

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CAVE SPRING, FLOYD COUNTY, GEORGIA  
 GEORGIA ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM

FEB 29 1980

No. 9

I. IDENTIFICATION	PROPERTY NAME: Wesley House STREET ADDRESS: Alabama Street PRESENT OWNER: John and Lavinia Wesley CITY: Cave Spring CURRENT USE: Residence U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE Cedartown West, Ga. V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: 818-13	HISTORIC NAME: William S. Simmons Plantation CITY: Cave Spring MAILING ADDRESS: Alabama Street STATE: Georgia ZIP CODE: 30124 ACREAGE: 88 (est.) U.T.M. REFERENCE: 9A Z.16 E652940 N3776080 9B Z.16 E652890 N3775170 9C Z.16 E652230 N3775220 9D Z.16 E652660 N3776070
II. DESCRIPTION	ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: Green Revival-style plantation house, with rectangular plan, two stories, low gable roof, two interior chimneys, and one-story front porch; constructed of handmade, load-bearing brick, with flat-arched brick lintels and stone lintels, wood trim; three-bay front facade with central doorways at both floor levels, framed with sidelights (both) and transom lights (lower only); two-bay side elevations with low, closed-cornice, temple-form gables; entablature-like cornices; interior arranged in four-over-four with central stair hall manner, essentially unaltered, with original mantels, plaster moldings, and decoration; situated at the top [cont.]	
III. HISTORY	ORIGINAL OWNER: William S. Simmons ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1840 HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT) (OPTIONAL): Property under continuous agricultural use; porches changed in early-20th century.	ORIGINAL USE: Residence HISTORIC ACREAGE: DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: early-20th century
IV. SIGNIFICANCE	N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture, landscape architecture, agriculture, exploration and settlement STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL): <u>Architecturally</u> , this is the finest Greek Revival-style plantation house in the multiple-resource area. Its overall arrangement, interior plan, roof proportions, and detailing reflect a vernacularized treatment of the style and type, as might have been obtained by a local builder using a builder's guide. The house is also significant for its use of brickmasonry, a construction method not often found in early- to mid-19th-century Georgia houses, but well represented in this multiple-resource area. It is relatively unaltered as well. The smaller house to the rear is a rare surviving example of a residence built for a Cherokee Indian who remained in the area during the early years of white settlement. [cont.]	
V. SOURCES	FORM PREPARED BY: Richard Cloues Kacy Ginn ADDRESS: 270 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta Ga. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Historic Structures Field Survey: Floyd Co. Ga. SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Preliminary survey forms by Diane Dawson, Cave Spring; see bibliography (section 9) for general sources.	ORGANIZATION: Historic Preservation Section Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources TELEPHONE NUMBER: 404-656-2840



PHOTOGRAPHER: James R. Lockhart

DATE: February 1980

PHOTOGRAPH NO. 24 (NEGATIVE NO. 9 ) NEGATIVES FILED: GA. DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
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DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: north

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

II. cont.: of a knoll, surrounded by cleared floodplain fields; grounds feature large trees, lawn, a dirt driveway, and a wooden fence; good condition. Behind (north of) main house is a second, smaller house, one story high, rectangular in plan, double-pen type with two interior end chimneys, built of brick on a high stuccoed foundation, containing two rooms.

IV. cont.: Unlike the main house, the smaller house corresponds to a type tradition -- the double pen -- rather than a style. Like the larger house, it is significant for its use of brick construction. This structure was later used as a kitchen for the main house.

In terms of landscape architecture, the property is significant for its setting, including the house, trees, and lawn, on a knoll overlooking cleared fields. This kind of setting is most typical of early-19th-century plantations in Georgia, and it is representative of the character and appearance of the historic rural landscape in the outlying reaches of the multiple-resource area.

Agriculturally, the property is significant in that it represents the kind of plantation first established in this part of the state during the early- to mid-19th century.

In terms of exploration and settlement, the property is significant for its two houses which reflect both Indian occupation and white settlement during the 1830s and 1840s in this part of the state.