



ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DATE ADDED: _____

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Striplin Gold Mine and Carr Creek Placer
and/or Common Name: _____

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 4907 County Road 11
City: Delta
State: Alabama County: Cleburne Zip: 36258-
Is the property located within the city limits? Yes No
USGS Quad Map: Hollis Crossroads, Sec 22 and 23, T 17S, R 9E

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: Greater Alabama Council Telephone: 205-970-0251
Street & Number: 516 Liberty Parkway
City or Town: Birmingham State: AL Zip: 35242
Email: jt.dabbs@scouting.org

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.

NA

6. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Construction date:	The Striplin mines were constructed in approximately 1835 when prospecting began in Chulafinnee, AL. Two mine shafts are still present with timbers intact. One shaft has no timbers. In addition, there are numerous horizontal excavations and shallow cuts in quartz	Source:	1) Ruby McMichael. 1982. "A Short History of Chulafinnee, Cleburne County, Alabama" 2) William Brewer, Eugene Smith, George Hawkes, and Alfred Brooks. 1896. "A preliminary report on the upper gold belt
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	and schist still present. Carr Creek Placer is located within the property but has no historic structures. It is a 240-acre area that was historically panned for gold. It currently is panned for recreation by the Boy Scouts of America.		of Alabama, in the counties of Cleburne, Randolph, Clay, Talladega, Elmore, Coosa, and Tallapoosa. Bulletin No. 5, Geological Survey of Alabama. 3) George I. Adams. 1930. Gold Deposits of Alabama and Occurrences of Copper, Pyrite, Arsenic, and Tin. Bulletin No. 40, Geologic Survey of Alabama.
Alteration date:	No known alterations	Source:	
Architect/Builder:	NA	Contractor:	NA
Physical condition: (Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, Ruinous)	Good	Remaining historic fabric: (High, Medium, Low)	NA
No. of stories:	NA		
Historic use of property:	Gold mining		
Current use of property:	Forested, recreation		
Architectural style category:	NA	Architectural style sub-category:	NA
Basic typology:	NA	Basic shape:	NA
Basic floor plan:	NA	Historic Construction material(s):	NA
Current exterior wall material(s)	NA	Roof finish material(s):	NA
Main roof configuration:	NA	Foundation material:	NA
Porch type:	NA		
Window type and materials:			
Describe alterations:	NA		
Number and type of all outbuildings: (if significant, fill out separate survey form)	NA		
Exterior Architectural Description:	NA		
Description of Setting:	<p>The mines (Sec. 22) and Carr Creek Placer (Sec. 23) are located on the Franks Spain Scout Reservation, Camp Sequoyah along the tributaries to Carr Creek in Cleburne County. The mineshafts and horizontal excavations are located on a forested in ridges between the headwaters of Carr Creek. Three vertical shafts are present. Two shafts have timbers intact. Numerous horizontal excavations are present perpendicular to the hillside. See the photos for a visual presentation. The tributaries to Carr Creek and the Carr Creek Placer are currently covered with a hardwood forest and the streams still are clear and panned for recreation. In Section 24 (still in the Carr Creek Placer), two vertical shafts are adjacent to the remains of a historical home in a campsite within Camp Sequoyah.</p>		

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.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> social history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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.

The gold mining shafts and horizontal excavations were part of the Striplin Mine (Sec 22) that began in approximately 1837 as part of the Alabama Gold Rush. The Carr Creek Placer (Sec. 23) began to be mined/panned at about the same time. Gold was discovered in Alabama in 1830 but mining did not begin until the removal of the Creek Nation to Indian Territory. The Gold Rush led to the establishment of the nearby village of Chulafinnee. At one time Chulafinnee was the largest town in Alabama. The historic town of Arbacoochee was established at about the same time as a mining town. After gold was discovered in California in 1849, most of the Alabama mines were abandoned. Most Alabamians are unaware that a gold rush occurred in Alabama or that gold was ever mined.

Archaeology/historic – the mineshafts still exist but have not been examined by archaeologists. The shafts are at least 75 feet deep before the water table is reached. Timbers are still visible in two of the shafts. The area provides some of the last remaining physical evidence of the Alabama Gold Rush.

Education – gold is still panned in the creeks in the Carr Creek Placer by Boy Scouts. The youth have the opportunity to learn about an aspect of Alabama's history and historic mining techniques. This area has the potential to be used for education by nearby schools once trails are built to the vertical shafts.

Engineering – the construction of deep vertical shafts and horizontal excavations without mechanical equipment would have been difficult.

Exploration/settlement – the mines were constructed soon after Cleburne County was opened for settlement after the Trail of Tears. Chulafinnee was quickly established due to the presence of the gold. The remnants of homes in the area are likely from the Civil War era when the property was a plantation.

Industry – the mines played a role in the Alabama gold rush. The mining of gold was one of the first industries in the former Creek Territory.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Use attached sheets as necessary

- 1) Ruby McMichael. 1982. "A Short History of Chulafinnee, Cleburne County, Alabama"
- 2) William Brewer, Eugene Smith, George Hawkes, and Alfred Brooks. 1896. "A preliminary report on the upper gold belt of Alabama, in the counties of Cleburne, Randolph, Clay, Talladega, Elmore, Coosa, and Tallapoosa. Bulletin No. 5, Geological Survey of Alabama.
- 3) George I. Adams. 1930. Gold Deposits of Alabama and Occurrences of Copper, Pyrite, Arsenic, and Tin. Bulletin No. 40, Geologic Survey of Alabama.

9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property: Approximately 25 acres around the mineshafts and 100 acres in the Carr Creek Placer

Attach a map showing the location of the property.

10. FORM PREPARED BY

Name: Robert Carter

Organization: Jacksonville State University

Street & Number: PO Box 122

City or Town: Jacksonville

Email: rcarter@jsu.edu

Date: March 15, 2012

Telephone: 256-239-4702

State: AL Zip: 36265

II. 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.



Vertical shaft with
timbers present.



Vertical shaft with
timbers present.



Remains of Model T
adjacent to mines.



Horizontal excavations.



Piles of soil beside vertical shafts.



Vertical shaft without timbers.

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 Wofford
468 S. Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900