

PH0044229

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

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:	LAUDERDALE
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 21 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: Larimore Home *W. H. ...*

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Mars Hill Road (Route 8, Box 344)

CITY OR TOWN: Florence CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: V

STATE: Alabama CODE: 01 COUNTY: Lauderdale CODE: 077

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	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 type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Community service</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mars Hill Bible School

STREET AND NUMBER: Mars Hill Road, Route 8, Box 344

CITY OR TOWN: Florence STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Lauderdale County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: S. Court Street

CITY OR TOWN: Florence STATE: Alabama CODE: 01

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

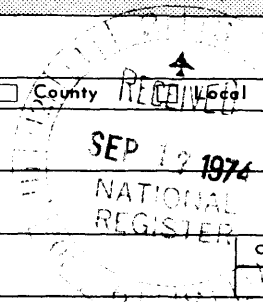
STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 21 1974

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Larimore Home, located on the northern edge of the city limits of Florence, was built by Theophilus Brown Larimore in 1870. It is basically a post-Civil war domestic architecture with a slight Victorian influence.

The partially-raised basement has solid brick walls on which heavy hand-hewn wooden beams support the frame construction consisting of two floors of four rooms each and an attic. The basement floor is thick limestone slabs quarried near Smithsonia, Alabama and pre-cut for fit when laid. Exterior steps of similar stone were laid in 1886.

Inside walls are wooden laths covered with plaster. Overall dimensions of the home are 48 feet in length and 38 feet, 2 inches in width. The first floor porch is supported by six brick columns. A two-story veranda is duplicated on both the front and the back of the home, spanning almost the entire length of the home. The verandas are supported on each level with six square wooden columns and have wooden balustrades on each floor with machine-turned balusters.

The front and back entrances have single doors composed of four rectangular panes in the upper portion and wooden panels in the lower portions. Three-pane flanking windows are on each side of the front door. The first floor front has two double-hung, four-pane sash windows evenly spaced on either side of the entrance. The upper sashes of each have arches to give a modified Gothic influence. The second floor is a duplicate except that instead of double four-pane sashes there are single six-pane sashes without the arches.

The south elevation has two regularly placed six-pane sash windows on the second floor. The first floor has two evenly-spaced double-hung four pane windows with small arches; also an entrance with a four-pane door is reached by a short flight of steps rising from the ground permitting one to enter the southeast room on the first floor. This plan is duplicated on the north elevation except that the entrance permits one to enter the northeast room of the first floor. The south side has an entrance to the basement with stone steps leading to the southwest basement room. A duplicate entrance on the north elevation leads to the northeast basement room.

In addition to the two-story veranda on the east elevation (rear) of the home the first floor has two panelled doors, evenly spaced on either side of an off-center back entrance. The second story has the same placement except that instead of doors there are six-pane windows.

A basic floor plan is followed for all three floors: A central hall runs from front to back with a single stairway on the northern wall. Two large rooms are located on each side of the halls on each floor with chimneys serving six fireplaces located between the rooms.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" 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) 1870

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" 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

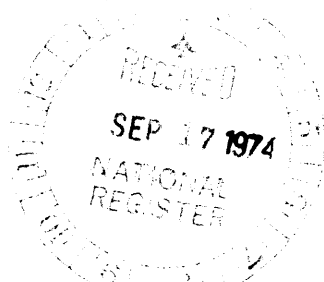
The Larimore Home was constructed by Theophilus Brown Larimore to be used as a combination home and school. The structure is unique in that having been built in 1870 it reflects only slight Romantic influence in its window sash design, chimney arrangement, and interior base-boards. The building otherwise follows old traditional influences in its structured frame, floor plan arrangement, and its hand executed exterior trim. The absence of machine duplicated ornamentation reflects a conservative and reactionary preference on the part of the original builder.

The school, known as Mars Hill College and later as Mars Hill Academy, began January 1, 1871 and operated for six months each year until 1887. The home was one of a complex of approximately 20 buildings which at one time formed the facilities of the school.

Mr. Larimore was born July 10, 1843, in Tennessee. He served in the Confederate army and was at the Battle of Shiloh. Following the war, his work as a minister brought him to the north Alabama area where he married Miss Esther Gresham in 1868. They built their home on property she had inherited. A portion of the older home where she lived is still in existence and is located a few hundred yards from the Larimore home.

Following the close of Mr. Larimore's school in 1887, he resided in the Larimore Home until his wife's death in 1907. Following a later marriage, he left the area and died in Santa Ana, California in 1929. The home was owned and occupied by his son, Virgil Larimore, until it was acquired in 1946 by a non-profit corporation for educational purposes. Lauderdale County Bible School began in the Home in September, 1947. The name of the school was changed to Mars Hill Bible School on August 6, 1951. The school, offering academic courses from kindergarten through grade 12, has operated continually and is accredited by the Alabama State Department of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Letters and Sermons of T. B. Larimore, Vol. III, edited by Emma Page, 1910
Letters and Sermons of T. B. Larimore, Vol. I, c. 1900
"World Evangelist", Vol. I, No. 6, Jan., 1973
Srgyley, F. D., T. B. Larimore and His Boys, 1927
Florence Times-Tri-Cities Daily, September 8, 1972

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

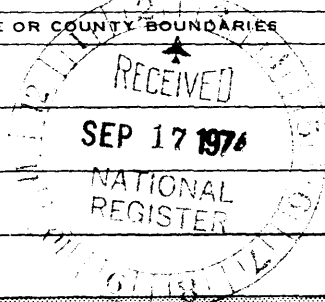
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		34 ° 50 ' 48 "	87 ° 39 ' 36 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM
 16/439660
 3856 050
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

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:
W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION: **Alabama Historical Commission** DATE: **Sept. 11, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
725 Monroe 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>Miss B. Howard Jr.</u></p> <p>Title <u>SHPO Alabama</u></p> <p>Date <u>Sept. 12, 1974</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>A. P. Mortensen</u> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>11/21/74</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>W. S. Smith</u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>11.13-74</u></p>
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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
ALABAMA	
COUNTY	
LAUDERDALE	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 21 1974	

(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

The first floor interior is accented by hand-carved mantels and antique chandeliers of the period though not original with the home. Two-pane case-ment windows in the basement have interior wooden shutters. Other than the roof, the home has been preserved and restored with minor restoration to its original condition.

