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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wirick-Simmons House with adjoining gardens is situated on the northwest corner of Lots 71 and 72 of the original plan of Monticello. The property, which measures approximately 90 x 200 feet is enclosed by a wooden picket fence.

The house was built shortly after 1831 by Adam Wirick, a Methodist Circuit Rider. Records on file in the courthouse indicate that the land for the house was purchased by Reverend Wirick in 1831; however, the exact date of construction of the house has not been determined. Records do confirm, however, that by 1838 a house had been erected on the property.

The house passed through the ownership of three families before the Thomas Simmons family purchased it in 1871. From this date on it was occupied continuously by descendants of the Simmons family until 1964 when the house was purchased by the Jefferson County Historical Association. ഗ

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Built in the Greek Revival style, the house is a twostory and attic frame structure. Two four-columned porticos with pediments, balconies, and elaborate wood cornices are notable architectural features of this house. Beams are hand hewn, with wide pine floor boards and heart pine being used throughout the entire house. Lapped siding was used on the exterior except under the west and south porches where it was flush. An 1885 lithograph shows a small north portico, evidence of which was found during restoration when the flooring was removed and two small supporting piers were discovered under the larger porch which was added sometime after 1885. The north portico is supported by four independent wooden columns of square construction, with separate columns of similar construction supporting the balcony. The west portico is also supported by four square wooden columns, and the balcony supported by decorative spiral iron brackets. Lattice work is a feature of the balcony railings, which are designed in a diamond pattern and independent of the columns.

There are two brick chimneys in the main portion of the house, with one in the wing.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		1 .	
Pre-Columbian	🔲 16th Century		18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	17th Century		🗙 19th Century	
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AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)		
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Conservation	Music		Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wirick-Simmons House is believed to be the oldest structure in Monticello, having been built sometime in the early 1830's. Legal records show that the lots upon which this house stands were purchased in 1831 by Adam Wirick, a Methodist Circuit Rider. Records also show that by 1838 the house had been built, although the precise date has not been established. The house was built by local labor, perhaps the owners' slaves.

Historically, the structure is of minimal significance; however, because of its architectural qualities which exemplify styles of the period, its expert workmanship, and its condition, the house is significantly exemplary of early Greek-Revival architecture.

The house reflects the work of superior craftsmen and the use of high-quality building materials.

The restoration work on the house resulted in very few structural changes on the exterior. Where replacement was required, material of similar quality and appearance to that of the original was utilized.

Purchased by the Jefferson County Historical Association in 1965, the house will serve as their headquarters, as a museum, and as a center for various community events. The house is included in the annual "Tour of Homes" conducted by the Historical Association.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RI	EFERENCES								
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Form	10-300a
(July	1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

state Florida

Jefferson

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

ENTRY NUMBER

JUN 3 0 1972

COUNTY

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

## (Number all entries)

- 9. BIBLIOGRAPHY.
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`•	<sup>1</sup> Form 10-301 (July 1969)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF T NATIONAL PARK SERVIC	STATE Florida									
		NATIONAL REGISTER OF HIST	ORICPLACES	COUNTY								
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