man prior to 1840. Numerous deeds show that John and his brother William became partners in a farmers' supply and mercantile firm, purchasing three large adjoining brick commercial buildings and soon becoming one of the largest supply houses in town. John also acquired six acres of land on the South Stagecoach Road (now Washington Avenue) from Barnard Hill in November, 1844. John married Miss Sarah C. Leonard, the daughter of the owner of a vast cotton plantation in Talbot County, on February 18, 1845. It is almost certain that the house was begun immediately after the land was purchased and completed in 1845, because deed records show that John bought additional lands adjoining his homeplace in November, 1845.

The firm of Weeks Brothers continued to grow and prosper, and both John and his brother provided civic and religious leadership as well as promoted agricultural and business opportunities in their town and county. John's untimely death in 1859 at the age of forty was a serious loss to the community. John died childless, but wealthy, and he willed to his wife the house and land that it was on, eleven slaves, and \$5,000. He also left money to his brother, sisters, niece, nephews, and children of a friend, and to the Talbotton Methodist Church.

John's wife, Sarah, continued to live in this house until her death in 1904, at which time she willed the house to her niece, Sarah Holmes Leonard, whom she had reared in her home. Sarah married T.A. Kimbrough (his second marriage) in 1907. Mrs. Kimbrough died in 1925, leaving her husband the

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1860 Census for Talbot County, Georgia
 Talbot County deed, will and marriage records
 Talbotton Methodist Church records
 Interview with Mrs. Wilson Leverton of Whispering Pines, N.C., January 12, 1979
 granddaughter of Mr. T.A. Kimbrough
 (continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.80 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Talbotton, Georgia

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 731180 3617140
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All that property delineated by the attached plat dated February 8, 1978.

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

Helen Lynn, student intern; Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Preservation Sec., Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources

DATE

August 13, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

270 Washington Street, S.W.

TELEPHONE

(404) 656-2840

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia 30334

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth A. Lyon 10/3/79

TITLE

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Sally J. Oldham
 ATTEST:
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12/27/79

DATE

12/18/79

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house as a life estate. Upon his death in 1938, the property which had been willed to Mrs. Kimbrough's niece, Miss Susan Francena Leonard, was sold to be used as rental property, to the Callaway sisters in 1939. At their death, the estate was settled and Bill Johnson, attorney for the Callaway sisters, received ownership of the house as an in-kind payment for the attorney fees. He sold the house in 1978 to the present owner, who has begun restoration.

Architecturally, the Weeks-Kimbrough house is significant because it is a fine example of the one-story Greek Revival house once common to antebellum Talbot County but now relatively rare. Its excellent proportions, fine craftsmanship, and overall simplicity make it a period piece of antebellum Greek Revival residential architecture. Its floor plan, with two rooms on either side of a central hall flanked by recessed wings, is typically Greek Revival in its disposition of rooms and insistence on symmetry. Its front facade, including the five-bay main facade with central doorway, flanking two-bay wings, and one-story porch-like portico, is also typically Greek Revival in its arrangement, symmetry, and detailing. Significant period details include trabeated doorways with multiple-paned transoms and sidelights, simple Doric portico columns, simple architrave molding around windows and doorways, simple Greek Revival mantels, and smoothly plastered walls with an absence of ornamentation or wainscot. An exceptional exterior design feature is the thoroughly bilateral symmetry of the main facade and flanking wings; an exceptional exterior detail is the front wall plastered and scored to resemble stonemasonry.

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Telephone interview with William H. Davidson, West Point, Ga., March 27, 1979
Telephone interview with Eugene Culpepper, Talbotton, Ga., March 21, 1979
Personal inspection by Helen Lynn, May, 1979
Draft nomination by William T. Stewart, January, 1979

WEEKS-KIMBROUGH HOUSE
Talbotton, Talbot County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP

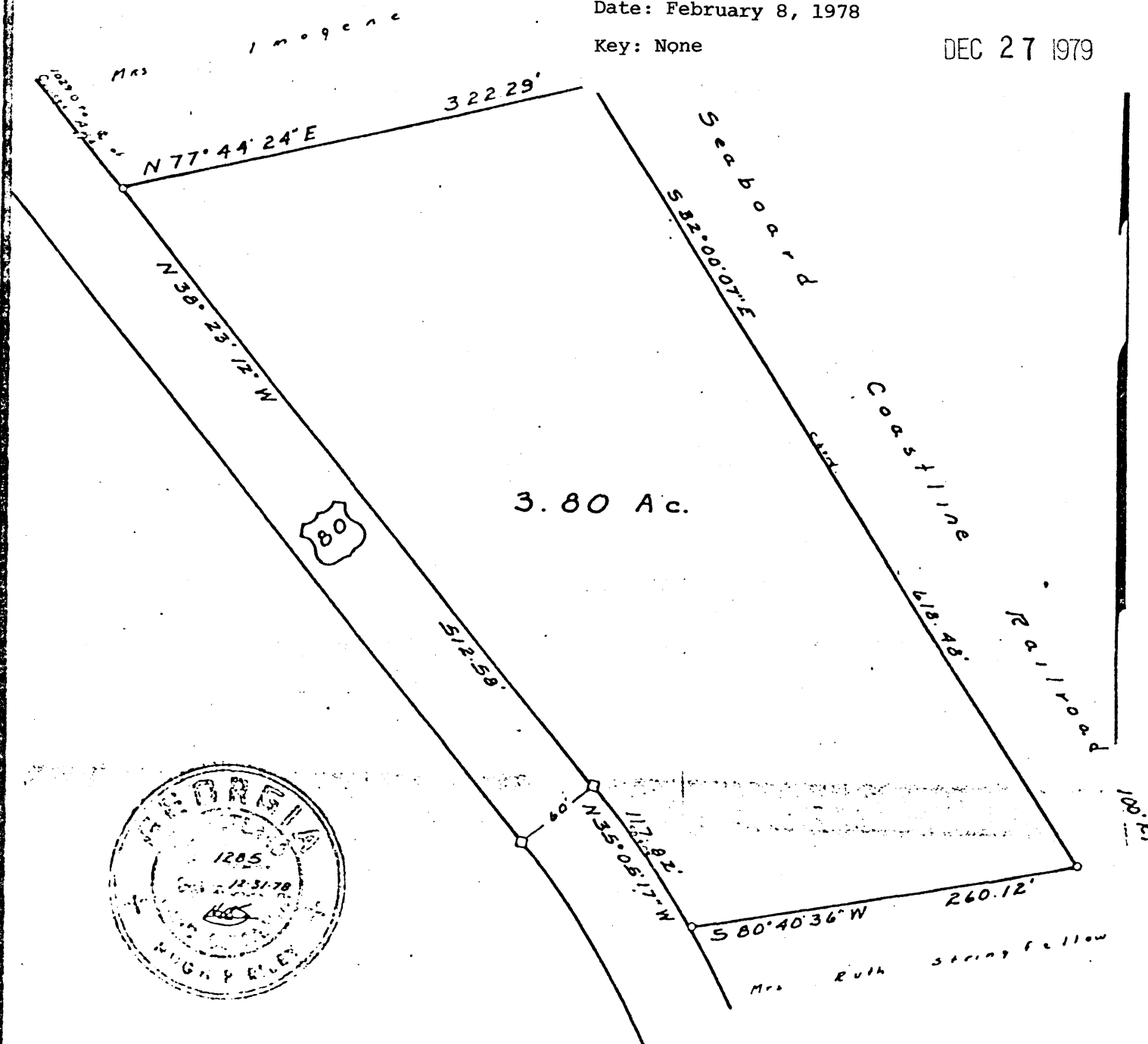
Scale: 1" = 100 feet

Source: Superior Court, Talbot County, Georgia

Date: February 8, 1978

Key: None

DEC 27 1979



PLAT OF
THE PROPERTY OF

EUGENE B. CULPEPPER
TALBOTTON, GEORGIA
 16TH LAND DISTRICT
TALBOT COUNTY, GEORGIA
 SCALE: 1" = 100
 FEBRUARY 8, 1978