

PH0003000

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Murray	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
69-10-10-0009	10/28/69

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: **Vann House**

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **Intersection U.S. 76 and Ga. 225**

CITY OR TOWN: **Spring Place**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **10** COUNTY: **Murray** CODE: **213**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY <i>(Check One)</i>	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
No: <input type="checkbox"/>			

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>(Specify)</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: **State of Georgia (Georgia Historical Commission)**

STREET AND NUMBER: **116 Mitchell St. S.W.**

CITY OR TOWN: **Atlanta** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **10**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Murray County Courthouse Deed book 26, p. 260**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Chatsworth** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **10**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3 acres**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **HABS**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1934;36** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Library of Congress**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D.C.** CODE: **08**

STATE: Georgia
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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Vann House, a furnished historic house museum, administered by the Georgia Historical Commission, was dedicated and opened to the public in July, 1958. When the Commission acquired the property in 1952, the house was rapidly deteriorating but had not been significantly changed architecturally from the way it appeared about 1805. The restoration architect was Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman of Easton, Maryland.

The plantation residence first of James Vann (1768-1809), a rich Cherokee half-breed, and then of his son, Joseph, the house was begun about 1803. James Vann moved into the house March 24, 1805. Involved in its building were Moravian missionary craftsmen from nearby Spring Place, Georgia, and other carpenters one of whom was from North Carolina. Its architectural style is best described as Federal, but the continuing tradition of the American Georgian style is apparent.

Exterior: Two single outside brick chimneys rising at the gable ends of a saddleback roof, frame two-story high solid brick walls, of bricks made on the place and laid in a mixture of both Flemish and English bonds. Front and rear façades each have a classic cornice with modillions and a row of dentils, two-story white-washed plaster pilasters, and two fanlighted doorways one above the other framed by large painted wood paneling and opening off wide hallways onto covered porches. These porches had disappeared. Dr. Forman conjectured that they were divisions of a Federal style temple-front portico rising two stories with a pediment. The entrance façade, which faced the old Federal Road, is perfectly symmetrical. The rear façade has irregularly spaced windows and a dining room doorway leading to the outside. All windows are nine-over-nine, capped by a whitewashed lintel.

Interior: On each of the two main floors are two rooms, 30 by 20 feet, with a wide hallway between. (The attic story contains two long coffin shaped rooms.) Inside, to the left of the main entrance, ofscan elaborately carved and wainscoted stairway, an early example of cantilevered construction. This intricate carpentry and other fine woodwork throughout the house, derives its beauty from expert joinery, fine carving and workmanship, good proportion, and striking color combinations. Outside and inside, a special feature is a small carved rose medallion representing the variety of rose known as Cherokee.

An imposing chimney piece reaches the high ceiling in the drawing room to the right of the main first floor entrance. An especially fine example of wood craftsmanship and design in the Federal style, there are also strong late-Georgian overtones in the arched and columned overmantel surmounted by a formal entablature. Its original painted decoration of blue, red, green, and yellow uncovered during restoration has been matched.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

20-100
X

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **c. 1803-c.1805**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

March 24, 1805, the Moravian Missionaries James Vann helped establish near his plantation at Spring Place, wrote in their diary, "Vann moved into his newly built house today." Located on the Federal Road, Vann House commanded an elevation amidst a complex of dependencies. The showplace of the Cherokee Nation, it is significant as a mansion house of architectural and historical distinction deep in Indian country.

James Vann (1768-1809) whose mother was Cherokee and his father a Scot, made his major contribution to his mother's people, as well as to Georgia history, by sponsoring the Moravian mission and making it part of the complex of buildings in and around Spring Place. A hard-driving, hard-drinking business man, Vann encouraged the missionary effort so that young Cherokees might begin their education in the mission school. Future Cherokee leaders Elias Boudinot and John Ridge were educated by the Moravians, as was James' own son, Joseph. Two entries made in the Spring Place Moravian Diaries are especially important. The first dated January 17, 1804, reads, "Brothers Byhan and Martin Schneider again went to help Vann in building his new home." And the second, dated August 13, 1804, "Today the chiefs assembled at Vann's new house close by our place. They were lodged at Vann's."

Joseph Vann inherited Vann House and much of his father's other property in 1814 after much litigation. An even better businessman than his father, he soon became known as "Rich Joe Vann" by the Indians and whites alike. In May, 1819 Vann received President Monroe, Secretary of War John C. Calhoun and other dignitaries as they made their way along the Federal Road. The Mission diary records it is this way: "Very late in the evening ...the President of the United States and his party...arrived at Joseph Vann's."

In 1834 William N. Bishop leading a troop of Georgia guardsmen turned Joseph Vann and his family out of Vann House during the Cherokee Removal. Later the Federal Government paid Vann \$19,605.00 for his property in Georgia; the inventory of that property is significant: "one fine brick house, 800 acres of cultivated land, 42 cabins, six barns, five smokehouse, a grist mill, blacksmith shop, eight corn cribs, a shop and foundry, a trading post, a peach kiln, a still, 1.133 peach trees, 147 apple trees, /etc./"

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

copies
in the
Ga.
Historical
Commission
Office

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Minutes of the Conference of Missionaries at Spring Place in the Country of the Cherokee Indians, March 22-24, 1802-October, 1819.
Diary of the Brethren and Sisters ... at Spring Place in the land of the Oherokees, Beginning June 1, 1803 running to May, 1819.
 Files of the Georgia Historical Commission (old photographs and other documentation).

 Nichols, Frederick Doveton. The Early Architecture of Georgia. Chapel Hill: The University of Georgia Press, 1957.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

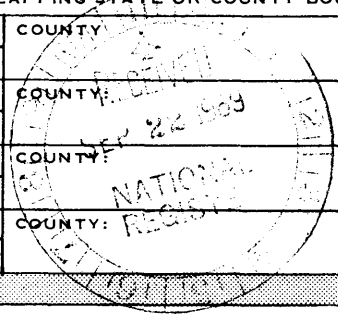
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

See enclosed Map and Plat

NOTA
CY

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
William R. Mitchell, Jr. Director Georgia Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: **Georgia Historical Commission** DATE: **9/9/69**

STREET AND NUMBER:
116 Mitchell St. S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: **Atlanta** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **10**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name Mary Gregory Jewett
 Title State Liaison Officer Ga.
 Date Sept 15, 1969

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

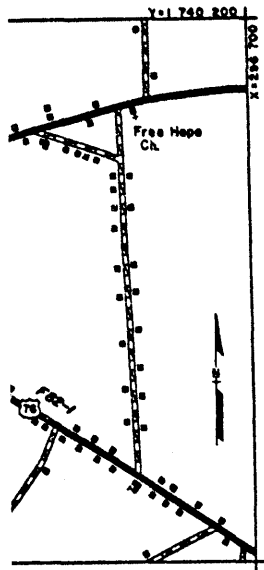
Ernest Allen Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date OCT 28 1969

ATTEST:
William J. Burdette
 Keeper of The National Register

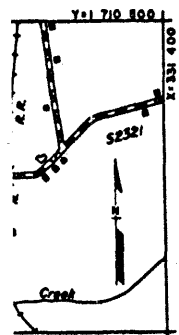
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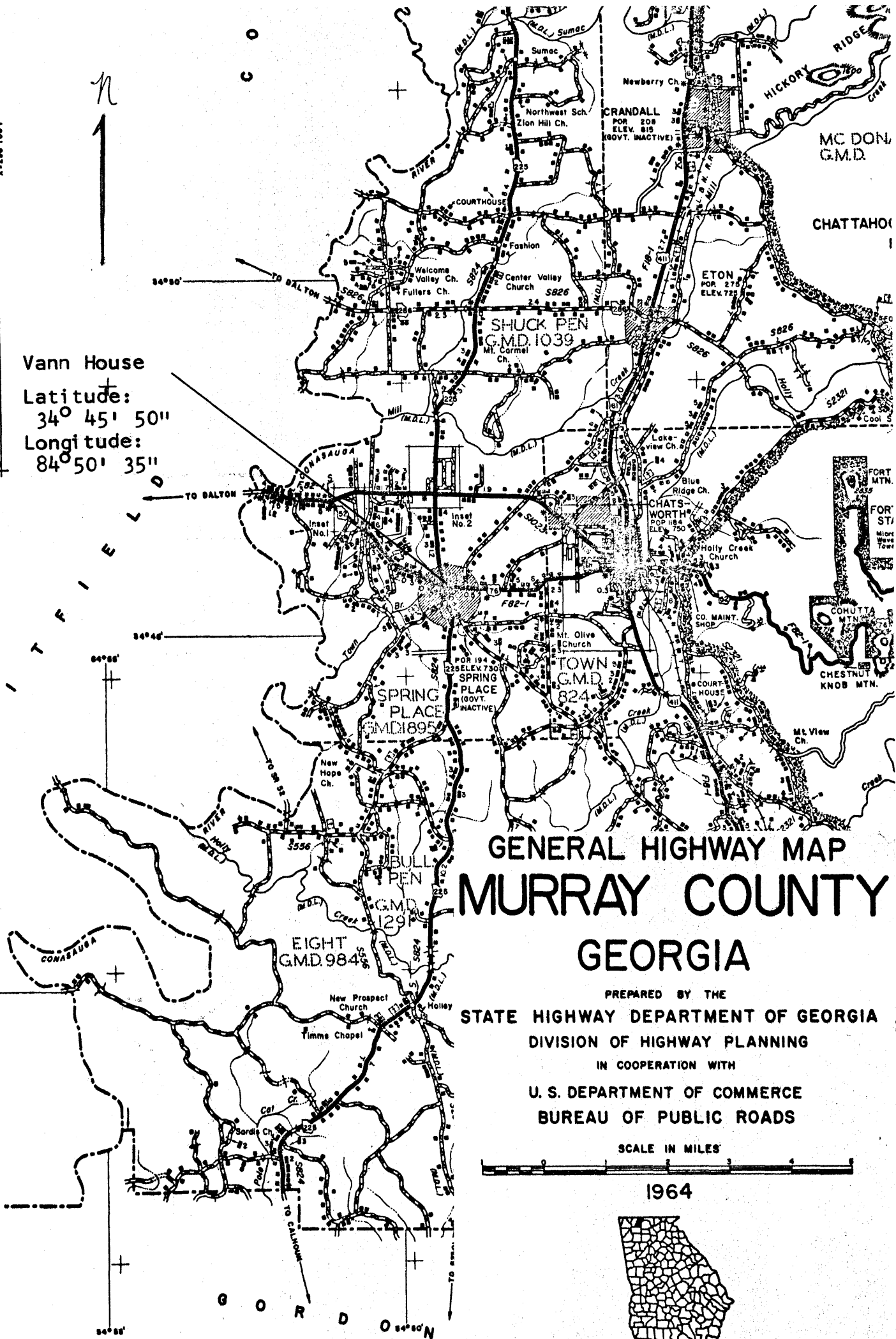


INSET NO. 1
SCALE IN FEET
0 500 1000
0.1 0.2 0.25
SCALE IN MILES

Vann House
Latitude:
34° 45' 50"
Longitude:
84° 50' 35"

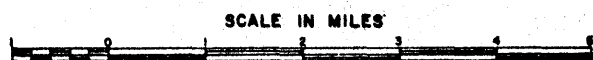


INSET NO. 2
SCALE IN FEET
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0.2 0.25
SCALE IN MILES



GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP MURRAY COUNTY GEORGIA

PREPARED BY THE
STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PLANNING
IN COOPERATION WITH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS



1964



Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Murray	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER GA-10-10-0009	DATE 10/28/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Vann House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Intersection U.S. 76 and Ga. 225			
CITY OR TOWN: Spring Place			
STATE: Georgia	CODE 10	COUNTY: Murray	CODE 213
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: See Map and Plat			
SCALE:			
DATE:			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

