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Form 10-300 (July 1969)

I. NAME COMMON:

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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ROSEMOUNT AND/OR HISTORIC: 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: near Forkland COUNTY: CODE 01 Greene Alabama 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP (Check One) 🔲 Public Public Acquisition: District X Building X Private ☐ In Process ☐ Site Structure ☐ Both Being Considered Object PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Park ☐ Industrial Commercial ✓ □x Private Residence ■ Educational ☐ Military Religious Entertainment Museum □ Scientific 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Joseph W. Simpson STREET AND NUMBER: 2632 Mountain Brook Parkway CITY OR TOWN: STATE A1 Birmingham 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Greene County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: Court Square CITY OR TOWN: STATE Alal Eutaw 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: HABS DATE OF SURVEY: 1935 📝 Federal ☐ State DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE: D. Washington 1970

7. DESCRIPTION								
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Rosemount, a twenty room mansion, has a portico of six Ionic columns, above which arises a hipped roof to the base of a peripteral temple forming an impressive superstructure.

The platform of the portico is set well back from the brick foundations of the columns. A heavy paneled walnut door, flanked by twin parlors which are large, spacious, high-ceilinged, long-windowed rooms. Beyond this is the great hall. A screen of supports divides the area, and the rear section is a sixty foot cross hall with outside doorways at either extremity.

The long dining room opens into the center of this hall by folding doors and at either end of the dining room are white mantels of Carrara Marble brought from Italy. This dining room has a chamber and dressing rooms on either side, and there are three rooms above them. This is thought to have been the first part of the house built.

The upstairs room over the dining room has outside-type windows opening into the hallway. The indications are that a two-storied porch ran across the front of this long narrow structure, containing the stairway connecting the floors. The supports dividing the great hall appear to be little more than porch posts.

There are six large bedrooms and a large hall on the second floor. The observatory and widow's walk that form the temple-like cupola give wide vistas of farm lands, and it is said that the owners kept watch over the slaves at work in the fields from this vantage point. In early days this observatory was reached by an elevator operated by a pulley.

Exceptionally fine architectural features of Rosemount include the following: the handsomely executed fluted columns with superlative Ionic capitals; the indentically fashioned doorways on each of the three story entrances—sidelights and transom on the main floor are of ruby Bohemian glass, bearing crystal patterns of flowers and vines; the magnificent woodwork of the four double doors in the large entrance vestibule; and the most elaborate cupola in Alabama.

Rosemount underwent a complete restoration in the 1950's, as a result of having passed into new ownership after being in the Glover family for more than a hundred years. The new owners, Mr. and Mrs. Edward DeVesci, did a good job of restoring the house themselves, including plastering, papering, reupholstering and refinishing the floors and woodwork.



Aboriginal   Education   Political   Urban Planning   Prebistoric   Engineering   Religion/Phi.   Other (Specity)     Historic   Industry   Iosophy     Agriculture   Londscape   Sculpture   Architecture   Londscape   Sculpture     Art   Architecture   Social/Human-   Commerce   Literature   Iterature   Iterature     Commerce   Literature   Iterature   Iterature     Commerce   Militery   Theater     Conservation   Music   Transportation    TATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE   Rosemount has received wide acclaim from numerous architects, most of whom consider it one of the most outstanding Greek Revival antebellumansions in Alabama.  The commanding cupola and the tasteful use of wooden construction materials are outstanding features of Rosemount. "It (Rosemount) is on of the Deep South's finest Classic compositions done in wood," says J. Frazer Smith.  Well-known architect Clay Lancaster calls Rosemount "the most grant conceived mansion in Alabama, perhaps in the entire Southland." Ralph Hammond, an authority on Alabama mansions, describes the home as "the Grand Mansion of Alabama."  Rosemount rests on a star-shaped knoll, and forms a natural patter of land planning which includes a large lake, giant magnolias which bor an old-fashioned formal garden, orchards, pasturelands, farm groups and slave quarters. All this may be viewed from (and was the inspiraction f the crowning glory of Rosemount—the cupola. The cupola was reached from the second floor by means of an elevator and was used as a music conservatory. From this cupola not only may the entire estate be seen, but the metal patter of the Alabama territory in 1818. He apparently first built a house of brick, but, black belt soil making such poor quality bricks, he began a new house, Rosemount, in 18 of wood. Seven years and the help of dozens of slaves were required to	Pra-Columbian	Appropriate)		
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9.	AMAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES										
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	Publishing Company, 1935 (reprinted in 1969).										
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Form 10-300a (July,1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Con	tinn	ation	Sheet)

STATE	
Alabama	
COUNTY	
Greene	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
115.01.0005	5/47/-

(Number all entries)

#### ROSEMOUNT

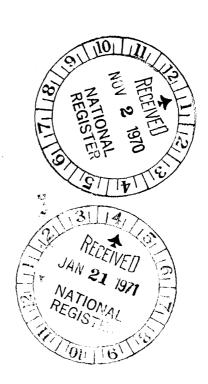
#### 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Rosemount's elegance shows Glover as a man of wealth, culture, and social position; it reveals his efforts to build a house to suit his particular needs rather than one to conform with the conventional plan of the day. One of the most pleasing features of the house is the apparent ease with which it embodies what is best in the design of late Georgian and Classic Architecture.

#### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

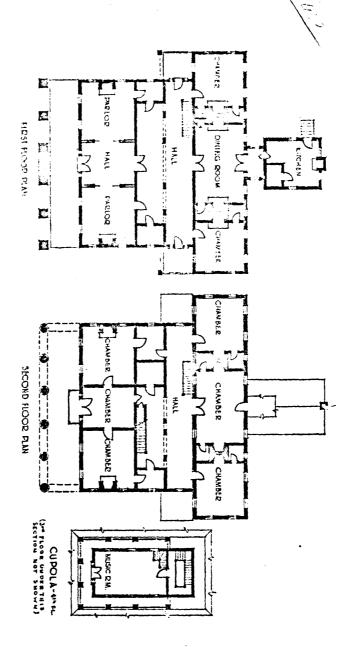
Moseley, Franklin S., ed. Snedecor's 1855-56 Greene County Directory of Eutaw, 1963.

Smith, J. Frazier. White Pillars. New York: Bramhall House, 1951.



ing glorified cupolated one center of the group, crowning all. Excepting from every façade seems to point with pride to this prize of all cupolas in the South. Even the six white Ionic pillars of the portico seem to relinquish their title under its spell. Rose-

there from a convent in France. An exceptional of furniture is the tip-tilt wall table with top had painted in roses on glass, backed by black velvet. On the second floor are six large bedrooms featuring interesting old mahogany beds with bureaus to match.



# POSEMOUNT

mount folks also evidently felt its importance for there was an clevator carefully placed and seldom idle because up in the cupola was a large music room and below a house full of denglities. All together, from every façade, the silhonette is pleasily and everywhere there is good architecture; the orders, top-stration and details are in harmous with materials as full eggizance is then of their relative vatues.

Indeedly, architectural detail is also in full agreeneart, good pleete and westbook, medde mantels with teachampeas. Vastadon, Treples and Trench

These range from early Georgian to Greek revival. Most of the furniture was shipped from Boston by water to Mobile and up the Tombigbee River on William Glover's own boat. In each of the twenty rooms is a bell pull and each bell registers with a different tone in the servants' waiting room, as was frequently the arrangement in other houses of this period.

The drawing of the old garden is practically oil explanatory, it was landscaped, probably in the 1850's, by an Irishman named Hapt and a conformal have assisted, as his name to a confine the Garden Calendar, This Garden Calendar was

