

**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 Wakefield

and/or common Same

2. Location

U.S. 61

street & number 9 miles north of St. Francisville - Hwy. 61 not for publication

city, town Wakefield vicinity of congressional district 6th - Henson Moore

state Louisiana code 022 county West Feliciana code 125

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lilie Stirling Sinclair (Mrs. J. E.)

street & number P. O. Box 41

city, town Wakefield vicinity of state Louisiana

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. West Feliciana Parish Courthouse

street & number

city, town St. Francisville vicinity of state Louisiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title LA Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge vicinity of state Louisiana

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Wakefield Plantation house is set near Alexander Creek at the head of a short alley of oaks in the undulating farm country in northern West Feliciana Parish. Built as a frame, two and a half story house in 1836, it was cut to the present one and a half stories in the 1870's. The central hall, double parlor plan has a two flight staircase set asymmetrically at the rear of the hall. The garret story has a similar plan. The rear gallery has been enclosed, and a rear kitchen wing has been added.

Some of the architectural features, notably the enormous heavy stuccoed brick columns on the front gallery, were made on the plantation. Other features, notably the interior door frames, the paneled corner blocks, and the free standing Doric columns which flank the front door, were ordered from a mill. This makes for a considerable disparity of quality and refinement. The parlor and the dining room have Greek Revival mantels of black marble. The dining room has a pair of mahogany cabinets set in the thickness of the wall. Ceilings are ornamented with light but elaborately molded cornices. The 12 over 12 windows have fixed louvered shutters. Floor boards are original and are still without an applied finish.

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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1834-36	Builder/Architect	Lewis Stirling
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) Criterion C

In its present form Wakefield is a Greek Revival raised plantation house, and is significant as one of a number of fine examples of such in the parish. Particularly unusual in a country house of this type is the use of marble mantels and inset china cabinets. In addition, the front gallery columns are probably the most heavily proportioned Greek Revival columns in the state. This shows a most impressive rural deviation from Greek Revival norms.

Lewis Stirling built Wakefield in 1834-36, taking the name from Oliver Goldsmith's novel The Vicar of Wakefield. The home has remained in the hands of his descendants ever since.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Stirling Family papers in possession of present owners of the house.
West Feliciana Parish Records.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 14.22 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UMT References

A

1	5	6	5	7	1	5	0	3	4	1	8	3	8	0
Zone			Easting			Northing								

B

1	5	6	5	7	6	0	0	3	4	1	8	2	4	0
Zone			Easting			Northing								

C

1	5	6	5	7	4	0	0	3	4	1	8	0	2	0
Zone			Easting			Northing								

D

1	5	6	5	7	0	8	0	3	4	1	8	2	6	0
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 attached surveyor's map.) Boundaries were drawn to encompass the house and the elements of its setting including the tree lined approach drive and the gardens around the house. (see aerial photograph)

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ann H. Dart, Elisabeth K. Dart - President West Feliciana Historical Society

organization West Feliciana Historical Society date October 1979

street & number Box 489 telephone _____

city or town St. Francisville state Louisiana

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

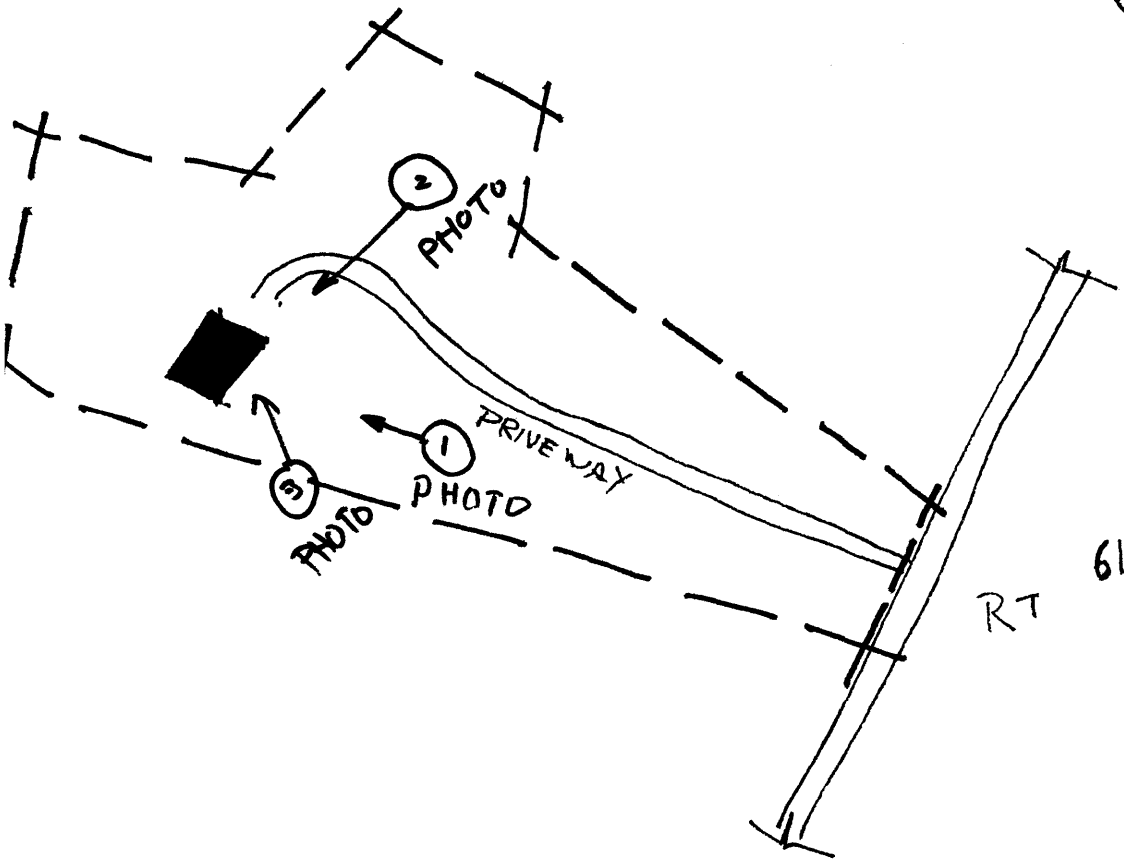
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Edmund Carr*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 3/27/80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<i>Sally S. Olden</i>	date <u>6/6/90</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <i>Beth Grosvenor</i>	date <u>6/3/80</u>
Chief of Registration	

SKETCH MAP



JUN 6 1980

