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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name HARDAWAY, JAMES L. , PLACE
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Old Mesena Road (county)
city, town Thomson (X) vicinity of
county McDuffie code GA 189
state Georgia code GA zip code 30824

(N/A) not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	3	1
sites	1	0
structures	0	1
objects	0	0
total	4	2

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Elizabeth A. Lyon
Signature of certifying official

8/21/93
Date

Elizabeth A. Lyon
State Historic Preservation Officer,
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

Entered in ~~NHM~~
National Register

entered in the National Register

Delores Byers 9/16/93

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for _____
Signature, Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/processing

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

GREEK REVIVAL

Materials:

foundation	stone
walls	wood
roof	metal
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The James L. Hardaway Place is located on the Old Mesena Road, four miles west of Thomson the county seat, in McDuffie County, near Mesena. The Hardaway Place consists of an antebellum house, two historic outbuildings and a landscaped yard in a rural setting.

The main house is a Greek Revival raised cottage with four rooms and a central hall on each of the two floors. The first (ground) floor has weathered granite boulders with an inner layer of smaller granite stones chinked with clay and plastered. It was repointed in 1934. The second floor is of braced frame construction. The front portico is supported by granite columns on the first floor and square wooden columns on the second.

On the exterior, the north (front) windows are pedimented. The double front entrance doors are enclosed by broken transom lights and sidelights. The transom is topped by a pediment.

On the interior, the space is divided into two floors with four rooms and a central hall. Closets are found in the rear rooms. The interior walls are plastered. One room had marbleized blocks painted into the plaster and other traces of graining can be found on windows and doors. All but one room have wooden ceilings.

On the second floor, all doorways are pedimented. All doors and details are original. Traces of faux bois can be found on the windows and doors.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Before restoration began, the wiring dated from the 1930s and there was only one faucet and drain in the house. These were located on the ground floor.

The house is surrounded on three sides by abandoned fields. Traces remain of the yard plantings in front of the house. This landscaping includes black walnut, oak, pecan, hickory, and cedar trees; crape myrtle and Carolina Cherry laurel; a privet hedge, and a plum thicket. The circular drive has remains of old bulb beds and a walkway.

There are two surviving historic outbuildings: a smokehouse, dating from the late 19th century and a storage building, dating from the mid- to-late 19th century. These buildings are located at the rear of the house. The smokehouse is board on board. The storage building is braced beam construction.

There has been no archaeological investigation of this property, although due to the century and a half of its existence as an active farm, some archaeological potential is expected.

The house sits on a rise facing the railroad in a very rural area on the main road linking Mesena and Thomson, the county seat. It is surrounded by abandoned farm land.

Changes to the property have been minimal before restoration began. When Paul Bowden bought the property in 1934, he made several changes. He removed the front divided steps and replaced them with straight steps. He also repointed the granite walls with modern concrete and installed electricity. The granite was again repaired in 1990 and the porches were repaired at the same time. The rear porch columns were not salvageable and had to be replaced.

The property is currently undergoing rehabilitation.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

AGRICULTURE
ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance:

ca. 1842-1943

Significant Dates:

ca. 1842

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

Unknown

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Significance of property, justification of criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)

The James L. Hardaway Place is significant in architecture because it is a fine example of a Greek Revival raised cottage plantation home. Besides its central hall, four room plan, with columns on each level of the front porch, it also retains many fine architectural details including the double front door with side lights, the granite basement level, staircase, simple mantels, door surrounds, and grained doors. Elements of the Greek Revival style retained in this house are its symmetrical plan with a central doorway flanked by two windows on each side, the use of the pediment over the windows and doors as well as on the interior, and the use of the double-tiered columned portico.

The house is also significant in agriculture because it retains two original outbuildings, but most importantly its original setting as the "big house" of a major antebellum plantation of 1,070 acres, around which would have been the fields, the slave quarters, and other accoutrements of a self-sustaining plantation, including the adjacent railroad line. The major products were cotton, wool, and wheat. While only the setting remains intact, the house's commanding presence within this context reflects the importance of the owner's house to the plantation community. The house, although built by his father, served as the home of James L. Hardaway (1828-1895) from 1849 to 1895, from the age of 20 until his death. He and others established the Farmer's Academy, a school which served a five mile radius.

The property is significant in landscape architecture because it is a good example of a recognized form of antebellum landscaping in Georgia known as the "ornamental yard". This form of landscaping was derived from the ornamental farm concept of many English estates. The ornamental yard here is heavily embellished by formal plantings and lies in front of the main house. It is aesthetic in nature, having nothing to contribute to the working operations of the farm/plantation. It is linked to the high ground on which the main house rests. This island of formal landscaping is definitely set apart from the rest of the land due to the intensity of the plantings and the fact that they were planted on purpose rather than being a natural grouping.

National Register Criteria

The James L. Hardaway Place meets National Register Criterion A because the property reflects the broad patterns of history. The property was once a large cotton plantation/farm and the main house was the central focus for the farming operation which included a large

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slave labor force. As the headquarters for the entire operation, it epitomized the antebellum South with its division of labor and living, with the master/owner/manager living in great splendor, relatively speaking, with the work force/slaves living in much less situation within a few hundred feet or miles of the big house. The house's proximity to the railroad shows also how that new mode of transportation brought major change to the antebellum Georgia farm economy by making it easier to get crops to market and opening up an entire new world for the rural population.

The Hardaway Place meets National Register Criterion C because the house reflects fine workmanship in the Greek Revival style it exemplifies. The house has a symmetrical plan, with a main floor over a raised, full basement floor. Its Greek Revival features include the columned two-level front portico, centered on the front entranceway which itself is surrounded by sidelights. On the interior, all doorways and windows have pediments. Some doors retain evidence of graining. The house has a monumentality about it as it looms well above any remaining outbuildings and was no doubt always the largest building on the plantation that it once served as the "big house". It is this positioning as well as its juxtaposition with the railroad that still give it a commanding presence on the landscape. It also meets this criterion because of the well-preserved "ornamental yard" which reflects a major type of antebellum landscaping identified in Georgia. This yard consisted of purposefully-planted trees and shrubs grouped around the front entrance of the main house and consistent with the location of the main house on a higher piece of ground. This type of yard tied the main house to the great house/estate of earlier English estates. There are also two historic outbuildings on the property as well. These reflect the working farm and its self-sufficiency in antebellum days.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance runs from the building of the house (ca. 1842) until the cut off for the historic period (1943) which just happens to be a century.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The main house and the two surviving historic outbuildings as well as the landscaping are the four historic resources on this property. The two non-historic properties are the modern garage and well.

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Developmental history/historic context (if applicable)

The history of the James L. Hardaway Place is tied, closely to the settling of Warren County. This part of Georgia was settled from the 1780's onward, mostly by Virginians. Often the land was granted as bounty grants given by the State to Revolutionary veterans and other patriots. It was into this background that George Washington Hardaway came as young hat maker from Petersburg, Virginia, and joined other Virginians already here. George Washington Hardaway (August 15, 1781-September 3, 1850) married Sarah Cody, October 9, 1804 in Warren County, Georgia.

George W. Hardaway was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia a few weeks after the death of his father in the American Revolution. His mother died four weeks after his birth. By the time he was twenty-one, he had come to Warren County and in 1804 married Sarah Cody. The exact reason for his move is not known, but the plentiful land of Georgia had already attracted many Virginians to this part of Georgia. To quote county historians McCommons and Stovall, writing in the 1930s, "he turned his attention to farming in which he was very successful, maintaining a high character for honesty integrity in all his transactions."

His first home was a two-story, plantation plain house with two massive chimneys. Unfortunately the house was torn down in the 1950s and only ruins of the chimneys remain. These are located off the nominated property. To the north of this house he built the James L. Hardaway Place, a Greek Revival house, in 1842.

The fact that he lived in the plantation plain house is documented by a careful examination of the land plat attached to his will. The plat shows a house similar to the house photographed before it was destroyed. The photograph was made of the house on this tract in the mid-1950s.

The date for the James L. Hardaway Place's main house was established by an inscription found in the second floor southwest room. The inscription is very blurred but the part reading "this house built 1842" is clear although currently under the one coat of paint in the room. If this date is accurate, then James would have been only fourteen at the time of its building. He was twenty-one when his father made the deed to him on November 2, 1849.

George W. Hardaway appeared in the 1840 census owning 44 slaves. Since there is no extant 1850 Agricultural Census for Warren County, the next source is the 1860 Agricultural Census which indicates that James Hardaway had 1070 acres of which 600 acres were improved and 470 acres unimproved land. The cash value was \$10,000 for the land and

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\$400 for the farm implements. He owned 8 horses, 4 asses/ mules, 8 milch cows, 4 working oxen and 8 other cattle. He owned 20 sheep and 75 swine. The total value of the livestock was \$1800. The plantation produced 50 bales of cotton and 60 pounds of wool. Hardaway grew 160 bushels of wheat, 30 bushels of rye, 800 bushels of corn, 100 bushels of oats, 200 bushels of peas and beans, 10 bushels of Irish potatoes, 300 bushels of sweet potatoes, 5 gallons of wine and 4000 pounds of butter. The total value of slaughtered animals was \$350.

After the Civil War (1861-1865), the 1870 census gave the total acreage of the farm remaining about the same at 1080 acres; an increase of 10 acres. 350 acres were improved, 400 acres were in woodlands; 330 acres were unimproved. Woodland use was a new category in 1870. His cotton crop dropped to 12 bales. He valued the farm at \$11,000 which reflects an increased value of \$1000. He paid \$700 in wages. He owned 4 horses, 4 asses/mules, 2 milch cows, 12 cows, 2 working oxen, and 12 swine. The total value of his livestock was \$1,240. The only crop significantly increasing was corn production. Hardaway produced 3251 bushels of corn.

Comparing the two schedules, Hardaway had 250 acres less under cultivation in 1870 or a 76% decrease and produced 76% less cotton. The 1870 census shows a 76% increase in corn production. In short, emancipation of the slave work force had a significant impact of the farm production of the plantation.

James and George had been leading antebellum planters compared to others. They were not the wealthiest, but were important. James was one of six men who guaranteed the Farmers' Academy which they started. Located on part of the original Hardaway Place but on the north side of the railroad tracks, the school served a five mile radius. The academy was funded by local farmers but open to other children unable to pay. (History of McDuffie County, p. 113)

James L. Hardaway (15 October 1828-3 February 1895) was the son for whom this house was built or at least deeded to on or about his 21st birthday. Shortly after he turned 21, he married for the first time to Martha E. Reid, 14 December 1852. Later after her death, he married a second time to Emily Stockton Ellington, 3 August 1869.

The new house (the nominated property) in which the new bride and groom resided faced the new Georgia Railroad. The railroad was built in 1837 and was designed to increase the flow of cotton from the upcountry to Augusta and bypass Savannah in favor of Charleston, South Carolina. The Georgia Railroad was one of the first three chartered by the State of Georgia in 1833. It was planned to run from Augusta to a new site (later Atlanta) in north central Georgia. By 1837, it had reached this plantation. In the 1830s cotton reached highs of 10 cents

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a pound, but by 1840 the price began to slide. In 1842 cotton was bringing between 4 and 7 cents. By 1844 it was bringing only three and a half cents per pound. (Railroad History, number 134).

The drop in cotton prices may explain several features of the James L. Hardaway Place. On the parlor floor only one room has a plastered ceiling. This same room has the only detailed plaster which was designed to resemble marble blocks. The other rooms have wooden ceilings; even other rooms have much more elaborate windows. There is no decorative plaster other than the marbleized walls. The execution of the plaster walls makes the bottom of the walls to project beyond the baseboard. The mantels on both floors are relatively plain. [While this may be explained by declining cotton prices, it is also consistent with other similar plantation houses where the money was spent on only one room to create an elaborate parlor.]

James L. Hardaway was well educated. He attended the academy at Powelton and then attended college at the University of Georgia. He first married Martha Reid, daughter William and Jarrell Reid (History of McDuffie County, p.335) Their initials are scratched into a window pane on the parlor floor. The last Hardaway owner, Martha Reid Hardaway Curtis, was a daughter of this marriage.

Martha Harrison, a granddaughter of Martha Curtis, related the following story:

The family knew that [Gen. William T.] Sherman was pillaging through Georgia. To protect their valuables the family hid them along the railroad track. Given Sherman's treatment of Georgia railroads, it was fortunate that Sherman never came to the plantation.

After George W. Hardaway died in 1858, the old plantation plain house and some acreage was added to James's land.

After James's death on 3 February 1895, the property went through a series of owners. Martha "Mattie" (Hardaway) Curtis, daughter of James, bought the shares of the undivided estate from her brothers and sisters on 23 November 1896 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book G, p.211).

OTHER OWNERS AFTER SALE BY HARDAWAY FAMILY:

Mattie Curtis sold one tract and the house to Mattie McGahee on 10 December 1896 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book G, p. 211). Mattie McGahee sold the tract and house to Sarah E. Simmons on 17 June 1925 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book P, p.58). The administrator of the estate of Sarah E. Simmons sold the tract and house at auction to Paul Bowden on 5 December 1934 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book V, p. 388). Various tenant

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farmers lived in the house until it and the tract of the land was sold by Paul Bowden to Thomas F. Weathers on 14 April 1940 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book 2, p. 85).

In 1940, the house and lands were rented to tenant families until sold to Thomas Weathers, Sr. Their son Thomas [Jr.] described the joys of driving up to this white columned house with electricity. They all took turns turning the lights on and off. The only plumbing was a faucet and drain line in the sink. The Weathers family poured modern concrete over the ground floor in the southwest and northwest rooms. They also removed the front steps and added new railings to change the second floor porch into a balcony. The Weathers rented out the second floor.

The heirs of Thomas F. Weathers's undivided estate, Betty Weathers Tucker and Thomas Weathers [JR.], sold 3 acres and the house to D. Alan and Judy Murph Smith on 30 July 1990 (McDuffie Co. Deed Book 163, p. 122). An additional two acres were bought six months later. (Deed Book 166, p. 158)

The tract as it was divided in 1896 remained the basic tract sold until 1990.

In spite of the many owners, the architectural details on the exterior and interior remain intact. The house remains basically the house constructed by George W. Hardaway. It remained known as the James L. Hardaway Place in all the deeds until bought by Paul Bowden in 1934. Many people still refer to it by this name. The house has faced every event in our nation's history from the Mexican War (1846-1848) through all of the wars of the twentieth century. In every year the house has set firmly anchored on its granite foundation and looked down from its knoll at the Georgia Railroad. The house on its hill was used in 1870 as the western boundary of McDuffie County when it was created out of Warren (and Columbia). As a member of the Weathers family recently commented, "It sure is good to see the house standing square again."

The name, The James L. Hardaway Place, was chosen for the property because it was the name found in various deeds describing the property. James L. Hardaway owned it the longest time, 1849 to 1895.

The new owners, the Smiths, are conducting an ongoing rehabilitation.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Smith, Rev. D. Alan. "The James L. Hardaway Home...", Historic Property Information Form, March 10, 1991 with supplemental historical documentation. Copy on file in the Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- () preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- () previously listed in the National Register
- () previously determined eligible by the National Register
- () designated a National Historic Landmark
- () recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- () recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- (X) State historic preservation office
- () Other State Agency
- () Federal agency
- () Local government
- () University
- () Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property five acres

UTM References

A) Zone 17 Easting 353330 Northing 3701870

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is marked on the accompanying plat map/tax map.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property is all that remains of the original plantation and all that is owned by the current owner that is still attached to the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., Historian
organization Office of Historic Preservation, Georgia Department of
Natural Resources
street & number 205 Butler Street, S.E., Suite 1462
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** July 13, 1993

(HPS form version 10-29-91)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Photographs

Name of Property: Hardaway, James L., Place
City or Vicinity: near Thomson
County: McDuffie
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: June, 1992

Description of Photograph(s):

- 1 of 13: Front facade, photographer facing southwest.
- 2 of 13: Front and east facades, photographer facing southwest.
- 3 of 13: East and south (rear) facades, with smokehouse in foreground, photographer facing northwest.
- 4 of 13: South (rear) facade, with smokehouse in foreground; photographer facing northeast.
- 5 of 13: West facade, photographer facing southeast.
- 6 of 13: First floor (ground level), stairs, photographer facing northwest.
- 7 of 13: First floor, northeast room, photographer facing southwest.
- 8 of 13: First floor, southeast room, photographer facing northeast.
- 9 of 13: Second floor, south (rear) entrance and stair, photographer facing southwest.
- 10 of 13: Second floor, northwest room, photographer facing southwest.
- 11 of 13: Second floor, southwest room, photographer facing northeast.
- 12 of 13: Second floor, southeast room, photographer facing northeast.
- 13 of 13: Second floor, northeast room, photographer southeast.

FLOOR PLAN

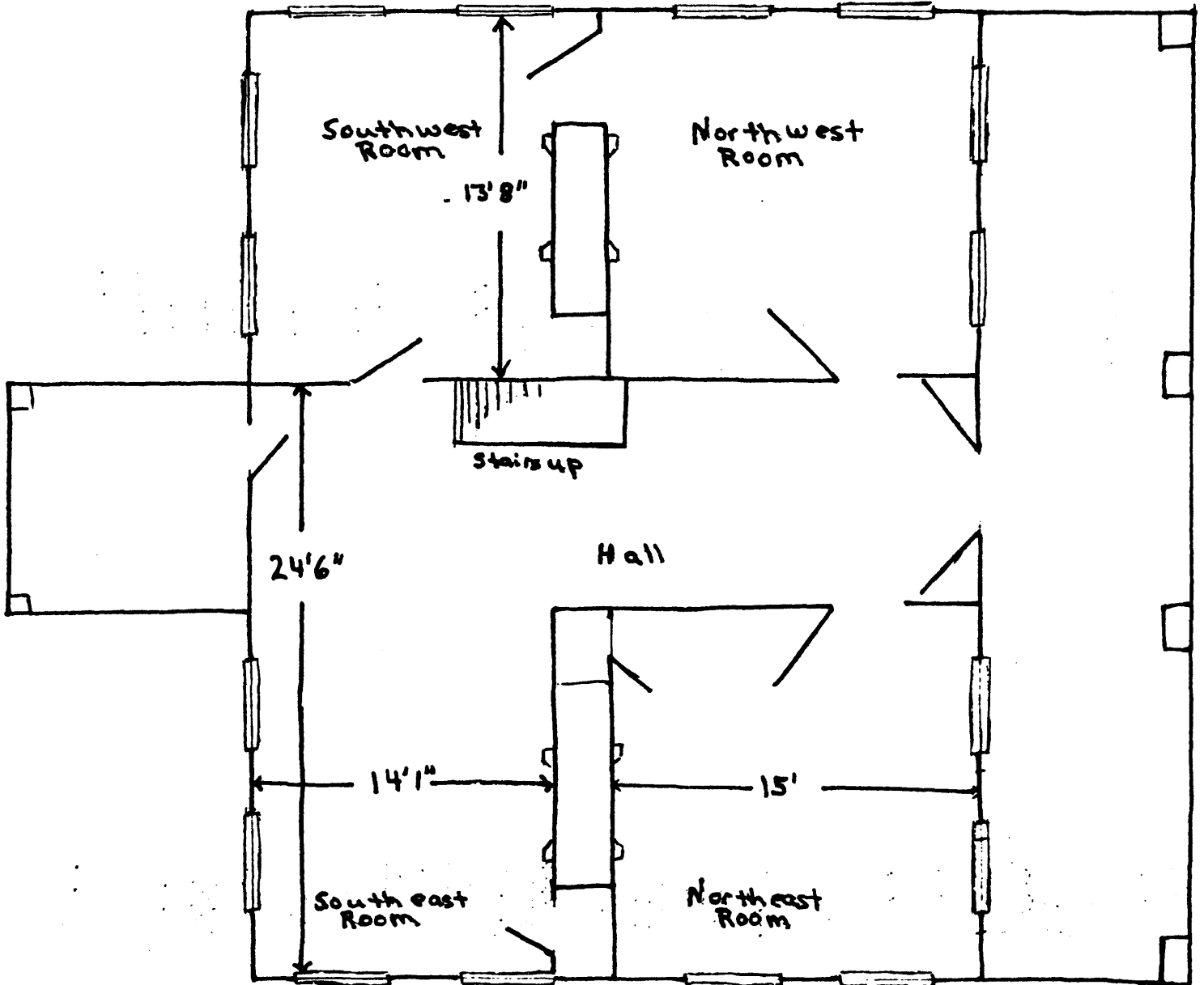
Hardaway, James L., Place
Thomson vicinity, McDuffie County, Georgia

Scale: as shown on the plan

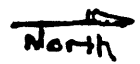
Source: drawn by D. Alan Smith

Date: 1991

Key: first floor (ground level), room usage shown on the plan



First Floor



FLOOR PLAN

Hardaway, James L., Place

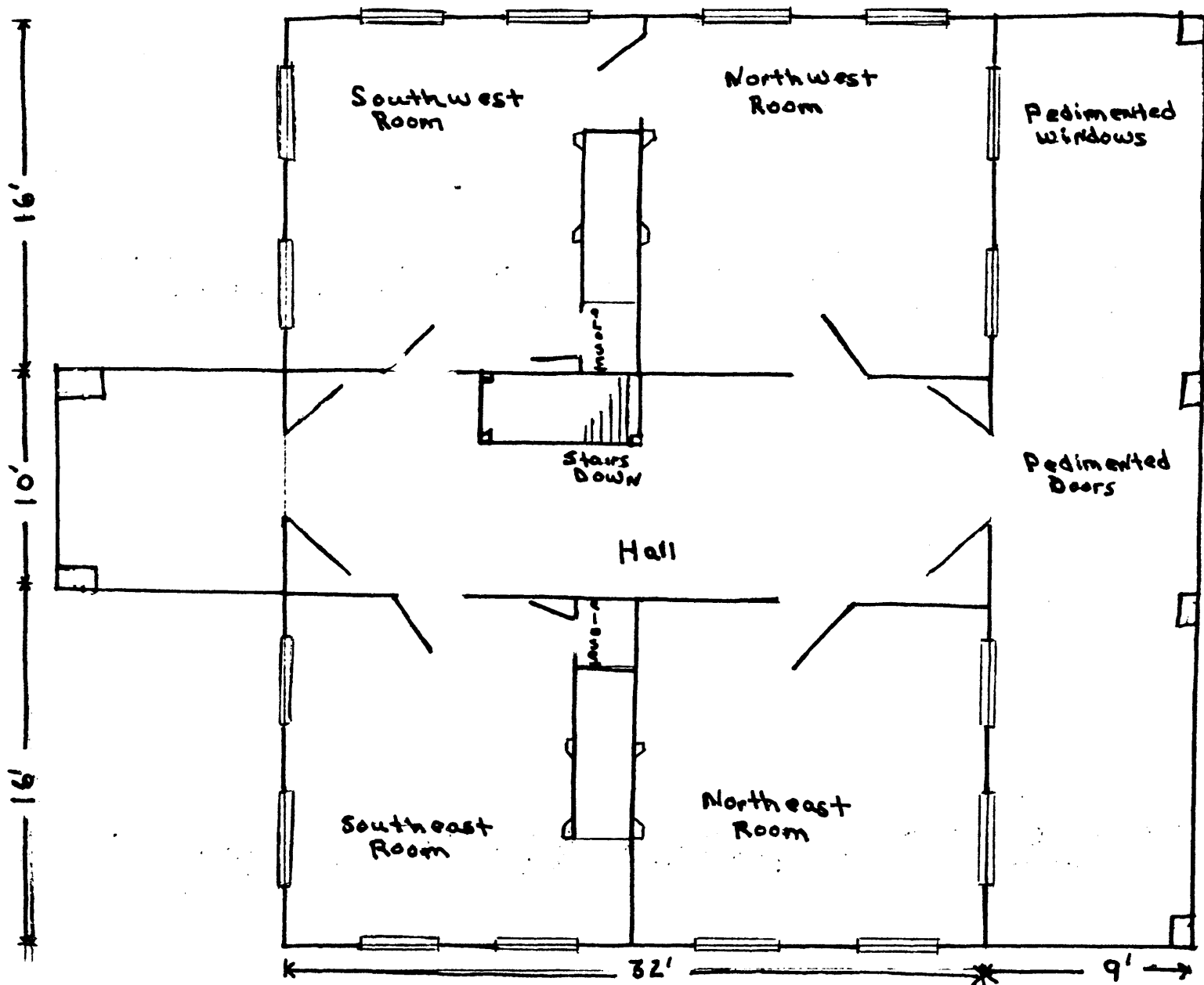
Thomson Vicinity, McDuffie County, Georgia

Scale: As shown on the plan

Source: drawn by D. Alan Smith

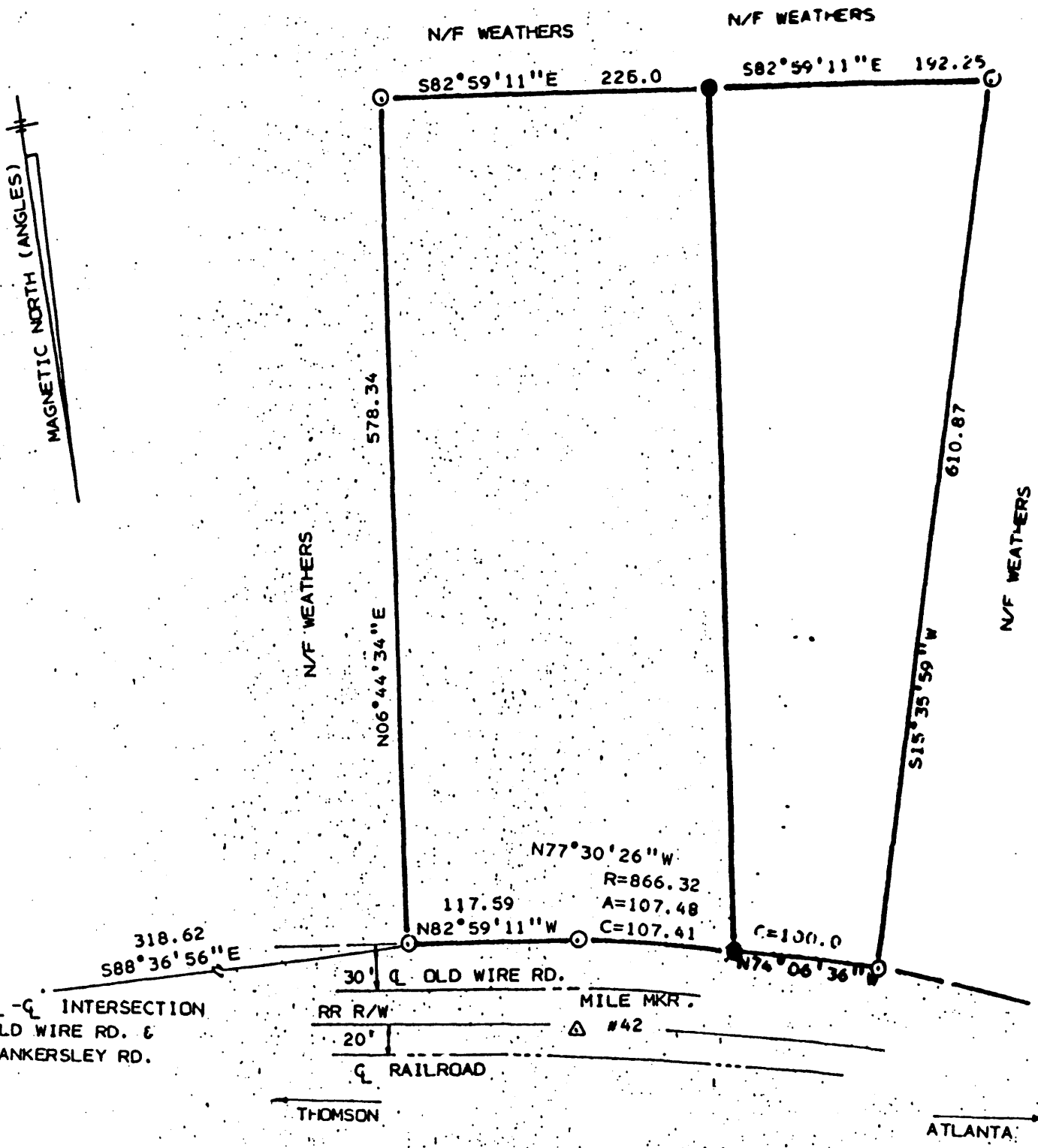
Date: 1991

Key: second floor, room usage shown on the plan



Second Floor





Q-Q INTERSECTION
 OLD WIRE RD. &
 TANKERSLEY RD.

RR R/W
 20'
 Q RAILROAD
 MILE MKR.
 Δ #42

← THOMSON → ATLANTA →

PLAT FOR
 D. ALAN SMITH & JUDY M. SMITH

MCDUFFIE COUNTY, GEORGIA
 SCALE 1" = 100'

PLAT MAP
 Hardaway, James L., Place
 Thomson vicinity, McDuffie County, Georgia
 Scale: as shown on the plat
 Source: drawn for the current owners
 Date: 1990
 Key: The plat map is a combination of two plats

which include the two parcels of land currently
 owned by the owners. The boundary is marked by
 a heavy black line.