

Alabama Register Property Information

Added 6/23/94

RECEIVED



FEB 14 1994

Ala. Historical Commission

1. Name The Carmichael Place

historic The Carmichael Place

and/or common The Carmichael Place

2. Location For the legal description of the location, see attached: "A"

street & number 4310 East Mill Road

city, town Goodwater, Alabama 35072 vicinity of Between Hatchett Creek & Hollins

state Alabama county Clay

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

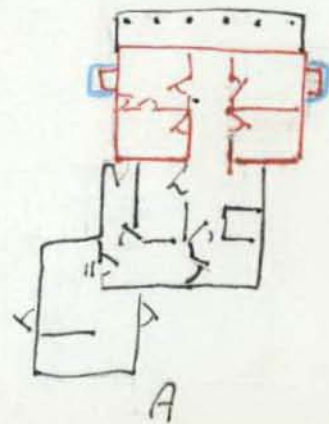
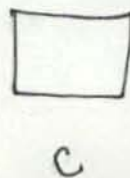
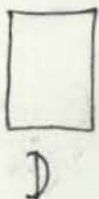
name Dr. and Mrs. James Donald Carmichael

street & number 2857 Canterbury Road

city, town Birmingham, Alabama vicinity of state Ala, 35223

5. Please use space below to sketch floor plan/site plan. See attached "B"

- A = HOUSE - RED = 1887 BUILDING
- B = PUMP HOUSE
- C = SURREY HOUSE (1901-2)
- D = SHARECROPPER'S HOUSE



6. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair

- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

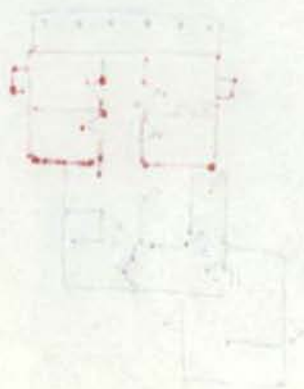
- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

See attached "C"



1. House - Red - 1810
2. 1st floor
3. 2nd floor
4. 3rd floor

7. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input checked="" 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 *1861-3; 1887*

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

See attached "D"

This simple Clay County farmhouse was originally built ca 1861-63 as a two-storied log cabin dog-trot. It burned in the spring of 1887 and in three weeks was built back to the original chimneys. It is the ancestral home of a world-renown mathematician, two Rhodes Scholars; a Chancellor of Vanderbilt, a President of the University of Alabama, Deans of college departments in Illinois and Colorado, a theologian, a nationally honored Superintendent of schools in Louisville, Kentucky, more than ten physicians, teachers and the head of the Ford Foundation Overseas Division. It has never been out of the family that built it.

8. Major Bibliographical References

Interviews: 27 Sep 1978 Miss Annie Carmichael; August 1990 Dr. Wayne Flynt, Dept of History, Auburn, University; Sept 1990 - March 1991 Miss Mira Carmichael; Interviews 1960-1967 Dr. John L. Carmichael;

9. Geographical Data

See attached

Acres of nominated property approx 3

Quadrangle name Goodwater, ALA, (edition of 1947)

Quadrangle scale 1/62500

Verbal boundary description and justification

10. Form Prepared By

name/title Mrs. James Donald Carmichael

organization owner

date February 4, 1994

street & number 2857 Canterbury Road

telephone 205-879-7849

city or town Birmingham

state AL 35223

11. Please submit color slides of the property with this form.

[Please let me know if the enclosed copies of prints are inadequate]

12. Please return ALABAMA REGISTER form to:

ALABAMA REGISTER COORDINATOR
ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION
725 MONROE STREET
MONTGOMERY ALABAMA 36130

SW 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec 12

897.2'

277.9'

827.4'

NE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec 12 | T 225 R 8E

R.M. PRICE

A.R. MESTRE

General's
1831
NW 1/4 Sec 12

General's
1831
SW 1/4 Sec 12

County Road
App. 100 ft
Loc. 100

General's
Home

Wichot
Creek

1813
First cont.
1800 plus
Range of

NE 1/4 Sec 12
Township 22S.
Range of

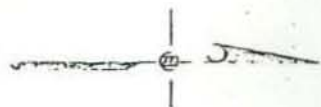
CAKMICHAEL LAND
322.69 ACRES

2644.4'

2640.2'

US GOV'T.

J.O. HOUSE



STATE OF ALABAMA)
CLAY COUNTY)
I THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED LAND SURVEYOR IN AND FOR THE STATE OF ALABAMA HEREBY CERTIFY THE PASSINGS TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT MAP OF THE CONTENTS SHOWN HEREON ACCORDING TO MY SURVEY OF SAME ON THIS 17 DAY OF DECEMBER, 1976.

Sam W. Hicks
SAM W. HICKS

4525
ALL. 833.

Carroll Sec 12

ROCK
PILE
& PINE
WOOD
SW 1/4 SW 1/4
Sec. 12

ROCK
PILE
& PINE
WOOD
SW 1/4 SW 1/4
Sec. 12

Mc KAY
CREW

EPPES

THIS LINE PAINTED ORANGE AND YELLOW
ALL OTHER LINES PAINTED YELLOW

SE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec 12



Farm (from 1910)
March 1921

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Clay County (Alabama), Highway No. 4

South of Clay County Highway No. 4, in Section 1 and Section 12, Township 22 South, Range 5 East, Clay County, Alabama.

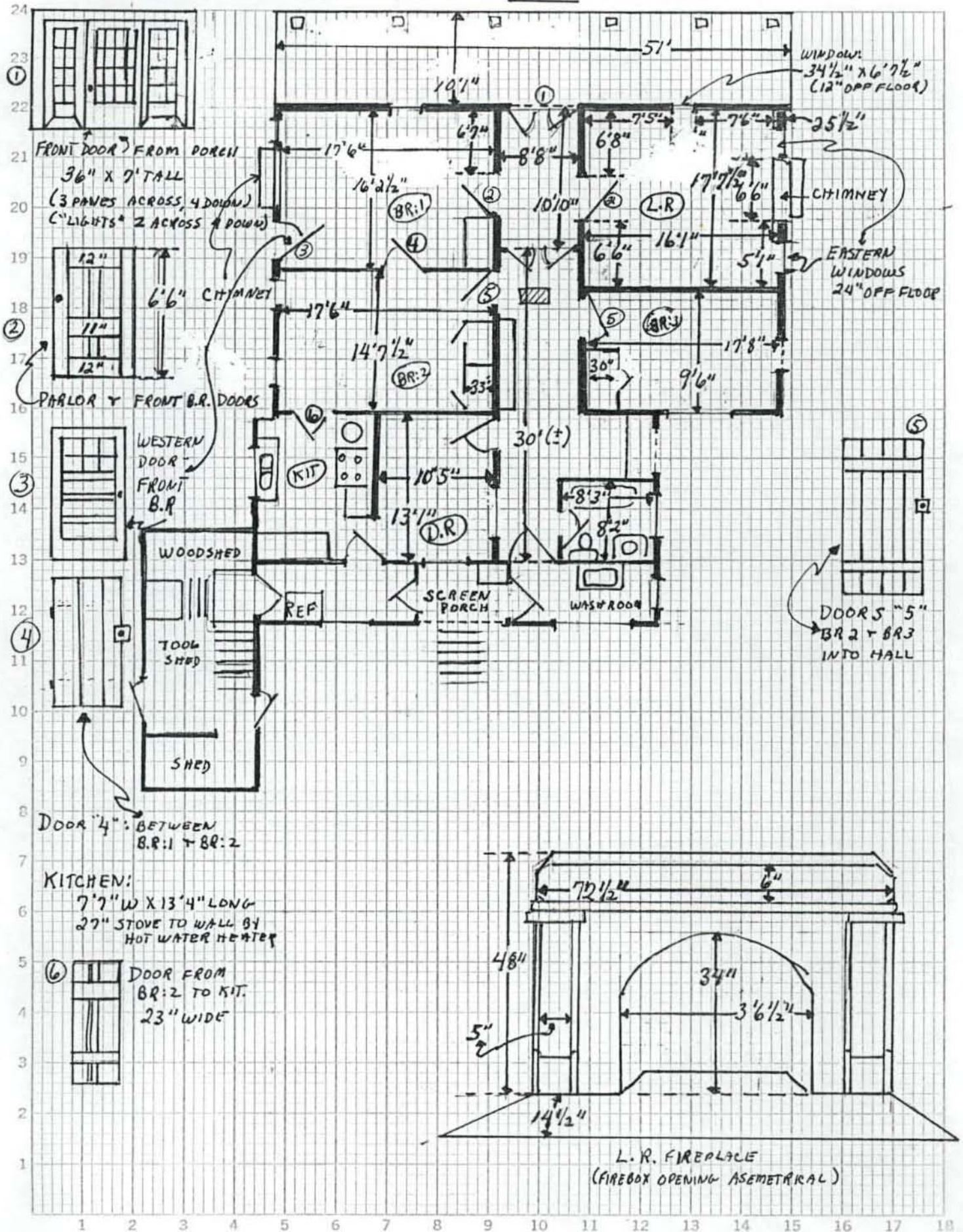
Begin at the SW corner SE 1/4 - NW 1/4 Section 12, Township 22S Range 5E, and run North along 1/2 section line 2644.59' thence turn right 91° 26' and run 1320.0' thence turn left 90° 40' and run 1383.55' thence turn right 91° 34' and run 2670.94' thence turn right 91° 46' and run 1343.26' thence turn left 6° 23' and run 2660.30' thence turn right 93° 35' and run 2659.22' thence turn left 87° 46' and run 210.0' thence turn right 90° 00' and run 420.0' thence turn right 90° 00' and run 210.0' thence turn left 90° 00' and run 909.38' to point of beginning of herein described land containing () acres, more or less.

NOTE: I only wish to have the home and out buildings considered. I do not wish to have the acreage considered but I didn't know how else I should respond to the request for a complete description of the land.

Section No. 5: floor plan
 Not to scale!
 Floor Plan, CARMICHAEL PLACE

Attachment "B"

8'2" STEPS



The Carmichael Place farmhouse:

1. Number of stories: one
2. Foundation:
 - stacks of stones; foundation enclosed ca 1940-1950 with concrete block.
3. Interior framing or structural system: Heart pine wood frame
4. Was missing on the sheet of instructions given me
5. Exterior wall material and pattern:
 - clapboard, heart pine (after 1887) original 1861-3 log cabin burned and heart pine clapboard rebuilt to original stone chimneys
6. Exterior wall treatment:
 - ca 1915-1920 front porch posts were replaced with square wooden columns
7. Porches:
 - A. Front porch, single story, 10'1" wide, 51' long; shed roof, upright supports are 6 square pine columns. I understand the original front porch was not quite so long and had "posts" instead of columns.
 - B. Back porch: single story, about 6' wide, width of house; shed roof; it was a later addition (early 20th century) and ca 1940 was divided into 3 sections. Section "a" serves as the hallway that contains the refrigerator and an open storage cabinet; section "b" is a screened in porch (about 8' long); section "c" is a wash/laundry room.
8. Number of bays:
 - If you mean "bay windows" there are none. If you mean windows and doors:
 - Windows: (original part of house) = 11
 - rest of house: 11
 - total: 22
 - Doors (Original house was an open "dogtrot" structure)
 - Currently: (exterior) = 5
 - (Front; western door; back porch; 2 wood shed doors)
9. Roof type and covering:
 - Type main house, pitched;
 - type porches and back 2 bedrooms, shed roof
 - Roof covering:
 - (recently applied) fiberglass/asphalt shingles. Original roof as I understand it was shake, later replaced with tin, ultimately replaced with fiberglass/asphalt shingles.
10. Roof trim: none
11. Chimneys:
 1. Exterior chimney for western bedroom, original 1861-3 stone, chinked with clay (no longer useable)
 2. Exterior chimney for eastern living room, lower 3/4 is original clay-chinked stone chimney. Upper 1/4 was

repaired with brick and mortar in the early days of this century. This is the only source of heat in that part of the house

3. Kitchen chimney, brick, late 19th century, early 20th century; was used for the wood heating stove or the wood cooking stove.

12. Doors:

Main entrance:

Originally (1861-3 until ca 1910-1925 this was an open "dogtrot" but was enclosed ca 1915-1925; It is a single door with 4 panes across and 4 panes down; It has sidelights on either side with two panes across and 4 panes down. The door and sidelights are trimmed with plain, flat boards. See sketch of floor plan for detail (Door No. 1)

Western bedroom:

See sketch of floor plans for detail (Door No. 3)

Woodshed doors:

Basically 3 or 4 boards held together with a cross board near the top and near the bottom. These are held closed on the inside with a hasp with a piece of wood stuck through it.

Back porch:

Homemade screened door, early 20th century vintage.

13. Windows:

Front:

Two windows, one on each side of the "dogtrot." They are "just there. You hold them open with a stick under them. There are four panes in each sash.

Side:

- 1 The original 4 rooms have windows identical to the front windows.
- 2 The back kitchen hall windows are a pair, side by side of single 4-pane fixed sash windows as are those in the hallway behind the eastern bedroom.
- 3 windows in the bathroom and wash room are 1940-1950 metal casement windows.

14. Interior features:

- Mantles: (1) northwest bedroom: heart pine plain board, natural finish
 (2) northeast living room: as above

Interior door and window trim:

Trim: Plain boards trim all doors and windows

Doors: Doors are illustrated on the attached drawing of the floor plan. Some are three board, some are 4 board, some are held together with a board near the top and near the bottom; some are paneled, but all are plainly made. See drawings for details.

-
- Stairways: No inside stairs.
The exterior steps to the house have been replaced with cement or cement block. The railings are galvanized pipe, but there this century.
- Walls and ceiling finish:
- Living room (Northeast corner) - unfinished heart pine walls and ceiling
 - Northwest BR Heart pine walls and ceiling; painted over ca 1940 because of tobacco stains on the walls.
 - Southwest BR Heart pine walls and ceiling; recently sheetrocked and wallpapered. Small samples of the original wallpaper were salvaged and framed.
 - Southeast BR: Heart pine walls and ceiling; covered in 1940's with wallboard to make room comfortable for invalid inhabitant.
 - Dining room, kitchen, bathroom, back hall, etc: Heart pine walls and ceiling; All were painted early in this century; the dining room has been recently sheetrocked and repapered. Small samples of wallpaper salvaged and framed.
- Baseboards: In the front two rooms and the dining room, baseboards are approximately 12" boards topped by a board laid sideways to stick out about 1/2" to make it noticeable that is isn't the same as the wall. The other rooms are treated similarly but with boards of less than 12" width. Plain, unbeveled, untrimmed boards.
- Flooring: All floors are heart pine. Some have been covered with linoleum. An old linoleum rug with jute backing was found under two layers of other linoleum. A sample has been salvaged and framed.
15. Notable hardware or mechanical systems:
- Lighting: 1940's porcelain single bulb receptacles; rest by extension cord attached to something
 - doorknobs
Most of the doors: brown, appears to be cross between enamel and porcelain or something similar. Knobs fit on to old square locks that still function. The square part is about 4" or 5" square, about 1/2" thick with a

thumb latch on each one to keep the tongue fixed. A "skeleton key" is what fits the locks.

Three doors have different locks that were added when the addition of the back halls and bathroom were added. They are about 2 1/2" wide and about 8" long. A skeleton key also works those.

16. Alterations and additions:

Dogtrot enclosed, ca 1910-25

Front porch lengthened (date unknown)

Bathroom added (date unknown)

Kitchen added (late 1800's)

Diningroom wall moved to make larger kitchen (early 1900's)

Back porch added early 1900's;

part enclosed relatively soon after that

Electricity added ca 1945

Foundation enclosed with cement blocks ca 1940-1950

Sheetrock applied 1991

over 1920-1930's wallpaper in dining room addition and

over original (1887) southwest bedroom

17. General Setting:

House faces due north to a paved road; Landscaping has been accumulated over the last 140 years and includes native as well as nursery plants. A ligustrum was rooted from cutting in the 19th century; floribunda roses were rooted from cut flowers middle 20th century; daffodil and jonquil bulbs line the original driveway; spirea, quince, mountain laurel, boxwood, azalea, hollies (have fairly complete list of plantings if you wish from the 92 year old woman who has recently moved from it ... she was born in the northwest bedroom).

A garden plot is still out back of the house (south) but is not in current use.

Fruit trees are further south of the garden plot.

18. Outbuildings

1. Sharecropper's home, may have been a slave home, but may have been built in the early 1870's; Has no chimney; two main rooms, 4 windows. Was moved from its original location on the same land to its present location many decades ago; it is pine and has a metal roof. It is in fair condition.

2. Surrey house - built 1901-1902; It is in the original location. It originally faced the road to the west but was turned around on logs to face north ca. 1920-1925; It was moved to face the road after the road was moved to its present location north of the surrey house and farmhouse. It is heart pine and has a metal roof and is in excellent condition

-
3. Pumphouse for deep well; Cement block. Have no idea when it was put there. The house didn't get electricity until the 1940's. It is in good condition.

This Clay County farmhouse was built as a log cabin with a large loft between 1861 and 1863 by Daniel and Margaret (Munroe) Carmichael, great grand-parents of the current owners. The log cabin was burned by a neighbor child in the spring of 1887 and the present home was immediately rebuilt to the original chimneys by help from the community. The trees on the land were cut, a sawmill moved to the area of the local gristmill for the purpose of turning the logs into boards, it was rebuilt and the family moved back within walls and ceiling and on a floor within 3 weeks. Since 1887 it has been a traditional "dogtrot" whose open "dogtrot" was enclosed ca 1912-18 and now serves as a hallway. Also on the land are the original surrey house, built in 1901 or 1902 and a sharecropper house ~~that may have originally been a slave house.~~

It is the ancestral home of a family that has produced a world-renown mathematician¹, two Rhodes Scholars²; a Chancellor of Vanderbilt, a President of the University of Alabama, Deans of college departments in Illinois and Colorado, a theologian, a nationally honored Superintendent of schools in Louisville, Kentucky, more than ten physicians, teachers and the head of the Ford Foundation Overseas Division.

In its approximately 140 years it has had four owners. It was built by Daniel and Margaret (Munroe) Carmichael; inherited by their son William Colin Carmichael after their death. It was inherited by his daughters, the Misses Mira, Annie, Odelle, and Katherine Carmichael after his death. Currently it is owned by Mary Alice (Beatty) and James Donald Carmichael, MD, the fourth generation from the original builders of the home. A complete anecdotal history of the home, its inhabitants and the community in which it has existed is available from verbatim transcriptions of 16 (and increasing) tapes of Miss Mira Carmichael, a 92^{1/2} year old, clear-minded member of the family who was born in the home and moved from it within the last year. The contributions to society by the family may be found in Marquis' Who's Who in America and Who's Who in the World.

Current efforts to preserve the house are: termite inspection and treatment; strapping the chimneys to a main support of the house so that they will not continue to lean away from the house; house jacks and new pillars under the floor

¹Robert Daniel Carmichael, ultimately Dean at the University of Illinois and the first person to describe Einstein's Theory of Relativity in the English language.

²Oliver Cromwell Carmichael and William Carmichael; in the 1950's James Donald Carmichael was one of two candidates from Alabama for the Southeast Regional competition for Rhodes Scholarship.

joists to support the framework more solidly. The greatest current threat to the house is a family of burglars that live in a nearby community.

Areas of Significance - check and justify below

Architecture:

Rural, 1887 "dogtrot" construction; built of heart pine to earlier 1861-1863 stone chimneys built by chinking with local clay (no mortar in original stone chimneys)

Education:

Grandparental home and site of some of the early education of the following (most of whom were Phi Beta Kappa were listed in Marquis Who's Who in America, as are many of their children):

Robert Daniel Carmichael

b 1 Mar 1879; Ph.D Princeton 1911; Dean of U of Ill, Prof of Math; first to translate Einstein's Theory of Relativity into English; Editor of Transaction in American Math Society; Who's Who in America; Men of Today and Their Works; Who's Who Among North American Authors; Leaders in Education; Biology of American Scholars; History of Alabama and Her People (Moore, 2:625)

William Monroe Carmichael, MD; b. 16 June 1883;

Josiah Nall Carmichael, MD; b. 3 Jan 1885;

Rev. Patrick Henry Carmichael, b 4 May 1889

Who's Who Among North American Authors; Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy v-3; Bibliographical Catalogue of Princeton Theological Seminary; taught for years at Richmond Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia

Oliver Cromwell Carmichael

b. 3 Oct 1891; Graduate of Univ. of Alabama, Phi Beta Kappa, A.B., A.M., LL.D. Rhodes Scholar; Proctor Fellowship Princeton University 1917; President Montevallo College; Chancellor of Vanderbilt 1937-45; President University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa 1953-1958; President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; Member, Whitehouse Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership 1931; holder of more than 20 degrees from colleges and Universities in 13 states.

John Leslie Carmichael, MD;

b. 22 May 1897; Graduate University of Alabama 1916, Phi Beta Kappa; Alpha Omega Alpha; Tulane Medical School 1924; Marquis Who's Who in the World; Clinical Professor of Surgery at University

of Alabama, diplomat of American Board of Surgery,
fellow of American College of Surgery,
Birthplace of Dr. Omer Carmichael

b 1893; Phi Beta Kappa; A.B. University of Alabama;
M.A. Columbian University 1924; Superintendent of
Schools Lynchburg, VA 1932-45; Superintendent of
Louisville, KY schools 1945-1957;

Exploration, settlement:

second oldest house standing in that community

Philosophy: see Patrick Henry Carmichael, above

Religion: see Patrick Henry Carmichael, above

Science: note physicians above