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

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1. Nam	ne			
historia C		· ·		<u></u>
historic (S3	/lvester Mumford /Ho	ouse		
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation of	1 U.S. 84		+ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
street & number	one-fourth mile	e north of U.S. High	лау 84 N-	∕ <u>A</u> not for publication
city, town Way	nesville www.	X vicinity of	congressional-district	
Coomo		010	Brantley	code 025
	sification	de UL3 county	Dianetcy	code U23
Category districtX_ building(s) structure	Ownership public private both	StatusX_ occupied unoccupied work in progress	Present Use agriculture commercial educational	museum park X private residence
site object	Public Acquisition N/A in process being considered	Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	entertainment government industrial military	religious scientific transportation other:
name Norman	S. McVeigh, III, T	Geresa McVeigh, Nyle	A. McVeigh	
city, town Br	unswick	N/A_ vicinity of	state	Georgia 31520
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description	on	
		erior Court		
		ty Courthouse	-	
street & number		cy courthouse		,
city, town	Nahunta		7	Georgia
6. Repi	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	
itle None		has this pro	perty been determined eli	gible? yes _X_ n
date			federal stat	e county loca
depository for su	rvey records None			

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair	_X deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered _X altered	Check one _X_ original site moved date
good	ruins		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sylvester Mumford House, built about 1848, is a two-over-two room wood frame Plantation Plain style house with a Victorian front porch and wings added after the Civil War. Three historic outbuildings and the remains of a fourth are located on the heavily wooded property which is in the vicinity of Waynesville, Brantley County, Georgia.

The wood-frame house is weatherboarded and sits on a brick pier foundation with brick lattice infill. The sheet metal covered, gable roof is supported by hand-hewn rafters that are mortised and tenoned and pinned with wooden pegs. The core of the house, built about 1848, is a five-bay, two-over-two Plantation Plain style structure which has been added to a number of times over the years. This oldest section has a central trabeated entranceway with sidelights and overlights. Its double-hung sash windows have simple wood surrounds with pediment-like lintels. Exterior end brick chimneys are unmatched. A two-story pedimented porch with Victorian scrollwork brackets and balusters was added at some time after the Civil War. At the rear of the house are two two-story ells, with a two-story porch with exterior stairway between, which may date to nearly the same period as the original house. A one-story polygonal wing sheathed in novelty siding that dates from after the Civil War extends from the south ell. The two-story north ell has been added on to at its north end to make a north wing to balance the south wing. Its interior end chimney has a cap that matches that of the other north (exterior) chimney. There is little consistency in the window treatment of the wings and rear ells. Size, number of lights and surrounds vary from area to area.

The interior of the house has a two-over-two room with central stairhall plan with two parlors on the first floor and two bedrooms above. A kitchen is located on the first floor of the north rear wing, a small bedroom, bathroom and closet above. The south polygonal room is reported to have been a library. Walls and ceilings are plastered, except in the stairhalls where the original hand-planed, wide beaded boards remain. In many places the plaster has fallen away, revealing underneath hand-hewn lath in much of the old part of the house, and sawn lath elsewhere. The first floor stairhall appears to have been extended about three feet to the east (rear) to accommodate an open, one-run Victorian stairway with turned balusters. Door and window surrounds in the old part of the house have wide architrave trim. In the polygonal "library" windows and pocket doors have filleted trim that meets at bull's-eye corner blocks. The original simple wood mantels remain in the two upstairs bedrooms. Downstairs, in the south front room the mantel is missing, in the north room it has been replaced.

The house is located about a mile northeast of Waynesville off a dirt road in a clearing in the forest. Large shade trees dripping with Spanish moss and a brick path which leads to the front entrance give some sense of the original landscaping, although the property is very overgrown. To the rear of the house along a dirt track which leads back into the forest to the east are three historic outbuildings and the remains of a fourth, all encroached upon by the forest undergrowth. Nearest the house is a collapsed structure, with part of a brick chimney and a pile of timber in evidence. Immediately to the east of this is a small log structure with a brick foundation and "porch" area created by an extension of the gable roof. The structure has an unfinished interior and is constructed of sawn logs with full dovetail notching. To the southeast of the log structure is a well-finished three room wood frame weatherboarded building which must have been used as a residence. Further along the road, again to the east, is a crude wood frame shed.

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Description

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BOUNDARY

The nominated property coincides with the current legal description of the property. This consists of a twenty-seven and one half acre triangular shaped tract which is 1815 feet on its south side, 1485 feet on its east side and 2805 feet on its north west side. (The tax map has not been included due to a cartographic error.)

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in May, 1981 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

8. Significance

1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X 1800-1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation X other (specify)
Casilia datas	c 1848	ZDOLIN .	local history

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Sylvester Mumford House, built about 1848, is historically significant in the areas of architecture and local history. Architecturally, it is an important local example of a mid-nineteenth century Plantation Plain style house built by a family of means in a very remote area of rural South Georgia. Very few if any houses of this age or size survive in Brantley County. The Victorian additions to the house provide an excellent example of the evolution of a house over time and illustrate the concern of the owner for keeping up with changes in architectural taste. In terms of local history, the house is significant as the home of Sylvester Mumford (1810-1889), a prominent local citizen who for many years owned a store in Waynesville and served as Postmaster. The family in particularly well-remembered in the area because Mumford's daughter, Gertrude Mumford Parkhurst, used money inherited from her parents to establish three still-existing funds for the education of poor white girls and orphans from Brantley County. The above areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria B and C.

Architecturally, the Mumford House illustrates changing styles in architecture as reflected in the evolution of a house. The core of the house is typical of the Plantation Plain style houses with Greek Revival references that were built in rural south Georgia during the first half of the nineteenth century. The front entrance with its sidelights and overlights, the pediment-like window caps, the half returns on the gable roof and the simple upstairs mantels are typical of a rural builder's understanding of the Greek Revival style. The post-Civil War additions, particularly the front porch with its decorative scrollwork brackets and ballusters and the polygonal south wing are decidedly Victorian in character and illustrate the owner's attempt to keep up with the latest in architectural styles and tastes. The house is in need of repair, but most of the original architectural details remain. It provides an excellent example of the type of isolated setting common to rural Georgia houses in the nineteenth century.

Sylvester Mumford, the first owner of the Mumford House, was a man of means from New York who moved to Waynesville about 1844 and married Teresa Tison, a local woman. Waynesville, now a tiny settlement was the county seat of Wayne County for some years between 1829 and 1873. A number of wealthy coastal plantation owner had second homes in Waynesville from about 1830 to 1860, but failure of the plantation economy at the end of the Civil War and the removal of the county seat to Jessup, Georgia in 1873 signaled the town's demise. In 1920, Waynesville became part of newly formed Brantley County. Sylvester Mumford was active in the community during the time of its greatest prosperity. Two extant volumes of account records from his country store dating from 1844-1856 indicate that he was a very prosperous Waynesville merchant who was able to extend considerable credit to his many customers. His account book

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet



10. Geographic	cal Data	: 	
Acreage of nominated property 2	7.5 acres		
Quadrangle name Waynesville			Quadrangle scale 1:24000
	<u>-, -</u>		Quadrangle Scale
UMT References			
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Verbal boundary description a	and justification	The boundary	description and justification.
are included in Section 7		The boundary	describtion and Justification.
			in the second of the seco
List all states and counties fo	r properties overla	pping state or co	ounty boundaries
ototo N/A	code	oounts:	
state N/A	code	county	code
state	code	county	code
44 -		•	
11. Form Prepa	ared By		
•			
name/title Carolyn Brooks,	, National Regis	ter Researcher	r
Historic Preser	vation Section		· .
organization Georgia Departm	ment of Natural	Resources da	ate April 21, 1982
street & number 270 Washin	igton Street, SW	te	lephone (404) 656–2840
city or town Atlanta			
			ate Georgia
12. State Histo	ric Prese	rvation (Officer Certification
The evaluated significance of this [property within the st	ate is:	
national	state	X local	
As the designated State Historic Pr	reservation Officer for	r the National Histo	oric Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-
			and certify that it has been evaluated
according to the criteria and proce	dures set forth by the	National Park Ser	vice.
State Historic Preservation Officer	signature 7	411.0	
otate mistorio i reservation office.	Eliza	beth A. Lyon	yyn
nitle State Historic Preser			date 5/18/87
			3/18/82
For NPS use only		<u> </u>	
I hereby certify that this prop	erty is included in the	National Register	
William H.	Brainer		date 6.28.82
Keeper of the National Register		h.	
1 27 1		4.	11.210
Attest: Jun Jum	4 3	in the second	date 4 26 8C
Chief of Registration			

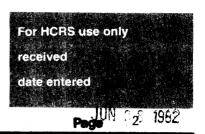
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records indicate that debts were often repaid to him in cotton, suggesting that he was a local cotton broker. From 1844-1853 he was Waynesville's postmaster, and from 1864-1866 he served as Wayne County Ordinary.

Mumford's daughter, Gertrude Mumford Parkhurst (1847-1943) lived in the family house until the 1890's when she moved with her husband to Washington, D.C. In her will she established three trust funds, amounting to almost \$600,000, to assist in the education of poor white girls and orphans from Brantley County. The Mumford family is well-remembered in Brantley County because of these still-active funds that were named in their honor.

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Bibliography

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Mumford, Sylvester. "Store Account Books 1844-1856". Available on microfilm at Georgia Department of Archives and History, Atlanta.

Shipp, Randy. "Historic Property Information Form," March, 1981. On file at Historic Preservaton Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta.

A- Munford House B- Site of collapsed frame outbuilding C- Log outbuilding with full dove-tail construction D- Frame outbuilding E- Frame shed

E

SYLVESTER MUMFORD HOUSE Vicinity of Waynesville, Brantley Co., Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

Scale: Not to scale

North:

