

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Winterboro Stagecoach Inn

other names/site number Winters, John Gano, House; Gooden, William H., House

**2. Location**

street & number 22901 Alabama Highway 21 not for publication N/A  
city or town Winterboro vicinity N/A  
state Alabama code AL county Talladega code 121 zip code 35014

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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   x   locally. (       See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Richard A. Anuborn Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 5/24/05  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or 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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that this 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):

Robert H. Boall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 7/6/05

       Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

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<b>Ownership of Property</b> (Check as many boxes as apply.)	<b>Category of Property</b> (Check only one box.)	<b>Number of Resources within Property</b> (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)		
		Contributing	Noncontributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Hotel  
Single Dwelling  
Secondary Structure

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
Secondary Structure

=====

**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Other: I-House

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation BRICK  
Roof ASPHALT  
Walls WOOD/weatherboard  
other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

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**10. Geographical Data**  
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**Acreege of Property** less than one acre

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	574780	3687440	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_ 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 Gene A. and Linda R. Ford; Christy Anderson NR Reviewer

organization Preservation Consultants/Alabama Historical Commission date 8/18/2004

street & number 26 Cherokee Hills/468 S. Perry Street telephone (205) 556-5388/(334) 230-2658

city or town Tuscaloosa/Montgomery state Alabama zip code 35404/36130-0900

=====  
**Additional Documentation**  
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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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. and Mrs. Ken Powers

street & number 22901 Alabama Highway 21 telephone (256) 362-5629

city or town Alpine state Alabama zip code 35014

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a 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
- Transportation
- Commerce
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance** 1850-1855; 1867

**Significant Dates** 1850; 1867

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

**Cultural Affiliation** N/A

**Architect/Builder** Unknown

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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS)**

- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other state agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository \_\_\_\_\_

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## VII. Narrative

Built circa 1850, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn located at 22901 Alabama Highway 21 in Winterboro, Talladega County, Alabama is a locally significant example of an I-house. The dwelling was originally a one-story dogtrot. John Gano Winters, a Montgomery businessman, built the dwelling to serve as an inn or stagecoach stop on the Central Plank Road. Winters and a group of investors began building the plank road in 1850 to capitalize on the local cotton trade. For this reason, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn reflects the mid-nineteenth-century commercial and transportation history of the Winterboro community. A second story was added to the dwelling circa 1867. The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn retains an excellent degree of integrity.

In addition to the I-house, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn boundaries include a circa 1867 barn, a 1960 shed, a 1996 carport, a 1996 office, and a 1996 storage building. The I-house and circa 1867 barn are contributing resources due to their age and integrity while the shed, carport, office, and storage building are considered non-contributing resources since they are less than 50 years old. In all, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn property encompasses 24 acres; however, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) boundaries, which are delineated on an accompanying map, contain less than one acre. The remaining acreage is excluded from the NRHP boundaries, as it did not contribute to the architectural, commercial, and transportation significance of the property.

The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is part of Winterboro, Alabama. Dating back to the early nineteenth century, Winterboro is best described as a rural community of approximately 100 people located between Sylacauga and Talladega. At its heart is the intersection of State Routes 21 and 76. Contained within this community are a number of nineteenth-century era farms, a Public Works Administration (1936) built school, a circa 1920s lodge, and several recently constructed convenience stores/gas stations. The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is located in the northwest corner of the intersection of State Routes 21 and 76.

The form of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn (contributing resource) is that of a quintessential I-house, two stories tall and one room deep with rear ells and shed additions. The floor plan of the stagecoach inn is that of a typical central hall I-house. It features a central hall on both floors with flanking rooms.

The I-house measures 46 feet wide and 72 feet deep. The central halls on both floors of the house core are 9 feet 9 inches wide and 17 feet 4 inches deep. The flanking rooms (a living room and parlor on the first floor and two bedrooms on the second) are square: 17 feet 4 inches wide and 17 feet 4 inches deep. A rear, shed addition is 46 feet wide and 9 feet 6 inches deep. The shed addition is subdivided into three spaces. The north room (a den) and the south room (incorporated as part of the southwest ell, or kitchen wing) are 16 feet wide. The central space serves as an extension of the central hall on the first story. It is 14 feet wide. The corresponding space on the second story is subdivided into two bathrooms for the upstairs bedrooms. The kitchen wing is 16 feet wide at its east end and 12 feet wide at its west end. Its total depth, including the 9 feet 6 inches depth of the shed addition, is 27 feet. The north rear ell (master bedroom wing) is 16 feet at its west end and 13 feet wide at its east end. The ell is 37 feet deep. A rear, shed addition between the two rear ells is 18 feet wide and 7 feet 10 inches deep. The space serves as a laundry room. An enclosed porch is adjacent to the laundry room.

The two-story core of the inn features a cross gable roof of asphalt shingles. The house has two, exterior, brick chimneys located at either end of the house. Weatherboards clad the exterior of the dogtrot-turned-I house. A full width porch runs the length of the façade (east side). A two-story, gable-capped wing projects westward from the center of the west side. A one-story ell extends westward at a ninety-degree angle from the southwest corner of the inn-turned-private residence. Another one-story ell extends likewise from the northwest corner. Between the two ells is a shed room. The house rests atop a brick foundation.

The east side (façade) of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn, which measures 46 feet long, features a central wood door composed of four panels and a stile and rail configured in an inverted crucifix form. The door is flanked on either side by sidelight consisting of five, fixed panes of glass. A wood, screen door consisting of six panels of louvers fronts the door. Fluted wood moldings surround the door and sidelights. Flush boards clad the exterior of the house on either side of the central door. Two windows flank either side of the door. These windows consist of 6/9 double hung sashes. Shutters flank each of the windows. The second

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story of the east side has six, 6/6 double hung sash windows with shutters.

The full width porch fronting the west side is composed of a shed roof and six slightly tapered wood columns. Above the columns is an unadorned frieze. The flush boards of the porch ceiling run parallel to the porch length while those of the porch floor run perpendicular to it. A lighting fixture and a swing are suspended from the porch ceiling. The porch rests atop a continuous, brick foundation, as does the rest of the house. The porch measures 46 feet long and 8 feet wide.

The north and south sides of the two-story portion of the house have a brick chimney and two windows on each floor. The windows flank either side of the chimney. Those on the second floor feature 6/6 double hung sashes while those on the first feature 6/9 double hung sashes. A single shutter flanks the outer edge of each of the windows. These sides of the house measure 17 feet wide.

Only the second floor of the west side of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is visible due to one-story ells. Four voids on this side of the house are fitted with 6/6 double hung sash windows. Wood shutters flank the windows.

From the northwest corner of the two-story section of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn, a one-story, master bedroom wing projects 47 feet westward. Built in July 1988, the wing is 16 feet wide. Atop it is a gable roof of asphalt shingles. Like the two-story section, the wing has weatherboard cladding. The north side features two 6/6 double hung sash windows. The west side has a single 6/9 double hung sash window. The south side has four windows. Three are fitted with 6/6 double hung sash windows. The fourth has a wood panel door. The wing rests atop a continuous brick foundation.

From the southwest corner of the two-story section of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn, a one-story wing projects 27 feet westward. The wing is 12 feet wide, with a gable roof of asphalt shingles. Like the two-story section, the wing has weatherboard cladding. While the south side of the ell has two 6/6 double hung sash windows, the north side has a single 6/6 double hung sash window and a wood panel door. The west end, which features a brick chimney, lacks voids. The wing rests atop a continuous brick foundation.

In between the two ells are a laundry room and an enclosed porch. Only the west side of the porch is visible. The west side has a central wood door flanked on either side by a 6/6 double hung sash window with shutters. Other elements of the exterior of the porch and laundry room include an open rail balustrade, wood stair, and an engaged shed roof. The two rooms measure 18 feet long and 18 feet deep.

The ceiling, floor, and walls of the central hall of the first floor feature flush boards. Fluted moldings with corner blocks trim out the front door and sidelights and two interior doors, one leading to the north room, or living room, and one leading to the south room, or parlor. Baseboards line the bottom of the walls. An opening in the west side of the central hall opens to the central room of the rear shed addition.

The central rear shed room has wood boards covering the ceiling, walls, and floor. A window with shutters occupies a void in the west wall. Adjacent to the window is a wood door with four panels and a stile and rail configured in an inverted crucifix form. Similarly designed doors occupy voids in the north and south walls of this room.

Located in the southeast corner of the central shed room, a stairwell leads to the second floor. A closet with a door that faces the front door is tucked under the stairwell. Elements of the stairwell include plain rectangular balusters, a newel post, a handrail, treads, and risers.

The appointments of the living room, or north room, are understated. Plain moldings surround door and window openings. The wood trim of the mantel is also plain. The floor, walls, and ceiling are constructed of flush boards. An opening in the west wall that leads to a den, or north shed room, features a wood door with four panels and a stile and rail configured in an inverted crucifix form. The composition of the den consists of a floor, walls, and a ceiling covered with wood boards.

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The design of the parlor, or south room, is much like that of the living room; however, the mantel reflects Greek Revival architecture with its tapered pilasters. It also features two recessed panels. An opening in the west wall that leads to the kitchen features a wood door with four panels and a stile and rail configured in an inverted crucifix form.

The elements of the central hall on the second floor are much like those of the central hall on the first floor. One exception is the door treatment. Door surrounds consist of fluted moldings without corner blocks. Openings in the south and north walls have wood doors with four panels and a stile and rail configured in an inverted crucifix form.

A bedroom flanks either side of the central hall. The appointments of the bedrooms are like those of the downstairs living room and parlor. As would be expected in the less public spaces, the mantels are quite plain.

Openings in the north wall of each of the two bedrooms open to adjoining bathrooms. The bathroom walls, floors, and ceilings feature wood boards. Each bathroom has a sink, commode, and shower.

The one-story ell projecting from the southwest corner of the I-house serves as the kitchen. The floor is covered with wood boards and the walls and ceiling with painted sheetrock. The one-story ell projecting from the northwest corner of the I-house serves as a master bedroom. The floor is covered with wood boards and the walls and ceiling with painted sheetrock. The interior of the wing is divided into two bathrooms, a walk-in closet, and bedroom space. The bathrooms have sinks, a commode, and a tile-lined shower.

The composition of the laundry room consists of a floor, walls, and a ceiling covered with wood boards. The interior of the adjoining enclosed porch is similarly appointed.

A barn (contributing resource) is located approximately 100 yards west of the house. Built circa 1867, the barn features wood frame construction. Weatherboards clad the exterior of a sawmill cut framework. A gable roof of standing seam metal caps the structure. A transverse passage runs the west/east through the heart of the barn. Enclosed pens flank either side of the transverse passage. The south pens are accessed through interior doors while the north pens are accessed through interior doors and an exterior double leaf door located on the east side. A wood stairwell and deck front the east side of the barn, providing access to the loft. A void in the east side of the barn on the loft level encases a double leaf door, which opens inward from the deck. A shed addition is attached to the south side.

Between the barn and the house is an open air shed (non-contributing resource). Built circa 1960, the shed has a shed roof of corrugated metal and a framework of mill-cut lumber. Chain-link gates front the two bays of the shed.

An office (non-contributing resource) is located approximately 20 yards southeast of the barn. Built 1996, the office has an exterior sheathing of vinyl and a gable roof of asphalt shingles. The west, east, and north sides have two, 6/6 double hung sash windows. The south side has a 6/6 double hung sash window and a wood door with a screen.

A carport (non-contributing) is located approximately ten yards south of the office. Built in 1996, it has a gable roof of asphalt shingles. Wood posts and storage rooms support the roof on the east and west sides, respectively.

To the south of the kitchen wing of the house is a storage building (non-contributing resource). Built in 1996, it has a gable roof of asphalt shingles, vinyl siding, 2/2 double hung sash windows, and a wood door.

### **Archaeological Component**

The potential for subsurface remains related to the Central Plank Road is likely. Sections of the wood road were unearthed in the vicinity of Winterboro during construction of State Route 21 in the early twentieth century (Morris 1983).

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### VIII. Statement of Significance

The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is recommended for listing in the NRHP based on Criterion C in the area of architecture. It is a locally significant example of vernacular architecture. Built circa 1850 and enlarged in 1867, the I-house is representative of the housing built and occupied by middle and upper class planters and farmers in Talladega County. Rapidly disappearing from the regional landscape, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is one of a few remaining I-houses in Talladega County. In terms of feeling, workmanship, association, setting, location, design and materials, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is comparable other NRHP listed Talladega County I-houses to Idlewild (NRHP1993) and Thornhill (the John Hardie House, NRHP 1998).

The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn features original exterior weatherboards, interior floor, wall and ceiling boards, doors, windows, and door and window hardware. The I-house with rear ell form of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn with its two-story height and one-room depth, central hall plan, and rear ell has been intact since its construction circa 1867. That the house was originally a dogtrot does not detract from its integrity. On the contrary, many Alabama I-houses owe their origins to a dogtrot. As architectural historian Robert Gamble (1987) wrote, as planters' and farmers' circumstances improved, they often added a second story to their simple dogtrot; the development represented a logical progression. The date of the architectural significance for the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is 1867, the year in which the house assumed its I-house with rear ell form.

Additionally, the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is eligible for listing in the NRHP based on Criterion A in the areas of transportation and commerce. For a five-year period, 1850-1855, Winterboro Stagecoach Inn served an integral role in the development and function of a mid-nineteenth-century transportation infrastructure. Although Winterboro featured agricultural land, it initially lacked an efficient and reliable trade route necessary for transporting cotton and goods to and from distribution markets in Montgomery and beyond. The Jackson Trace was little more than a footpath and was often difficult to traverse when it rained. John Winter, a businessman, resolved the issue when he built a plank road from Talladega to Wetumpka in 1850. Covered with split logs, the plank road facilitated wagon travel through the area. Built concurrently with the plank road, Winterboro Stagecoach Inn in Winterboro provided lodging, food and supplies to road weary humans and animals. The Winterboro Stagecoach in is just about all that remains of the Central Plank Road, and it might very well be one of very few remnants of the plank road network.

### Historical Context

The history associated with the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn and the Winterboro community represents a fine tapestry. Interwoven in this fabric are multiple layers of Talladega County history pertaining to settlement, agriculture, transportation, industry, and commerce.

Sent to dispatch a hostile band of Creek Indians, General Andrew Jackson carved a military road through virgin forest from the Tennessee River to the Coosa River in 1813. After the Creek Indians officially ceded their territory east of the Mississippi River in 1832, Jackson's Trace precipitated the flow of settlers from Georgia, Tennessee, and the Atlantic Seaboard into the area that would become Talladega County. The Federal government established the Coosa District land office on Jackson's Trace approximately 5 miles north of what would become the Winterboro community in order to sell land to settlers seeking new prospects in the recently opened frontier.

A community quickly grew up around the land office. Named in honor of Samuel W. Mardis, a congressman from Shelby County, Mardisville was quickly transformed from a frontier village into a bustling center of activity (Jemison 1959). In addition to the land office, the community featured a sixteen-room tavern, a cake shop, a bakery, a livery stable, a wood shop, a tailor shop, a general store, several churches, and a number of fine homes (Martin 1988). Through the nineteenth century, Mardisville served as an important support node for the many planters who came to exploit the region's agricultural resources.

Among those who migrated to the area was John Hardie, a native-born Scottish immigrant and prosperous merchant from Whitesburg near Huntsville. In the 1830s, Hardie set himself up among the planter elite, acquiring 700 acres near Mardisville. His cotton plantation, Thornhill (NRHP listed 1998), grew to 1,700 acres and featured a large slave population. Listed among the area's earliest settlers, Simon Morriss acquired land at the confluence of the Greasy Head and Weewoka Creeks from Cunningham Wilson circa 1837 (Morriss 1983). He built a log cabin and later an I-house. Morriss' labor force converted the surrounding

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wilderness into a productive plantation. Morriss' plantation would eventually give rise to the community of Winterboro. Approximately five miles south of Winterboro, a group of pioneers cleared the forest primeval and began farming. Among these early agriculturalists were John Mosley, the Glazener family, Joshua Oden, Edman Foreman, and John Wallace (Owens n.d.). These associated farms constituted the origins of Sycamore. Still further south, the Bledsoes from North Carolina claimed the land in the vicinity of Tallaseehatchee Creek. They built fine homes and managed the land for many generations.

Seeking to parlay the need of Morriss, Hardie, Glazener, Oden, Foreman, Wallace, other local and north Alabama farmers, and Mardisville merchants to transport cotton to distribution markets in Mobile and New Orleans and return with supplies into a profitable enterprise, John Gano Winters, a successful Montgomery entrepreneur, petitioned the Alabama legislature to pass a bill approving the construction of a toll road from Wetumpka to Huntsville in the 1840s (Morriss 1983). Approved in 1850, the legislation permitted Mr. Winters and a group of investors to proceed with the toll road. The owner of a bank, a paper mill, a cotton mill, and an iron works in Montgomery, Winters is said to have invested one million dollars in the development of this toll road (Morriss 1983).

Winters erected saw mills along the selected route for the purpose of cutting trees into two to three inch thick planks. The roadway was cleared; the planks were positioned flat on the roadbed; and a layer of dirt was thrown over the planks (Talladega News 1954). The cost of this road construction was estimated at \$1,200 to \$1,500 per mile, but by 1850 when construction began it was calculated at \$2,000 to \$4,000 (Morriss 1983). A sixty-mile stretch of the Central Plank Road opened for business about 1851. This stretch extended from Wetumpka to Winterboro.

Winters' plank road was an integral part of a proposed network of plank roads. In the late 1840s, Alabama Governor, H.W. Collier encouraged the development of plank roads throughout the state (Owen 1927). Just two years after the first plank road was built in America in New York in 1846, the Canebrake Plank Road Company proposed to build a road from Demopolis to Uniontown. A list of plank roads built in the early 1850s includes the Montgomery South Plank Road, which extended from Montgomery into Lowndes County; the Central Plank Road, which was intended to stretch from Wetumpka to Guntersville, but construction stopped in Winterboro; and the Tuscaloosa and Greensboro Plank Road (Owen 1927).

In conjunction with the Central Plank Road, several stagecoach inns were built. Two stagecoach inns were known to exist on the Central Plank Road. Winters constructed a one story, stagecoach inn along the plank road corridor near the Morriss-Holmes House. Another inn was built circa 1850 in the village of Sycamore (Owens n.d.). This inn featured seven rooms downstairs and two upstairs. In addition to rooms and food for the weary traveler, the two stagecoach stops furnished fresh horses. Both inns were later converted into private residences. In 1867, W.H. Gooden added a second story and a rear ell to Winters' inn and moved his family into the house. Descendants of the Gooden family lived there until 1972. The Sycamore inn was converted to a private residence at the turn of the nineteenth century (Owens n.d.). Several families owned or rented the property before the house was razed in 1927. The Winterboro Stagecoach Inn is the only inn remaining on the Central Plank Road and one of only a few I-houses that survives in Talladega County.

To further capitalize on Central Plank Road traffic, Winters built a warehouse in Winterboro circa 1850 (Talladega News 1954). The goods farmers purchased after selling their cotton often exceeded the space in their wagons so they had to leave some goods behind and return for them later. For a fee, Winters stored these goods in his warehouse. The warehouse eventually fell into disuse and was razed.

Unfortunately for Winters and his investors, the Central Plank Road did not claim a monopoly on transportation in the region. In the 1850s, another investment firm built the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad in the vicinity (Talladega News 1954). The railroad proved to be a far more efficient means of transportation, so farmers abandoned the Central Plank Road. Winters halted construction of the plank road at Winterboro with only about 60 miles of the road north of Wetumpka ever being put into use (Brannon n.d.). The road eventually fell into disuse. Other plank roads suffered the same fate (Owen 1927).

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Winters and his son, Joseph Gano Winters, sold 140 acres and the inn to Alex Herd and Brothers in 1855 (Talladega County 1855). This sale perhaps signaled John Gano Winters' realization that his plank road company ventures had come to an end. Little is known about the senior Winters' pursuits after the plank road project. He does not appear in Montgomery and Talladega County census records. However, his son is listed in the 1860 Montgomery County Census as a lawyer living with his wife and children in the city of Montgomery. According to Mildred Morriss (1983), a Winterboro native and historian, records do not discuss the fate of Winters' inn between 1855 and 1867.

The recorded history of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn property dates back to the early nineteenth century. In 1837, James McDowell purchased the E1/2 of the NW1/4 of S2, T20S, R4E (Bureau of Land Management 1837). John Gano Winters, President of the Central Plank Road Company, bought all land lying south of Wewoka Creek in the NW1/4 of S2, T20S, R4E in 1851 (Talladega County 1851). In early 1852, Winters acquired the W1/2 of S2, T20S, R4E lying north of Wewoka Creek containing in all 157 acres (Talladega County 1852). Winters is reported to have built a one story, dogtrot on his property circa 1850. This is possible since deeds were not always recorded at the actual time of a transaction. Winters and his son, Joseph Gano Winters, sold 140 acres of the above referenced property with the one story dogtrot to Alex Hard and Brothers in 1855 (Talladega County 1855). This sale perhaps signaled John Gano Winters' realization that his plank road company ventures had come to an end.

William H. Gooden purchased the property formerly owned by Herd and Brothers and before them Winters in 1867 (Talladega County 1867). After marrying Martha Ann Olivia Quarles on December 10, 1867, Gooden, a captain in the Civil War, is believed to have added a second story to Winters' one story dogtrot. The Goodens eventually had seven children and needed room for a growing family. The mill cut lumber of the barn suggests that it was built 1867, the time at which Gooden enlarged the house. Gooden is not listed in the 1870 and 1880 Talladega County census records.

The home was later occupied by Ira Wynn Rhodes who first married Hattie Gooden and later her sister, Bertie Gooden, both of whom were daughters of Martha and W. H. Gooden. An 1870 census record indicates that Ira W. Rhodes was living in Talladega County in 1870. Rhodes, then 15, was listed as a farmer living with his father, Ed, who was a physician, and his mother, Martha, a homemaker. The house and property remained in the Gooden-Rhodes family until 1972. At this time Ken and Dorothy Power acquired the house, barn and 22.4 acres from Imogene C. Rhodes (Talladega County 1972).

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National Park Service

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### X. Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

The boundaries of the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn are defined as on the accompanying Talladega County tax map number 61-23-01-02-0-000-008.000. The scale of the map is 1" = 200'.

The boundaries were drawn to include all of the contributing resources historically associated with the Winterboro Stagecoach Inn.

### Photographs

The following information is the same for each photograph:

Name of photographer: Gene A. Ford  
Date of photograph: March 10, 2001  
Location of original negatives: Alabama Historical Commission  
468 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900

- Photograph 1. East Side (Façade) of house facing West.
- Photograph 2. Detail of façade facing Northwest.
- Photograph 3. North side of house facing Southwest.
- Photograph 4. West side facing East.
- Photograph 5. South side facing Northwest.
- Photograph 6. East side porch detail looking north.
- Photograph 7. Façade door detail.
- Photograph 8. Façade door detail.
- Photograph 9. First floor, central hall facing East.
- Photograph 10. First floor, central hall facing West.
- Photograph 11. View from first floor central hall looking south into kitchen wing.
- Photograph 12. View from kitchen wing looking north into west end of central hall.
- Photograph 13. View from west end of central hall looking East at stairs and second floor landing.
- Photograph 14. View from east end of central hall looking North at living room.
- Photograph 15. Living room looking North.
- Photograph 16. Den looking North.
- Photograph 17. Parlor looking South.
- Photograph 18. Parlor looking East.
- Photograph 19. Second floor, south bedroom looking South.
- Photograph 20. Second floor, North bedroom looking north from central hall.
- Photograph 21. North bedroom looking North.
- Photograph 22. Kitchen wing looking Southeast into parlor.
- Photograph 23. Kitchen wing looking West.
- Photograph 24. North bedroom wing looking West.
- Photograph 25. West and south sides of barn looking northeast.
- Photograph 26. South side of barn looking north.
- Photograph 27. Transverse passage looking West.
- Photograph 28. East side of Barn looking West.
- Photograph 29. East side of circa 1960 shed looking West.
- Photograph 30. South and east sides of 1996 office looking North.
- Photograph 31. West sides of shed and office looking Northeast.
- Photograph 32. South side of 1996 carport looking North.
- Photograph 33. North sides of garage and office looking Southwest.

# Winterboro Stagecoach Inn

Property Boundaries →

Alpine Road

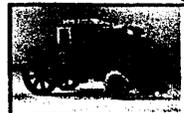
Alabama Highway 76

NRHP Boundaries ↓

- Office (NCR)
- Carport (NCR)
- Shed (NCR)
- Stagecoach Inn (CR)
- Bam (CR)
- Storage Building (NCR)

Alabama Highway 21

← S Sylacauga

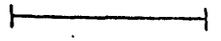


Talladega N →

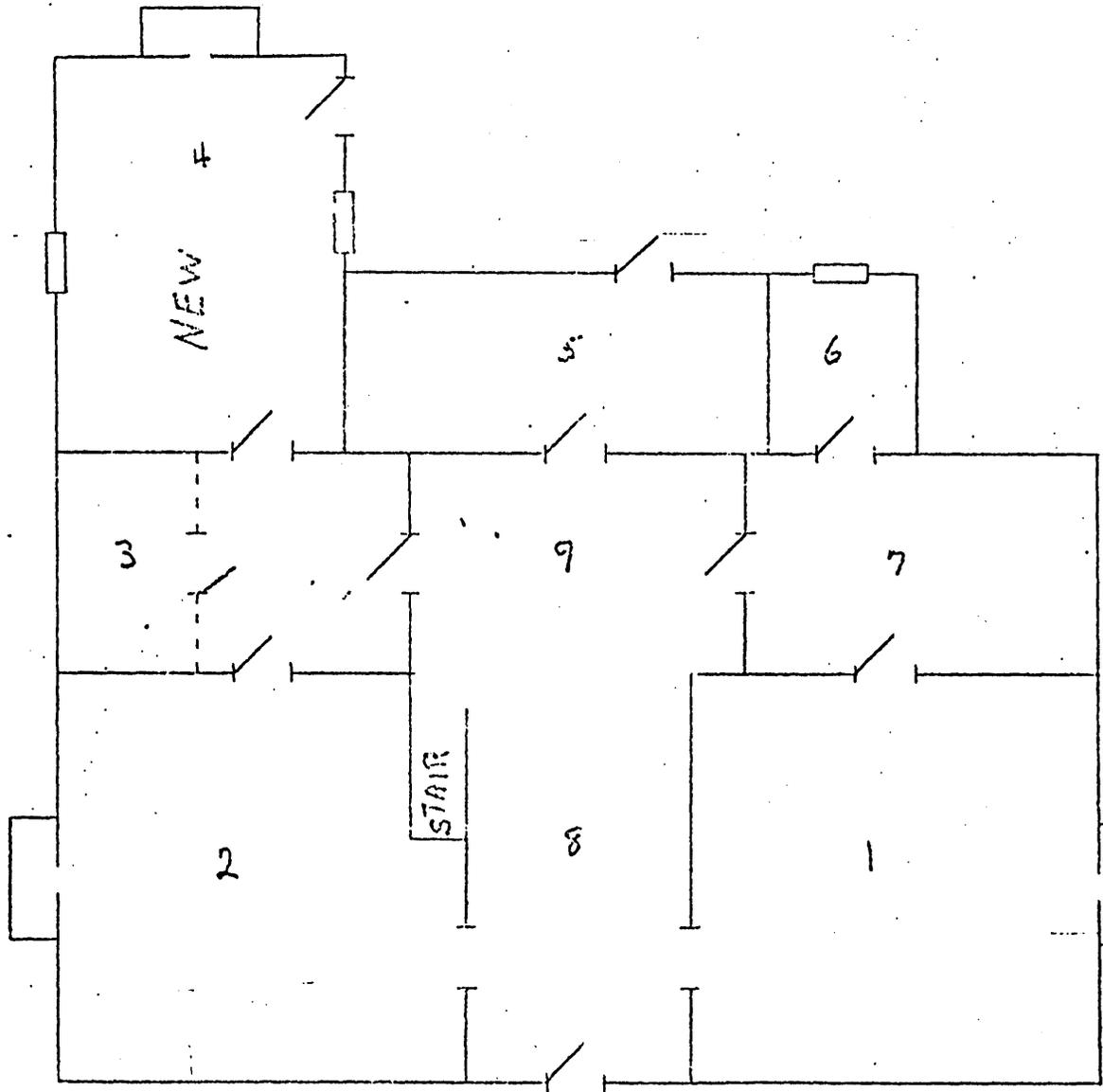
12' 4" | 16' 4" | 6' 6"

Ground Level

Scale: 1 in. = 3 ft.



17' 0"  
9' 6"  
17' 4"



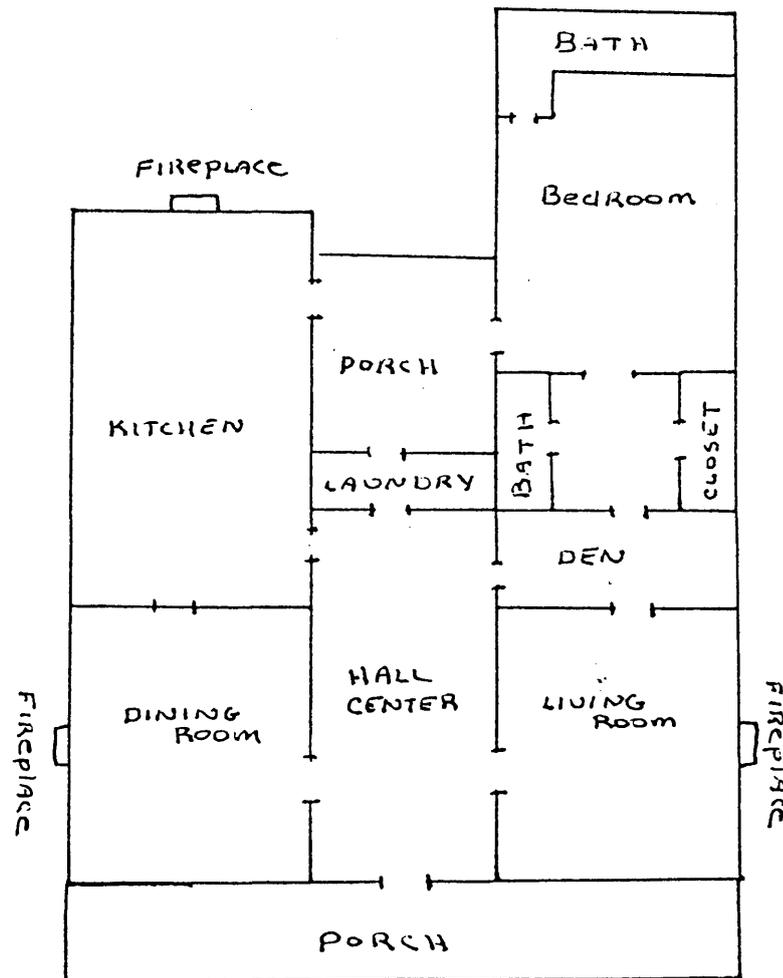
7' 10"  
9' 6"  
17' 4"

17' 4" | 9' 9" | 17' 4"



# FLOOR PLAN

## 1ST FLOOR



## 2ed FLOOR

