

For NPS use only  
received MAY 27 1982  
date entered JUN 28 1982

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Oakland

and/or common Wellborn Plantation

2. Location GA 41

street & number Georgia Highway 41 - U.S. Alternate 27 N/A not for publication

city, town Springs Warm Springs vic ✓ vicinity of congressional district 3rd - Jack Brinkley

state Georgia code 013 county Meriwether code 199

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Joseph Stolte c/o Frank Thornton

street & number P.O. Box 1587

city, town LaGrange N/A vicinity of state Georgia 30241

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Meriwether County Courthouse

city, town Greenville state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:

title Meriwether County, GA has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1976  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta state Georgia

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Oakland is a two-story woodframed weatherboard structure. It has a pedimented portico across the front, supported by four square Doric columns. There is flush siding under the porch. It has a gable roof and a rock pier foundation supporting hand hewn beams and sills. The two front doors with transom lights are centrally located under a cantilevered balcony on the upper level. The front is fenestrated with four 9/9 windows, symmetrically located. There is an exterior chimney on the east and west sides of the house and two additional exterior chimneys on the rear of the house. A one-story colonnaded porch is on the southeast corner.

The interior plan of Oakland is four rooms over four rooms without a central hallway. The east rooms each contain enclosed, tight winder stairways which lead to similar sized rooms above. Downstairs, all rooms have connecting doors, and on the second floor there are also connecting doors except between the two rooms on the east side of the house. Ceilings are eleven feet high throughout the house. Floors are wide, heart of pine except in the southeast room downstairs where narrow pine floorboards have replaced the old floor.

Narrow beaded tongue and groove paneling was applied horizontally on all interior walls, ceilings, and stairwells throughout the house. Reproduction Cross and Bible style doors with moritised locks, painted metal door knobs and escutcheons have been put into the house. The chimneys have been stuccoed and one was rebuilt.

The basic structure of the house is sound. Although there is some rotting of the hand hewn beams, the house shows no unevenness due to collapse of the substructure. Some of the beaded paneling and floors are deteriorating where windows have been out for many years and rain allowed to blow in. In a few places old floors have been patched. All the mantels have been removed and the side porch is collapsing. The columns on the front portico are sound although the very bottom parts have been cut off and replaced by brick bases resting on the concrete porch floor. The only outbuilding that remains is a nearby well shelter. The house is located next to a major highway and a small airport. The grounds are partially woods and partially cleared. The only evidence of landscaping are a few large oak trees.

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in August, 1980 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history
<b>Specific dates</b>	c. 1834-35	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown	

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Oakland is significant to the architectural and local history of Meriwether County. Architecturally, it is significant as an unusual example of an evolved structure showing both unusual layout and design in its earliest stages (two front doors, no central hall, doors connecting the rooms and two stairways) as compared to other plantation houses of the same era. In local history the house is significant as the home of Colonel Alfred Wellborn (1793-1857), one of the most prominent planters in the area who at his death owned over 5,000 acres centered around this plantation house as well as 242 slaves. He was a state senator for the county 1833-34. The house was purchased in 1873 by Franklin J. Williams (1830-1898) who was active in county politics and business.

Oakland appears at first glance to be a typical plantation house of the antebellum period. Closer analysis indicates that it has features out of the norm that add to its architectural significance. It has the usual features for a house of the 1830's-1840's: exterior chimneys, exterior weatherboarding with flush boards on the front, and the four over four room arrangement typical of a house of the period, especially one of a prominent plantation owner. Oakland is lacking a central hall, however, and has two doors exiting on the front portico as well as onto the balcony on the second floor. It also has two separate stairways that are located inside two rooms. It is not clear why this late in the antebellum period, with many examples of houses from which to model a design, that Colonel Wellborn, the owner, chose to build a house in this manner. It is well known that he was quite wealthy and prominent in the county and thus could have afforded a much finer structure. No early photographs have been located to determine the actual appearance of the exterior until the 1930's when the present portico was added giving the house, in quick passing, the look of the Greek Revival style. These changes, which presumably include the interior beaded tongue and groove panelling, are said to have been done with the aid of workers from the Works Progress Administration in conjunction with President Franklin D. Roosevelt at nearby Warm Springs, Georgia.

Colonel Alfred Wellborn (1793-1857) was born in Wilkes County, Georgia and in 1821 married Elizabeth Terry Martin by whom he had six children. They lived first in Monroe County after it was opened for settlement in 1821 and when the Land Lottery of 1827 opened up the new lands between the Flint and Chattahoochee Rivers, Georgia's westernmost territory, they moved into this new land, to Meriwether County, in 1827. The land remained in his family's possession for some time after his death. The house and about half the original acreage was purchased in 1858 by his son-in-law, John Marshall Martin, who later moved to Florida and left the plantation to be run by overseers for the benefit of female members of the family who remained there. Franklin J. Williams (1830-1898)

(continued)

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED  
UMTM NOT VERIFIED

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 3.22 acres

Quadrangle name Warm Springs, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	6	7	1	5	3	8	0	3	6	4	5	8	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property is marked on the enclosed plat map and is all that the property owner owns at this location.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county  code

state N/A code  county  code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Maurie Gail Golsen, Historic Preservation Planner  
Jane Strain, Preservation Planner Assistant

organization Chattahoochee-Flint Area Planning and Development Commission date April, 1982

street & number P.O. Box 2308 telephone 404/656-6131

city or town Newman state Georgia 30264

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/13/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the National Register
<u>Melrose Lyon</u> Keeper of the National Register	date <u>6/28/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

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purchased the house and lands from Martin in 1873. He had married in 1854 Catherine Jones (1834-1904) and served in the Georgia House of Representatives from Meriwether County in 1878-79 and ran a nearby grist mill until it burned in February, 1880. After being actively farmed by his descendants until the 1920s, the farm was broken up and sold to various people. The airport in front of the property was dedicated May 15, 1932 by Franklin D. Roosevelt, then governor of New York and owner of land in nearby Warm Springs. In 1936 the county purchased the airport, the house and 93 acres. Later the house was sold to private individuals.

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

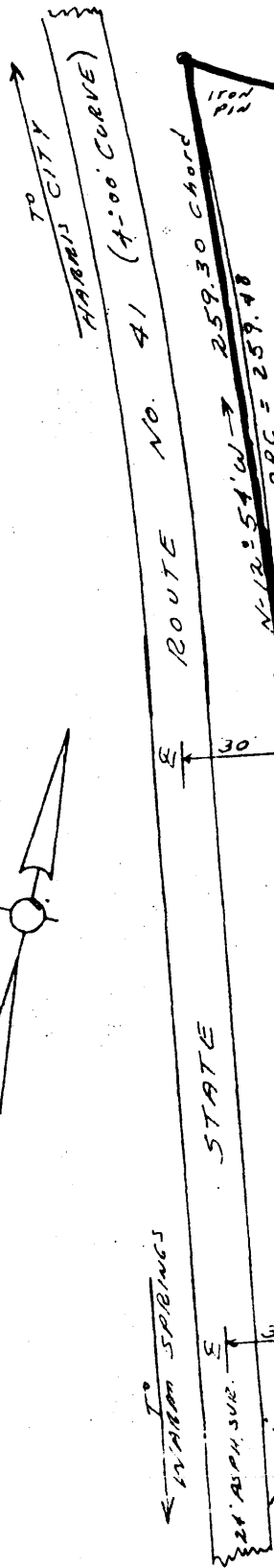
Page 2

Davidson, William H., Brooks of Honey and Butter, 2 vol (1971).

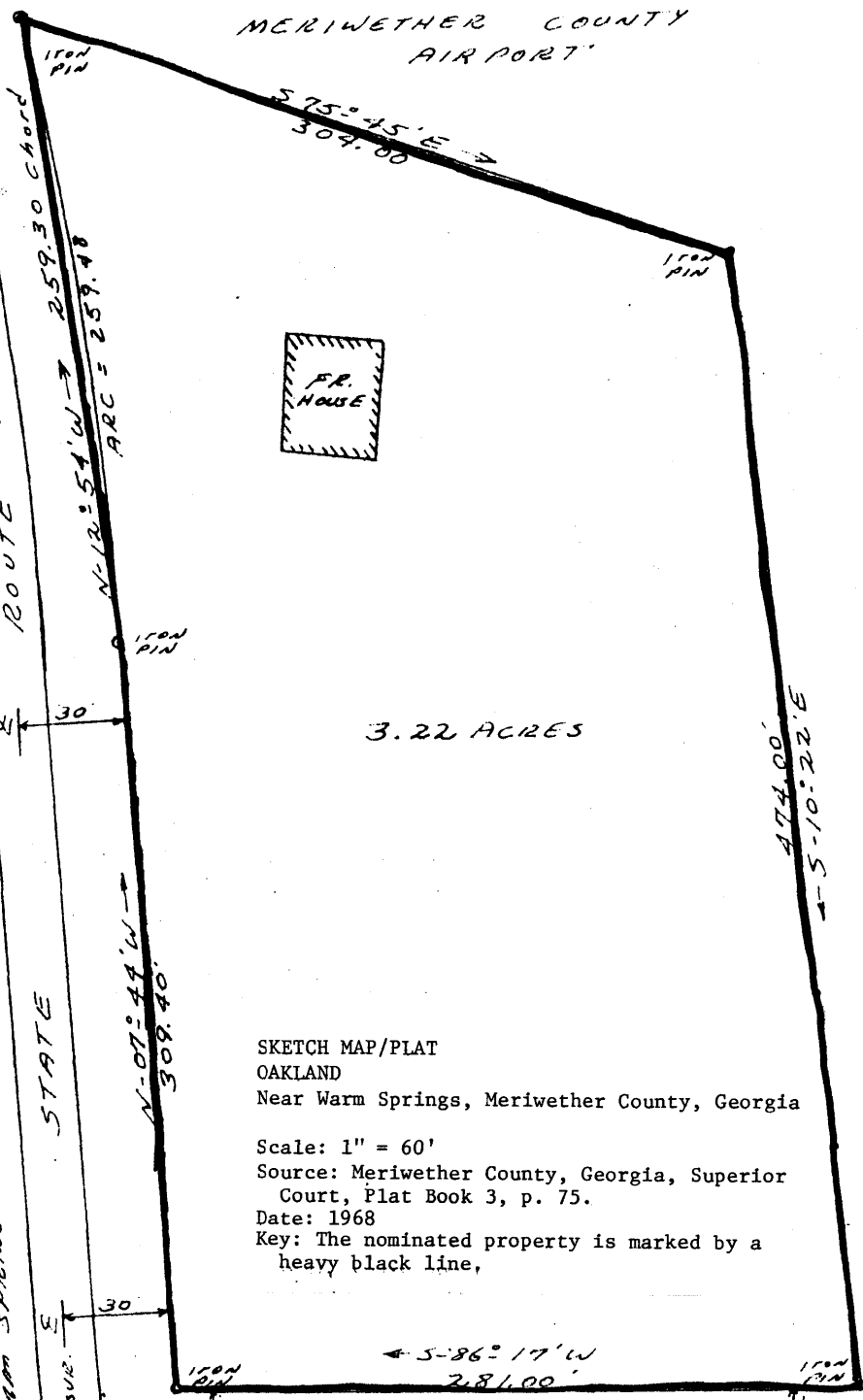
Interviews by Jane Strain with Mrs. Henry Crowder, Sr. Crowder Road, Meriwether County-  
June 2, 1980; Paul Williams, Harris City, Meriwether County - June 16, 1980; and  
William Davidson, June 3, 1980.

Program from Dedication of Roosevelt Memorial Airport in 1966.

Draft Nomination by Maurie Gail Golsen and Jane Strain.



MERIWETHER COUNTY AIRPORT



MERIWETHER COUNTY AIRPORT

SKETCH MAP/PLAT  
 OAKLAND  
 Near Warm Springs, Meriwether County, Georgia  
 Scale: 1" = 60'  
 Source: Meriwether County, Georgia, Superior Court, Plat Book 3, p. 75.  
 Date: 1968  
 Key: The nominated property is marked by a heavy black line,

COUNTY ROAD



SURVEY OF PROPERTY OF  
 MERIWETHER COUNTY, GA  
 LAND LOT NO. 125  
 2<sup>ND</sup> LAND DISTRICT  
 MERIWETHER COUNTY, GA.  
 SCALE - 1" = 60' - 3-9-68  
 W. A. HALLIDAY, RLS. 1111

ERROR OF CLOSURE = 1/30,140 FT.