

University of Alabama Museums

Office of Archaeological Research

September 29, 2015



Ms. Cindy Holsombeck  
City of Montevallo  
545 Main Street  
Montevallo, AL 35115

**OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 15-230**  
**AHC TRACKING NUMBER: AL-15-020**

Dear Ms. Holsombeck:

Please find a copy of our recent management summary entitled "A Cultural Resources Survey for a Proposed Development at the Mahler Property in Montevallo, Shelby County, Alabama", by Brandon S. Thompson of our staff.

It has been a pleasure to be of service to the City of Montevallo. Please feel free to call for further information or services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Gage".

Matthew D. Gage RPA, Director  
The University of Alabama  
Office of Archaeological Research

MDG:tkw  
FILE:2014-1SSURVEY FCL/1

Enclosures: Management Summary

September 29, 2015



**MANAGEMENT SUMMARY**

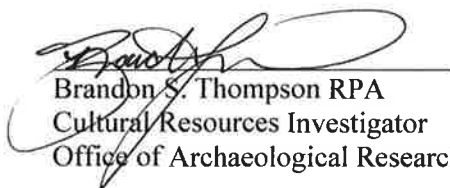
**A CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY FOR A PROPOSED  
DEVELOPMENT AT THE MAHLER PROPERTY IN  
MONTEVALLO, SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA**

**OAR PROJECT NUMBER: 15-230**  
**AHC TRACKING NUMBER: AL-15-020**

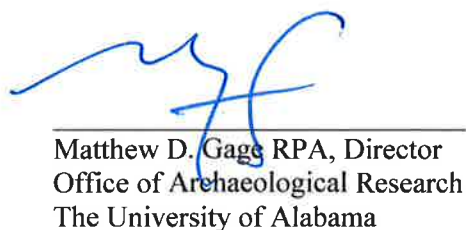
**PERFORMED FOR:** City of Montevallo  
545 Main Street  
Montevallo, AL 35115  
Attn: Ms. Cindy Holsombeck

**PERFORMED BY:** Brandon S. Thompson RPA, Cultural Resources Investigator  
Donald Brown, Cultural Resources Assistant  
Caitlin Cowley, Cultural Resources Assistant  
Shane Loller, Cultural Resources Assistant  
Ronald Stallworth, Cultural Resources Assistant  
The University of Alabama  
Office of Archaeological Research  
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park  
Moundville, Alabama 35474

**DATE PERFORMED:** September 15-16, 2015



Brandon S. Thompson RPA  
Cultural Resources Investigator  
Office of Archaeological Research



Matthew D. Gage RPA, Director  
Office of Archaeological Research  
The University of Alabama



## Management Summary

### A Cultural Resources Survey for a Proposed Development at the Mahler Property in Montevallo, Shelby County, Alabama

Brandon S. Thompson

#### Introduction

The University of Alabama, Office of Archaeological Research (OAR) was contracted by the City of Montevallo to perform a cultural resources survey for a proposed development at the Mahler Property in Montevallo, Shelby County, Alabama. The proposed project's area of potential effect (APE) is approximately 17.2 ha (42.5 ac) in size, divided into two survey areas, Survey Areas 1 and 2, totaling approximately 4.9 ha (12 ac) and 13.1 ha (32.5 ac) respectively (Figure 1). Field investigations for the project were undertaken on September 15-16, 2015. Brandon S. Thompson RPA, Cultural Resources Investigator, serves as the Project Director. The Principal Investigator for the project is Matthew D. Gage RPA, Director of OAR.

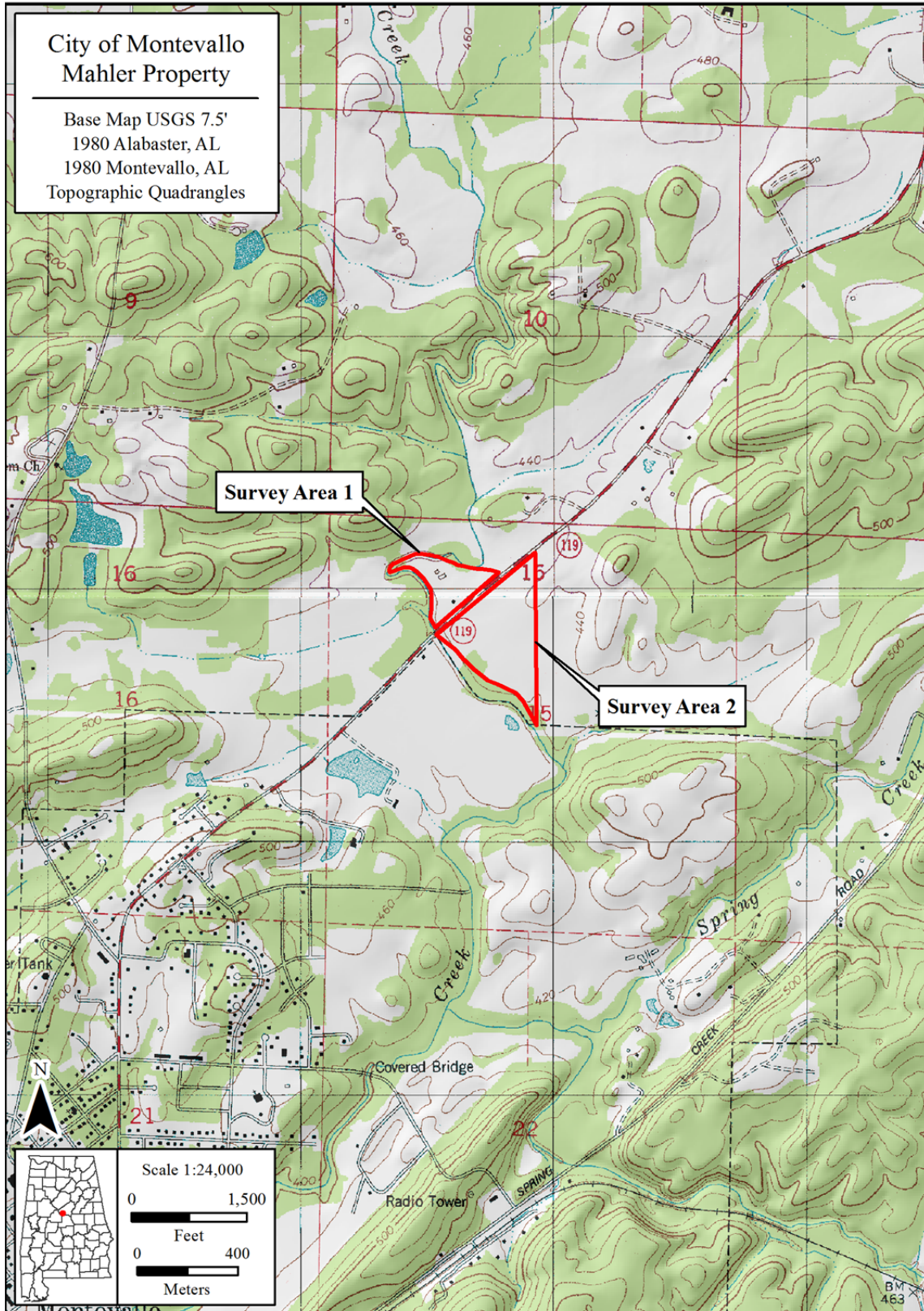
The lead oversight agency for the proposed project is the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Department of the Interior. Permitting for the project requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended 2006 (16 USC 470) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). The City of Montevallo, in conjunction with the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC), and other interested parties assists NPS in meeting its obligations under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The research design of the cultural resources survey is to locate and identify any archaeological sites and historic standing structures within the APE, assess their significance, and provide recommendation with regard to guidelines set forth by the NPS for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility criteria (NPS 1995).

#### Assurances

The proposed development is being funded, at least in part, by a Historic Preservation Fund Grant awarded to the City of Montevallo by the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC). The undertaking that is the subject of this cultural resources survey report has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The contents and opinions expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of Interior or the AHC, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

This program receives federal funds from the National Park Service administered through the AHC. Regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in department federally assisted programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, or disability. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of federal assistance should write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.



**Figure 1.** The proposed development at the Mahler Property as seen on the 1980, USGS, 7.5', Montevallo and the 1980, USGS, 7.5', Alabaster, Alabama topographic quadrangles in Section 15, T22S, R3W.

The Contractor (OAR) shall be responsible to see that no part of this money appropriated by any enactment of Congress shall, in the absence of express authorization by Congress, be used directly or indirectly to pay for any personal service, advertisement, telegram, telephone, letter, printed or written matter, or other device, intended or designed to influence in any manner a Member of Congress, to favor or oppose, by vote or otherwise, any legislation or appropriation; but this shall not prevent officers or employees of the United States or its Department or agencies from communicating to Members of Congress on the request of any Member or to Congress, through the proper official channels, requests for legislation or appropriations which they deem necessary for the efficient conduct of public business.

The University of Alabama complies with applicable laws prohibiting discrimination, including Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age of Discrimination in Employment Act, Executive Order 11246, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Adjustment Assistance Act, as amended by the Jobs for Veterans Act of 2002 (VEVRAA), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and does not discriminate on the basis of genetic information, race, color, religion, national origin, sex (which includes sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression), age, disability or protected veteran status in admission or access to, or treatment of employment in, its programs and services.

## Results and Recommendations

The proposed project area was found to be significantly modified through historic agricultural and pastoral activities including farm complex infrastructure development. Despite these alterations to the landscape, one historic architectural resource (HAR) was documented within the boundaries of the APE and a second was recorded outside the APE (Table 1). Perry Hall-Shoal Creek Farm, Inc., identified as Historic Architectural Resource 1 (HAR 1) is a historic farm complex consisting of Perry Hall (ca. 1834) and six ancillary structures (ca. 1947) that include barns, sheds, and a wellhouse (Figures 2-8). Located within the boundaries of the APE, the farm complex does not meet the eligibility criteria for listing in the NRHP based on Criterion A under the area of agriculture or Criterion C under the area of architecture. The farm does not retain integrity in terms of design, workmanship, materials, and setting with respect to the period of significance which is defined as 1834 and extends to ca. 1902 when the Perry family sold off much of the property (Lovett 2014:6-7).

Historic Architectural Resource 2 (HAR 2), the Shoal Creek Bridge (Bridge Identification Number [BIN] 3128) is a ca. 1947 reinforced concrete T beam bridge that is located approximately 65.6 ft (20 m) outside the boundaries of the APE (Figure 9). The Shoal Creek Bridge retains all seven characteristics of integrity; however, historic resources that retain integrity do not necessarily meet all the criteria for listing in the NRHP. HAR 2 does not possess significance as it is one of 3,427 girder, slab, box beam, T-beam, and stringer bridges in Alabama previously evaluated for NRHP eligibility (Ford 2012). It was determined that BIN 3128 does not meet the eligibility criteria used to "select the superlative examples of a common type" established in *Alabama Statewide Bridge Survey and Historical Contexts* (Ford 2012:225-233).

Based on these findings, it is the opinion of this office that the proposed development at the Mahler Property will not affect any significant historic properties and a finding of no properties is recommended.

Table 1. Summary of historic properties identified.

<b>Historic Property</b>	<b>Temporal/Cultural Affiliation or Historic Property Type</b>	<b>Recommendation for Listing to the NRHP (Y/N/Listed)</b>
Perry Hall-Shoal Creek Farm, Inc. (HAR 1)	Ca. 1834 I-House, Six ca. 1947 ancillary structures including barns, sheds, and wellhouse	N
Shoal Creek Bridge (HAR 2)	Ca. 1947 T beam bridge	N



Figure 2. HAR 1, Perry Hall. View northwest.



**Figure 3.** HAR 1, cross gable barn. View northeast.



**Figure 4.** HAR 1, gable on hip roof barn. View northeast.





**Figure 5.** HAR 1, gable roof barn. View northwest.



**Figure 6.** HAR 1, concrete block vehicle shed. View northeast.



**Figure 7.** HAR 1, vehicle shed. View east.



**Figure 8.** HAR 1, wellhouse. View northeast.



**Figure 9.** HAR 2, BIN 3128. View southwest.

### References Cited

Ford, Gene A.

2012 *Alabama Statewide Bridge Survey and Historical Contexts*. Report submitted to the Federal Highway Administration, Montgomery by the Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama Museums, Tuscaloosa.

Lovett, Forrest B.

2014 *From Perry Hall to Shoal Creek Farm: A Brief History of One of Montevallo's Oldest Farmsteads*. Electronic document, [http://montevallo.homestead.com/Shoal\\_Creek\\_1.pdf](http://montevallo.homestead.com/Shoal_Creek_1.pdf), accessed September 17, 2015.

National Park Service (NPS)

1995 *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. National Register Bulletin 15. National Park Service, Washington.