



# ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

## I. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: HOWARD-COOPER-CLEVELAND HOUSE  
and/or Common Name: none

## 2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 430 WALNUT STREET  
City: CENTREVILLE  
State: Alabama County: BIBB Zip: 35042  
Is the property located within the city limits?  Yes  No  
Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_  
Township: 23 N Range: 9 E Section: 26 USGS Quad Map: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

Category:  Building(s)  District  Structure  Site  Object  
Ownership:  Public  Private  Both  
Status:  Occupied  Unoccupied  Work in progress  
Public Acquisition:  In process  Being considered  
Accessible:  No  Yes: restricted  Yes: unrestricted

## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name: TERESA L SUTILE  
Address: 358 APPLEWOOD LANE  
City: CENTREVILLE State: AL Zip: 35042  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: tax record attached

## 5. FLOOR PLAN & SITE PLAN

Attach sketched floor plan. If the property includes more than one building, submit a site plan showing the locations, dates of construction, and uses of the buildings.

*See Attached*

ANGIE D. LANGSTON, TAX ASSESSOR & COLLECTOR  
 BIBB COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
 8 COURT SQUARE WEST, SUITE B  
 CENTREVILLE, AL 35042

20  
 INITIAL YEAR OF  
 ASSESSMENT  
 20

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATIONS  
 CLASS I-PUBLIC UTILITIES 30% OF MARKET VALUE  
 CLASS II-OTHER 20% OF MARKET VALUE  
 CLASS III-AGRICULTURAL, FOREST, SINGLE-FAMILY  
 OWNER OCCUPIED RESIDENCES, HISTORICAL SITES:  
 10% OF MARKET VALUE

MUNICIPAL CODES  
 01 BRENT  
 02 CENTREVILLE  
 03 WEST BLOCTON  
 04 WOODSTOCK

BIBB COUNTY, ALABAMA  
 REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Furniture/Fixtures		Mechanics/Equipment		Other Property		Location of Personal Property		TAXPAYER	
COST						<input type="checkbox"/> BRENT	<input type="checkbox"/> WEST BLOCTON	SUTTLE TERESA L.	
DEPRECIATION						<input type="checkbox"/> CENTREVILLE	<input type="checkbox"/> WOODSTOCK	358 APPLEWOOD LAKE	
NET BOOK						Other _____		Centreville AL 35042	
TERM SAME AS LAST YEAR WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED						(Book value should be broken down according to Location of property) Report all items, whether or not they are fully depreciated on your books.			

ACT-91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am totally disabled, and that (my) (my spouse and my) net annual income is \$7,500 or less, as per Act 48, Special Session of 1975 Special Legislature.

*Handwritten initials*

ACC.	13340	2013	DESCRIPTION	07/15/2013	15:56	CLASS CODE	EXP. CODE	MUN. CODE	SCH. DIST.	ACRES	CURR. YR. APR. VALUE	BD. OF EQUAL VALUE	CURR. YR. USE VALUE	ASSESSED VALUE	
<b>REAL ESTATE BOUGHT</b>		HOMESTEAD:0 NOT EXEMPT      SIGNED:0 15-07-26-3-000-001.000 #0      CENTREVILLE      0 02 02      1.5 SEC:26 TWM:23W RNG:09E      ACREAGE: 1.50 1.5AC 213.39' X 307.49' ERR LYING IN NE/4 OF SW/4 SEC26-T23W-R9E CENTREVILLE,AL DB91 PG664,DB111 PG289,PR4 PG218,RB136 PG258, RPB 155 PG 577 230/731 241/178 246/617 ACRE(S) 1.5      2 N      30000      0      0      6000 B53 BARN      BARN, B-53      2 N      16600      0      3320 0598 Other Comm-Hi Partitian      2 N      223500      0      44700 0598 Other Comm-Hi Partitian      2 N      71700      0      14340 0598 Other Comm-Hi Partitian      2 N      135700      0      27140 ===== Total Assd:      95500 ***** Total Appr: \$      477500													
<b>REAL ESTATE SOLD</b>		15-07-26-3-000-001.002 #0      CENTREVILLE      0 02 02      1.5 SEC:26 TWM:23W RNG:09E      ACREAGE: 1.50 213.14 X 306.49 1.5 AC LYING IN NE/4 OF SW/4 SEC26-T23W-R9E CENTREVILLE, AL RPB 157 PG 476 246/616 ACRE(S) 1.5      2 N      30000      0      0      6000													

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D Langston*

PERSONAL PROPERTY  
 Oath to be administered to Taxpayer  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the following list of property returned by \_\_\_\_\_

(IF NOT HIS OWN PROPERTY HERE STATE THE CAPACITY IN WHICH HE RETURNS SUCH PROPERTY FOR ASSESSMENT.)  
 is a full and complete return of all the property owned by \_\_\_\_\_

(HERE STATE ME IF THE PROPERTY RETURNED IS HIS OWN PROPERTY AND IF NOT HIS OWN PROPERTY, STATE THE NAME OR THE PERSON, CORPORATION, OR ESTATE FOR WHOM THE PROPERTY IS RETURNED.)  
 or in which \_\_\_\_\_

(HERE DESIGNATE THE OWNER FOR WHOM THE RETURN IS MADE.)

had interest whatever the situs of which for taxation, or exemption from taxation is in this county on the first of October of the present tax year, and of the improvements on lands listed in the foregoing schedule, so help me God.

Taxpayer

ASSESSED VALUE		TOT. ST. & CTY. TAX	STATE & SCHOOL EXEMPT		CTY EXEMPT		NET ST. & CTY. TAX	SCHOOL TAX		MUN. TAX		FOREST TAX		ASSESS FEE	TOTAL TAX
REAL ESTATE	PER. PROP.		VALUE	TAX	VALUE	TAX		DIST.	TAX	CODE	TAX	ACRES	TAX		
								1		01					
								2		02					
								1E		03					
								2E		EX					

ACT-91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and my adjusted gross income is more than \$12,000 as shown on my State income tax return, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$4,000 in assessed value for County taxes nor 160 acres in area. I further swear that I am \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am disabled under conditions for this exemption (Act 91)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_  
 day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D Langston*

ACT-91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household, and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$5,000 in assessed value for County taxes nor 160 acres in area. I further swear that I am \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am disabled under conditions for this exemption (Act 91)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_  
 day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D Langston*

ACT-91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household, and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$2,000 in assessed value for County taxes or \$4,000 assessed value for State taxes nor 160 acres in area. (Reg.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_  
 day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D Langston*

ANGIE D. LANGSTON, TAX ASSESSOR & COLLECTOR  
 BIBB COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
 8 COURT SQUARE WEST, SUITE B  
 CENTREVILLE, AL 35042

20 \_\_\_\_\_  
 INITIAL YEAR OF  
 ASSESSMENT  
 20 \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATIONS  
 CLASS I-PUBLIC UTILITIES 30% OF MARKET VALUE  
 CLASS II-OTHER 20% OF MARKET VALUE  
 CLASS III-AGRICULTURAL, FOREST, SINGLE-FAMILY  
 OWNER OCCUPIED RESIDENCES, HISTORICAL SITES:  
 10% OF MARKET VALUE

MUNICIPAL CODES  
 01 BRENT  
 02 CENTREVILLE  
 03 WEST BLOCTON  
 04 WOODSTOCK

BIBB COUNTY, ALABAMA  
 REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

	Furniture Fixtures	Marksmen's Equipment	Other Specify
COST			
DEPRECIATION			
NET BOOK			
TERM SAME AS LAST YEAR WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED			

Location of Personal Property

BRENT       WEST BLOCTON  
 CENTREVILLE       WOODSTOCK

Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Book value should be broken down according to Location of property. Report all items, whether or not they are fully depreciated on your books.)

TAXPAYER  
 Continued.. 2  
 13340

ACT 91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm that I am) \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am totally disabled, and that (my) (my spouse and my net annual income is \$7,500 or less, as per Act 48, Special Session of 1978 Special Legislature.

ACC.	DESCRIPTION	CLASS CODE	EXP. CODE	MUN. CODE	SCH. DIST.	ACRES	CURR. YR. APR. VALUE	BD. OF EQUAL VALUE	CURR. YR. USE VALUE	ASSESSED VALUE
REAL ESTATE BOUGHT	0598 Other Loan-Hi Partition			2 H			99600	0		19920
	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del> Total Appr: \$						129600	=====	Total Assd: \$	25920
REAL ESTATE SOLD										

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D. Langston*

PERSONAL PROPERTY  
 Oath to be administered to Taxpayer  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the following list of property returned by \_\_\_\_\_

(IF NOT HIS OWN PROPERTY HERE STATE THE CAPACITY IN WHICH HE RETURNS SUCH PROPERTY FOR ASSESSMENT.)  
 is a full and complete return of all the property owned by \_\_\_\_\_

(HERE STATE ME IF THE PROPERTY RETURNED IS HIS OWN PROPERTY AND IF NOT HIS OWN PROPERTY, STATE THE NAME OF THE PERSON, CORPORATION, OR ESTATE FOR WHOM THE PROPERTY IS RETURNED.)

or in which \_\_\_\_\_  
 (HERE DESIGNATE THE OWNER FOR WHOM THE RETURN IS MADE.)

had interest whatever the situs of location, or exemption from taxation in this county on the first of October of the present tax year, and of the improvements on lands listed in the foregoing schedule, in help me God.

Taxpayer

ASSESSED VALUE		TOT. ST. & CTY. TAX	STATE & SCHOOL EXEMPT		CTY EXEMPT		NET ST. & CTY. TAX	SCHOOL TAX		MUN. TAX		FOREST TAX		ASSESS FEE	TOTAL TAX
REAL ESTATE	PER. PROP.		VALUE	TAX	VALUE	TAX		DIST	TAX	CODE	TAX	ACRES	TAX		
121420	0	789.23	0	0.00			789.23	1	0.00	01	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	3770.02
		1153.49			0	0.00	1153.49	2	728.52	02	607.10				
		485.68			0	0.00	485.68	1E	0.00	03	0.00				
								2E	0.00	EX	0.00				

ACT 91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and my adjusted gross income is more than \$12,000 as shown on my State income tax return, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$4,000 in assessed value for County taxes nor 160 acres in area. I further swear that I am \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am disabled under conditions for this exemption (Act 91)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D. Langston*

ACT 91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household, and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$5,000 in assessed value for County taxes nor 160 acres in area. I further swear that I am \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, or that I am disabled under conditions for this exemption (Act 91)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_

Taxpayer  
*Angie D. Langston*

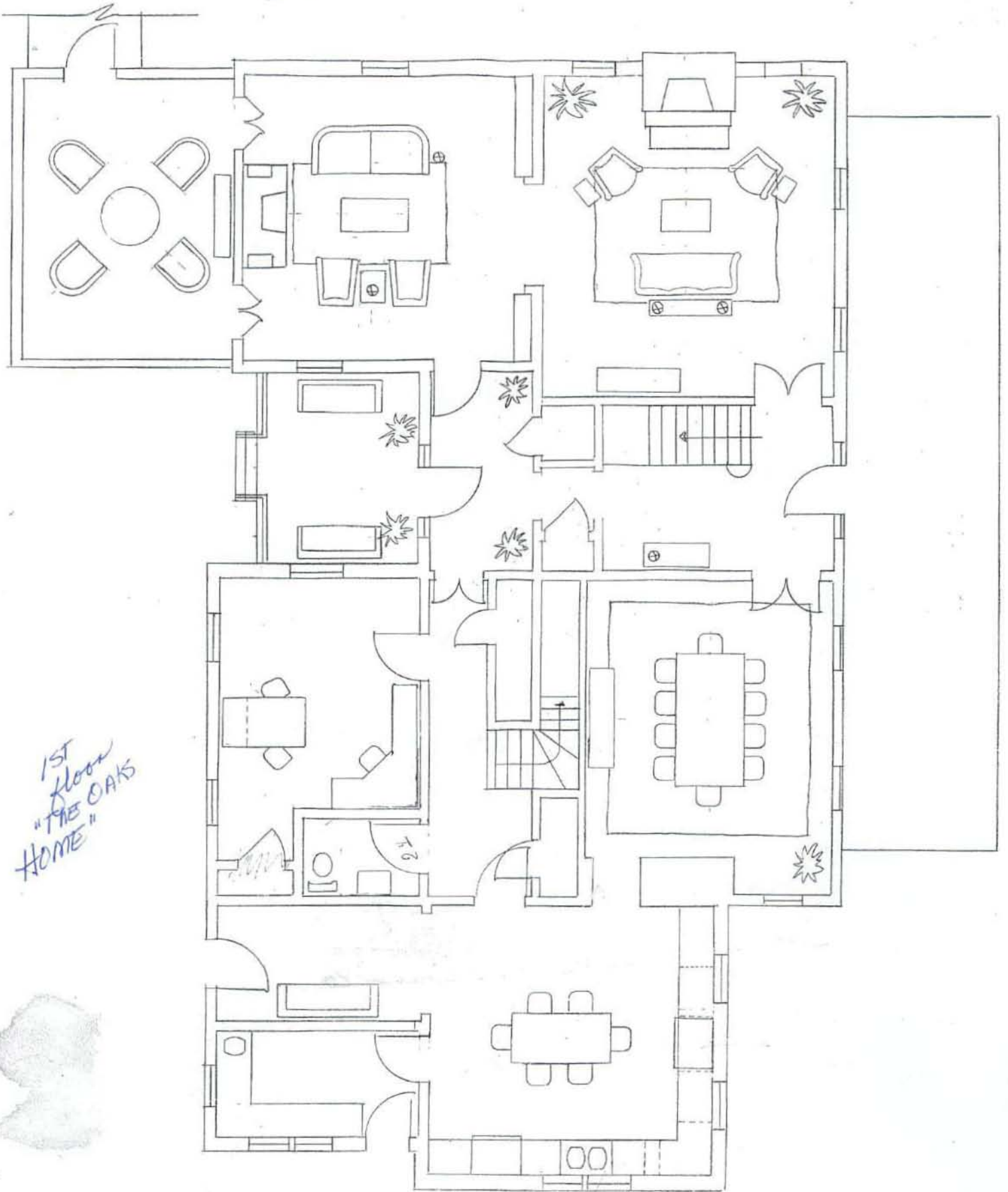
ACT 91  
 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am the head of the family, and/or that no other claim for exemption from State and County taxes for Homestead has been made or filed by or on behalf of any member of my immediate household, and that the items of this assessment marked above, is the Homestead claimed by me, which does not exceed \$2,000 in assessed value for County taxes or \$4,000 assessed value for State taxes nor 160 acres in area. (Reg.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the \_\_\_\_\_

day of \_\_\_\_\_

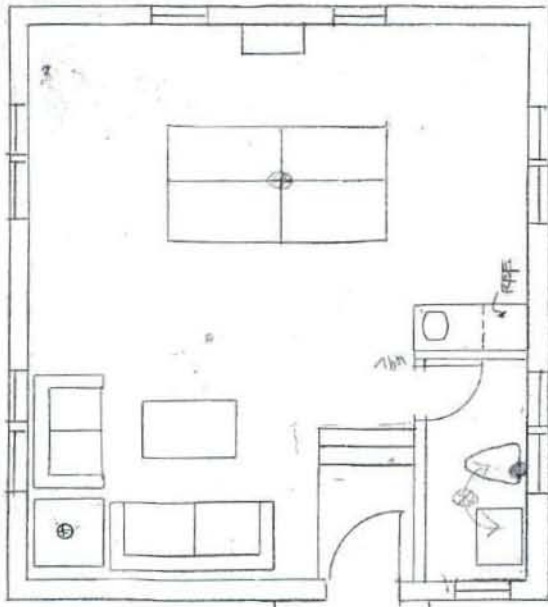
Taxpayer  
*Angie D. Langston*

#5



1st floor  
"THE OAKS"  
HOME

#5



UP-STAIRS



2nd floor  
"THE OAKS HOME"

**6. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION** See Instructions for more information.

Construction date:	1834	Source:	FORMER OWNERS
Alteration date:	1 <sup>ST</sup> - 1880'S 2 <sup>ND</sup> - 1940 3 <sup>RD</sup> 2011	Source:	CURRENT + FORMER OWNERS
Architect/Builder:	1834 - GEORGE HOWARD	Contractor:	
Physical condition: (Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, Ruinous)	EXCELLANT	Remaining historic fabric: (High, Medium, Low)	High
No. of stories:	2		
Historic use of property:	<del>N/A - FAMILY</del> FAMILY HOME		
Current use of property:	EVENTS AND WEDDINGS		
Architectural style category:	COLONIAL	Architectural style sub-category:	
Basic typology:		Basic shape:	
Basic floor plan:	CENTER HALL <sup>DRAWING</sup> See attached	Historic Construction material(s):	HEART PINE
Current exterior wall material(s):	PINE	Roof finish material(s):	ASPHALT
Main roof configuration:	GABLE - STRAIGHT	Foundation material:	BRICK
Porch type:	MIGHT BE FEDERAL OR MT VERNON		
Window type and materials:	DOUBLE HUNG W/ WINDOIL WEIGHTS		
Describe alterations:	RESTORED MAIN HOUSE W/ ADDITIONS OF KITCHEN AND BATHROOMS		
Number and type of all outbuildings: (if significant, fill out separate survey form)	ALL OUT BLDGS CONSTRUCTED IN 2011 - CHAPEL, BARN DIVING AREA		
Exterior Architectural Description:	SHIPLAP SIDING		
Description of Setting:	See attached <sup>id of</sup> photos  Set among trees on main street in Centreville		

# 7. SIGNIFICANCE

Criteria (check all that apply and explain below). See Instructions for more information.

**Criterion A:** Associated with historical events and activities relating to the property that are important to the history of the community, state, or nation.

**Criterion B:** Person or group with whom the property is associated is important to the history of the community, state, or nation.

*See attached history of house*

**Criterion C:** Type, period, or method of construction represents architectural features that are significant in the development of the community, state, or nation.

**Criterion D:** Property has yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in Alabama's history or prehistory (archaeological component).

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (check all that apply and explain below)

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> religion       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic    | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture            | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> theater        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commerce               | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary art           | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communications         | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian           | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    |   |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

For each area of significance checked above, explain why this property is important. Use additional sheets as necessary.

7. SIGNIFICANCE / CRITERION B - George Howard the architect-contractor

- By 1834  
George W Howard built for Dr David R Boyd & wife (Theresa Coleman Boyd)  
a two-story plantation residence now located at 430 Walnut Street.
- 1835 Boyd died
- 05-08-1839 Theresa m-George Howard

---

1840 US Federal Census - Bibb Co, AL / 2nd marriage

Howard, George W

1 male 5-9 (1831-1835) 2nd marriage  
1 male 10-14 (1826-1830) 1st marriage John Boyd - b-1829  
1 male 30-39 (1801-1810) Geo Howard  
1 female 5-9 (1831-1835) 1st marriage Martha Boyd - b-1834  
1 female 30-39 (1801-1810) Teresa B Howard  
+ 18 slaves

1850 US Federal Census - Bibb Co, AL / East side of Cahaba River

Taken on 09-17-1850

Howard, George W	51 (1799)	Farmer	4000	NC
Theresa	42 (1808)			NC
Benj B	17 (1833)			AL
(Boyd) Martha R	16 (1834)	1st marriage		AL
Mary E	8 (1842)	2nd marriage		AL
Wiley G	2 (1848)	2nd marriage		AL
(f) Rady J	8 mos (1850)	2nd marriage		AL

Theresa Coleman (d/o Willie) d-Dec 1850 / m-(1) 09-21-1824 David R Boyd

---

Centreville Memorial Cemetery

Howard, George W

Born in Rowan Co, N C

09-28-1802

12-24-1867

2nd husband of Teresa C Boyd Howard

Thresa

d/o Willie & Martha Coleman

Consort of George W Howard

Born in Edgcomb Co, NC

01-28-1809

Departed this life on the

Sunday of December 1850

---

From the Bibb Co Heritage Book - Centreville Library / submitted by Dr Thomas M  
Nicholson of Brent, AL

Howard, George Wood

born in Rowan Co, NC on Sep 28 1802

died in Centreville, AL on Dec 24 1867

George was the s/o Edmond and Elizabeth Wood Howard - who married 03-09-1791 in  
Rowan Co, NC. Elizabeth's father was Garrett Wood (d-1795 Onslow Co)

Elizabeth Howard died 06-28-1831 in Centreville and is buried in Centreville  
Memorial Cemetery.



*From the Bibb Co Heritage Book - cont*

George's paternal grandparents were - Stephen Howard (who d-1745) and wife Sarah - lived in Onslow Co, NC.

In 1829

George, his mother and his brother (Morgan) along with several sisters immigrated to Bibb Co, AL. The arrival date is also on Morgan Howard's tombstone located in Centreville Memorial Cemetery.

Howard came with skills as an architect-contractor. He assisted in building the new county seat on the hill East of the Cahaba River.

In 1834

George and Enoch Carson built the Centreville Academy. This two-room structure - probably the oldest in Centreville - was later moved to the rear of the Mayberry-Moran-England house.

In 1835

Howard built what later became the Howard-Cooper-Cleveland house. It was originally the home of David R Boyd - who died in Aug 1835.

---

*According to historical notes of Mrs J P Kennedy*

In 1837

Howard and his partner (Enoch Carson) erected both the Henry-Kennedy house and the Davidson-Smitherman-Leggett house.

In 1839

Howard married Teresa C Boyd and moved into the home he built.

Probably in the early 1840's - according to some architectural experts Howard was the architect-contractor for the Mayberry-Moren-England house.

By 1850

according to census records - Howard was the owner of a large plantation with 36 slaves.

By 1860

Howard invested half-interest (other half-Dr H Moren) in a toll bridge over the Cahaba River.

By 1867 (year he died)

he had lost all of his holdings - except his land.

---

George/Teresa's kids

1. Mary Elizabeth Howard  
m-Thomas J Smitherman

2. Wiley Coleman Howard  
d-drowned in the TN River in a train wreck on his  
way home from law school

3. Rhoda Jane Howard  
m-Jesse Dean Cooper *died in the house in 1889*

From a book at the Centreville library -

Will of Edmond Howard  
dated 07-21-1821 / filed in Rowan Co, NC Nov \_\_\_\_

Mentions -

wife Elizabeth

kids Polly Howard m-Isaac Parker  
George Howard  
Edmond Howard  
Morgan Howard  
Bilsey Howard  
Sally Howard  
Catherine Howard

03-09-1791 Edmond Howard m-Elizabeth Wood in Rowan Co, NC

Centreville Memorial Cemetery has a grave marked  
"Elizabeth Howard - died 06-23-1894" - not known if this is Edmond's wife

---

From internet sites regarding Davidson Plantation  
Present Day Location - 167 3rd Avenue, Centreville, AL

#### Description

The Davidson-Smitherman House was built in 1837 by the architect **George Howard** for Samuel Wilson Davidson (1789-1863).

It was originally the center of a 2000 acre plantation and at the time of building looked out over the valley and down to the Cahaba River.

They grew mainly cotton and vegetables for personal use and for use of their slaves. There is a slave quarter in the basement. It is a simple room with a dirt floor.

Attorney Thomas Smitherman bought the house in 1869.

Other owners have been William E Henderson and Charles Hollingsworth.

Gladys Leggett bought the house in 1972 and lived there until she could no longer live there safely and then moved to her daughters.

The house has been vacant for about five years now, the prior owner Gladys passed away as did her daughter so now the house is in the possession of Mrs. Leggett's granddaughter.

#### National Register information

Status - Posted to the National Register of Historic Places on January 6, 1988

Reference number - 87001552

NR name - Davidson-Smitherman House

Areas of significance - Military; Exploration/Settlement; Architecture

Level of significance - Local

Evaluation criteria - C-Design/Construction; B-Person

Property type - Building

Historic function - Single dwelling

Current function - Single dwelling

Periods of significance - 1875-1899; 1850-1874; 1825-1849

Significant year - 1837

## Davidson-Smitherman House

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Davidson-Smitherman House, also known as the Davidson Plantation, is a historic plantation house in Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on January 6, 1988.

### History

The house was built in 1837 for Samuel Wilson Davidson, a native of North Carolina. He settled in Bibb County (then Cahaba County) in 1819.

He was one of the first people to purchase lots along the east bank of the Cahaba River in what would become the city of Centreville during 1823.

Davidson eventually amassed farmlands amounting to more than 2,000 acres. His real estate was valued at \$12,000 and he owned 98 slaves in 1850.

By 1860, Davidson was the most extensive planter and wealthiest citizen in the area. He died in 1863.

The house remained in the Davidson family until 1869, when it purchased by Thomas and Betty Smitherman. Thomas Smitherman was a prominent local attorney. Smitherman descendants retained the property until it was sold to William E. Henderson in 1963. He, in turn, sold it after two years to Charles L. Hollinsworth, who sold it to Gladys Pittman Leggett in 1972.

### Architecture

The 2 1/2-story Federal style house is notable as one of the only two best antebellum houses remaining in the county and as one of the two earliest and least altered houses built in Centreville by the city's leading builders, George Howard and Enoch Carson.

The wood frame structure is set over a full brick basement. The front and rear both feature three bay facades, inset with 12 over 12 sash windows downstairs and 12 over 8 windows upstairs. The front facade features a full-width two-tiered porch with decorative brackets, while the rear features a one-story porch with brackets matching those on the front. The interior is arranged on a center hall plan, with a reverse flight stairway. The house has Federal style mantles and wainscoting, with heart pine floors throughout

---

Info from Rhoda Ellison's book - regarding Carson and Howard

Page 45 / 1829-1834

Regarding the sale of lots in Centreville. . . . . The first sales were made on Sep 5, 1829 -

- #6 (north section of former bank bldg lot)  
sold to S W Davidson for \$49
- #19 (J T Fuller home lot)  
to Enoch Carson for \$36
- #23 (eastern section of Rock Bldg)  
to George W Howard for \$35

Page 47

The partnership of Carson and Howard built 2 residences on the East side of the Cahaba - one for John Henry and the other for S W Davidson.

The 2.5 story house included a half-basement and was located at 476 Walnut Street - East of the town square - and built in 1837 for Henry to use as a stagecoach inn and residence. Josiah S Kennedy purchased in 1843 after Henry's death and continued to operate as a hotel until 1900.

The Davidson-Smitherman house (Gladys Leggett) located at 167 3rd Street contains 2.5 stories and a large brick basement that housed servants during slavery days. In 1869 the house and 100 acres were sold to Bettie Howard Smitherman (wife of Thomas J Smitherman).

Another plantation residence was built by George W Howard for Jacob Newell Mayberry at an undetermined date - probably after 1846 when Howard's partner Enoch Carson died. In 1984 the home was owned by Charles England - however, for nearly 100 years prior it was known as Dr E H Moren's home (buried in Centreville Memorial Cemetery - Lt Governor).

The earliest academy in Bibb County was the Centreville Academy - established in 1828. The commissioners who created the new town reserved a lot for the academy (#37) on Walnut Street.

The first specification reads - The bldg shall be 40 feet long, 22 feet wide with a wall of 12 feet in height between sleepers and joists. The contract was awarded to the new partnership of Enoch Carson and George W Howard who agreed to build the academy as specified and to "furnish the blocks and dry the plank wood being furnished for the sum of \$214.50." They also contracted to make for the schoolhouse 4 benches and 2 writing desks with drawers.

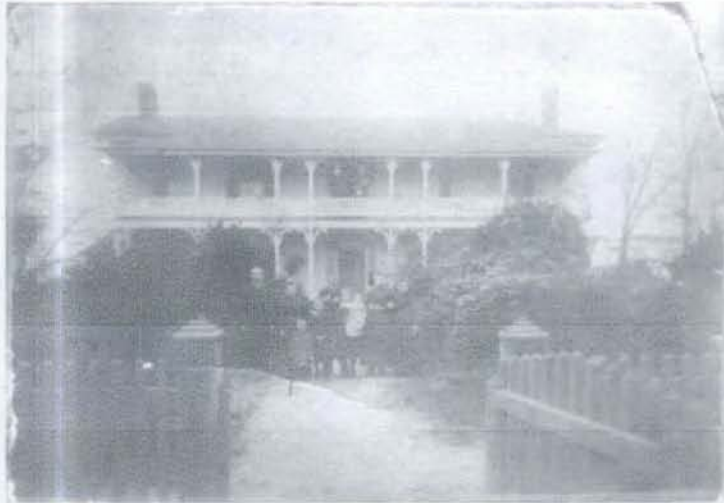
After the schoolhouse was destroyed by fire, a new one was built in 1852. In 1876 Dr E H Moren brought the structure for \$150 and moved it to the back of his home - in 1984 this is the Charles England house. Dr Moren used the 2 large rooms for many years as the dining room and kitchen. At the present time it is being used for storage. It is probably the oldest surviving school building in the county.

Traffic across the Cahaba River in the county continued to use fords and toll ferries most of the antebellum period except at Centreville. In 1845 George Howard built a wooden bridge across the river in Centreville. He constructed this bridge, said to have been covered with wooden shingles, for Jacob N Mayberry - who operated it as a toll enterprise in spite of local opposition.

George Howard and S W Davidson came into joint possession of it in 1855 - after the death of Mayberry. On Sep 28 1863 Dr E H More purchased the deceased Davidson's half interest for \$1305. After the Civil War, Howard and Moren (who still owned the bridge) established a ferry run by B F Glass, Samuel Hall and Abner Jones.

Original photo property of Hal Cottingham; this photo is in the pictorial book of Bibb Co - published by the CPHC

1889-1890



From the Bibb Co Heritage Book - at the library  
1980's



Howard-Cooper-Cleveland House located at 430 Walnut Street, Centreville, AL. Dr David R Boyd and his wife (Teresa Coleman) purchased 80 acres of land on 08-11-1832 on which to build a home. Later they engaged George W Howard to build their house. In 1835 Dr Boyd died while the house was under construction. In the fall of 1835 Teresa C Boyd and children moved into their house. In 1839 Teresa C Boyd married George W Howard.

In 1889 a storm damaged the house which required repairs. The owners Rhoda Howard and Jesse Dean Cooper added porches upstairs and downstairs. The style was called "Showboat as it resembled a showboat on the river.

In 1940 the owners Emily H Cooper and Howard Cleveland, Jr gave the house a Mt. Vernon front. The porch was widened, tall columns and an upstairs balcony were added. The Cleavelands called the house "Twelve Oaks" for the 12 oaks on the property which were over 100 years old.

Throughout the various renovations, the original rooms have remained the same.

The following was written by Mrs Emily Howard Cooper Cleveland -  
the great-granddaughter of George W Howard  
and the wife of Howard Cleveland, Jr.

---

The Howard-Cooper-Cleveland Home  
"The Oaks"

In 1824 Dr David R Boyd and Teresa Coleman were married.

On August 11, 1832 Dr Boyd purchased the land (80 acres) where "The Oaks" now stands.

Dr Boyd employed George Wood Howard, an architect-contractor who had moved to Bibb County from North Carolina, to build him a "two story four room dwelling and a one story building a little distance from the two story house". The one story house contained the kitchen, large pantry and dining room. These buildings were built with slave labor and the heart pine lumber used in the construction was hand hewn. The beams were 12" x 12" and pegs were employed in the construction of the doors.

Dr Boyd died in 1835 and it was after his death that Teresa Coleman Boyd moved, probably from the one story building into the "dwelling house".

In 1839 Teresa Coleman Boyd married George Wood Howard. He was a builder but also a farmer thus he added stables and barns and purchased some fifteen hundred acres for farming purposes.

At the time, "The Oaks" had the popular front of the early 1800's, an entrance porch which did not extend much beyond the front door. There was also a small porch upstairs with a door opening on to it.

Later Rhoda Jane Howard, daughter of Teresa Coleman and George Howard, became, with her husband Jesse Dean Cooper, the owner of the plantation. Professor Cooper added more land so that the farm extended from the Cahaba Bridge to Haysop Creek below Brent, Alabama.

In 1880 a terrible storm damaged "The Oaks" which made it necessary to give the house a face lift. Porches upstairs and downstairs were added. The porches extended across the front of the house. This style was called "Show Boat" because it resembled the Show Boats on the river. It was a popular front for houses at this time.

In 1909 Frank Cooper and his wife Emily La Mar Gibson lived in the house. Frank Cooper was the son of Rhoda Jane Howard and Jesse Dean Cooper. This young couple added a connecting two story kitchen on the east side of the house. In later years, the dining room and kitchen that were connected to the house by a porch were moved some distance away and became a servant home.

In 1940 again "The Oaks" experienced a face lift. This time the daughter of Frank Cooper and Emily Gibson, Emily Howard Cooper and her husband Howard Cleveland, Jr, the new owners gave the house a Mount Vernon front porch. The porch was widened. Tall columns and a balcony upstairs were featured. At this time a dedication service was held and the house was called "Twelve Oaks". There were twelve stately oaks, three in the front yard and nine in the back yard.

There could have been no one happier than Frank Cooper to have his daughter and son-in-law live in his old home. He was born in the home on February 6 1881 and in 1962 died in the home of his childhood. Frank Cooper loved to sit on the front porch and listen to the katydids and tell his children and grandchildren his memories of the home.

The front yard had had many beautiful rose bushes and people came from miles around to see them. The front yard was also filled with cape jasmine which were very fragrant and stopped many a traveler passing by the house. In fact, nothing was thought of a stranger knocking at the door asking for a drink of water or for lodging for the night. Some stayed weeks, however, the family enjoyed their tall tales and news from far off Mississippi and Texas.

My father said that across the street were located a cotton gin and syrup mill. He told many amusing stories of the old Negro who made the syrup. Also across the street were the quarters, the homes of those who served the family. A call across the road was always answered by helping a hand.

He said that in the summer malaria ran rampant because there were no screens on the windows. They did not associate the mosquito with malaria. They thought malaria came from the watermelon.

The grandchildren of Frank Cooper, Howard, III, Frank Cooper and Len Cleveland (fifth generation to live in the house) were interested to know how their grandfather lived in the house without the conveniences they took for granted.

He told them that the house was heated by small fireplaces in each room and a large wood stove in the kitchen. The kitchen was connected to the main house by a porch for fear the kitchen might catch on fire. There was no running water in the house but there were three deep wells hereby. One of these wells, the one of the back porch, was used as a refrigerator. Butter, milk, etc were lowered into the well in a bucket to keep them cold. Ice was obtained by going to Maplesville and getting it off the train. This block of ice would be quite small after riding from Maplesville to Centreville.

There was a closet under the front hall steps where barrels of sugar and flour were kept under lock and key. (Howard, III, Frank and Len used this closet for their club house in the 1950's)

Since there was no running water, each bedroom had a screen which hid a washstand (a small dresser with one drawer and bottom doors that hid a slop-jar or toilet). The washstand held a pretty bowl with matching pitchers, a large pitcher and a small pitcher, even the slop-jar usually matched. It was here behind the screen that baths were taken and of course there was a creek on the place for summer bathing.

There was no electricity but plenty of kerosene lamps. It was a full time job to keep the chimneys clean and the lamps filled with kerosene.

After 1940 many changes came to "Twelve Oaks" besides a new porch on the front of the house. The L-shaped show boat porches on the back of the house became a hall upstairs and down. A new one story kitchen took the place of the two story kitchen on the east side. A downstairs bedroom, a screen porch on the back of the house, a breezeway connecting a two story garage with a playroom above, central heat and air condition, more bathrooms and a TV were introduced.

Although additions have come to the old home, the original rooms have remained the same. The wide boards running horizontal on the walls are covered with wallpaper. The wide heart pine floors are covered with rugs in some rooms and uncovered in others. One can still view the pegged doors and the tremendous hand hewn logs that are the foundation of the old house. They testify to a time when man depended on his hands and not machinery.

A house that has weathered ice storms, tornadoes, the heat of summer and the cold of winter - that has witnessed births, baptisms, weddings, death, sorrow and happiness has a special character and stability all its own. One cannot live in the house without feeling the great faith of those who have lived in the old home in the past one hundred fifty years. From its doors have gone out dedicated teachers, farmers and men in the business world.

The Oaks has served five generations and now the great, great, great grandchildren of Teresa Coleman and George Wood Howard enjoy vacations with her, Howard, IV and Amy, Jennifer and Emily Jo.

What does the future hold for "The Oaks"? Only time will be able to answer that question.

- Emily Howard Cooper Cleveland





**8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Use attached sheets as necessary

*See attached history from one of the owners*

**9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

Acreage of nominated property: 1.5 ACRES (per tax notice)

Attach a map showing the location of the property.

*attached plat map from 2009*

**10. Person Applying for Historic Register Designation**

Name: CENTREVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Address: 1270 WALNUT STREET  
City: CENTREVILLE State: AL Zip: 35042  
Telephone: 205 834 2836  
Email: PFFANCHER@GMAIL.COM

**11. PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Images are essential to the review process. They can be 4x6 color prints or digital images on a CD/DVD. All photographs will become the property of the AHC and will not be returned.

*attached CD*

**12. REMINDER:**

Along with this completed application, include attachments for Items 5, 9 and 11 and send them to:

Alabama Historical Commission  
Attn: Lee Anne  
468 S. Perry Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900