

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received DEC 5 1987

date entered

JAN 6 1987

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

1. Name

historic Oakhurst

and/or common Winston Place, Mitchell Place

2. Location

3 mi. SW of AL 116 on Sumter Co. Rd called Gainesville-Lacy's
street & number Ford Road, approximately 8 mi. from Gainesville ~~NA~~ not for publication

city, town Emelle ~~NA~~ vicinity of congressional district 7

state Alabama code 01 county Sumter code 119

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Smith

street & number Route 1, Box 199

city, town Emelle ~~NA~~ vicinity of state Alabama 35459

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Probate Office, Sumter County Courthouse

street & number P. O. Box 1040

city, town Livingston state Alabama 35470

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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 (very	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	slightly)	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The antebellum house known as Oakhurst, situated on a small landscaped knoll, is a two-story, five-bay frame Greek Revival structure with some Italianate influence. The rectangular main house has a low hipped roof that is completely encircled by a bracketed cornice. The north end of the house has two exterior chimneys and the south end has one interior chimney. A small one-story extended gable roofed wing projects from the south end of the main block. Spanning almost the entire facade is a low hip roofed one-story porch with a bracketed cornice supported by six square wooden columns with a wheat sheaf balustrade. The back wall of the porch has flush board siding. All 6/6 window sashing appears to be original as are the double-leaf four-paneled main-entry doors with sidelights and transom all surrounded by an eared architrave. The back facade is very similar to the front except that the rear one-story porch is partially enclosed and has a shed rather than a hipped roof.

The interior is very well preserved featuring all original woodwork including four paneled doors throughout (some with birds eye maple graining), very fine Lafeveresque architraves with cornices, baseboards, eared window surrounds with paneled kick plates extending to the floor, an original dogleg staircase in the center entry hall, random width heart pine flooring and nine very fine examples of pattern book Greek Revival mantels.

The only alterations to the house are the partial enclosure of the back porch which appears to have taken place in at least two states and the brick infill between the original brick foundation piers.

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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1854 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Criterion C - Architecture

Oakhurst (1854) is significant as a very fine example of Greek Revival architecture influenced by the Italianate style with the use of wooden brackets along the cornices. The combination of these two styles was very popular in southern Alabama from the mid-1850s to c. 1890. Alabama architectural historian Robert Gamble has called this stylistic amalgamation "bracketed Greek Revival," although the massing of the building harkens back to the Federal Period. The interior of Oakhurst is purely Greek Revival and is a classic example of pattern book designs of the period featuring typical high style mantels and Lafeveresque architraves.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Material obtained from interviews with Olive Mitchell Branch, James A. Mitchell, Jr. and Annie Bestor Mitchell, all decendants of the original owner. Material also obtained from private papers written by Elizabeth Winston Sheehan and Ruby Pickens Tartt.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 12.5

Quadrangle name Geiger, Ala.-Miss.

Quadrangle scale 124000

UTM References

A

1	6	3	8	1	3	8	0	3	6	2	7	4	2	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

B

1	6	3	8	1	3	8	0	3	6	2	7	3	5	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

C

1	6	3	8	1	2	3	0	3	6	2	7	2	1	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

D

1	6	3	8	1	1	0	0	3	6	2	7	2	2	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

E

1	6	3	8	1	1	0	0	3	6	2	7	4	6	0
Zone	Easting		Northing											

F

Zone	Easting		Northing											

G

Zone	Easting		Northing											

H

Zone	Easting		Northing											

Verbal boundary description and justification

See enclosed continuation sheet for legal boundary description.

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

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. Thomas B. Smith and Tom Dolan, Architectural Historian

organization Alabama Historical Commission

date 5/86

street & number 725 Monroe Street

telephone 205 261-3184

city or town Montgomery

state Alabama

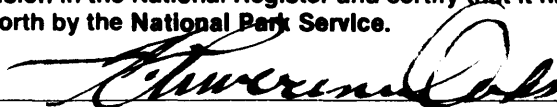
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 11-27-86

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date 1-6-87

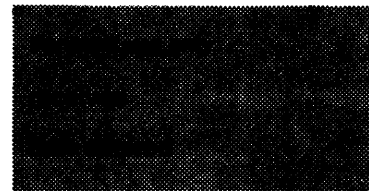
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Item number 8

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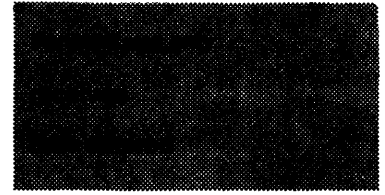
Historical Summary

Oakhurst was completed in 1854, having been built as a summer home. The craftsmen and architect are unknown. It was built for Augustus Anthony Winston, a banker and cotton broker of Mobile, who had been born in Sumter County, Alabama on April 11, 1815 and who died in Mobile on January 4, 1897. Two of his brothers built homes within a six-mile radius of Oakhurst. William Overton Winston built Oak Hill which has been torn down, and James McDonald Winston built Oak Lawn which still stands but in great deterioration. A first cousin of these brothers, Governor John Anthony Winston, also built in this same area. His home was destroyed by fire. The Winston Cemetery, which contains the grave of Governor Winston, lies about three miles from Oakhurst.

At the death of the original owner of Oakhurst, the house passed to his daughter, Martha Augusta Winston Mitchell, and has remained in the family to the present date. The only alterations to the house involve the back porch and a small recessed porch. The back porch originally ran about three-fourths of the length of the back of the house ending in a small room on the south end. At some time about 9 feet of the porch was enclosed, thereby adding to the length of this room. The second modification involved enclosing a small recessed porch on the rear of the south wing of the house. At the time this was done (date unknown) a restoration of the house involved the replacement of two sills, re-roofing and the plastering of the inside.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

Begin at the Northeast corner of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 23, Township 21, Range 3 West, and run South along the forty a distance of 500 feet to the point of beginning of the lot herein described and conveyed; thence run West parallel to section line for 800 feet to a point; thence run South 800 feet parallel to West section line to the South line of the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4; thence run East 440 feet along said section line to the county road; thence run Northeast along the North right of way of said county road to the East line of said NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of said Section 23; thence run North 440 feet to the point of beginning. Said lot containing 13 acres, more or less.