

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

Woodlands

AND/OR COMMON

Woodlands

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1/4 mi. n. of U.S. Highway 84 on gravel road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Gosport

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Alabama

VICINITY OF
CODE

COUNTY

Clarke

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

Mrs. Grant Gillis

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, P. O. Box 106

CITY, TOWN

Whatley

STATE

Alabama

___ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Clarke County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Grove Hill

STATE

Alabama

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Woodlands, a traditional story-and-a-half Creole Cottage with Greek Revival details, was built in the mid- to late 1840's and is one of Clarke County's finest antebellum homes.

The structure's gabled roof extends over a deep full-length front porch with an entablature supported by 8 fluted Doric columns. Slender square balusters run between each of the columns.

Windows of the 5-bay facade are 6/6 double-hung sash and the main entrance is a single-leaf door with sidelights and a transom. Above the transom is a heavy cornice supported by pilasters.

One outstanding feature of the house is a small barrel vault incorporated into the porch ceiling above the main entrance. The vault allows space above the entrance for an elliptical window which provides light and air to a second story room.

The right and left sides of the house have been covered with asbestos siding, and a rear porch enclosed to form a room. An original detached kitchen was destroyed by fire.

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 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 Mid-to late 1860's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Woodlands was built as the home of Frederick S. Blount and his first wife, Emily. It is a well-preserved example of a Creole Cottage with Greek Revival detailing.

While living in Gosport in Clarke County, Blount practiced law and is reputed to have served as a representative from Monroe County although this is not documented in the State Department of Archives and History.

Woodlands actually served as his country home as he divided his time between Mobile, where he practiced law until 1865, Paris, New York, and Memphis. During one of two stays in Paris, he opened an American Land Office. Paris was the home of his daughter.

After returning from Paris to New York in 1868, he practiced law until 1872 when he married his second wife who was from Memphis. Memphis was his home for the next few years.

He later returned to Mobile and lived there until his death. Woodlands had 3 other owners before being purchased by the current owners.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Probate records of Clarke County
2. Ball, Rev. T. H., Clarke County, Alabama and Its Surroundings, 1879.
3. Delaney, Caldwell, Deep South.
4. Kane, Harnett T., Gentlemen, Swords and Pistols, William Morrow and Company, New York, 1951.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Claiborne

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 74,55,90 349,428,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

This includes the house and yard immediately surrounding it. Beginning at a point (16/445640/3494222) on an unimproved public road in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{2}$, Sec. 9, go in a northwesterly direction approximately 425 feet, thence approximately 230 feet in a northeasterly direction, thence approximately 366 ft in a southe

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

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Gillis

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Clarke County Historical Society

4-28-76

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Rt. 1, P. O. Box 106

258-2231

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Whatley

Alabama

12 FOR ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION USE ONLY

Staff Member David Baldwin

ADDED _____ Number _____

Thematic Category Art-Architecture

National Register Potential _____

Added to National Register _____