### **United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

code

01



3

code 113

congressional district

Russell

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

#### 1. Name

Glenn-Thompson Plantation historic

and/or common Cedar Heights Plantation

#### 2. Location

	three miles south of Pittsview on U.S. 431 then 2.1	
street & number	miles east on County Road 12.	not for publication

Pittsview city, town

X\_ vicinity of

state

county

Alabama

#### **Classification** 3.

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
district	public	$\underline{X}$ occupied	agriculture	museum
X building(s)	X private	unoccupied	commercial	park
structure	both	work in progress	educational	<u>X</u> private residence
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	entertainment	religious
object	in process	$\underline{X}$ yes: restricted	government	scientific
	being considered	yes: unrestricted	industrial	transportation
		no	military	other:

#### **Owner of Property** 4.

name Gertha Puryear Holmes

street & number Route 1, Box 8

city, t	own Pittsview	vicinity of	state Alabama
5.	Location of Leg	al Description	
court	house, registry of deeds, etc. Rus	sell County Courthouse	
street	& number		·
city, t	own Phenix City		state Alabama 36867
6.	Representation	in Existing Surv	veys
title	Alabama Inventory	has this property be	een determined elegible? yes $\underline{X}$ no
date	1978-present		federal <u>X</u> state <u>county</u> loca

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

Montgomery city, town

Alabama state

## 7. Description

Condition		Check one	C
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	
_X_ good	ruins	$\underline{X}$ altered	-
fair	unexposed		

Check one \_X\_ original site \_\_\_\_ moved date \_

#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a one-story, mortise and tenon, clapboard structure with a hipped roof. Sills supporting the house measure 45" above ground level and rest on 30" x 16" limestone piers. Originally the house contained four rooms, two on either side of a central hall. In 1840, three years after it was built, a rear section was added to provide extra living space; nearly a century later, a one-room wing was added to the western side of the house. The original kitchen building was attached to the house by a breezeway, but it has been relocated to the west of the house and serves as a horse barn.

The facade of the original block consists of five bays with a centrally located entrance. This entrance has double doors made up of two vertical panels which are surrounded by sidelights and a transom. The two double hung windows on either side of the main door are 6/6 and measure 41" x 80". All windows on the house are shuttered and have original hardware. A portico supported by six square columns features an entablature which is continued around the house. To the rear of the house is a shed roof veranda which originally had square posts across the rear. It has since been enclosed and is used as part of the interior living space. Other alterations include the addition of aluminum siding, the change in roofing material from cedar shingles to asphalt tile, and new brickwork for foundations and walkway.

The interior of the house is basically intact. Fireplaces are located in the original four rooms and the 1840 addition. In 1970, when the house underwent renovation, these fireplaces were sealed on the interior and marble hearths and fireplace surrounds were put in. The original wood matels are intact and are paneled and beveled. The woodwork on the matels reflects that in the central hall. This hall contains a distintive pilastered archway in the center. To the rear of the hall is a narrow stairway which leads up to the sleeping attic. Beneath the stairway is a small closet. Floors of the house are of heart pine. Interior doors have two vertical panels. Walls and 13' high ceilings were originally but plaster have been redone with sheetrock. Locks on the interior doors are brass; those on the front and back doors are from the c. 1900 Pittsview Bank.

Changes to the interior throughout the years have been sympathetic. The entrance to the solarium (the west wing added in the 1940s) is an archway copied from that in the hall. This solarium has nine large sash windows which are 6/6 in configuration and  $34'' \ge 80''$  in size. In 1970, numerous additions were made, including a three car garage, a utility room, a bedroom and a bathroom. Baths and closets were also added onto rooms on the east side of the house in a way so as not to disrupt those rooms.

The plantation is located in a rural area and faces south on County Road 12. The entrance is marked by large brick piers or posts and electric gates. A low brick wall runs along the road in front of the house. The only remaining structure associated with the original plantation is the previously mentioned kitchen. To the east of the house is a small Delco plant which furnished the house with electricity in the early 20th century.

# 8. Significance

1400–1499	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic X_agriculture X_architecture art commerce communications		<ul> <li>Iandscape architectur</li> <li>Iaw</li> <li>literature</li> <li>military</li> <li>music</li> <li>philosophy</li> <li>politics/government</li> </ul>	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates		Builder/Architect	······	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed in 1837 as the home of one of Russell County's earliest settlers, Cedar Heights is one of the finest examples of the smaller Greek Revival plantation houses in the county and illustrates how the style was perceived by leading settlers in the area. Additionally, it is significant for its associations with its owners – a prominent local literary leader and educator and an important agriculturist – who contributed to the county by helping to settle it, providing educational leadership during its early period and developing it as an agricultural region.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*

The plantation lands were originally inhabited by the Creek Indians. In 1832 the Creek Cession in Eastern Alabama took place, clearing the way for settlement. The original 640 acres of land was deeded to Samuel B. Benton in 1835. Benton, however, quickly sold the land to Massilon McKendree Glenn. Massilon Glenn was the eldest son of the Reverend James Glenn, founder of nearby Glennville (NRHP: 8/7/79). The younger Glenn was a leading voice in literary societies in this area. His knowledge of literature and English aided him in his position as President of the Board of Trustees of the Glennville Female Academy.

It was Glenn, along with his father, who in 1837, had the present house constructed by skilled plantation laborers. This was one of the first houses to be built in the area after the Creek Cession. In 1840, Mr. George Hargraves Thompson, a successful cotton planter, traded his nearby house and plantation for the Glenn place. It was the Thompson family which developed Cedar Heights onto a 12,000 acre working plantation. Willis Thompson, a son, was among the first in the county to convert his acreage to the production of pecans. Some time during the first decade of the century, he planted trees and established the Eagle Pecan Company and Nursery. The house and lands are still in the hands of the family, but the main crop is timber.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Parish, Lenora Dis	nukes. The	Thompson Fa	mily Genealog	gy. Colu	mbus (	Office Supply Company,
Columbus, Geor Sellers, Beryle,	''Ante-Bellum	Air Linger	s at Old Ceda	ar Height	s." (	Columbus Enquirer,
November, 1, 1 Walker. Anne Kendr		County in	<u>Retrospect</u> I	Dietz Pre	ss. R	ichmond. Virginia. 1950
10. Geogra	•		litm Not	VFRIFIF		
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UMT References					j	
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E 116 6 714 214 G 1 1 1 1			F [1,6] H []	6742	1910	<u> 315 517 01810 </u>
Verbal boundary desc	ription and jus	tification				
See continuation s						
List all states and cou	Inties for prop	erties overlap	ping state or co	ounty boun	daries	
state		code	county			code
state		code	county			code
organization Alabama						<u>Planning Commission</u> ) 21, 1980
street & number 725 M	lonroe Street	;	te	lephone	(205)	832-6621
city or town Montgome	ery			ate Alaba	ma	36130
12. State H	listoric	Prese				ertification
The evaluated significance						
nation	~	-	_ local			
As the designated State H 665), I hereby nominate th according to the criteria a	his property for ir	nclusion in the	the National Histo National Register Heritage Conserva	and certify t	hat it ha	as been evaluated
according to the criteria a		2.	R	( )		
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State Historic Preservatio	on Officer signatu	/ /uce	D. Saw	and . X	ہ date ہے	Teb. 20, 1980
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FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HERS USE ONLY RECEIVED FEB 2 9 1980 DATE ENTERED APR J

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Beginning at a point on the north margin of Russell County Highway No. 12 that is 2.2 miles east of the northeast intersection of U. S. Highway 431 and Russell County Highway No. 12, run thence N 47<sup>o</sup> 21<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> E a distance of 297.92 ft.; thence run N 14<sup>o</sup> 42<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> E a distance of 317.69 ft.; thence run N 03<sup>o</sup> 18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W a distance of 74.25 ft.; thence run N 73<sup>o</sup> 54<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> W a distance of 250.75 ft.; thence run N 58<sup>o</sup> 32' W a distance of 87.58 ft.; thence run N 28<sup>o</sup> 13' E a distance of 285.64 ft.; thence run S 63<sup>o</sup> 51<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> E a distance of 230.67 ft.; thence run S 66<sup>o</sup> 27' E a distance of 182.64 ft.; thence run S 50<sup>o</sup> 31' E a distance of 232.30 ft.; thence run S 17<sup>o</sup> 08<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W a distance of 50.62 ft.; thence run S 10<sup>o</sup> 39<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W a distance of 61 ft.; thence run S 26<sup>o</sup> 54<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W a distance of 101 ft.; thence run S 12<sup>o</sup> 32<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> W a distance of 120.64 ft.; thence run S 16<sup>o</sup> 32' E a distance of 82.63 ft.; thence run S 28<sup>o</sup> 31' W a distance of 336.78 ft.; thence run S 09<sup>o</sup> 16' E a distance of 87.78 ft.; thence run S 27<sup>o</sup> 39' W a distance of 135.22 ft.; thence run N 55<sup>o</sup> 00' W along the north margin of Russell County Highway No. 12 a distance of 469.98 ft. to the point of beginning.





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UPPER LEVEL

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