

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 20 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 1 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Silver Bluff (38AK7)

AND/OR COMMON

Galphin Trading Post, Fort Galphin (Dreadnought), Galphinton

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

South Carolina

VICINITY OF Jackson

CODE

045

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#3

COUNTY

Aiken

CODE

003

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:

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Aiken County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Aiken

STATE

South Carolina

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Places in South Carolina

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

South Carolina Department of Archives & History

CITY, TOWN

Columbia

STATE

South Carolina

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Silver Bluff or Galphin Trading Post Nomination comprises

[REDACTED]

Silver Bluff was the site of an Indian trading post established by George Galphin in the early 1740's. Galphin Trading Post serviced the Yuchi and after them the Coweta, a group of the Lower Creek nation. In 1776, William Bartram visited the trading post and described the near by aboriginal earthworks as "a very celebrated place" and found various monuments and vestiges of the ancients: as "Indian conical mounts, terraces, areas, etc., as well as remains or traces of fortresses of regular formation." Of these there are no traces today. However, Indian artifacts are found in abundance.

Pertaining to the Galphin Trading Post, there were a number of structures in the area which included the trading post, barge docks, way-station for travelers, holding-pens for livestock and numerous cabins for family and slaves. At the time of the Revolution, Fort Galphin was built, consisting of a stockaded brick building. This brick structure, probably the Galphin home, was still standing in the early 1870's. After George Galphin's death in 1780 at the age of 71, the locality of the trading post was known as Galphinton. The community had vanished by the 20th century.

The Silver Bluff area has been farmed for many years and no traces of Indian or Colonial structures are now visible. However both Indian and Colonial artifacts abound in the fields and it is probable that archeological excavations would yield significant information about the early inhabitants.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 Prehistoric - 1785

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

George Galphin, an Irishman, arrived in the area about 1739 and became involved in trade with the Lower Creek as early as 1744. About 1747 he extended his land holdings by 400 acres which included Silver Bluff. On this bluff he built his trading post [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Galphin's sphere of influence extended south and west including Charleston, Savannah, St. Augustine, Pensacola, and Mobile. Traders operating out of such places obtained their wares from him. Like Fort Moore up the Savannah River across from Augusta, Galphin Trading Post was the center of activity for a wide area.

Galphin was sympathetic to the colonists but was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the Southern District in 1775. With the outbreak of the Revolution, Tories occupied and fortified the Galphin house to keep the trade goods from falling into American hands. Colonial troops led by Lt. Col. Henry Lee attacked and captured Fort Galphin (Dreadnought) on May 21, 1781.

Galphin Trading Post is an important site as it is one of two known trading posts on the Savannah River and because it is relatively undisturbed. The amount of artifact found on the surface of the area proves that there was a great deal of activity in the area. With archeological excavation more concerning the structures and activities could be obtained for the historic as well as the prehistoric period.

Galphin Trading Post represents an important period of time in American historic, dealing with the Colonial dealings with the Indians of the area from the first trading post activities to the signing of the treaty with the Lower Creeks in 1785.

Silver Bluff was assigned the highest preservation priority in Aiken County by a recent survey.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Milling, Chapman J.
1969 Red Carolinians. University of South Carolina Press, Columbia.

Neill, Wilfred T.,
1968 The Galphin Trading Post at Silver Bluff, South Carolina. The Florida Anthropologist. Vol. 21, Nos. 2 & 3.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY [REDACTED]

UTM REFERENCES

A [REDACTED]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B [REDACTED]
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [REDACTED]

D [REDACTED]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

[REDACTED]

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

J. Walter Joseph, Jr.

Maryjane G. Rhett

ORGANIZATION

Aiken County Historical Commission

Inst. of Archeo. & Anthropology

STREET & NUMBER

903 Wildwood Rd.

University of S. C.

CITY OR TOWN

Aiken, South Carolina

Columbia, S.C.

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Charles E. Lee
DATE 1-4-19-76

TITLE

Charles E. Lee

State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles D. Shuler
FOR CHARLES HERRINGDA

DATE

11/1/77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-1-77

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Ward, Christopher
1952 The War of the Revolution. Macmillan Co., New York.