

Reynolds Home <sup>1101</sup> (~~Ike Baird~~)  
Near Sylacauga, Alabama  
TALLADEGA Co.

HABS NO. AIA-442

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
DISTRICT NO.16

Historic American Buildings Survey  
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer  
Auburn, Alabama

~~RENDALIA~~ (The Reynolds Home)  
Sylacauga, Talladega County, Alabama.

Ownership:

Present Owner: I. R. Baird.

Previous Owners: Mrs. Mamie Flurnoy. From 1890 to 1922.  
Mrs. Walker Reynolds. From 1879 to 1890.  
Walker Reynolds. From 1833 to 1879.

Date of Erection: 1833. (Probably 1840)

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: Walker Reynolds.

Present Condition: Good state of preservation. The original house consisted of six rooms and two halls; Later there was an addition of four rooms and two halls. The old kitchen is connected to the house by means of a ~~covered~~ covered porch.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Frame house with a solid brick foundation, composition shingle roof. It has six round fluted columns, with inverted bell shape caps, The base of the columns and the front steps are of marble slabs. There is a balcony which extends across the front of the house, the iron railings used on this balcony were imported from England. The interior walls are plastered and papered. The floors are of 8" heart of pine flooring. It has five exterior chimneys. There are four French windows and a fanlight to each front floor. The transoms to each door contains twelve cut glass panes, with are reputed to have cost thirty five dollars each. The wooden material used in the construction of this building was selected and prepared by the slaves. The marble used was also quarried from this plantation.

Other Existing Records:

Additional Data: Mr. Walker Reynolds owned thirteen thousand acres of land, and three or four hundred slaves. He operated a saw mill by water power, a gin by horse power, also a spinning room, where the clothes, used by the slaves were made. He manufactured the iron used on his plantation. The following outhouses remain intact, and in good condition; the chicken house, milk house, bath, gin, smoke house, carriage house, the old kitchen, and servants quarters. The family grave yard is about one fourth of a mile, east of the house and contains the tombs of the following: Hannah E. Reynolds, the wife of Walker E. Reynolds. Born 1799; Died 1871. The following inscription is on the west wall of a one room tomb in this grave yard. "This monument is erected by a bereaved husband and dedicated to the memory of Mrs, Epsy Reynolds who departed this life on the 13th, day of September in the year 1839, in the 31st, year of her age. She was the daughter of Churchill and Mary Gibson, late of Monree County, Georgia. Her mother Mrs. Gibson departed this life July 6, 1835, and her father November 14, 1838. Mrs. Reynolds was born in Warren County, Georgia on the 28th, of August in the year 1809 and was married to Walker Reynolds on the 13th, day of April, 1826" At the time of her death she left an only child, Thomas H. Reynolds, then in the 12th, year of his age. " May that son whenever his eye shall rest on this inscription, remember the fond solicitude of his dying mother, and may that remembrance set his heart on virtue and fix his thoughts on Heaven."

This home was used in the filming of the "Birth of a Nation."

Source of Material: Mr. I. R. Beard.  
Sylacauga, Alabama.

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Approved: E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer, HABS.  
Auburn, Alabama.

Date: 7-3-1936.

See Oct. 9 '36 T.W.