

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Battersea

other names/site number Martin, Bill, House

2. Location

street & number Hale County Road 8, (former U. S. Highway 80) N/A not for publication

city or town Gallion vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Hale code 065 zip code 36742

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] June 1, 1994
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Entered in the National Register 7-7-94 Date of Action

Battersea
Name of Property

Hale County, Alabama
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	3	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
Plantation Houses of the Alabama Canebrake and their associated outbuildings (1818-1942)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/secondary structure

Domestic/secondary structure/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th century

foundation Brick

No style

walls Wood

roof Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1845-1885

Significant Dates

ca. 1845

ca. 1885

ca. 1855

ca. 1872

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository

Battersea
Name of Property

Hale County, Alabama
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 13 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	433880	3597090
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	16	434040	3597080

3	16	434040	3596960
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	16	433875	3596960

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jeff Mansell

organization Cahaba Trace Commission date June 23, 1993

street & number Route 1, Box 147 telephone (205) 665-7982

city or town Brierfield state AL zip code 35035

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. and Mrs. Bill Martin

street & number P. O. Box 6 telephone (205) 289-0490

city or town Gallion state Alabama zip code 36742

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to qualify for certain benefits in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 USC 470 et seq.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Battersea
Gallion vicinity
Hale County, Alabama

Set at the edge of cedar lined semi-circular drive, Battersea is a one and a half story cottage facing south and resting just north of Hale County Road 8, formerly U. S. Highway 80. The house is believed to date from the 1840s and was enlarged after its purchase in 1872 by Elwood Dunn Davies. The structure reflects the evolution of a Canebrake plantation house from the time of its construction through the late 19th century. The house was probably constructed in the 1840s and may have been improved in the mid 1850s. Battersea underwent a subsequent renovation, after its purchase in 1872; the renovation probably occurred during the 1880s.

The first floor of the structure is constructed of hand-hewn cedar logs which are visible during the present restoration process. The house rests on a foundation of brick piers. The dwelling originally had a side gable roof with two interior chimneys and a full width recessed porch supported by six boxed supports. The original pilasters which mirrored the boxed supports remain at each end of the facade. In the late 19th century, probably the 1880s, the roof of the dwelling was raised to create more space in the half story. Today, the dwelling features a side gable roof with a rear central gable roof dormer and a central full height portico on the front facade. The pediment of the portico contains fishscale shingles which were applied during the subsequent Davies renovation. The double tiered portico is flanked by one story shed roof porches; the porch supports which date from the renovation remain and are chamfered posts. A single leaf entrance with sidelights with frosted glass panes is centrally located in the five-bay facade of the first floor. The half-story features a central single-leaf door and flanking small windows located just above the line of the porch roof and below the eave of the main roofline. The interior room arrangement is based on a central hall plan with flanking double rooms separated by interior chimneys. The reverse stair is believed to be original to the dwelling. The interior is plastered throughout while all moldings and door and window surrounds feature moldings and decorative corner blocks which may have been inspired by a design appearing in Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (1830). The moldings may be a simplified adaptation of Plate 48. All original windows are 6/6 double hung sash and the mantles are of simple Greek Revival design. A portion of the rear shed roofed cabinet room located off the northeast corner of the dwelling is original but has been expanded by the present owners and now serves as a laundry and bathroom. A side service room, which originally rested a few feet lower than the rest of the structure, has been raised and attached to the dining room; it now serves as a modern kitchen. The upstairs contains three large rooms, two are original while the room to the rear of the hall was added during the 1880s renovation. The two front rooms contain fireplaces and dressing rooms which were also added during this renovation.

Located on the property is the original kitchen structure which is located to the north of the main house. The kitchen is a simple frame side-gable roofed structure with a brick chimney. Also on the property is a modern trailer and two sheds, all of which are non-contributing. The Battersea nomination includes two contributing and three non-contributing resources.

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Section number 8 Page 2

Battersea
Gallion vicinity
Hale County, Alabama

Criterion C: Architecture

Battersea is a significant example of a Canebrake plantation house which reflects the construction and evolution of a plantation dwelling over a period of time (ca. 1840-1942). The house is a simple vernacular dwelling and is one of the few structures still extant in the region which is constructed of hand-hewn cedar logs. Battersea yields information regarding the styles, form, construction methods, techniques and craftsmanship utilized by the residents of the Canebrake from 1818-1942. The house retains a high degree of integrity in regard to design, materials, workmanship, feeling and setting.

Historical Summary

The dwelling house at Battersea was probably constructed in the 1840s. The structure may have existed as a simple "unimproved" log dwelling for some time. The dwelling appears to have been improved sometime in the 1850s. The first reference to the dwelling in public records is in the conveyance to Dr. James Browder in the mid 1850s. According to land deeds, Dr. Browder conveyed approximately 13 acres including a house to Josephine McRae on March 1st, 1857 for \$3,000.00. The Browder deed notes a number of land purchases by the doctor in the mid 1850s and it is believed that he assembled this acreage at that time. In 1859, Josephine McRae conveyed the property to Alice Vaughan Duggar for the sum of \$3,500.00. Alice Duggar was the daughter of Capt. Reuben and Alice Goode Vaughan of Petersburg, Virginia. In Virginia, the Vaughans lived at the palatial Palladian manor, Battersea. Alice and Henry Duggar joined her parents and the extended Vaughan family in the Canebrake in 1844, settling Frederickton plantation. After Henry's death in 1852, Alice Vaughan Duggar purchased this house and property adjoining their lands to the south and her mother's plantation "The Wigwam" to the west. She named the property, Battersea, after her childhood home in Virginia. In 1872, Alice Duggar sold Battersea to Elwood Dunn Davies, husband of Mary Lou Collins, the daughter of a prominent Canebrake planter. Davies renovated the structure in the 1880s, raising the roof and adding additional rooms in the upper story. Today, the property is owned by Bill and Jill Martin who are undertaking a renovation of the dwelling.¹

Archaeological component

Although no formal archaeological survey has been made at Battersea, the potential for subsurface remains may be high. Properties of this type were sited with a constellation of dependencies such as kitchens and other outbuildings. Buried portions may contain significant information that may be useful in interpreting the entire property.

¹United States Census, 1850 for Marengo County; John Witherspoon Dubose, "Chronicles of the Canebrake," Alabama Review, (Summer and Fall, 1940); Marengo County Deeds Records, Book S, pages 39, 45-46,

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Battersea
Gallion vicinity
~~Hale County, Alabama~~

Bibliography

Dubose, John Witherspoon. "Chronicles of the Canebrake." *Alabama Review*, (Summer and Fall, 1940).

Office of Probate, Marengo County. Deed Records Book S. Marengo County Courthouse, Linden, Alabama

United States Federal Population Census of Marengo County, 1850.

Verbal Boundary Description

That tract of land, comprising approximately 13 acres, lying in the southeast quarter of section 20 in Township 18 in Range 4 east, being the same tract of land conveyed by Josephine McRae to Alice Vaughan Duggar, as recorded in Deed Book S, page 46 on May 16, 1859. For exact boundaries, please refer to tax maps.

Boundary Justification

The boundary lines were drawn to incorporate the original tract of land comprising the Battersea acreage and to include all historic resources associated with the property.

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Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 4

Battersea
Gallion vicinity
Hale County, Alabama

Information included in items #1-5 is the same for all photographs. There has been no change to the property since a site visit in June, 1993.

1. Battersea
2. Gallion vcn., Hale County
3. Jeff Mansell - photographer
4. Summer, 1993
5. Negatives on file with the Alabama Historical Commission

Photograph #1, facade, camera facing north

Photograph #2, side (east) elevation, camera facing west

Photograph #3, rear (north) elevation, camera facing south

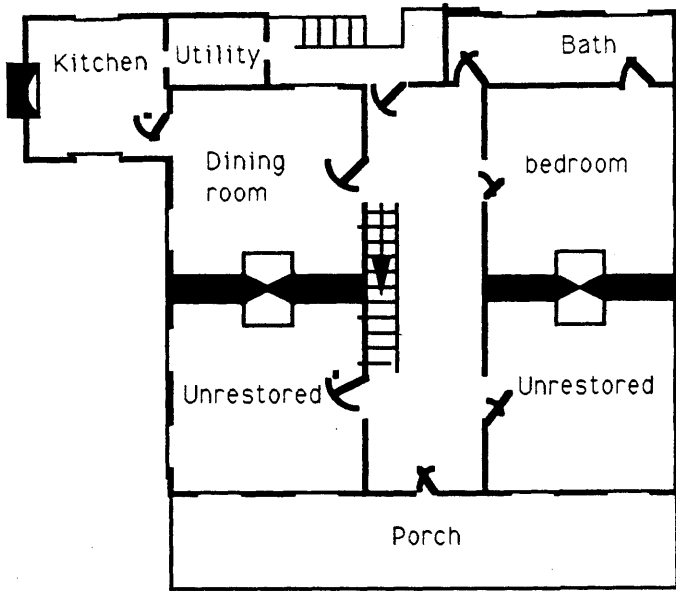
Photograph #4, rear (north) elevation, camera facing south

Photograph #5, side (west) elevation, camera facing east

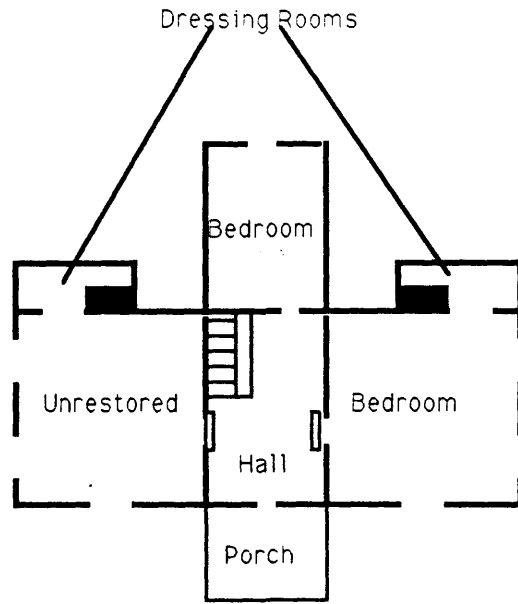
Photograph #6, interior, detail of log construction, central hallway

Photograph #7, interior, detail of central staircase

Photograph #8, original kitchen building, camera facing west



First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan

Site and Floorplan for
Battersea
 ca. 1850
 GALLION VICINITY
 Hale County, Alabama

