

# ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

Alabama Historical Commission  
725 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Mitchell-Wilkerson-Gaines House

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

307 S. LaFayette Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

LaFayette

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Alabama

VICINITY OF  
CODE

COUNTY

Chambers

CODE

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

### CATEGORY

DISTRICT  
 BUILDING(S)  
 STRUCTURE  
 SITE  
 OBJECT

### OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC  
 PRIVATE  
 BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
 IN PROCESS  
 BEING CONSIDERED

### STATUS

OCCUPIED  
 UNOCCUPIED  
 WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
 YES: RESTRICTED  
 YES: UNRESTRICTED  
 NO

### PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE  
 COMMERCIAL  
 EDUCATIONAL  
 ENTERTAINMENT  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INDUSTRIAL  
 MILITARY  
 MUSEUM  
 PARK  
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
 RELIGIOUS  
 SCIENTIFIC  
 TRANSPORTATION  
 OTHER

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Col. and Mrs. A. G. Myers, III

STREET & NUMBER

307 S. LaFayette Street

CITY, TOWN

LaFayette

VICINITY OF

STATE

Alabama

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Chambers County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

LaFayette

STATE

Alabama

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Alabama Inventory

DATE

1970 to present

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Alabama Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Montgomery

STATE

Alabama

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mitchell-Wilkerson-Gaines House as it exists today is a two-story structure built in two stages. In the original rear section, dated at 1845-1850, the mortise, tenon and peg system of construction was used, with hand-hewn timbers. This section was of the two-up and two-down plan with central hallways. Today the house is an approximate L-shape due to the early 1900s two-story frame addition made at a right angle to its facade. At the same time, a full-width front porch and porte cochere were added. The porch's flat roof with balustrade atop is supported by round columns resting on brick piers. The main entrance is a single-leaf door with large glass pane, and all windows are 2/2 double-hung sash.



## 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1845-50  
Early 1900s

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mitchell-Wilkerson-Gaines House in LaFayette is significant through its associations with various locally prominent Chambers County families. The house as it was originally constructed in 1845-1850 was of the familiar two-up and two-down plan with central hallways and an end-exterior chimney at each end.

Robert and Jane Mitchell most likely built the house and were living there in 1860, as Jane Mitchell was an early owner of the property. Around 1879, the property was purchased by Henry L. Wilkerson and his wife Catherine. Wilkerson was a local dry goods merchant and Mrs. Wilkerson was the daughter of John C. Towles, an early settler of LaFayette. Mrs. Wilkerson sold the property to Elizabeth Tucker in 1894.

The next owners were Dr. William D. Gaines and Leila Tucker Gaines. They added the new front lower and upper rooms and the front porch. A date, 1913, made of tiles embedded in the driveway indicates the approximate time of the additions. The original stairway and the wide floor boards of the original upstairs rear portion of the building remain, as does a rear detached kitchen. Gaines was a leading LaFayette physician, and was responsible for establishing the town's first hospital.

The property passed from Dr. Gaines' second wife, Helen Robinson Gaines, to the present owners.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davidson, William H., Pine Log and Greek Revival: Houses and People of Three Counties in Georgia and Alabama, Chattahoochee Valley Historical Society, 1964.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1

QUADRANGLE NAME LaFayette

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A          
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B          
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Col. and Mrs. A. G. Myers, III

ORGANIZATION

DATE

3/81

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

307 S. LaFayette Street

864-8978

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

LaFayette

Alabama 36862

## 12 FOR ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION USE ONLY

Staff Member David Baldwin

ADDED \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Thematic Category Architecture

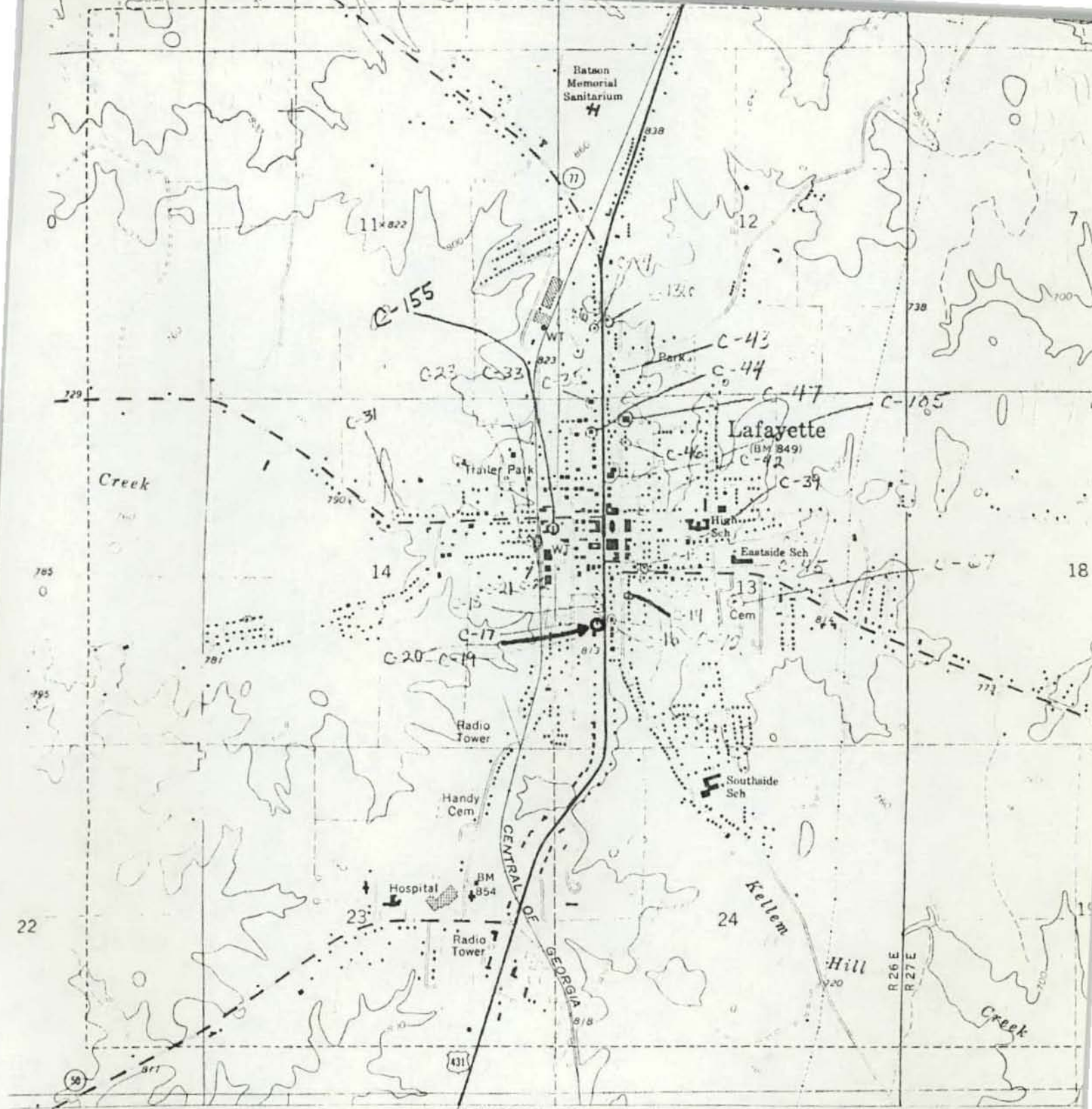
National Register Potential

Added to National Register \_\_\_\_\_









LOCATION IS AT "C-20"  
 NEXT TO THE  
 SENATOR HEFLIN HOME

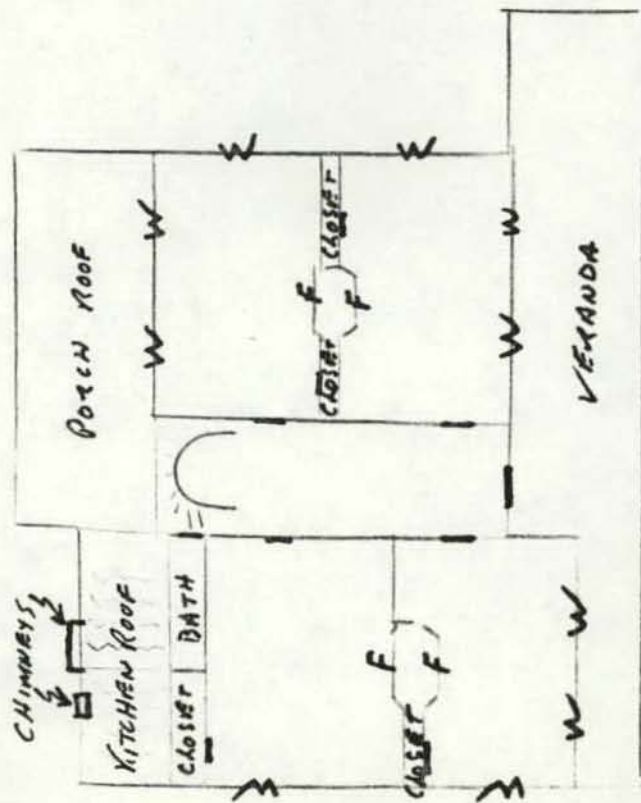


QUADRANGLE LOCATION

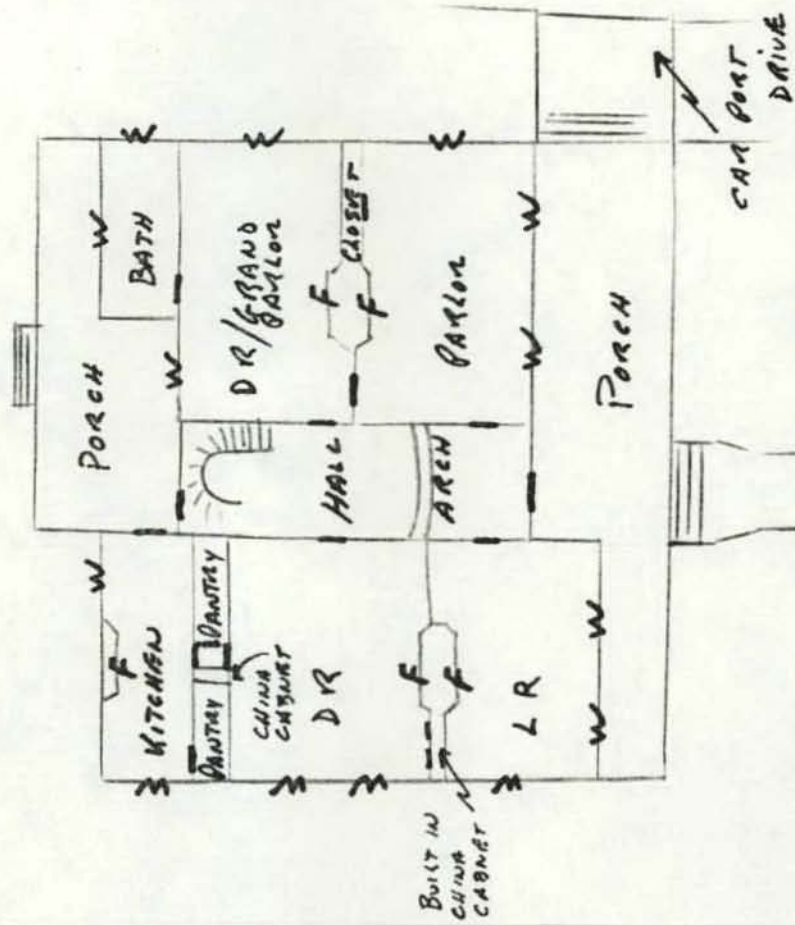
- ROAD CLASSIFICATION**
- Primary highway, hard surface
  - Secondary highway, hard surface
  - Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
  - Unimproved road
  - Interstate Route
  - U. S. Route
  - State Route

LAFAYETTE,  
 N3252 5-W8522

UPSTAIRS



DOWNSTAIRS



F = FIRE PLACE  
W = WINDOW