

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: ALABAMA	
COUNTY: MARENGO	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	1-21-74

1. NAME

COMMON:
Foscue-Whitfield House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Foscue House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1 mile west of Demopolis along U. S. Highway 80

CITY OR TOWN:
Demopolis

STATE Alabama	CODE 01	COUNTY: Marengo	CODE 091
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
James Whitfield Bird

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1, Box 311

CITY OR TOWN:
Forkland

STATE:
Alabama

CODE:
01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Marengo County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Linden

STATE:
Alabama

CODE:
01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a Federal style house built in 1840 with a front addition added in 1849. A one-story porch with a tin roof was added across the entire front in 1920. The original or 1840 house consisted of a central hall with one room on the south side and two rooms on the north side, one of which serves as a kitchen. The upstairs had a central hall with one room on each side. Both downstairs and upstairs of the 1849 addition consisted of a central hall with one room on each side. All rooms are approximately 18' by 18' with 11' ceilings. The upstairs rooms of the 1849 addition have sloping ceilings.

The house is constructed of locally made red brick with a gable room and four end chimneys and one chimney on the kitchen wing. The chimney in the original house on the south side bears the construction date 1840 worked in glazed brick. On the original house every sixth row of brick is one-half brick and on the front addition every eighth row is one-half brick. The windows are double sash with nine lites over nine lites. Most of the glass in the windows, sidelights of the door and transoms is the original glass. The original wooden shutters are on most of the windows. The hinges were handmade of iron and there are handmade iron shutter stops.

Interior walls are twenty inches thick and are made of brick covered with plaster. All walls were painted white with grey paint on the chair rails and window facings. The original paint is on all walls except for one downstairs bedroom which has been painted pink. The floors in the downstairs rooms are of pine five inches wide. The upstairs floors, also of pine, are of random widths.

The front windows of the 1849 addition are in front of windows in the original house making two inside windows in each room both upstairs and downstairs.

Sidelites on the original front door consist of four big lites and five little ones. The same pattern is used over the door except there are alternating large and small lites. All interior doors are paneled and are made of walnut. There is a chair rail in the front hall and in the two front rooms. The two front rooms have matching simple pine mantels. The hall and two rooms on each side of it in the original house have a walnut baseboard eleven inches high and a 24 inch high wainscoating made of pine which was handgrained by slaves to resemble birdseye maple.

The kitchen floor is six inches lower than the other floors as is the floor in the front hall and the two front rooms in the 1849 addition. The kitchen has an inside chimney fifteen inches deep with a built-in cupboard the same depth on one side of the chimney. On the other side is a window.

The stairs are made of three foot pine treads and an unadorned bannister. There is a tapered obelisk newell post at the bottom of the stairs, at the turn and at the top of the landing. Wainscoating topped by a simple curved design is on the outside of the staircase and there is a closet next to the outside wall under the stairs. The upstairs hall has a closet across the west end. Mantels in the 1849 addition upstairs are identical.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE ALABAMA	
COUNTY MARENGO	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

7. Description - Foscue House

Some family records were written on the walls of the southeast room upstairs. One such record is copied exactly below:

"House built 1840
2nd roof put on in full of 1867
3rd roof put on in full of 1895
4th roof (metal) put on in summer of 1938"

Back of the house on the east side is a barn in good repair made of twelve inch boards and square nails. Near here is the privy which has been moved to this site from Gaineswood. It has a handmade shingle roof and a door with a keyhole. Also on the east side of the house is the garden gate made of wooden pickets and handmade wrought iron hinges identical to those on the shutters on the house. Three wells are on the southeast side of the property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE																																							
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century																													
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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) <u>1840</u>																																							
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate) <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Education</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Political</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Engineering</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Historic</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Industry</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Science</td> <td><u>Local History</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Invention</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Landscape</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Art</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Architecture</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Theater</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Commerce</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Literature</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Communications</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Military</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Music</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Local History</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military			<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE <p style="margin-top: 10px;"> Augustus Foscue, a native of North Carolina, was in Marengo County, Alabama, by September, 1831 when he acquired land. He married, as his second wife, Mehetable Hatch in 1834. The Foscue House was built by Augustus Foscue in 1840 to serve as the family residence for his large plantation. He owned much of present day Demopolis and Marengo County. During the summer of 1842, three of the children of General Nathan Bryan Whitfield died and General Whitfield decided to move away from Jefferson. Augustus Foscue immediately invited the Whitfield family to move in with him. Interestingly enough, at that time Bryan Watkins Whitfield, son of Gen. N. B. Whitfield, was 14 years old and Mary Alice Foscue, youngest daughter of Augustus and Mehetable (Hatch) Foscue was five years old. In 1855 Mary Alice Foscue and Dr. Bryan Watkins Whitfield were married. Augustus Foscue died in 1861 and by his will Mary Alice (Foscue) Whitfield became the owner of the Foscue House and received a large share of her father's fortune. In 1865 Gen. N. B. Whitfield sold Gaineswood and the lower plantations to his son Dr. Bryan Watkins Whitfield for \$40,000. Family members say they have always understood that B. W. Whitfield used the inheritance of his wife for this purchase. </p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;"> After the death of Mary Alice Whitfield in 1889, her son Jesse G. Whitfield became the owner of the Foscue House. Jesse G. Whitfield was known as the family historian and it was he who wrote family records on the walls. After his death in 1949, his son Fortescue B. Whitfield became the owner. James Whitfield Bird, the present owner, purchased the house from the widow of Fortescue Whitfield in 1973. James Whitfield Bird is the great grandson of Dr. Bryan Watkins and Mary Alice (Foscue) Whitfield. He is the great, great grandson of both General Nathan Bryan Whitfield and Augustus Foscue. </p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;"> This Federal style country home built in 1840 and continuously occupied by the same family is an outstanding example of this type architecture in the South. Except for the porches and the addition of electricity, the house remains virtually unchanged since 1849. </p>																																							

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interviews with James Whitfield Bird and Mrs. Millard Barton Ulmer, descendants of Augustus Foscoe.

Southern Antiques Society, Inc., Southern Antiques and Interiors. High Point, North Carolina. Vol. I, No. 3, Fall, 1972.

Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780. Cambridge, Massachusetts: the M. I. T. Press, 1969.

Whitfield, Theodore. Unpublished family history.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		32 ° 28 ' 52 "	87 ° 52 ' 52 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		29 06	01	
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. Warner Floyd, executive director

ORGANIZATION: Alabama Historical Commission DATE: 9-26-73

STREET AND NUMBER:
305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: Montgomery STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

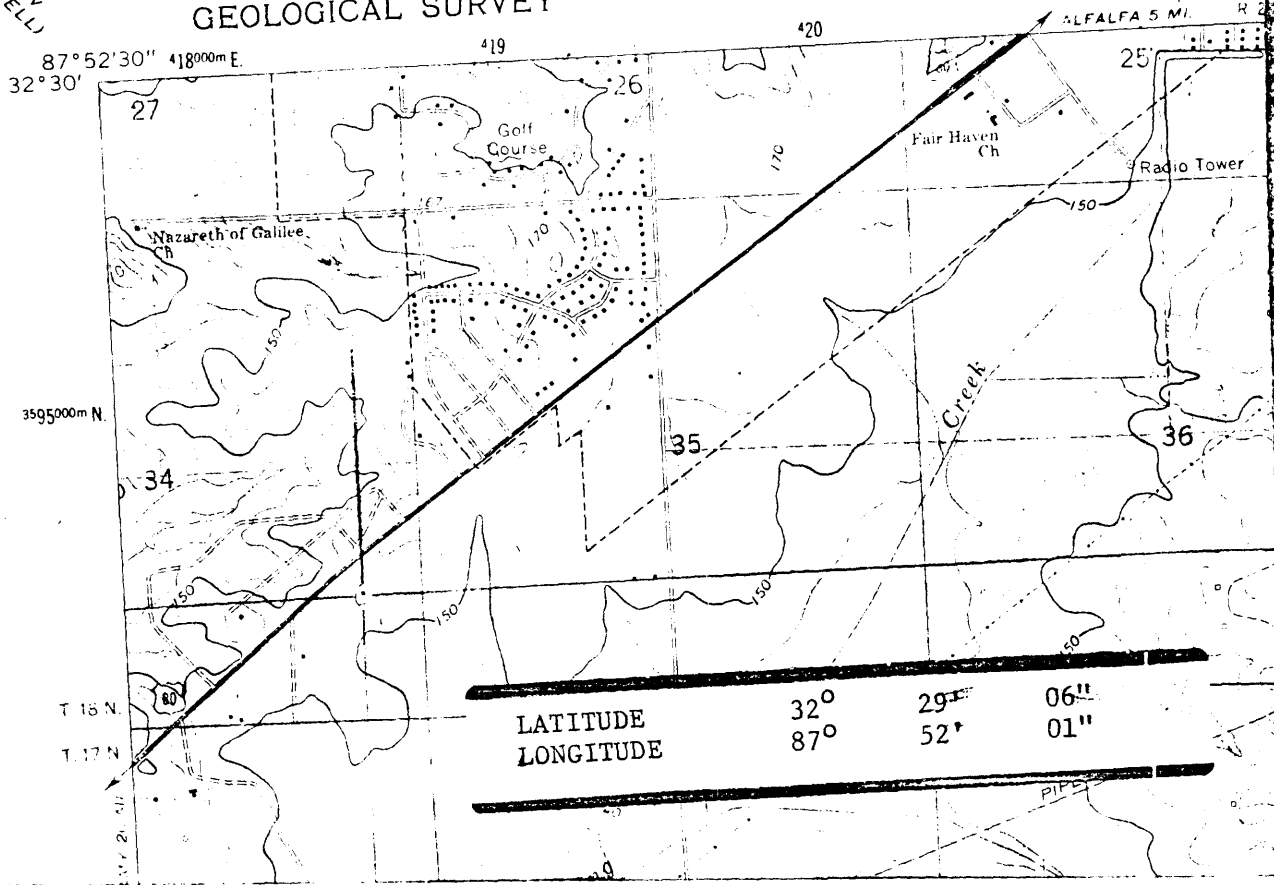
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3449 III SW
(MC DOWELL)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



LATITUDE 32° 29' 06"
LONGITUDE 87° 52' 01"

Form No. 10-301
Rev. 7-72

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

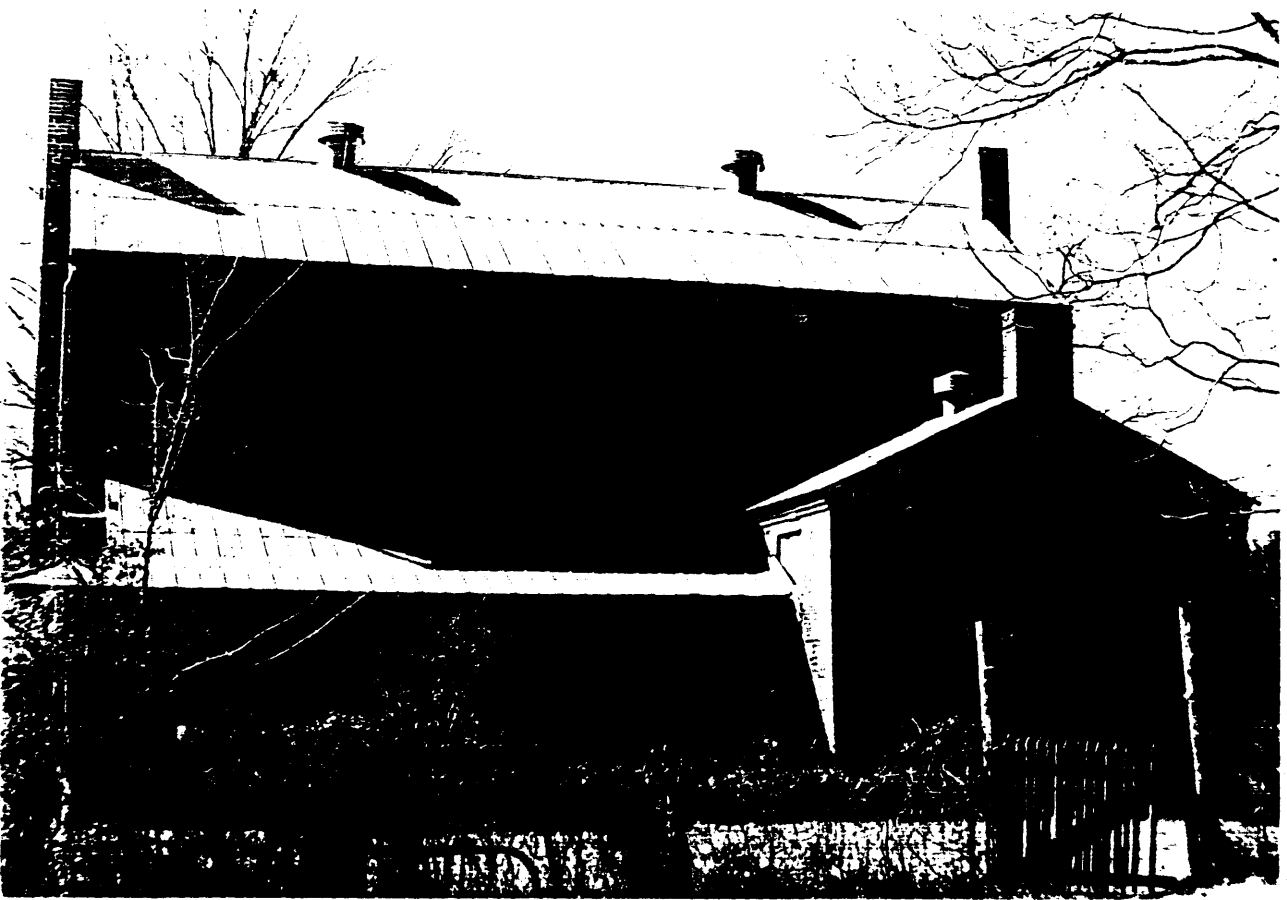
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

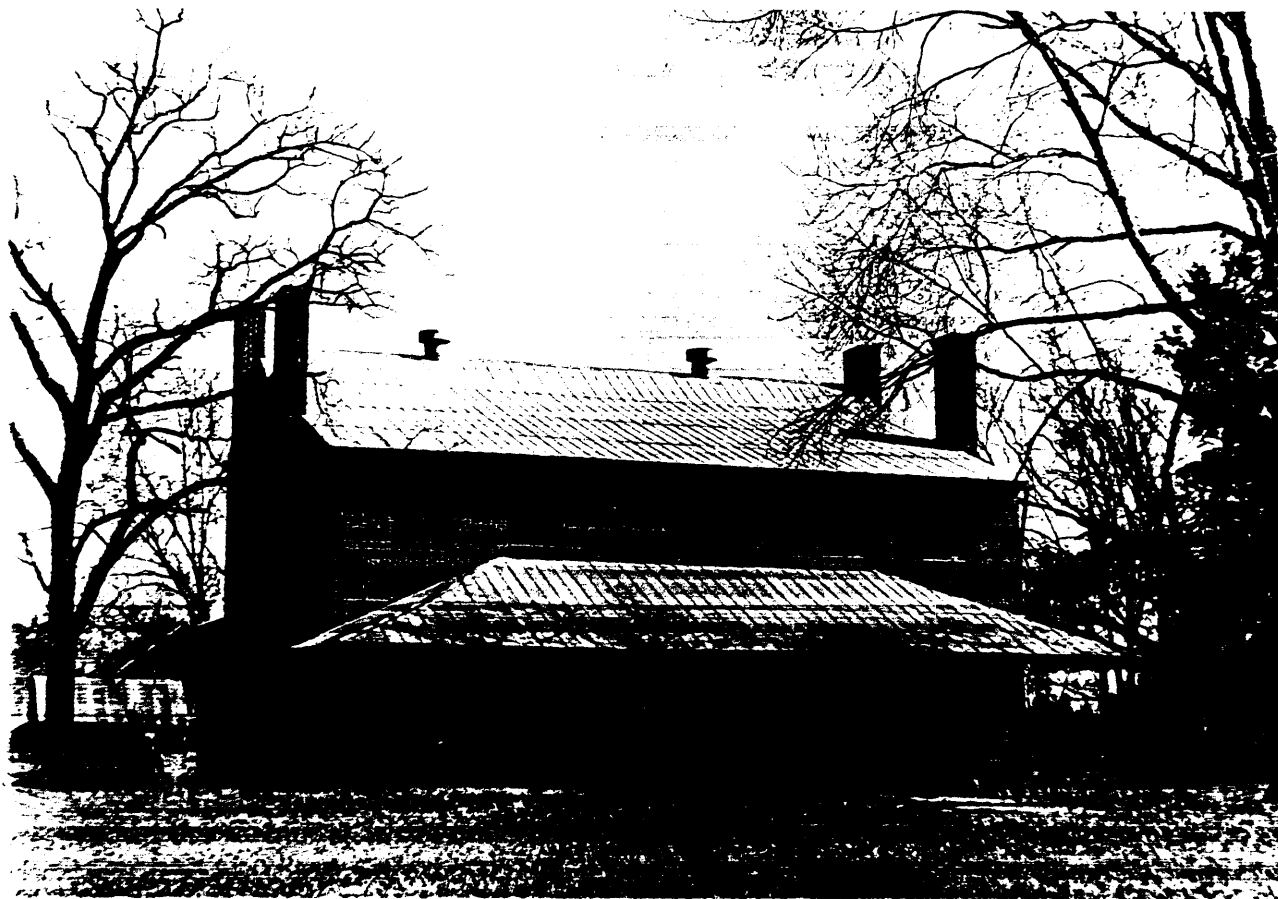
STATE	
ALABAMA	
COUNTY	
MARENGO	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:	Foscue-Whitfield House		
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Foscue House		
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
1 mile west of Demopolis along U. S. Highway 80			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Demopolis			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Alabama	01	Marengo	091
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U. S. Geological Survey			
SCALE:			
1:24000			
DATE:			
1970			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			









SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM
 (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: **Foscue- Jesse Whitfield House**
 AND/OR HISTORIC: **Foscue House**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Route 1**
 CITY OR TOWN: **Demopolis**
 STATE: **Alabama** CODE COUNTY: **Marengo** CODE

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: **Joseph C.P. Turner**
 DATE OF PHOTO: **April 1, 1973**
 NEGATIVE FILED AT: **Demopolis Public Library**

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
South view, showing construction date of house on chimney; the numerals 1840 are formed by glazed brick



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1			
CITY OR TOWN: Demopolis			
STATE: Alabama	CODE	COUNTY: Marengo	CODE
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Joseph O.P. Turner			
DATE OF PHOTO: April 1, 1973			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Demopolis Public Library			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
<p>Privy to north side of barn. It has handmade shingled roof and a door with a keyhole.</p>			



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

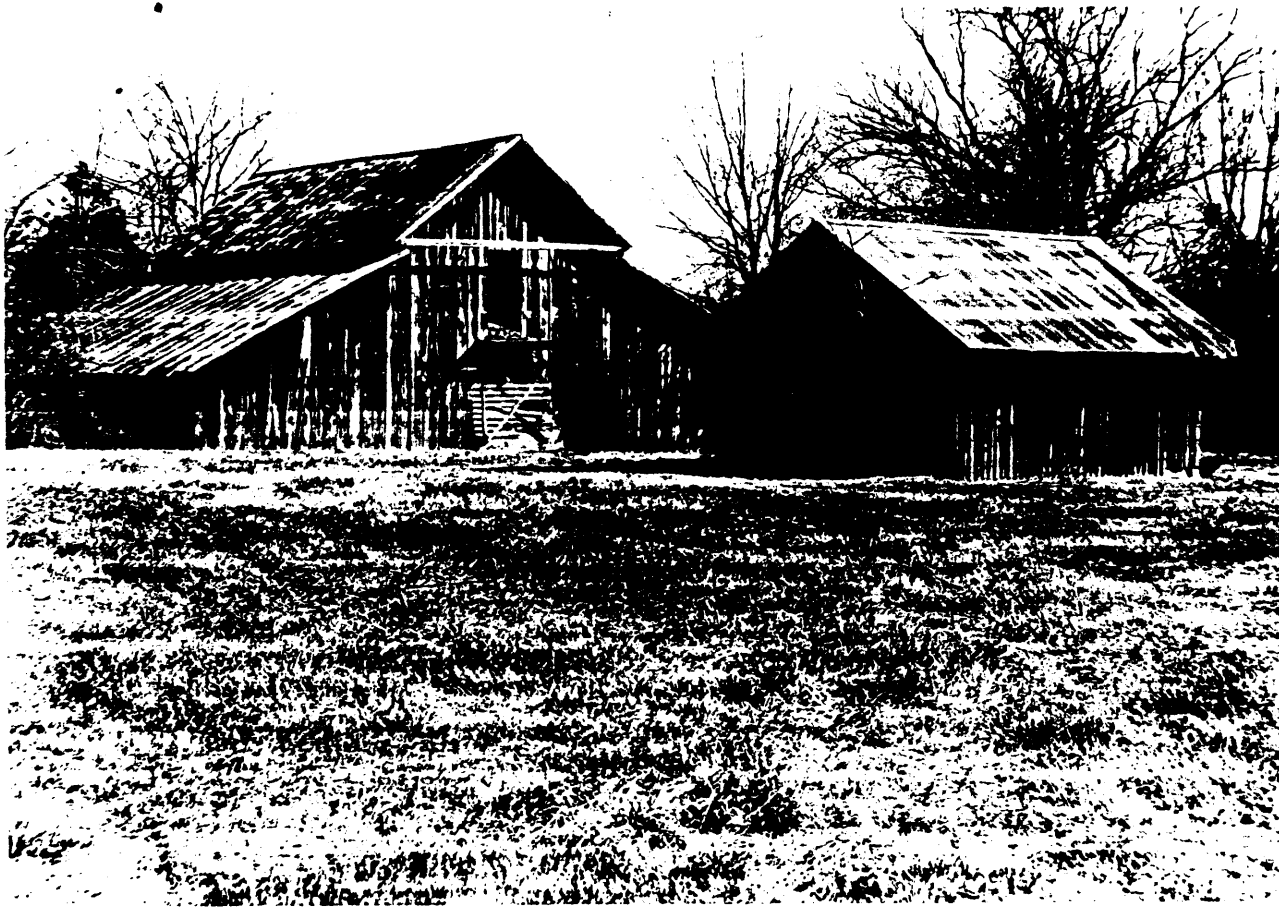
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Route 1			
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Demopolis			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Alabama		Marengo	
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT:		Joseph C.P. Turner	
DATE OF PHOTO:		April 1, 1973	
NEGATIVE FILED AT:		Demopolis Public Library	
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Northeast view, showing kitchen-attachment to house			



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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STATE: Alabama	CODE	COUNTY: Marengo	CODE
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Joseph C.P. Turner			
DATE OF PHOTO: April 1, 1973			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Demopolis Public Library			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Outbuilding and barn, located behind main house			