

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only
received FEB 7 1985
date entered MAR 7 1985

1. Name

historic Hawthorn House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 9 North Broad Street (N. Main) NA not for publication

city, town Pine Apple NA vicinity of Congressional District 1

state Alabama code 01 county Wilcox code 131

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. & Mrs. Edward A. Childs, Jr.

street & number 1760 Dauphin Street

city, town Mobile NA vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wilcox County Courthouse

street & number Broad Street

city, town Camden state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic American Buildings Survey (8 exterior photos, 10 interior photos, 1937)
title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1970-present federal state county local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery state Alabama

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hawthorn House is a frame, 2½ story rectangular structure resting on a low brick-pier foundation. Overall, the structure measures approximately 56 x 40 feet, exclusive of the porches at front and rear. A broad gable roof with pedimented gable ends covers the house. Marking each end elevation is a pair of interior end chimneys, which rise inside the weatherboard sheathing.

A two-tiered pedimented central portico is composed of two rows of four superimposed wooden piers. The caps and bases of the piers are molded, and the shafts themselves relieved by a light astragal banding. At both the upper and lower levels, a wheat-sheaf balustrade links the piers and terminates against corresponding pilasters. The tympanum of the pediment is pierced by a glazed lunette, while the raking cornice is mitered against the broad main cornice which completely encircles the house. In contrast to the lapped weatherboards which elsewhere sheathe the exterior, the sheltered walls and tympanum of the portico are finished with flush siding.

At the rear of the house, a full-length one-story porch is abutted at either end by a pair of shed rooms. Off one of these at the eastern end of the porch, a small pantry has been built.

Perhaps the most striking single feature of the house is the double doors at either end of the wide hallway which bisects the lower floor. Because of their abnormal width, the openings have triple-leaf rather than double-leaf doors. Two of these doors are hinged so as to fold back and form, when the third leaf is open, a portal some nine feet wide. Flanking both the front and rear doors are a pair of sash windows instead of conventional sidelights so that, in effect, the entire width of the hall, both front and rear, can be opened to the outside galleries during hot weather. A glazed semielliptical fanlight spans the front door; a rectangular glazed transom, the back. With the adjacent windows, these doors extend a total width of 14½ feet.

The hallway itself opens on either side into a pair of rooms measuring 19 feet square. The rooms to the right or east side of the hall are linked en suite by sliding double doors. A straight-run stair, unusual for the 1850's in that it has a closed stringer, ascends in reverse flight to the second floor.

The second-floor arrangement of the house differs somewhat from the first. Here the slightly narrower central hall does not extend the full depth of the house, but rather branches midway into a longitudinal passage running the length of the house. Two large (16x22) bedrooms lie to either side of the front hall while four smaller chambers are arranged across the back of the house. On the east side of the main hall, a straight-run stair which parallels the lower stairwell against the opposite wall rises, from front to back, to the half story beneath the gable. The door at the front of the upstairs hall is enclosed by a conventional sidelight and transom arrangement.

Woodwork throughout the interior is grained and molded in the conventional mid-nineteenth century manner. Mantelpieces, like interior doorways, are heavy in scale and plain in treatment.

To the rear of the main residence, a frame servant dwelling and log smokehouse included in the HABS photographic recording of the complex in 1937 have now been destroyed. A small wellhouse, however, still remains on the grounds.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1854 **Builder/Architect** Ezra Plumb

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

CRITERION B - politics/government

The Hawthorn House is significant for its associations with Joseph Richard Hawthorn (1805 - ca. 1870). A wealthy landowner and planter, Hawthorn moved to Pine Apple, Alabama in 1854 from Conecuh County, Alabama where he had held several county level offices. Eleven years after building this house, Hawthorn was elected representative to the State Legislature from Wilcox County. He held this post for two consecutive terms (1865-67).

CRITERION B - military

The Hawthorn House is significant for its associations with John Herbert Kelly (1840-64). Orphaned at the age of seven, Kelly moved to the Hawthorn House to live with his grandmother, Hawthorn's third wife. He joined the Confederate Army in 1861 after attending West Point, and acquired an outstanding military record culminating with a commission to brigadier general at the age of 24. Hailed as one of the youngest ranking officers in Confederate service, Kelly was killed in action, in 1864 while leading a charge at Franklin, Tennessee.

CRITERION C - architecture

The Hawthorn House is an excellent example of the mid-19th century adaptation of a traditional house form to the climatic exigencies of lower Alabama. There are the usual lofty ceilings and a studied attention to cross-ventilation for each major room. But in addition, the anticipated central hall has here become, in effect, a sort of formalized breezeway or dogtrot, through the placement of singularly wide doors and contiguous windows at either end. This enables the hall to be thrown open so as to merge with the front and rear porches into an indoor-outdoor living space during the hot summer months.

In its general form and detail, the Hawthorn House also represents the type of large-scale, frame plantation residence--grand in proportions but often suprisingly spartan in detail--which dotted the cotton-rich Alabama Black Belt during the 1850s. While its double-pile plan has nothing distinctively regional about it, the house stylistically exhibits the tendency in the Camden area at this period to mix retardataire Federal details with more up-to-date Greek Revival elements. Thus a lunette pierces the tympanum of a central portico upheld by Greek Revival-inspired piers. At the same time the main door assumes a Palladian air with its crowning semi-elliptical fanlight, flanked by square-headed window openings. Doors and other woodwork, however, have the heavy, plain moldings and unembellished surfaces typical of "country Greek Revival" throughout the Deep South.

Finally, the Hawthorn House is perhaps the finest remaining example of the domestic work of the Connecticut-born builder, Ezra Plumb, who worked in southern Alabama from the late 1830s to the 1870s.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Owens, T. M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography, 1921.
Wakelyn, J. L. Biographical Dictionary of the Confederacy, 1977.
Hoole, William Stanley and Addie Shirley Hoole, Alabama's Boy Generals of the Confederacy.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4.81

Quadrangle name Pine Apple South

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	0	1	2	6	0	3	5	2	6	3	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

See red line on attached sketch map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	NA	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shirley Qualls, Historic Resource Coordinator; & Bob Gamble, Architectural Historian

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date October 15, 1984

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone 205 261-3184

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 29, 1985

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date 3-7-85

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The Hawthorn House

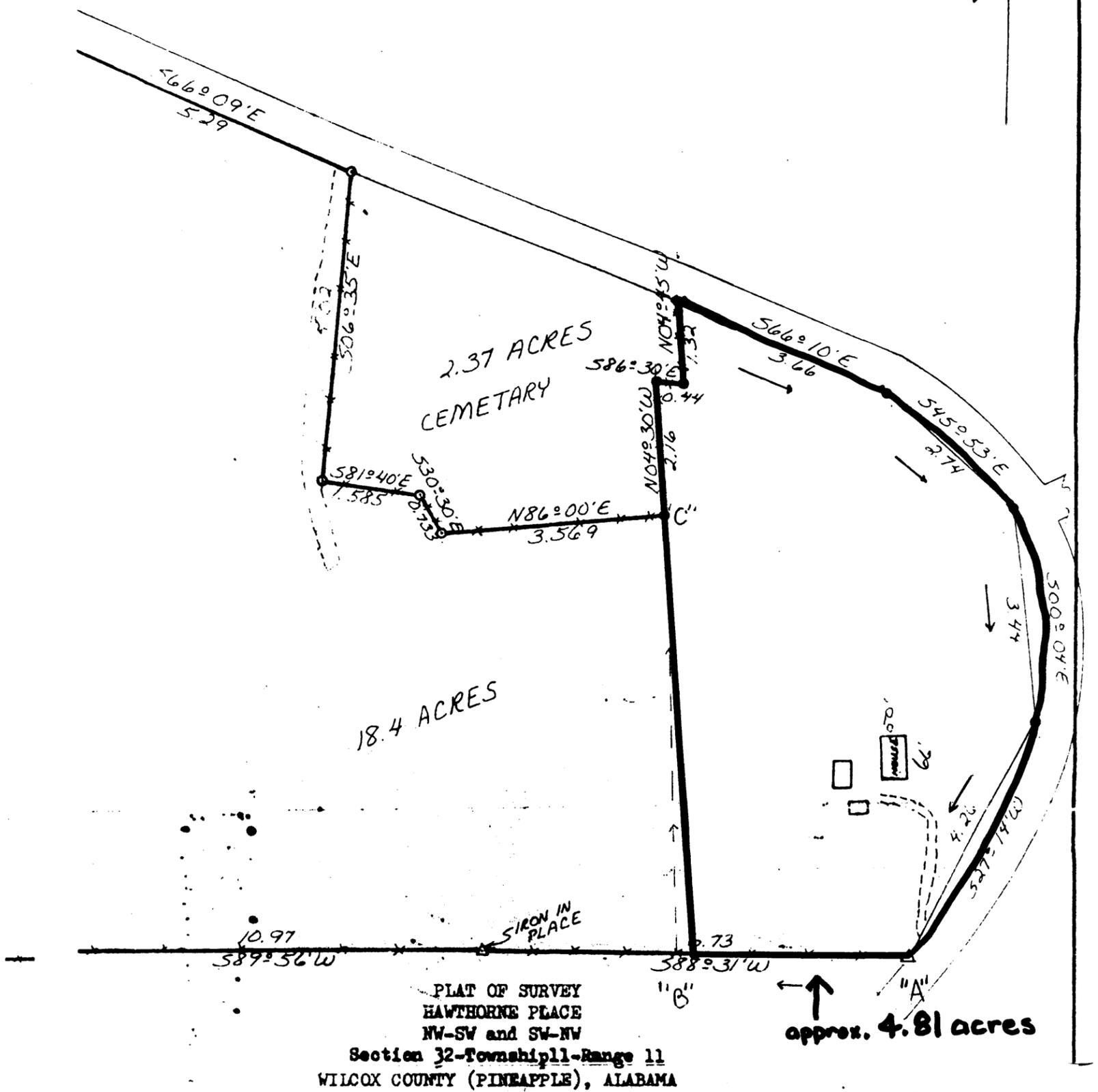
The Hawthorn House was built as a residence for planter Joseph Richard Hawthorn (sometimes spelled Hawthorne). Born in Robinson County, NC in 1805, Hawthorn emigrated as a youth with his parents to Wilkinson County, GA where they lived until moving to what is now Conecuh County, Alabama in 1817. The family settled near Belleville where Hawthorn engaged in farming and held several county offices until moving to Pine Apple, Wilcox County, in 1854. It was then that the present house was built. Subsequently, Hawthorn represented Wilcox County for two terms in the state legislature. He was also a member and deacon of the nearby Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, founded by his brother, the Rev. Kedar Hawthorn.

Hawthorn was married three times: first, to Sarah King of Conecuh County; then, to Elizabeth King, also of Conecuh County; and thirdly, to Harriet Herbert of Mobile--his wife at the time Hawthorn settled in Pine Apple. Through Hawthorn's marriage to the widowed Mrs. Herbert, his Pine Apple plantation house became the home of one of the Confederacy's "boy heroes," John Herbert Kelly (1840-1864).

Orphaned at the age of seven, Kelly came to live with his grandmother and her second husband. He grew to young manhood at the Pine Apple house and was later sent to West Point. But he renounced his appointment when Alabama seceded from the Union in January 1861. Kelly joined the Southern Army and was eventually promoted to the rank of brigadier general--one of the youngest ranking officers in Confederate service. Killed while leading a charge at Franklin, Tennessee, on 20 August 1864, Kelly was quickly apotheosized as a boy martyr.

The house remained in the Hawthorn family until the early 1900s. In the 1920s it was reacquired largely for sentimental reasons by Joseph R. Hawthorn's grandson, Dr. Julian Hawthorne, of Rye, New York. The house was subsequently restored, in the late 1930s, and became the residence of Dr. Hawthorne's widowed mother and his sister, Gladys. The doctor himself also used the house as a hunting lodge during the winter season. In 1982, after the death of Galdys Hawthorne, the heirs to the estate sold the house to the present owners.

The builder of the house, Ezra Plumb, also erected the Belleville Baptist Church, the first "Jay Villa" (burned 1892) for Andrew Jay, and both the Calef and Asa Johnston houses at Johnstonville, all in Conecuh County.



STATE OF ALABAMA
WILCOX COUNTY

I, Boyd Foster, a Registered Engineer-Surveyor of Greenville, Alabama, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct map or plat of the following described real property, viz: Begin at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 11, Range 11, Wilcox County, Alabama, run thence S89°56'E 10.97 chains to a fence corner, said corner being the point of beginning of the herein described real property, run thence N02°45'E 8.37 chains to a fence corner, thence S82°30'E 1.54 chains to a fence corner, thence N09°30'E along a fence 2.00 chains, thence N05°00'E 4.75 chains to a point on the south right of-way line of a paved county road, thence S66°09'E along said south right-of-way line 5.29 chains to a fence corner, thence S06°35'E along a fence 5.02 chains to a point, thence S82°40'E along a fence 1.585 chains to a point, thence S30°30'E 0.733 chains along a fence to a point, thence N86°00'E along a fence 3.569 chains to a fence corner, thence N04°30'W 2.16 chains to a fence corner, thence S86°30'E 0.44 chains to a fence corner, thence N04°45'W along a fence 1.32 chains to a point on the south right-of-way line of a county road, thence S66°10'E along said south right-of-way line 3.66 chains to a point, thence along said right-of-way line a curve to the right, the chord of which curve bears S45°53'E a chord distance of 2.74 chains to a point, thence along said right-of-way line a curve to the right, the chord of which curve bears S00°04'E a chord distance of 3.44 chains, thence along said right-of-way line a curve to the right, the chord of which curve bears S27°14'W a chord distance of 4.26 chains to a point, thence S88°31'W along a fence 6.73 chains to an iron pin, thence S89°56'W along a fence 10.97 chains to the point of beginning, situated, lying and being in the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section THIRTY TWO (32) Township ELEVEN (11), Range ELEVEN (11), Wilcox County, Alabama, and containing 18.4 acres, more or less.

According to my survey this 3rd day of August, 1981.

BOYD FOSTER OF GREENVILLE, INC.
ENGINEERS-SURVEYORS

Boyd Foster
Boyd Foster Reg. #6735

Scale 1" = 2.0 chains