

P40001031

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: ALABAMA	
COUNTY: FRANKLIN	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 3 1973	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Overton Farm

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
T. 8S R. 14W S. 12

CITY OR TOWN:
near Hodges, Alabama 4 miles NW of Hodges

STATE Alabama	CODE 01	COUNTY: Franklin	CODE 059
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Bear Creek Development Authority

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 670

CITY OR TOWN:
Russellville

STATE:
Alabama

CODE:
35653

CODE:
01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Franklin County Courthouse (Deed Book 169 - Page 308)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Russellville

STATE:
Alabama

CODE:
35653

CODE:
01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None known

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

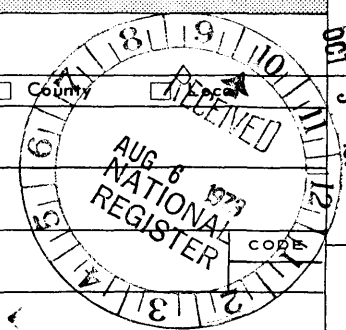
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Russellville

STATE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE



FOR NPS USE ONLY

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

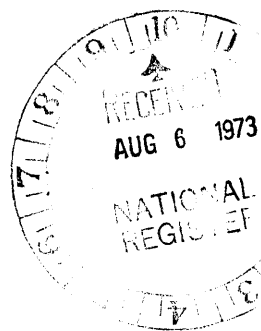
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Overton Farm consists of eight acres located in a horseshoe bend of Bear Creek. Originally, the complex consisted of a main house, and the following outbuildings: a corn crib, a blacksmith and tool shed, a seed and feed shed, a horse-and-mule barn, two cattle barns, a fruit-and-potato house, and a smoke house.

At present the main house and portions of the corn crib, smoke house, potato house and a three-stall, animal barn are standing. The main house at one time consisted of five rooms added one after another in typical pioneer fashion. Today it consists of two rooms connected by a breezeway or dog-trot, with faint traces of the other three rooms.

Constructed of logs, the building measures 43' by 17'. The roof is gabled and at present is covered with metal. Portions of the building have weather-boarding covering the log walls. The room on the left, (West side) is thought to be the original one-room cabin, onto which the rest of the structure was added. It measures 18'3" by 17' and the logs are secured with a saddle notch. A stone chimney, no longer standing, was located on the west wall and measured 7'2" across at the base. Two windows, thought to have been added later, are located on either side of the chimney. There are two entrances to this room, one on the front or south side of the room, and one on the north side.

To the right or east of this room is a similar room connected by a nine-foot wide breeze way. This room measures 16' by 17' and the logs are secured with a dove tail notch. It has three windows two on the east side, and one on the front or south side. There are two doors, a rear door and a door leading onto the breezeway.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

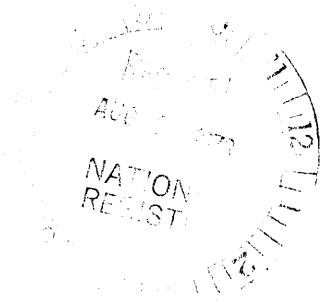
Overton Farm is one of the earliest remaining pioneer evidences in Northwest Alabama, and one of the few early structures which retains a significant number of its original outbuildings.

Abner Overton, a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, first visited Alabama in 1815 peddling a wagon load of tobacco. In 1817, he again brought a load of tobacco and on this journey he found 160 acres of rich soil on Bear Creek. Since, at that time, Alabama was still a part of the Mississippi Territory, he registered the land in Pontitoc, Mississippi, sold his wagon and built a shed.

Shortly after his marriage to Judy May in 1819 he began construction of a one-room log cabin. The core of the extant dwelling was built prior to 1838 and some sources contend the 1819 structure became the nucleus of a five-room log home, two rooms of which survive. (Records which would conclusively substantiate the 1819 date have not survived).

In 1876 Judy Overton died and Abner lived on for only a year. The house passed to the children and was occupied by members of the Overton family until 1946.

In 1969 the Tennessee Valley Authority acquired the farm as a part of the Bear Creek Water Control Project, and for the last several years it has served as a valuable teaching tool in the field of social studies, agriculture and ecology for the 13 surrounding school districts.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Family Bible Records, research by Allan M. O'Neal, Jr.
 Bear Creek Watershed Enviromental Education Project,
 Russellville, Alabama.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

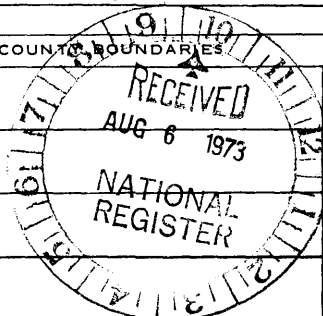
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	35°	23'	05.47"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

interval - 340

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **8 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES.

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: **Alabama Historical Commission** DATE: **July 17, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
305 South Lawrence Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Montgomery** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

<p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u><i>Wils B. Howard, Jr.</i></u></p> <p>Title <u><i>SHPO - Ala.</i></u></p> <p>Date <u><i>July 21, 1973</i></u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>Robert K. Utley</i></u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u><i>10/3/73</i></u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>for [Signature]</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u><i>9/20/73</i></u></p>
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