

DATA SHEET PH0150801

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Georgia
COUNTY:
Elbert
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
JUN 5 1975

## 1. NAME

COMMON:

Beverly Plantation

AND/OR HISTORIC:

William Allen House *use this*2. LOCATION *1 mi. East Elberton SR 6*

STREET AND NUMBER:

Route 6 (9 miles East on Highway 72, then left 2 miles)

CITY OR TOWN:

Elberton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

10th - Robert G. Stephens, Jr.

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY:

Elbert

CODE

105

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

E. Chandler Brown, Sr.

STREET AND NUMBER:

Route 6

CITY OR TOWN:

Elberton

STATE:

Georgia

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Elbert County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Elberton

STATE:

Georgia

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

None

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal☐ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

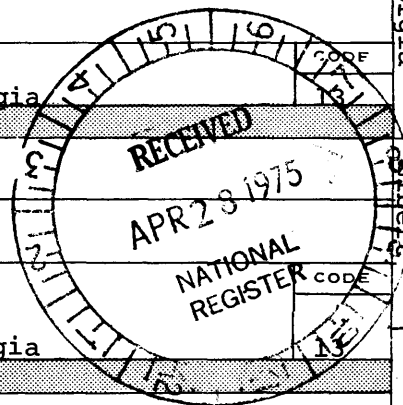
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	Elbert
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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input 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

Located on a hill surrounded by osage orange, cedar and fushia crepe myrtle trees, above Beaver Dam Creek in Elbert County is Beverly Plantation, a c.1784-1803 structure. Although documents and local traditions reveal that there was at least a log storehouse, a carriage house, smoke house and slave quarters, only the main house, a 60 foot deep well, now bricked up, and an Allen family cemetery remain.

The main house of Beverly Plantation is a plain style, frame two story structure with Federal details, that was constructed in at least two stages.

The original 1784-5 structure was a frame, one story, plus loft house with the gabled roof overhangs forming a front and rear porch. These two rooms, presently the kitchen and dining room rear portion of the house are relatively intact in interior detail. The present kitchen fireplace has been blocked and the mantel removed, however the wainscotting and chair rail remain. The dining room's simple panelled wainscotting, chair rail and porch door with H and L hinges give evidences of late 18th or early 19th century origins. The mantel in the dining room has a simple trim framing the fireplace opening and a narrow shelf detailed with a repeating circle and dentil motif. Almost all of the windows in this section and the later portion are nine-over-nine sash windows.

Probably constructed in the early 1800's, the front portion of the house has a two story, 2 room central hall plan with a two story central portico on the front and a second story central pedimented gabled room extending over the original two room house (The connection of the two building stages is made by a cross hall, slightly lower than the later front addition.) The front facade consists of a double door trabeated entranceway with side and transom lights. Both of these porch areas and in the central gable above have wide horizontal flush siding. The pedimented central gable is lighted by a semicircular fanlight and trimmed in the repeated circle and dentil design found on the dining room mantel. Slender fluted columns and engaged columns support the front porch areas.

Cross and Bible doors are generally used throughout as is the horizontal board panelling, although some rooms have now been papered. Other alterations that have occurred through the years have included the addition of two bathrooms, the rearrangement of the staircase into the rear central gabled room and the refurbishment of hearth areas throughout the house.

No original outbuildings remain, although a frame garage is presently found to the rear of the house. Above the main house, across the main road to the plantation is the family cemetery where young Beverly Allen and family are buried.

Directly in front of the Allen cemetery is a small frame structure, moved in the 1950's from Old Ruckersville, Georgia. Called the Old Bailey home, this house is constructed of heart pine with beams cut and fitted like a puzzle - all numbered X, 1X, etc. Although this structure was not originally a Beverly Plantation structure, it does represent a type indigenous to the area and is on original Allen property between the main house and cemetery.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

## 8. 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) 1784-5; c.1803

### 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>History</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry     | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military     |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music        |  |  |

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Beverly Plantation is significant in Georgia history as one of the first taverns in north Georgia, as the home of William and Beverly Allen and as one of the oldest extant plantations in the state. Presently the integrity of the plantation site and the main house is endangered by the planned Richard B. Russell Dam and Lake Project.

The Allen brothers, William and Beverly, who apparently were the builders of the c.1785 portion of Beverly Plantation, were known as two wealthy and cultured brothers who emigrated from Virginia to Georgia soon after the Revolutionary War and who were engaged in the mercantile business in Georgia and South Carolina. According to White's Statistics in Georgia, 1849, this Elbert County "storehouse and residence were on the hill rising from Beaver Dam Creek on the side of the road leading from Fish Dam ford on the Broad river, to the Cherokee ford on the Savannah." Another account describes their location as "several miles above Peterburg, on Beaverdam Creek, at what is now known as "Pearls Mill" or more properly Beverly, an incorporated town site..."

The local notoriety of the Allen brothers is exemplified in White's condensed book on Statistics of Georgia, 1849, by a detailed accounting of the Allen brothers escapades. He states that, "Sometime in the year 1795, Beverly Allen, with his brother, went to Augusta to buy goods with the money they had, and the credit they could obtain. Whilst there, the foreign merchant of whom they had purchased their first stock of goods, found them buying goods of others instead of first discharging their debt to him." With this, an issue for the Allens' arrest was made and they were pursued at which time Beverly Allen shot Marshall Forsyth (father of the Georgia Governor Forsyth), and fled to Elbert County. Eventually the Allens were captured and jailed. Word spread that "the servant of God was in jail (Beverly, White says, "was a convert of Bishop Asbury, given to public praying.... preaching.") for resisting an effort to take from his liberty, to separate him from his home..." Friends in numbers stormed the jail and the Allens were released. Billy Allen returned home unharmed and Beverly Allen "fled to [Kentucky] the most distant western frontier of the United States."

Records of the Inferior Court, February term 1803, again mention Beverly Allen, this time a nephew of the more notorious Allen. The minutes state "To Beverly Allen, Greetings, whereas the application to use has been made, the license money paid, bound and security given according to law, and we reposing confidence in you, the said Beverly Allen, do therefore permit

(continued)

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Brown, Mrs. E. Chandler, submitted research on Beverly Plantation, now on file at Historic Preservation Section.  
 Macgregor, Elizabeth, personal inspection, November 19, 1974  
 Gov. Gilmore's Sketches, First Settlers of Upper Georgia, p.105  
 McIntosh, John H., the Official History of Elbert County, 1940  
 White, George, Statistics of the State of Georgia, 1849, pp. 231-233

# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NE	SEE CONTINUATION SHEET	"		"	"	
SE	"	"		"	"	
SW	"	"		"	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approximately 248 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

# 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Elizabeth Z. Macgregor  
 ORGANIZATION  
Historic Preservation Section, Dept. of Natural Resources  
 STREET AND NUMBER:  
270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703C  
 CITY OR TOWN:  
Atlanta  
 STATE  
Georgia  
 CODE  
13

# 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

Jackson O'Neal Lamb

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date April 7, 1975

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

6/5/75

ATTEST:

Keeper of the National Register

Date

JUN 3 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Georgia	
COUNTY	
Elbert	
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JUN 5	1975

(Number all entries)

**8. Significance**

you to keep a tavern to your own Dwelling-house for and during the term of twelve months beginning from the date of these presents and from thence until the next Inferior Court. Witness the Honorable William Barnett... 23rd day of February 1803."

These above accounts bear a definite relation to the architectural character of the structure. The plantation house, structurally appears to have been built in at least two stages. The rear two rooms and loft were the first portion, that described as the "residence on the hill rising from Beaver Dam Creek...", built during the period from 1783, after the Revolutionary War to the early 1790's. Local tradition places the date at 1784-5. The second portion of the structure was probably built between the 1790's and 1803 when young Beverly Allen applied for a tavern license.

Architecturally both portions of the building represent good examples of the late 18th century. Primitively constructed mantels, delicate hand crafted exterior dentil treatments, and rat-tail, H and L, and Carpenter locks on various doors, as well as wide board wainscoting and chair rail collectively suggest a 18th century date, of which there are relatively few such rural Georgia plantation buildings still existing. Great care over the years by the Allen family and descendants up until 25 years ago, and under the present owner's sensitive care, has preserved much of the original architectural features.

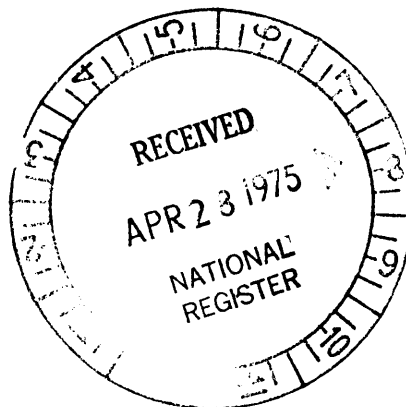
Presently plans are underway for the formation of the Richard B. Russell Dam and Reservoir. The Beverly Plantation house, although located on a high rise and will not be in danger of inundation, will however be less than 250 feet from the water's edge. As a site and structure of notable importance, the Beverly Plantation is worthy of preservation in its fullest environmental context.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

- A. 17 340610 3774350
- B. 17 340600 3773760
- C. 17 339860 3773770
- D. 17 339860 3774360

7

UTM OK  
HL



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED	JAN 6 1976
DATE ENTERED <i>June 5, 1975</i>	

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PAGE

AMENDMENT TO

BEVERLY PLANTATION - *Allen, Wm., House*

Elbert County

It has been said that the tavern for which Beverly Allen got a license in 1803 was in this house; this is apparently not so. Captain Henry Allen, last of the family to own the place, told Raymond Chandler, then a history minded youngster who was his neighbor, that the tavern was between the house and the creek, where the Allens had a grist mill. There are logically many obvious advantages to having the tavern separated from a family dwelling.

Also, it has been believed that Wm. Allen who took up land grant in 1785, built the rear portion of the house in that year. This is almost certainly not so. Usually, settlers started with log cabins and did not build frame houses until sawmills had been built. Thus, the rear part most likely dates from 1790-1800.

This new information from Henry Allen has some bearing on the date of the added two story portion of Beverly Allen House along with the data concerning Rose Hill House. The relevance of Rose Hill (1828), a handsome place which burned in 1964, to Beverly is that Rose Hill also had a fine central two-story portico, very similar to Beverly's except that the Rose Hill one had four columns which were not paired, had no fanlight in the pediment, and no veranda on each side of the portico. In both the Garden History of Georgia (1933) and a map currently distributed in Elbert County, the date for Rose Hill is 1810. One would have to think that the two porticos were within a few years of each other. The two houses were only a couple of miles apart.

However, extensive research on the Heard family and on Rose Hill by Margaret Heard Dehme reveals it was built in 1828, for Thomas Jefferson Heard upon his marriage to Nancy Middleton, by Heard's mother, Elizabeth Darden Heard, widow of Stephen Heard who was acting governor of Georgia in 1781. All this is well attested by family records, through lost sight of by many in the county. The 1828 date is, however, given in the February-March, 1965, issue of Georgia Magazine, in an article, "Proud old homes of Elbert County" by Jannelle Jones McRee.

Therefore, it is very likely that the front part of Beverly dates also from the late 1820's. Such a date would also make possible an influence which some have suspected that of the central-porticoed houses in Milledgeville, then the state capitol.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED June 5, 1975

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AMENDMENT TO  
BEVERLY PLANTATION, ELBERT COUNTY  
Continued

Patricia Irwin Cooper  
Historic Preservation Section  
Department of Natural Resources  
270 Washington Street, S.W., Room 703C  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

December 23, 1975

NAME

DAVID M. SHERMAN

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer