NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

578

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name SINGLETON, MICAJAH T., HOUSE

other names/site number Irma Whitlock House; FMSF# DE596

2. Location

street & number 711 W. Hickory Street N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Arcadia N/A ☐ vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county DeSoto code 027 zip code 34266

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara C. Mattick / DSHPO 6/19/2013
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other, (explain)

for Signature of the Keeper: Edson H. Beall
Date of Action: 8.6.13

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
- ☐ public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ buildings
- ☐ district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	2	total

Name of related multiple property listings
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

FRAME VERNACULAR

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood
roof Metal
other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ **B** removed from its original location.

☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.

☐ **D** a cemetery.

☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ **F** a commemorative property.

☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1891

Significant Dates

1891

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Arch: Unknown

Blder: Read, P.R.

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
#

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State Agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of Repository

#

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	413940	3011040
2			
3			
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul L. Weaver, Consultant/Carl Shiver, Historic Preservationist

organization Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation date June 2013

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (850) 245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items
(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name George Whitlock

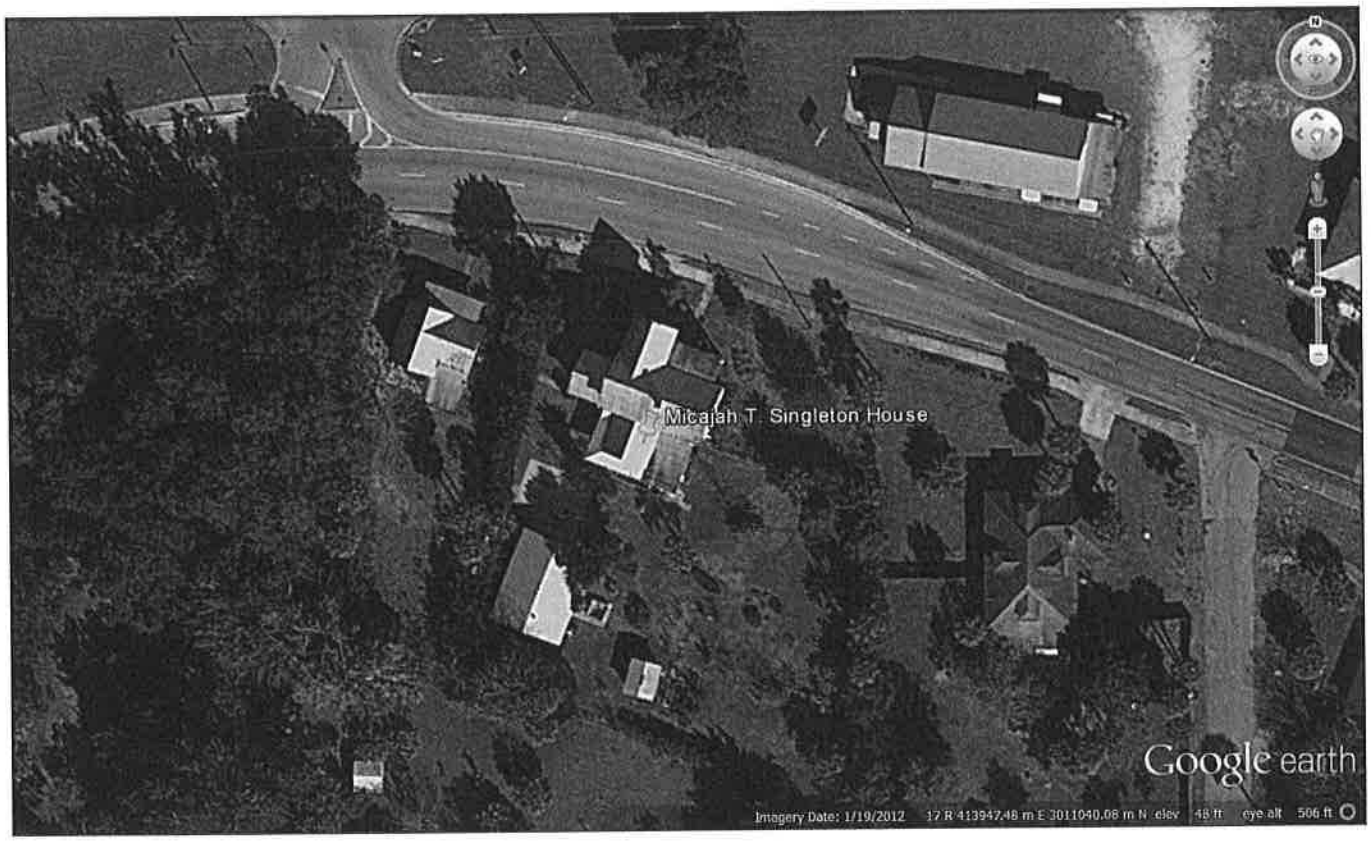
street & number 711 W. Hickory Street telephone (863) 244-3426

city or town Arcadia state Florida zip code 34266

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

MICAJAH T. SINGLETON HOUSE
711 WEST HICKORY STREET
ARCADIA, FLORIDA



UTM COORDINATES

Zone	Easting	Northing
17	413940	3011040

Latitude: 27.219453°
Longitude: -81.869074°

SUMMARY

The Micajah T. Singleton House, located at 711 West Hickory Street (Photo 1), is a two-story frame vernacular dwelling that was constructed in 1891. It has an irregular ground plan and rests on a brick pier foundation, The main body of the house is sheltered by an intersecting gable roof that has been covered in V-crimp metal sheeting. The exterior walls are sheathed in wood drop siding. The main fenestration of the house consists of 2/2-light double-hung wood sash windows. The main facade features a two-story two-bay veranda covered with a flat roof. The verandas are supported by square wooden columns that stand directly above one another. The columns of the ground story rest on brick piers that stand on the ground and abut a brick and concrete porch deck. A concrete sidewalk leads to concrete steps covered with clay tiles that provide access to the veranda. The main entrance features a wood and glass panel door in front of which is a wood and wire screened door. To the right of the front-facing gable wing is a one-story, hip roof carport whose roof is supported by the wall of the house and two wood tapered columns that rest on brick pier bases. A one-story gable roof wing extends west of the main block of the house, and there is another one-story gable roofed ell at the rear of the house which abuts a flat roof screened porch.

SETTING

The city of Arcadia is the county seat of DeSoto County, Florida. The population of Arcadia was 7,637 as of 2010. Arcadia has experienced a surge in home development due in part to residents relocating from surrounding counties and commuting to their work destinations. During the winter months many retirees from the Midwest relocate to Arcadia, which provides a needed contribution to the local economy. The population of Arcadia was 6,604 as of 2000. According to the U.S Census estimates of 2011, the city grew to 7,643. Arcadia's local economy is heavily reliant upon agriculture. Primary agriculture elements include citrus, cattle and watermelons.

The setting of the Singleton House has changed considerably since the building was constructed in 1891. The house was originally located on a four-acre parcel of land Originally there was a detached one-story residence at the rear of the main building, stables, a water tower and windmill. The one-story detached residence was moved to 715 West Hickory Street, where it sits today. In August 1914, Poleaman Forrester created Mrs. C.W. Forrester's Addition to the City of Arcadia, a subdivision consisting of 14 lots from the original four-acre parcel. Mrs. Forrester retained lots 3-5 and a portion of lot 2, the site of the former Singleton House, for herself. A non-historic detached utility shed and a small storage shed are located at the rear of the property.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

Exterior

The Singleton House is a two-story balloon frame residence. It has 2,836 square feet of interior space and, with porches and other enclosed areas, encompasses a total of 4,479 square feet. The Singleton House retains most of its original features. These include a raised brick pier foundation, wood horizontal board exterior fabric, and a steeply pitched intersecting-gable roof with boxed eaves. The roof was originally surfaced with wooden

shingles but has been replaced with a galvanized metal roof in a V-crimp pattern. The Singleton House has an irregular ground plan. The building is oriented north-south with the main (north) elevation facing West Hickory Street (Photo 2). It has a gable-front facade that intersects a side-gable roof to the south. The front gable section of the house abuts a two-story flat-roofed veranda on the east. It has a primary facade that is taller than it is wide. It has a secondary facade some fifteen feet behind the primary facade. Within the ell formed between the two facades is a two-tiered verandah, covered by a slightly sloped shed roof.

The verandah placement (Photo 3), together with its location on the north elevation, protects a large area from direct sun and allows tempered breezes from two or more directions. The verandah is two bays wide and one bay deep. The bays are formed by square columns resting on brick piers at the first floor level and square columns resting on the deck of the second floor. The upper porch has a simple balustrade formed by stringers, square balusters, and handrails. The original columns and balustrade have been replaced. The original posts were turned, as were the balusters. The existing columns and piers are in the Craftsman style. They appear to pre-date World War II and have achieved significance in their own right. Non-original brackets have been added at the juncture of the columns and the first and second story verandah roofs. A carport with columns similar to those found on the main (north) elevation is located on the west elevation (Photo 4).

The fenestration pattern of the building is regular and symmetrical (Photo 5). Original windows are mainly 2/2-light double-hung sash windows. They have raked moldings above the headers. There is a group of three windows at the first floor level of the projecting wing of the north elevation. All original windows remain on the north elevation. There were originally four regularly placed windows on the east elevation. All were 2/2-light sash types. One window at the first floor level has been replaced by a smaller aluminum sash type (Photo 6). An original louvered attic vent remains in the gable end of the east elevation. Original 2/2-light sash windows are found on the west (Photos 6-7) and rear (south) elevations.

Original one story wings are located on the south and west elevations. A porch on south wing has been enclosed to accommodate an interior kitchen (Photos 7-8). There are two noncontributing utility buildings (Photo 9) at the rear of the property that date from the 1970s.

Interior

First Floor

The interior of the Singleton House contains major public spaces, including a parlor and dining room on the first floor, and bedrooms on the second floor. Floors throughout the interior are heart pine. Walls and ceilings are plaster over lath board. Interior wood detailing appears to be industrial millwork shipped to Arcadia by rail.

Classically detailed fireplaces are located in the first floor living room and bedroom No. 2 (Photos 10-12). The fireplace in the living room is the most detailed and features Doric columns, cornices and garlands A dining room is located south of the living room (Photos 13-14) Doors are four panel types with oval windows in the upper panels of the main door. Window and door moldings are raked with a bulls-eye in the corners. A kitchen is located at the southeast portion of the first floor beside the dining room.

Second Floor

The second floor is accessed by a straight flight of stairs (15-16). A balustrade is located at the terminus of the stair at the second floor level. The balustrade consists of a stringer, turned balusters, a handrail and newel post It terminates at a stair hall (Photos 17-18), which accesses the upstairs bedrooms and the second floor verandah (Photo 19). The interior contains a total of five bedrooms and three bathrooms (Photos 20) The main upstairs bedroom contains a simple fireplace which lacks the detail of the fireplaces on the first floor (Photo 20).

ALTERATIONS

Exterior

Alterations to the exterior of the Singleton House include removal and replacement of the original porch columns and balustrade. The porch alterations appear to pre-date World War II. They were compatible with the architecture of the building, embody the building's physical development, and have achieved significance in their own right. An exterior porch at the rear of the building was enclosed about same time as the veranda.

Interior

Most interior alterations have been made to accommodate bathrooms and a kitchen. The building likely had no original interior kitchen or bathrooms. Many interior alterations appear to be long-standing and embody the historic physical development of the building.

SUMMARY

The Micajah T. Singleton House is significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It is a distinctive example of a two-story Frame Vernacular residence built in the late 19th century that was later expanded to the rear. It is one of the few remaining examples of a large pioneer home constructed in Arcadia and DeSoto County before the beginning of the 20th century. The house exhibits some features of Craftsman style construction in alterations to the two-story veranda and carport which were probably made in the 1920s. The house largely retains its c. 1891 appearance. Windows, doorways, wall finishes, and hardware are mostly original. The house exhibits many features of late 19th century construction in Florida through its use of materials, massing, and simple decorative details. Except for the enclosure of the formerly open porch at the rear of the house to create additional living and utility spaces, the house largely retains its c. 1891 appearance.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The historical development of Arcadia paralleled that of much of the lower Florida peninsula during the late 19th century. The key historical event in the development of this area was the Disston Purchase of 1881. Prior to the Disston Purchase, with the exception of scattered homestead and other federal land grants, most of the area was still owned either by the State of Florida or by the United States government. The Governor and State Cabinet of Florida controlled state lands as Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. Following the Civil War, the Internal Improvement Trust Fund became mired in debt. Under state law, no state lands could be sold or granted until the debt was cleared.[1]

In June 1881, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund sold four million acres in the Florida peninsula to Hamilton Disston, the son of a wealthy saw manufacturer from Philadelphia. The proceeds of the sale were sufficient to clear the state's debt. The Trust then proceeded to grant lands to several major railroad developers and sell private lands to individuals.[2] At the time, Arcadia was a small settlement located on a bluff overlooking the Peace River. It was first known as Waldron's Landing, and then as Raulerson's Landing. Harris Raulerson used to transport potatoes from this landing, for resale elsewhere, in his side-wheeler steamboat. Pioneers who brought their potatoes to the spot for sale to Raulerson began to call it Tater Hill Bluff. James "Boss" Hendry was a lumberman and Baptist preacher. When he was moving his sawmill by ox-drawn wagons to the area he stayed overnight in the home of Thomas Albritton, a fellow Baptist. Learning that Hendry's birthday fell on the following day, Mrs. Albritton and her daughter Arcadia baked a cake for him. Touched by their kindness, Hendry, who predicted that a town would arise in the bluff's vicinity, promised to have it named Arcadia. The Disston Purchase had an immediate impact on the development of Arcadia.

[1] Charlton Tebeau, A History of Florida, (Coral Gables, 1971), 189-191.
[2] Ibid.

Private developers quickly purchased most of the land within what today are the corporate limits of the town. In 1883, the population was sufficient to establish a post office named Arcadia.[3]

The greatest impact of the Disston Purchase was on railroad development. Within five years, these developers had constructed rail lines through much of the Florida peninsula, reaching previously isolated areas, including the future site of the Town of Arcadia. The Florida Southern Railway was the first to reach Arcadia in 1886. Incorporated in 1879 as the Gainesville, Ocala, and Charlotte Harbor Railroad, the leaders of the Florida Southern worked closely with railroad developer Henry Bradley Plant (1819-1899). Through negotiation with Plant, the Florida Southern switched its main line from Lake City to Palatka and allowed Plant's South Florida Railroad to construct main lines to Orlando and Tampa. In 1885, Plant extended the South Florida Railroad to Bartow, north of Arcadia in Polk County. From Bartow, the Florida Southern Railway began work on a seventy-three mile line to Charlotte Harbor. In March 1886, the railroad completed the line, including a stop at Arcadia. Arcadia thus became linked by rail with the rest of Florida and the eastern markets of the United States.[4]

On May 12, 1887, the Florida State Legislature passed a bill, later signed into law by the governor, creating DeSoto County from the eastern portion of Manatee County. The county seat initially was the former Manatee County seat of Pine Level, a settlement located a few miles west of Arcadia. The County included the geographic area now encompassed by Charlotte, Glades, Hardee, Highlands and DeSoto counties. The new rail line bypassed Pine Level, which became an isolated backwater as a result. The logical place for the new county seat was somewhere to the east, along the Florida Southern Railway line. Towns along the line began competing for the county seat in the months following the creation of DeSoto County. Arcadia made the most generous offer, but political bickering among the competing communities delayed selection of a county seat until November 1888, when Arcadia was selected following three countywide referendums.

Climate was another factor in the development of Arcadia. Freezes in 1886 and in the winter of 1894-1895 devastated the citrus industry of North Florida, which was concentrated along the St. Johns River south of Jacksonville. Arcadia quickly became a growing and shipping center for citrus and vegetables. The railroad, the State of Florida, and real estate interests promoted Arcadia and other areas of the southern peninsula of Florida as being ideal for citrus cultivation. By the 1890s, much of Arcadia and the surrounding area were planted in citrus groves.[5]

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[3] The Arcadian, October 8, 1926 and April 9, 1964; Louise Frisbee, Peace River Pioneers, (Gainesville, 1974), 28.
[4] George W. Pettengill Jr., The Story of Florida Railroads, 1834-1903 (Boston, Massachusetts, 1952), 68-73; The Arcadian, October 8, 1926 and April 9, 1964.
[5] Florida Times-Union, October 18, 1896.

Micajah Thomas Singleton

The Micajah Singleton House at 711 West Hickory Street was built between September 1890 and September 1891. Micajah Singleton (1850-1923) [6]was a member of a prominent north Georgia family. His grandfather, Dr. Joseph James Singleton, a state senator from Athens, Georgia, was the first superintendent/treasurer of the United States Mint at Dahlonega, Georgia.[7]

Micajah Singleton continued the family tradition of mining and civil engineering. Singleton studied at Emory University. Following his studies, Singleton formed a civil and mining engineering practice with offices in Atlanta. He subsequently worked for the Army Corps of Engineers as a civilian. From 1884 until 1887 he was resident engineer on the Coosa River in Alabama, where he was in charge of lock and dam construction.[8] In 1887, Singleton married Emma Wood (1865-1944) in Talladega, Alabama.

Singleton came to Arcadia in 1888 to organize and operate the Peace River Phosphate Company to take advantage of a phosphate boom which was in full swing. In Arcadia, the Singletons had two children, a daughter, Susan (b. 1888) and one son, also named Micajah Thomas Singleton (1892-1959).[9] On September 23, 1890, Singleton bought a four-acre parcel west of downtown from local developer and businessman John L. Jones. The price for the land was $450, but on September 1st and 2nd 1891, Singleton secured two mortgages for the property, totaling $1600.[10] He proceeded to build the house located at 711 West Hickory Street, which was completed in 1891. Other buildings on the property included a detached one-story residence, a stable, a water tower and a windmill. Singleton's fortunes were tied to the Peace River phosphate boom, and the discovery of better-grade phosphate deposits in Polk County ended the phosphate boom in DeSoto County. Because of the collapse of the phosphate boom, the Singleton family left Arcadia in 1893.[11]

A lien against Singleton was filed by the builder of the house, Peyton R. Read, on October 8, 1891, and judgment against him was issued on October 22, 1894. Rheese D. Gauby, one of the mortgage holders, foreclosed the property in 1895. Gauby sold the house and land to local attorney Charles W. Forrester in January, 1900.[12] Charles W. Forrester and his wife, Poleaman, owned the house for a number of years. In August, 1914, Poleaman Forrester created Mrs. C.W. Forrester's Addition to the City of Arcadia, a subdivision

[6] Born July 27, 1850, Dahlonega, Georgia, died February 24, 1923, Ragland, Alabama.
[7] Gold Rush Gallery, Writer's Corner, www.goldrushgallery.com, "Bronze Door Knocker from the Dahlonega Mint is Treasured by Singleton Descendants," pp. 1-5.
[8] Ibid.; Correspondence from Mrs. Herschel Winston Bass (daughter of Major Singleton) to John L. Jones n.d. in possession of George W. Whitlock.
[9] Ibid.
[10] DeSoto County Courthouse, Deed Book 13, p. 393; Mortgage Book 3, p. 14, 65; Lien Book 1, p. 2.
[11] Correspondence from Mrs. Hershel Winston Bass.
[12]Lien Book 1, p. 2; Judgment Book 1, p. 121; Deed Book 39, p. 395.

consisting of 14 lots. Mrs. Forrester retained lots 3 and 4, the site of the former Singleton House, for herself.[13] In July 1939, Lillian Whitlock purchased the Singleton House.[14] She and her husband, George Whitlock, resided at the house until 1955, when the property passed to their daughter Irma.[15] The Singleton House, known today by most in Arcadia as the Whitlock House, has been owned by the Whitlock family for 67 years. It is currently owned by George Whitlock and his wife Patricia. George Whitlock is the nephew of Irma Whitlock and grandson of George and Lillian Whitlock.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Frame Vernacular

The Frame Vernacular style was the most popular form of residential architecture in Florida from the Territorial Period (1819-1845) to the present. "Frame Vernacular" is defined as the standard wood construction techniques of lay or self-taught builders. Local builders relied on readily available materials and their own designs and experience during the construction process. The Industrial Revolution allowed for the standardization of building materials and elements. Furthermore, magazines and catalogs helped perpetuate building trends and ideas. The railroad was used for low-cost, efficient transportation of manufactured building products. Many popular vernacular building forms were used by builders during the late-nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Frame Vernacular residential buildings were generally one or two stories in height and utilized a wood frame structural system placed upon brick or concrete pier foundations. A variety of plans were employed, including rectangular, ell, and irregular footprints. However, one of the most popular plans consisted of a rectangular central unit with projecting room extensions. Earlier forms generally exhibit steeply pitched pyramidal, hip, or gable roofs clad with either wood shingles or metal surfacing such as standing seam or 3V crimp; however, many of the roofing materials have been replaced with composition shingle. Common exterior wall surfaces included weatherboard, wood shingles, drop siding, and board and batten. Windows were generally double-hung with a 2/2-light configuration being most popular prior to the Civil War. While later forms also exhibit the 2/2-light configuration, 1/1-light windows also gained popularity. Additional features generally included front or wrap-around porches. Exterior decoration was sparse and limited to ornamental woodwork, balustrades, knee braces, purlins, and exposed rafter ends under the eaves.

[13] DeSoto County Plat Book 2, p. 176.
[14] DeSoto County Deed Book 232, p. 259.
[15] DeSoto County Deed Book 262, p. 389.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Micajah Thomas Singleton House is significant as a distinctive example of Frame Vernacular construction which dates from the last decade of the 19th century, when the northwest section of the city of Arcadia was being developed. It fulfills the architectural requirements outlined in Criteria C for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its distinctive of construction and its association with noted local building contractor Peyton R. Read. The Singleton House is perhaps the best example of the ell-plan residence in Arcadia. The ell-shaped plan was likely an accommodation to the Florida climate to facilitate cross ventilation of the interior. The ell plan presents a primary facade that is taller than it is wide. It has a secondary facade some fifteen to thirty feet behind the primary facade. This void area generally supports a one or two-tiered verandah. Such an arrangement protects a large area from direct sun and allows tempered breezes from two or more directions. The rear addition enlarged the dwelling considerably and altered its exterior appearance. The size of the house grew with the number of family members. The addition provided space for a kitchen and additional living and storage area. Many of the other features and materials are associated with early wood frame residences in Arcadia and other parts of Florida. One of these is the use of heart or long leaf yellow pine for construction. The use of this material was favored by home builders in the late 19th and early 20th centuries because of its durability and resistance to termite infestation. The construction is simple and lacking ornamentation. The only concessions to decoration are the classically detailed fireplace in the first floor living room which features Doric columns, cornices and garlands and turned newel posts on the staircase. Only simple narrow moldings mark the intersection of the walls, ceilings and floors. The doors also have simple molded jambs and lintels.

Peyton R. Read, Builder

Documents in the possession of the Whitlock family indicate that the building contractor of the Singleton House was Peyton R. Read.[16] The accuracy of these documents is corroborated by public records held at the DeSoto County Courthouse. Peyton Read was one of the most prominent building contractors in Arcadia during the town's early years of development. Read constructed many of the important early buildings in Arcadia. On December 12, 1888, the DeSoto County Commission awarded Read the contract for construction of the first DeSoto County Courthouse. On January 12, 1912, the commission awarded another contract to Read, then operating as the Read-Parker Company, for construction of the existing historic DeSoto County Courthouse.[17] It

[16]Correspondence from Mrs. H.W. Bass (daughter of Major Singleton) to John L. Jones n.d. in possession of George W. Whitlock.
[17] The building contributes to the Arcadia Historic District, listed 5/10/84.

was designed by the architectural firm of Bonfoey and Elliot, and is one of Arcadia's most architecturally significant buildings.[18]

[18] Historic Property Associates, "Cultural Resource Survey of Arcadia, Florida," (Historic Property Associates, St. Augustine, FL, 1982,) pp. 39, 52.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Books

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DeSoto County Plat Book 2, p. 176.

Mortgage Book 3, p. 14, 65.

Lien Book 1, p. 2.

Judgment Book 1, p. 121.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

MRS FORRESTER'S SUB SE1/2 OF LOT 2 & LOTS3,4, & 5 OR 449/1063

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the property historically associated with the Micajah Thomas Singleton House.

PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Micajah Thomas Singleton House
2. 711 West Hickory Street, Arcadia (DeSoto County), Florida
3. Bruce E. Neveau
4. 2012
5. Historic Property Associates
6. Streetscape Looking Southwest
7. Photo 1 of 22

Items 1-5 are the same for the rest of the photographs.

6. Main (North) Facade, Looking South from West Hickory Street
7. Photo 2 of 22

6. Detail of Main (North) Facade, Looking South
7. Photo 3 of 22

6. Detail of Carport, Looking Southeast
7. Photo 4 of 22

6. Main (North) Facade, Looking Southeast
7. Photo 5 of 22

6. Main (North) Facade, Looking Southeast
7. Photo 6 of 22

6. Rear (South) Elevation, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 7 of 22

6. Rear (South) Elevation and East Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 8 of 22

6. Noncontributing Outbuildings, Looking South
7. Photo 9 of 22

6. Interior, Living Room, Looking Southeast
7. Photo 10 of 22

6. Interior, Living Room, Fireplace Detail, Looking East
7. Photo 11 of 29

6. Interior, Bedroom 2, Looking Southwest at Fireplace
7. Photo 12 of 22

6. Interior, Dining Room, Looking South
7. Photo 13 of 22

6. Interior, Dining Room, Looking North
7. Photo 14 of 22

6. Interior, Stairs Looking East
7. Photo 15 of 22

6. Interior, Stairs, Looking West
7. Photo 16 of 22

6. Interior, 2nd Floor Stair Hall, Looking East
7. Photo 17 of 22

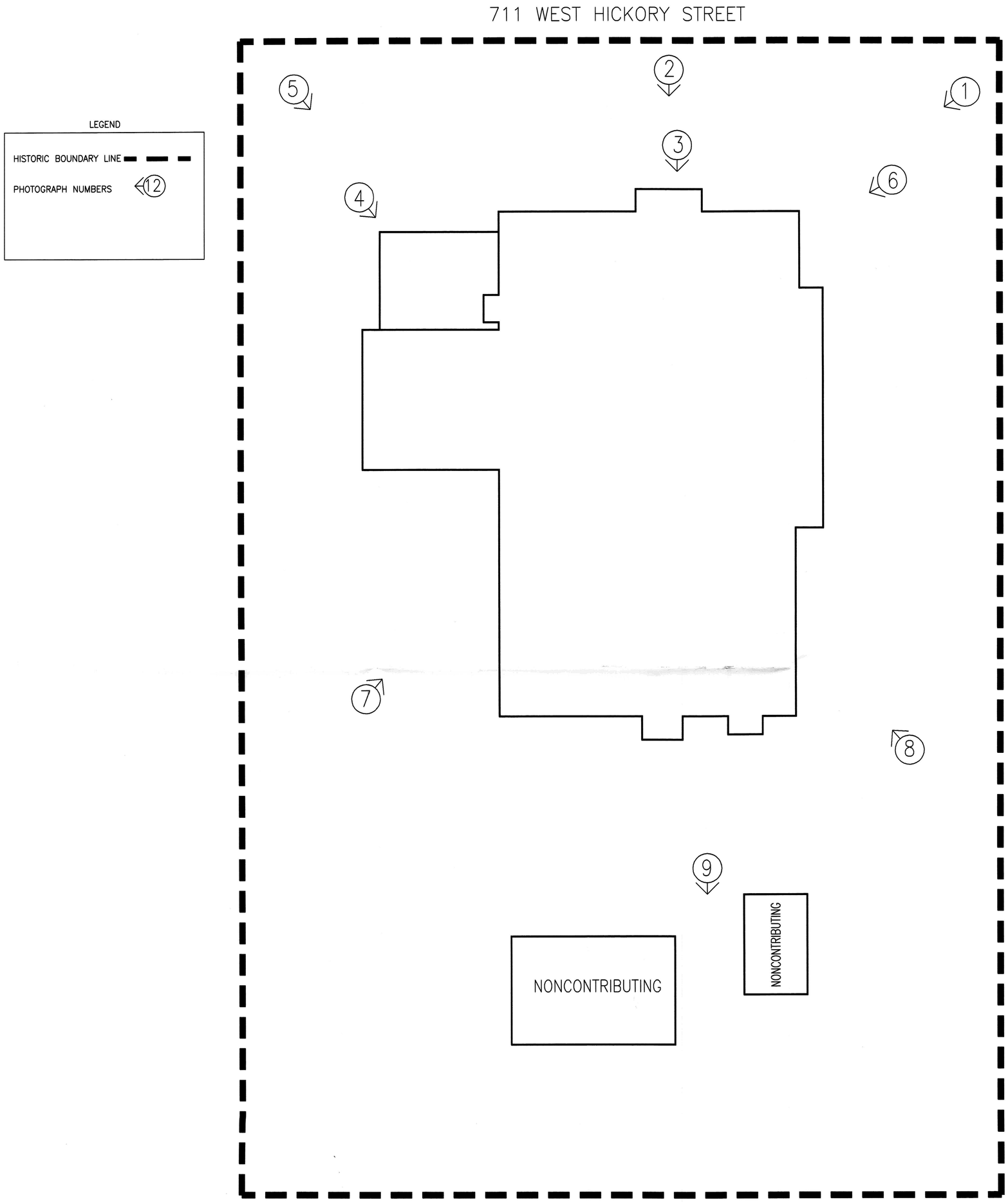
6. Interior, 2nd Floor Stair Hall, Looking West
7. Photo 18 of 22

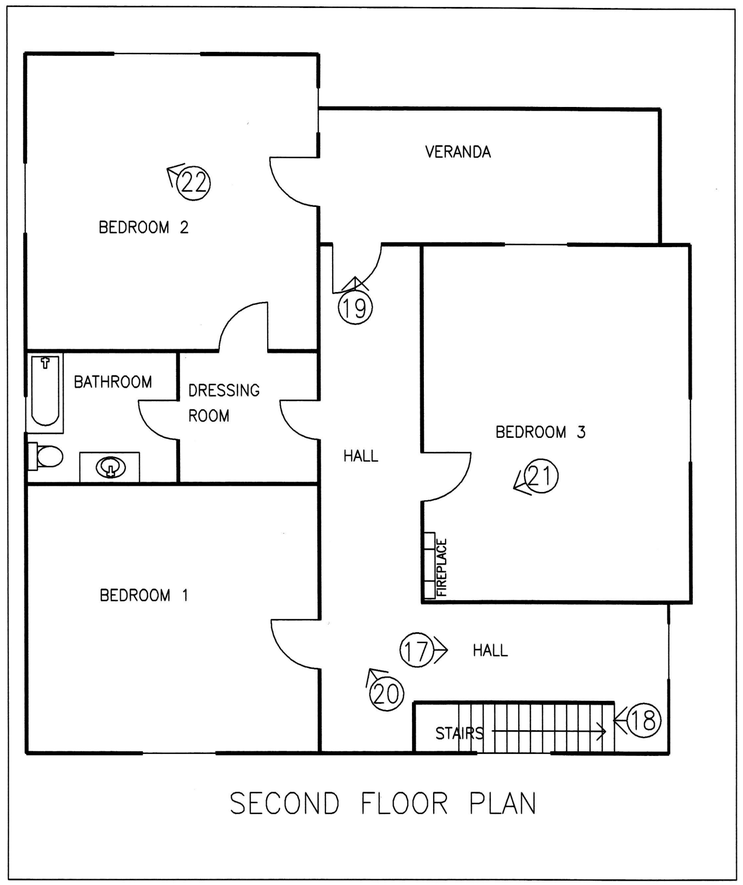
6. Interior, 2nd Floor Hall, Looking North
7. Photo 19 of 22

6. Interior, 2nd Floor Hall, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 20 of 22

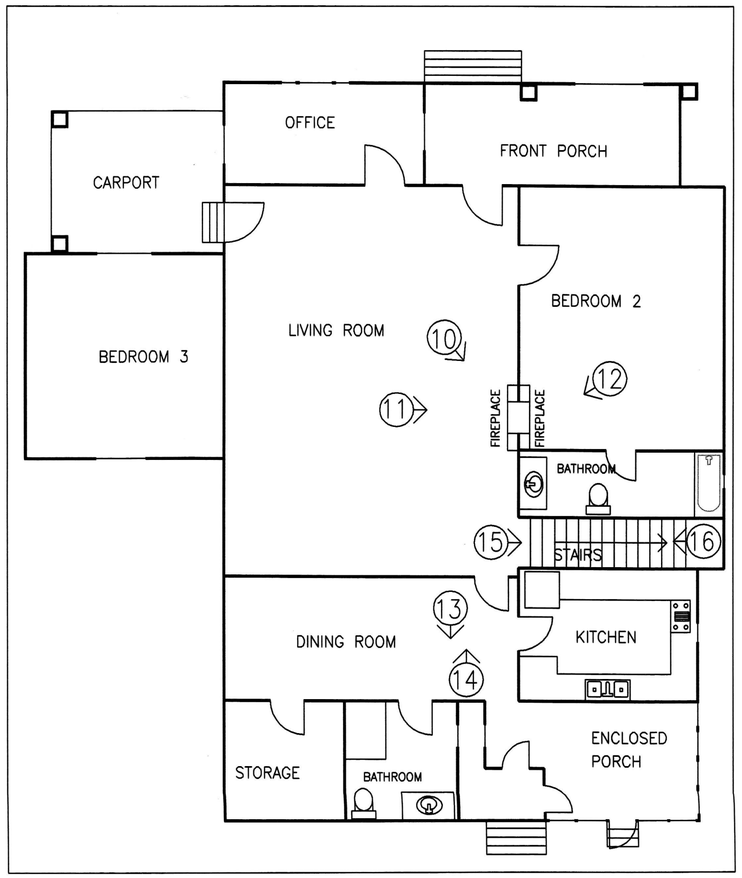
6. Interior, 2nd Floor Bedroom, Looking Southwest
7. Photo 21 of 22

6. Interior, 2nd Floor Bedroom, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 22 of 22





SECOND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

MICAJAH T. SINGLETON HOUSE

711 WEST HICKORY STREET
ARCADIA (DESOTO COUNTY), FLORIDA

NOT TO SCALE

SITE AND FLOOR PLANS

PREPARED BY THE FLORIDA BUREAU OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES FROM TECHNICAL SURVEY AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, AERIAL AND GROUND LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHS INCLUDING GOOGLE STREETVIEW VIEWS.

PLANS DRAWN
JUNE. 2013

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