

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED **ACT/18 1980**

DATE ENTERED

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

Denham-Lacy House

AND/OR COMMON

Virginia C. Turnbull House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

555 Palmer Mill Road

N/A -- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Florida

CODE

12

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

065

CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY** DISTRICT BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT**OWNERSHIP** PUBLIC PRIVATE BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

STATUS OCCUPIED UNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE** YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO**PRESENT USE** AGRICULTURE COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Ollie Lacy

STREET & NUMBER

555 Palmer Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

N/A -- VICINITY OF

STATE

Florida

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

U.S. Highways 90 & 19

CITY, TOWN

Monticello

STATE

Florida

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Jefferson County Survey

DATE

1975

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management

CITY, TOWN

Tallahassee

STATE

Florida

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

The Denham-Lacy House is one of three Italianate-style structures in Monticello, Florida, and the only one not on the National Register. The other houses, the Bailey-Brinson and Turnbull-Evans, are located in the Monticello Historic District (National Register, 1977). The Denham-Lacy House is located a few blocks southwest of the center of Monticello, the County Courthouse. The majority of Monticello's historic buildings are located southeast and northwest of the Courthouse, leaving the Denham-Lacy House comparatively removed from the town's major concentration of historic structures. The house is adjacent to the Palmer-Perkins House (built 1836, National Register 1979), a building with which it has historic ties. Both of these houses on Palmer Mill Road now face the local high school. The landscaped grounds of the Denham-Lacy House are set off by a low, white wooden fence, enabling the house to retain its historical setting.

The basic plan of the Italianate-style Denham-Lacy House is square, two rooms deep with a central hall. The house is two-stories with an octagonal cupola centered on the shallow hipped roof. Fenestration on the entrance (north) and rear (south) facades are five bay; on the east and west elevations, three or four bay. A one-story addition extending from the southwest corner of the rear facade is the only change to the original massing. A screened porch extends across the length of the entrance facade, while the porch on the rear facade has been enclosed. A monumental portico has been added to the west elevation. Brick piers form the foundation of the weatherboard building. Constructed of pine and cypress, the house is painted white, and is accented throughout by exterior blinds painted a dark green.

As is characteristic of the Italianate style, the building has a shallow hipped roof. The roof is covered with metal sheathing painted red. Eaves are wide and projecting, and have scroll-cut brackets with acorn pendants. Centered on the roof of the house is another identifying characteristic of the Italianate style, an octagonal cupola. This cupola has a shallow faceted conical roof which is topped by a spike finial. The projecting eaves of the cupola have scroll-cut brackets with acorn pendants similar to those of the main cornice. Fenestration on the cupola is composed of eight windows 2/2 double hung sash, with exterior blinds. Other roof features include two pair of interior end chimneys located on the east and west elevations.

On the first story of the (entrance) north facade, a central door with a rectangular transom sash is framed by two semi-circular headed sidelights. Flanking this door are two pairs of French doors, also with exterior blinds. Across the front of the house is a screened balustraded porch. The porch is covered by a hipped roof which extends slightly along the east wall and then out to form a porte-cochere. This porte cochere is supported by three paneled columns. Eaves on the porch roof also have the scroll-cut brackets with acorn pendants. Fenestration on the north facade second story is regular, with five double hung six light sashes.

Fenestration on the east elevation is regular: three six-light double hung sash on each story.

On the (rear) south elevation, the second story fenestration is also composed of three six-light double hung sashes. Fenestration on the first story porch is irregular, due to the wing. The enclosed porch has a central door with sidelights which is flanked by two pairs of double hung, six light sashes. A similar six-light double hung sash

(See Continuation Sheet)

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 checked="" 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 +1874

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In a north Florida community the size of Monticello, the Denham-Lacy House possesses major architectural significance, and minor historical interest.

The Denham-Lacy House is an example of an architectural style uncommon to late nineteenth century north Florida. Few buildings of this type were built in Florida, and of those that remain, three are located in Monticello. The other two Italianate structures, the Bailey-Brinson (c. 1881-1886) and the Turnbull-Evans (c. 1880-1886) houses, are both in Monticello's historic district, and on the National Register. These Italianate structures contrast sharply with the majority of Monticello's domestic architecture, which is predominantly Classical Revival. The construction dates of each Italianate house is questionable, but the Denham-Lacy house is believed to have been the first built. It is not unlikely that the Denham-Lacy house was modeled on the design of Tallahassee's only Italianate building, the Brokaw-McDougall House (c. 1856).¹

Throughout its century of existence, the Denham-Lacy house and property has been owned by Monticello citizens who were active in the development of their city, county, and state. In 1834 Martin Palmer, one of Monticello's first settlers, bought the land on which the house is built.² Palmer bequeathed the property to his son, Dr. Thomas Palmer, one of the many Palmer family physicians. In 1871, Dr. Palmer sold the land to his good friend and twice brother-in-law, John Denham.³

Scottish-born John Denham was an ante-bellum Monticello businessman and cotton merchant. By the time Denham purchased the property for the house which bears his name, he was a Florida representative of the New York firm of H. L. Rich and Co.. In 1872 he served on the Jefferson County Commission⁴ Denham is credited with building the house sometime prior to his death in 1874. In 1883, Denham's widow, Caroline Denham, sold the house to Samuel J. Turnbull.⁵

Like John Denham, Samuel Turnbull also was active in north Florida politics. An unsuccessful candidate for the legislature in 1878, Turnbull, during his residency in the Denham house, finally realized his political ambitions. In 1885, he served in the Constitutional Convention. Four years later, he fulfilled one term in the Florida House of Representatives.⁶

Samuel Turnbull married twice, once to Rose Amelia Williams in January 1860, and again to Virginia C. Finlavson in November 1865. Reference to the "old Virginia C. Turnbull residence lot" is noted in the 1946 deed record, but the persistence of Virginia Turnbull's name is probably due to her longevity rather than to any outstanding civic contribution. Samuel Turnbull died in 1897, Virginia Turnbull in 1913. Dr. W. E. and Mary Williams acquired the house in 1917. The next and present owner was Mrs. Ollie Lacy, who purchased

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See Continuation Sheet)

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME USGS Monticello

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5 min.

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 7 2 2 4 3 10 10 3 3 8 2 3 2 10
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ana Gordon, Assistant Historian

October 16, 1980

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

The Capitol

(904) 487-2333

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Tallahassee

Florida

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

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10/28/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Entered in the National Register

[Signature]
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5/6/82

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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is located on the southeast corner. The rectangular ell extending from the southwest corner is one story. The ell was originally a detached kitchen, but the space between the main house and the kitchen has been enclosed to allow for direct access to the dining room. The ell has a shallow hip roof, but does not have the brackets used on the other cornices.

A two-story portico on the west elevation (a recent addition) alters the basic symmetry of the house. Four-bay fenestration on the first story is regular, with French doors used in the third bay from the north, allowing access to the portico. Fenestration on the second story is three bay, six light double hung sash.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

2

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

the house in 1946. Until recently, her son, Jefferson County Judge Charles A. Anderson, made his home at the Denham-Lacy house.

It is interesting to note that the owners of Monticello's three Italianate houses had some common family connections. John Denham's daughter Caroline married Edward Bradford Bailey, a Monticello mayor, member of the Florida Senate and House of Representatives, and first owner of the Bailey-Brinson house. Samuel Turnbull's brother, John Turnbull, owned the Turnbull-Evans house.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Jefferson County Survey Report, Ms. on file, Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management.

² Jefferson County Deed Book "B", p. 29.

³ Jefferson County Deed Book "L-Z", p. 515.

⁴ Jerrell H. Shofner, History of Jefferson County, Tallahassee: Sentry Press, 1977. p. 318.

⁵ Jefferson County Deed Book "R", p. 397.

⁶ Allen Morris, People of Lawmaking.

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Jefferson County Records, Jefferson County Courthouse, Monticello, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. (Subgroups: deeds and tax records).

Jefferson County Records, Jefferson County Courthouse, Monticello, Florida. Office of the County Judge. (Subgroups: wills and estate papers).

Jefferson County Survey, Ms. on file, Florida Division of Archives, History and Records Management.

Morris, Allen. People of Lawmaking.

Shofner, Jerrell H. History of Jefferson County, Tallahassee: Sentry Press, 1977.

Simpson, R. C. History of Jefferson County, Florida. Monticello: Federal Emergency Relief Act, 1935.

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

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CONTINUATION SHEET 4 ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

A portion of the eastern one half of the southeast fourth of Section 25, Township two north, Range four east, measuring north-south 600 feet and east-west 200 feet and bounded on the north by the street known as "Old Palmer Mill Road" and on the east by the lot formerly owned by Mrs. Kade D. Scott, but now owned by the Board of Public Instruction of Jefferson County, Florida, and on the south by land formerly owned by T. S. Roberts, and on the west by lands formerly owned by Dr. Thomas M. Palmer but now owned by Mrs. Mary P. Finlayson.