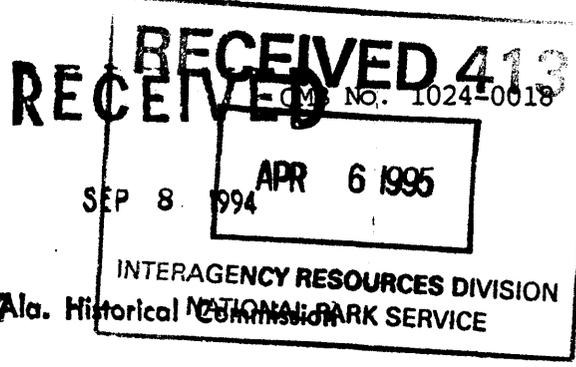


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



556

1. Name of Property

historic name Killcreas House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 46833 State Highway 225 not for publication NA
city or town Bay Minette vicinity x
state Alabama code AL county Baldwin code 003 zip code 36507

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally _____ statewide X locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] March 20, 1995
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall

[Signature]
Signature of Keeper
Entered in the
National Register

5/4/95
Date of Action

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian

Other: Folk Victorian

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

roof Metal/tin

walls Wood/weatherboard

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1900-1906 _____

Significant Dates 1900 1906 _____

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) NA

Cultural Affiliation NA

Architect/Builder Killcreas, John

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain significance on continuation sheet/s.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- 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

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Mobile Historic Development Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	418150	34194403	___	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John Sledge/Architectural Historian
organization Mobile Historic Development Commission date August 16, 1994
street & number P.O. Box 1827 telephone (205)438-7281
city or town Mobile state AL zip code 36633

USDI/NPS Registration Form

Property Name Killcreas House

County and State Baldwin County, Alabama

Page #5

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name R. Wallace Killcreas

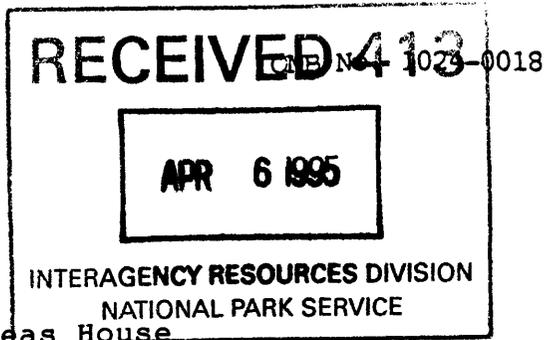
street & number 5 Dauphin Street telephone (205)433-3145

city or town Mobile state AL zip code 36602

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1



Killcreas House
name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama
county and State

The Killcreas House stands at the end of a long dirt lane off Highway 225 in northern Baldwin County. The house is surrounded by the remains of its original fence, and is set off by original plantings which include camellia bushes, palms and live oaks, all grown to impressive proportions. The house itself is a one story, frame, building on brick piers. It is one of only eight remaining Folk Victorian houses in Baldwin County distinguished by a prominent gable portico. The house is five by four bays with a central hall, high hip roof covered in standing seam tin pierced by two brick chimneys with corbeled caps. The portico is attached and covers three bays at the facade, featuring shingles in the gable and a diamond louvered vent. The portico is supported on chamfered posts with a simple balustrade. The entrance is a four panel door with sidelights and transom. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash. There is a rear hip ell with shed porches attached on each side (north and south). The house features a box cornice. Just a few feet to the rear (west) of the ell is a board and batten one room dependency. This little building has a gable roof, shed porch and chamfered posts. It is one by one bay and has 6/6 windows.

The interior of the Killcreas House is remarkably unaltered. The house features a central hall with two rooms to either side, a back hall with doors onto the rear porches and a dining room and kitchen in the rear ell. All walls, floors, and ceilings are plain board. All doors are four panel and retain their original hardware. Each of the four main rooms features a simple mantel piece and pass through closets. The rear hall features a four panel door with sidelights and transoms leading out onto each of the shed porches. The kitchen and dining room retain their original wood and screen cabinets. The interior of the dependency features board walls, floor and ceiling and a simple mantel.

There have been no significant alterations to either the interior or exterior of the Killcreas House and it retains its integrity of location, style and design.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

Killcreas House

name of property

Baldwin County, Alabama

county and State

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Criterion C-Architecture

The Killcreas House is significant under Criterion C-Architecture as an intact example of a rare house type found only in rural north Baldwin County. This is a Folk Victorian house type distinguished by a prominent shingled gable portico and steeply pitched main roof. There are two distinct variations in the main roof of this house type, gable and high hip. Eight of these houses survive in Baldwin County, five of the gable roof sub-type and three of the hip roof sub-type, the Killcreas House being in the latter category. Gable roof examples from the Baldwin County Historic Building Inventory (1986) include BA 1005, BA 1017, BA 1033, BA 1045 and BA 1080. Hip roof examples include BA 1047, BA 1077 and BA 1091 (Killcreas House). The Killcreas House is further significant for its central hall and back hall plan (see floorplan), a rare configuration in south Alabama vernacular houses.

Historic Context

The Killcreas House is located a few miles west of Bay Minette, the county seat of Baldwin County, Alabama. The country consists of rolling woodlands and is not particularly fertile. During the early 19th century the area was sparsely settled. A stage road (roughly corresponding to Highway 225) ran along the east bank of the Tensaw River on up through Stockton to the north. Most travel before the Civil War took place on the river however. Mobile provided a market for goods some twenty miles to the south.

Bay Minette began to assume greater importance in 1867 with the coming of the railroad. By the turn of the century the town was attracting immigrants from the Mid-west, lured by cheap land prices and a long growing season. In 1901 Bay Minette became the county seat, which had formerly been at Daphne on the Eastern Shore.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

Killcreas House
name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama
county and State

Northern Baldwin County's turn of the century economy consisted of saw mills, shingle mills, turpentine camps and small self-sufficient farms. These family farms consisted of a dwelling, barn and several outbuildings on land holdings ranging from several acres to several hundred acres. Livestock included cows and hogs. Gardens and fields produced beans, peas, corn, tomatoes, turnip greens and potatoes. Northern Baldwin County did not develop the large truck farms such as prospered in the central and southern portions of the county after the turn of the century.

The Killcreas House was constructed over a period of six years, from 1900 to 1906 on a six hundred and thirty acre tract acquired by the Killcreas Family in 1881. The builder was John Killcreas, a man typical of the self-sufficient farmers in the area. His family had been in the county several generations. All the lumber for the house was sawn on the land, and the bricks for the piers and chimneys were made by a brother. According to family lore, the house was patterned after an older house in Stockton, itself long since destroyed. An earlier house on the Killcreas property before the Civil War had burned.

John Killcreas died in 1906, right after completion of the house. The property remained in the family however, and by a provision in his will was maintained for the non-married uncles and aunts in the family. These included two sisters, Sue and Annie Killcreas, who lived until 1961 and 1958 respectively. The little house immediately behind the Killcreas House was constructed for one of these sisters about 1906. The family continued to farm the land and rented boats on a nearby lake.

As the twentieth century progressed the land ceased to be farmed and grew up into pine trees. The house was maintained by the family however, and today sits amid impressive camellia bushes and live oak trees.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Killcreas House

Section 8 Page 4

name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama

county and State

Historic Summary

The Killcreas House is one of only eight remaining distinctive Folk Victorian house types in Baldwin County. Constructed during 1900-1906 as a dwelling for a self-sufficient farm, the house exhibits both vernacular and Victorian details. Northern Baldwin County was a sparsely settled country with a diverse economy dependent on timber and small farming. Even after the coming of the railroad through the area in 1867, this basic economic profile changed little until the mid-20th century.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPONENT

Although no formal archaeological survey has been made of this property, the potential for subsurface remains is high. Properties of this type were sited within a constellation of dependencies such as kitchens and other outbuildings. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting the entire property.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 5

Killcreas House

name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama

county and State

Major Bibliographical References

Interview with R. Wallace Killcreas, property owner,
8/8/94, Mobile, Al.

Interview with Davidia R. Hastie, county historian, 8/9/94,
Stockton, Al.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 6

Killcreas House
name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama
county and State

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Begin at a point 1125' W of the intersection of State Highway 225 and Killcreas Road, proceed thence S 150' to a point, thence W 150' to a point, thence N 150' to a point and thence E 150' to the point of beginning, the whole containing less than one acre.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Killcreas House sits on a 310 acre parcel of forested land in the northwest corner of Section 4, T 2 S, R 2 E, Baldwin County, Alabama. The boundary for this National Register nomination has been drawn to include the house and contributing outbuilding only, or about a quarter of an acre within the larger holding.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section Photographs Page 7

Killcreas House
name of property
Baldwin County, Alabama
county and State

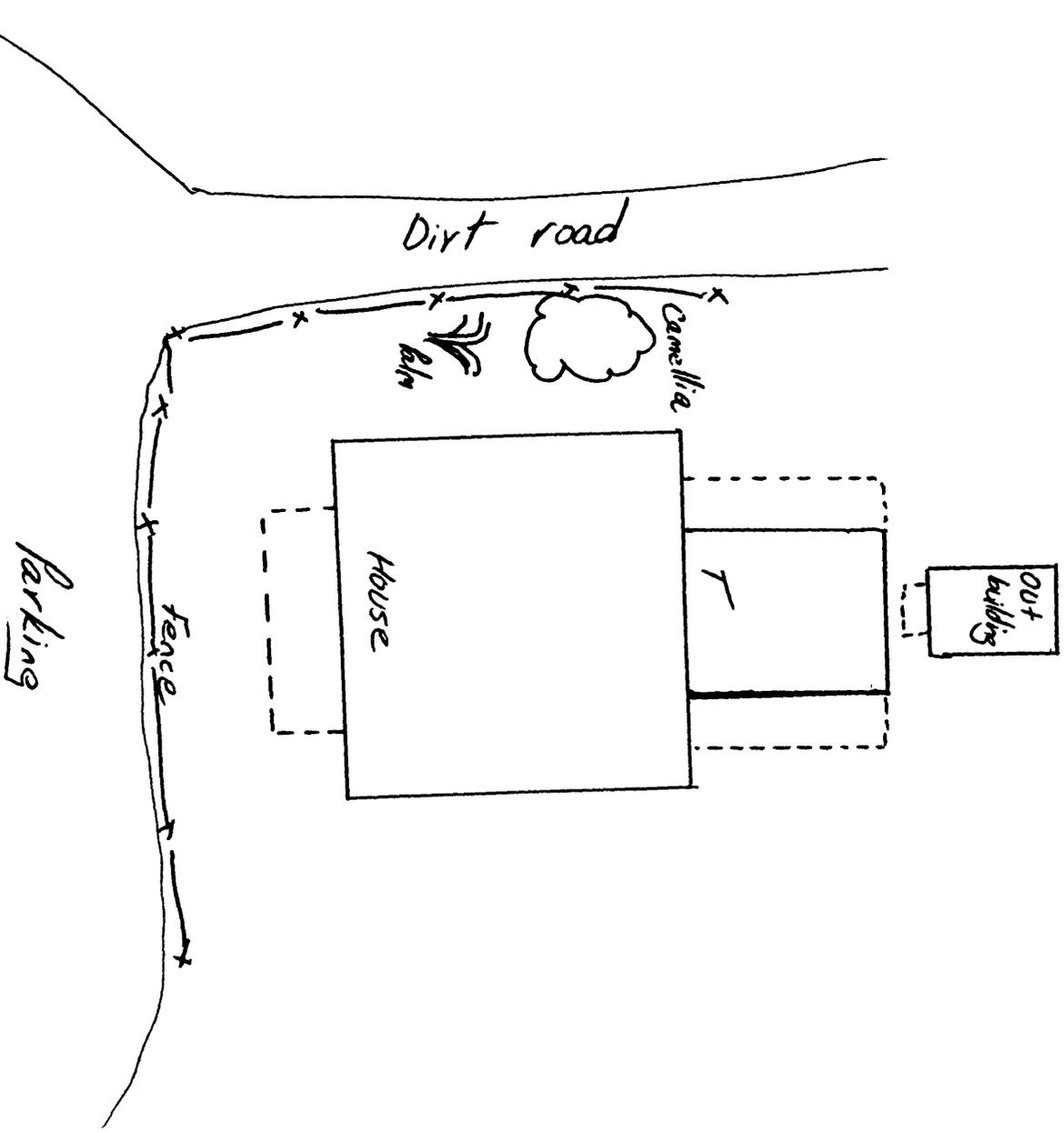
PHOTO LOG

Killcreas House
46833 State Highway 225
Bay Minette, Baldwin County, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
August 1994
MHDC Negative File: MB 225

1. Facade, camera facing W.
2. General, camera facing NW.
3. Side elevation, camera facing N.
4. Rear ell, camera facing N.
5. Porch on north side of ell, camera facing W.
6. Outbuilding, camera facing NW.
7. Interior main house, hall, camera facing E.
8. Rear room, north side hall, camera facing E.
9. Dining room cabinets, camera facing W.

Site Plan
Killcreas House
Baldwin County, AL.
Not to scale

N →



Killcreas Hoouse
Baldwin Conty, Al.
Floorplan
Not to scale

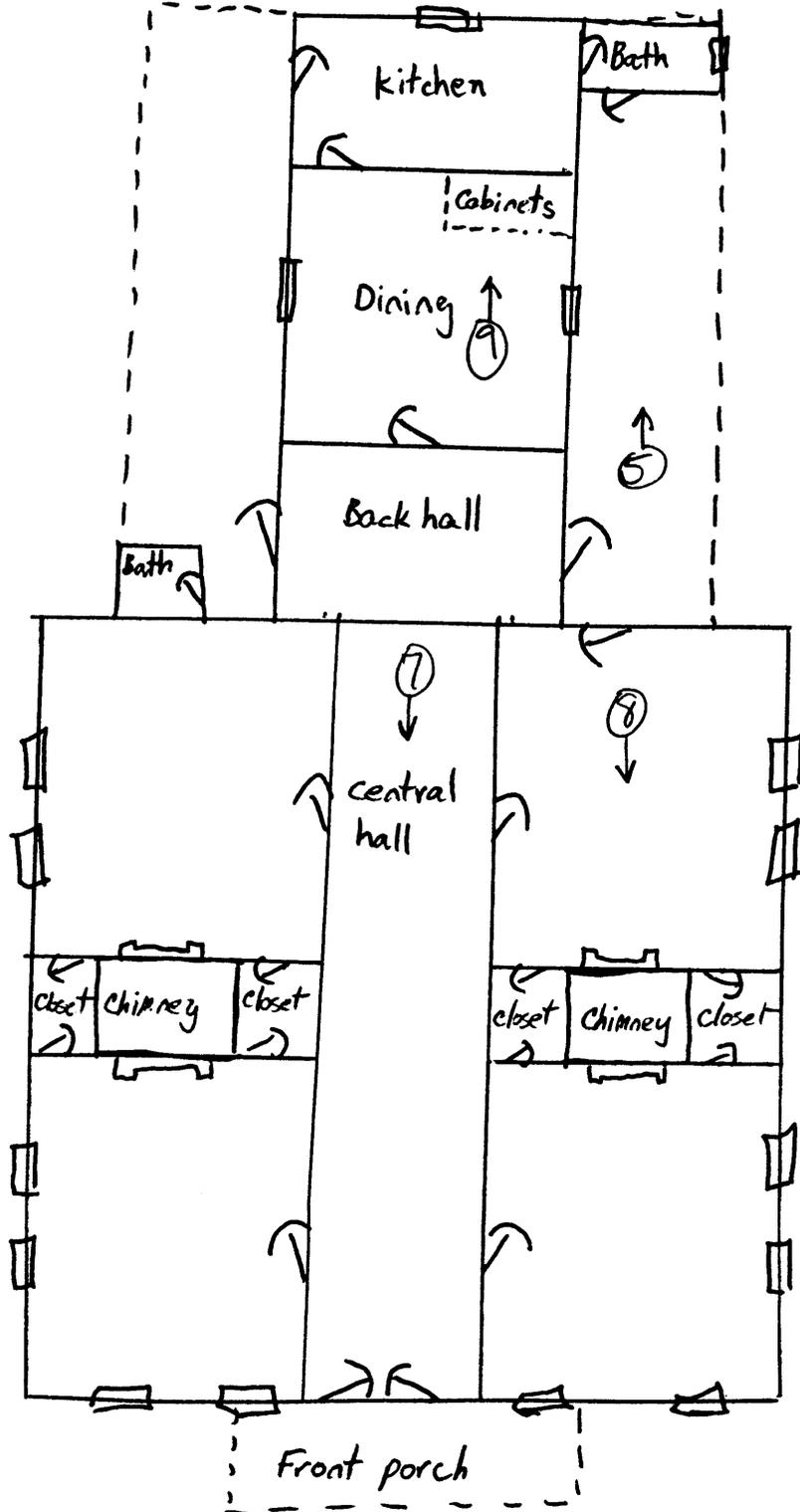


⑥ →



⊗ → Photo

④ →



③ →

② →

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