

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>ALABAMA</b>	
COUNTY: <b>COLBERT</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON: **Barton Hall**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **Cunningham Plantation**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**2 1/2 miles west of Cherokee on Route 72, 1/2 mile S. of this Route**

STATE <b>Alabama</b>	CODE <b>01</b>	COUNTY: <b>Colbert</b>	CODE <b>033</b>
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**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	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME: **Taylor B. Bodkin**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Route 2**

CITY OR TOWN: **Cherokee** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Colbert County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Tuscumbia** STATE: **Alabama** CODE: **01**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Historic American Building Survey**

DATE OF SURVEY: **1935**  Federal  State  County  Local

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

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

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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

Barton Hall is a two story wood framed structure with wood siding and a limestone foundation. It has a rectangular central plan with extended one story rear wings.

The roof of the main portion is hipped and surmounted with a belvedere. This roof is of English tin as are the gabled roofs of the rear wings.

Two end-interior chimneys are located on each side of the central block and one end-interior chimney is located on the rear of each wing.

The front or north elevation is symmetrically arranged. The centrally located main entrance is framed with sidelites, a transom, and an "eared" architrave. Pilasters separate this portion of the facade, which is faced with shiplapped siding from the remainder of the facade.

A small portico is supported by four fluted Doric columns. This portico roof forms the floor of a balcony which is reached by a doorway similar to the one beneath it. The entablature of this portioc is decorated with triglyphs of the Doric order. This motif is repeated in the entablature of the central portion of the house, the belvedere, and the rear wings.

Four windows are located, two on either side of the main entrance. This pattern is repeated on the upper floor. All windows are double-hung, have 12 lites per sash, and are framed with simple Federal moldings.

Large pilasters are located on either end of the facade.

The side elevations are identical, the main portion having four windows per floor. These windows are identical to the front ones.

On each of the two wings two fluted Doric columns support a pedimented entrance portico. The double doors are composed of glass panes and have a transom above.

On the rear or south side of the house a U-shaped patio is formed by the south wall of the central block and the two wings. A central rear doorway is similar to the side entrances. Two fluted Doric columns support a balcony above which spans the distance between the two wings. Access to this balcony is provided by simple double doors with Federal trim.

The interior is divided by a central hall which contains the stairway. Two flights of stairs, one facing the front entrance the other facing the rear entrance, rise from the ground floor to a central landing. From there two flights on the opposite wall ascend to the second floor. This pattern is repeated on the second floor leading to the attic where two flights of stairs ascend to the belvedere.

MORE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input 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

Barton Hall is built in a form of Greek Revival architecture unusual for Alabama. In its trim and detail it is late Georgian (Federal period) of Carolina preference rather than Kentucky. The most unusual feature of the house is the stairway, an interesting arrangement similar to the stairway in the Magnolias of Aberdeen, Mississippi, built in 1850.

Barton Hall was constructed by Armstead Barton in the 1840's. Barton was the son of Dr. Hugh Barton who migrated from Winchester County, Virginia to East Tennessee in the late 1700's. Armstead Barton was born in Anderson County, Tennessee, in 1800 and moved to Tuscumbia around 1825. There he went into business with his cousin, and in 1829 he married Amanda Cook. He purchased approximately 40,000 acres of land and in 1840 began construction of Barton Hall. At his death in 1847 the house was not yet complete, but construction continued under the supervision of his widow and the house was completed in 1849.

Mrs. Barton continued to live in the house until her death. The house then passed to the heirs of the Barton estate and remained in the family until 1908, when it was sold to a Mr. Johnston. Since that date the house has had several owners and is presently owned by Taylor Bodkin, Jr., a descendent of Armstead Barton who purchased the house in 1967 from Charles Wilder Watts.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Family Records. Mrs. Taylor Bodkin, Sr., Tuscumbia, Alabama  
 Family Records. Mrs. Walker Morris, Cherokee, Alabama.  
 Historic American Building Survey. Alabama 37

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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
NW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		34°	45'	09"
NE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"		88°	00'	12"
SE	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				
SW	0' 0" 0"	0' 0" 0"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **4 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:  
**W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director.**

ORGANIZATION: **Alabama Historical Commission**      DATE: **May 2, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**305 South Lawrence Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Montgomery**      STATE: **Alabama**      CODE: **01**

**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 Wils B. Howard, Jr.

Title SHPO

Date May 15, 1973

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE ALABAMA	
COUNTY COLBERT	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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(Number all entries)

7. Description--Barton Hall

On the first floor the central hall opens onto double parlors on the left and a living room and bedroom on the right. Side entrance halls give access to the patio, the rear parlor on the left and the bedroom on the right. A bedroom is located to the rear of the left hall and a dining room to the rear of the right hall.

A second floor consists of two bedrooms on either side of the hall.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS:**

### **Barton Hall, Colbert County, Alabama**

#### **Identification:**

1. front view of house; tree stump in bottom left corner, two chairs in lower middle lawn
2. front view of house; two chairs and bench in lower left corner
3. front view of house; two chairs and bench in lower left corner
4. front view of house; two chairs and bench in lower left corner
5. front view of house; two chairs and bench in lower left corner
6. rear view; covered well near center
7. rear view; covered well near center
8. rear view; covered well near center
9. rear view; covered well near center
10. side portico
11. side portico
12. side portico
13. side portico