HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT: MOUNT LOCUST HOUSE
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

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G - MISCELLANEOUS NPS MEMORANDA:
CHARLES E. PETERSON TO ACTING SUPERINTENDENT MALCOLM GARDNER, OCT. 1, 1940

ROBERT E. SMITH, "REPORT OF STABILIZATION WORK [AT] MOUND HOUSE, SECTION 3-W, NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY." AUG. 8-16, 1944
H -"MOUND PLANTATION: A HISTORICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL REPORT", DAWSON A. PHELPS, NOV. 22, 1941.
I- "THE FERGUSON HOUSE: AN ARCHITECTURAL STUDY", DAWSON A. PHELPS JUNE 13, 1947.
J -"COMPLETION REPORT OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: FERGUSON HOUSE STABILIZATION." DEC. 16, 1958
K-"THE CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE AND DEPENDENCIES OR THE MOUND PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT", STUART M. BARNETTE.
L- HISTORIC STRUCTURE ASSESSMENT REPORT : MOUNT LOCUST HISTORIC HOUSE BUILDING 1, NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY, 1991.
M- PRODUCT DATA
1. JONCRYL 538 - ACRYLIC EMULSION POLYMER FOR SOLVENT-RESISTANT INDUSTRIAL LACQUERS
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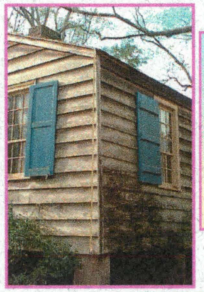
The Mount Locust Stand: A Plan to Extend the Service Life of the Structure

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Scope of Work

- Task 1: Ascertain causes of deterioration & structural effects
- Task 2: Prioritize needed repairs/renovations
- Task 3: Develop maintenance plan
- Task 4: Develop integrated pest management plan to prevent/minimize future deterioration

Causes of/Remedies for Deterioration



NE corner 5" out of plumb causing excessive wetting from runoff, decay of siding/window; Additional shingle courses to direct runoff away; remove decayed surface with scraper & salvage.



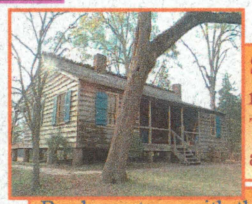
West side shutters extensively decayed; Replace with water repellent treated wood & paint.



Carpenter bees have damaged roof supports of rear porch (top); No damage on front porch (lower); Treat with boron/water repellent; If activity continues, treat with insecticide & plug holes.



Sapwood decay has reduced the effective diameter of sassafras piles but heartwood remains sound.



Side supports for steps at rear (north) are decayed; Top step abuts bandboard accumulating water.

Replace steps with those fabricated from white oak heartwood; Eliminate abutment.

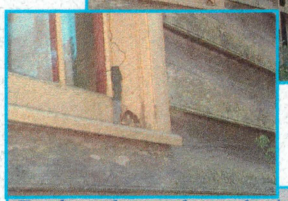


Pier to rear of fireplace on west side shows extensive beetle damage & decay; should be replaced.



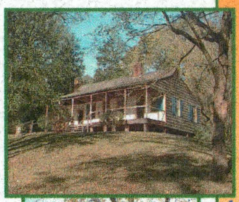
Sassafras support piers should be treated with borate/copper naphthenate paste below ground; Registered termiticide should be applied to piers prior to backfilling & to fire-place bases; Additional treatment via borate rods placed in piles.

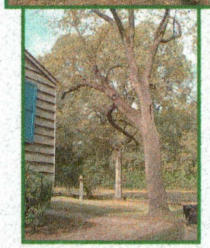




NE rear window wetted by runoff; frame & sill decayed.

Replace decayed wood with water repellent preservative treated wood; Flood all window joints with WRP yearly.





Bases of vertical front porch supports have limited decay; Bandboard on front steps decayed; Railings on approach to structure badly decayed; Porch flooring (east) is buckling; Flood lower ends of supports with water repellent preservative yearly; Replace decayed bandboard, railings; Cut expansion joint to alleviate buckling; Apply water repellent preservative yearly to porch flooring. Remove dead limb from walnut tree; Trim shrubs to avoid siding contact; treat roof & siding with a borate followed by water repellent.

Historic Structure Report: Mount Locust House
Natchez Trace Parkway

Introduction

This Historic Structure Report was prepared by ADEPPT, a cultural resources firm located in Columbus, Mississippi, under contract with the Natchez Trace Parkway. The purpose of this report is to identify and evaluate the physical and historic fabric of the structure known as Mt. Locust and alternatively called the Ferguson House, Mound Plantation, and the Chamberlain House, and to develop short and long term strategies for repair and maintenance of the structure. This study was broken into four parts:

1. Perform a physical inspection of the structure and prepare a report.
2. Identify required repairs/restoration work and develop alternatives.
3. Develop a maintenance checklist.
4. Develop an integrated Pest Management Plan.

The work was begun in November 1997 with field inspection and measurement of the house, and research in the Archives of the Natchez Trace Parkway at the Headquarters at Tupelo, Mississippi. It was concluded in January, 1998. Drawings were prepared using Autocad release 14. Photography was performed with black and white film, as well as color film and digital still imagery.

Scope of Work

Four Tasks were identified as essential for the assessment of the present condition of Mt. Locust and the development of procedures to extend the service life of the structure. These were:

Task 1: The wooden fabric of Mt. Locust will be examined for signs of biological deterioration caused by decay fungi, termites, beetles, carpenter bees, squirrels, and abiotic deterioration caused by factors such as UV light and weathering. Examination techniques will include both visual inspection for exterior signs of deterioration and coring and/or probing to determine the extent of deterioration and/or the presence of internal deterioration. The location of deterioration will be documented by drawings or photographs and its effect on the structural integrity of Mt. Locust or historic fabric will be determined. Causes of deterioration will be ascertained as the effect of site features on the life of the structure.

Task 2: The relative importance of different areas of deterioration to the structural integrity and/or historic fabric of Mt. Locust will be discussed and used to prioritize needed repairs and/or renovations. Recommendations will be based on observations made during the inspection of Mt. Locust together with the experience gained by the principal investigators during decades of studying the effects of biological and abiotic factors on wooden building components.

Task 3: A maintenance plan will be developed to assure that the historic fabric and structural integrity of Mt. Locust will remain relatively unchanged at the conclusion of the current repair/renovation activities. Maintenance activities will be listed and prioritized.

Task 4: An integrated pest management plan will be developed to prevent or minimize future deterioration of the structure by biological agents. Use of pesticides will be recommended, where necessary, with guidelines for their use formulated by adherence to state and federal requirements.

History

Early - 1782 - 1937

The building now known as Mt. Locust was probably built in 1782 by William Ferguson, who had been in the Natchez area at least since 1774, although it may have been built by Thomas Harmon or John Blommart prior to 1781 when the British land grants required a minimum 16' x 20' structure be built. In June, 1782 Ferguson secured a deed to 300 arpents (353 acres) of land from Silas Crane that included the site of the house. (Phelps, Mound Plantation, p.13) In 1783, Ferguson married Polina Burch, so the house was probably built in anticipation of the marriage. (Phelps, Ferguson House, p. 2). The Ferguson's had seven children. The house appears on a 1785 survey of the property. (Phelps, Mount Locust, p. 2) (See Appendix E)

Family tradition maintains that the house was used as a stage stop or tavern during the period that the Trace was heavily traveled by flatboat crews returning north after bringing goods down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. The house was probably originally built as a farmhouse since the first flatboat traffic was in 1785. (Phelps, Mt. Locust) This would have meant that the traffic on the Trace would have increased dramatically at that time and would have remained so until at least the 1830's when increased settlement, coupled with new roads and the establishment of regular river packet service on the inland waterways diverted traffic from the Trace and spelled its demise as an important highway. The house's location 20 miles from Natchez would have been a day's travel and an ideal location for accommodations for travelers. The opening of the Military Road, from Florence, Alabama to Columbus, Mississippi in 1820 and the Robinson Road from Columbus to Jackson in 1823 diverted mail traffic from the upper Trace and left the Jackson to Natchez segment as the only remaining section of the highway in official use. The 1838 Gwin and Daugherty map of Mississippi lists "Mrs, Ferguson's" as a stopping place on the Trace.

The original structure was expanded in 1799 as evidenced by bills filed in Ferguson's Probate Record in 1801. (Phelps, Mound Plantation, p. 15) Also in 1799, Ferguson was involved in a plan to establish the town of Union on his property east of Mt. Locust. The town was not a success as there is no record of any lots being sold. (Phelps, Mount Locust)

William Ferguson died in 1800 or 1801 and Polina married James Chamberlain in 1806. They had four children. According to family tradition Polina divorced Chamberlain in 1816. She resumed using the Ferguson name and operated the stand until around 1842. She died in 1847. (Phelps, Ferguson House, p. 1- 4)

Artifacts discovered in the house point to another addition in the 1840's. This may have coincided with the marriage of Thomas Jefferson Chamberlain in 1844. This was the last major structural change to the house. (Phelps, Mt. Locust, p. 6) Mt. Locust remained in the Chamberlain family until its acquisition by the National Park Service in 1937 in a severely dilapidated condition. Mr. Bill Chamberlain continued to occupy the house until 1944. (National Park Service, "Ferguson House Restoration")

Restoration - 1937 - 1959

Beginning in 1937, a series of historical, architectural and archeological studies were conducted by the National Park Service to determine the history and condition of the house and site. These included drawings by the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1940. Also included were recommendations as to the proper restoration and interpretation of the house and grounds.

In 1944, in an attempt to halt further deterioration of the remaining structure, the house was enclosed in tar paper. After a decision to return the house to its configuration circa 1820, a restoration was begun in January, 1955 and was completed in March, 1956. Also in 1956, another set of HABS drawings were prepared, further documenting the building and a furnishings plan was prepared. Site development, utilities and further work on the house were conducted from 1957 to 1959.

Operation - 1959 - Present

Since that time, periodic maintenance has been performed, resulting in the replacement of deteriorated shutters, porch flooring and wood piers. A Historic Structure Report, published in 1992, resulted in the replacement of the wood piers and recommendations for other repairs. The front porch was replaced in 1992.

The importance of the house "as the only existing surviving structure" on the Natchez Trace "between Washington, Mississippi and Duck River, Tennessee" has been recognized by its operation as a house museum. The fact that only about 25 percent of the structure consists of historic fabric is not clearly differentiated in the exhibits, although the Parkway personnel do point this out to the visitors.

Sequence of Deeds and Title

1777 Silas Crane makes a bond of 500 pounds to deliver 300 arpents of land to William Williams and William Ferguson.

1779 April 22 - Land granted by British West Florida government to Thomas Harmon.

1781 William Ferguson brings a suit to compel Silas Crane to deliver the deed.

1781 October 21 - Spanish Government acquires 650 acres from John Blommart by act of confiscation. Refers to an "establissement" which may have been Mt. Locust in its earliest form.

1782 March 17 - Silas Crane acquires 650 acres. June 12 - Silas Crane is ordered to deliver the deed for 300 arpents of land.

1784 June 16 - Crane conveys the property to Ferguson. Crane dies shortly thereafter.

1785 A survey of the tract shows 325 arpents of land on which Mount Locust stands and refers to "Mr. William Ferguson's dwelling house" at the site of the existing house.

ca. 1800 - Original survey of T8N, R1E shows the original parcel (#65) and on additional parcel, roughly the same size (#66) to the east and owned by William Ferguson.

1800 August 1 - 1801, March 2 - William Ferguson died during this period.

1806 July 31 - Paulina Ferguson married James Chamberlain.

1812 Paulina Ferguson divorced James Chamberlain.

1844 Thomas Jefferson Chamberlain married - could be the reason for the 1840's addition.

1849 January 19 - Paulina Ferguson died.

1937 Mount Locust acquired by the National Park Service.

1937 - 1944 Bill Chamberlain and family continues to live in the house.

Physical Description

House

The original structure, which was built by 1782, was a 16' by 20', one room house. (Phelps, Mount Locust, p. 1) This apparently was a popular building design that complied with the minimum size development required by the British when they were the governing authority in West Florida until 1781. (Phelps, Mount Locust, p. 5)

This original structure probably had a hipped roof covering the main room (Room 1), two cabinet rooms and galleries. (Phelps, Mount Locust, p. 5) This would suggest a resemblance to the late 18th century Boldue House and Armoureave House, both located in Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. (McAlister, p. 126-127) and, consequently, a French influence. The LeBeau House and Hirst Cabin in Pointe Compede Parish, Louisiana are other examples. (Koch)

This original structure is the room designated as Room 1 on the 1940 HABS drawings and is the central room on the south side of the house. (Room numbers used are the ones designated on the 1940 HABS drawings before Rooms 4 & 5 on the rear porch were removed.) The house is located on a mound that is speculated to be a natural feature.

Local tradition states that the building materials came from dismantled flatboats, but there is no evidence to support this claim (Phelps, Mount Locust, p. 2) since the first flatboats to arrive in Natchez was in 1785.

The 1799 addition consisted of two rooms on the east end, designated as Rooms 6 and 7. The 1956 HABS "Conjectural Evolution of the Structure" shows front and rear galleries as well as Rooms 2 and 3 at the west of Room 1. It is not clear from the earlier reports if these features were part of the original structure or were added between 1782 and 1799. Construction details indicate that they were not part of the original structure.

The 1840's addition consisted of a 12' extension of the two eastern rooms (2 & 3), enclosure of the rear gallery to form Rooms 4 and 5, enlargement of Room 6 and the addition of a rear shed porch.

The 1956 HABS drawings show a vertical board wall with no studs between Rooms 6 and 7. This is still present and the wall between Room 6 and the present rear gallery is new and of similar construction. It is similar to the now removed wall between Rooms 4 & 5.

The reconstruction in 1956 reduced the length of Rooms 3 and 4 to their documented earlier length and built an exterior fireplace at the location of impression marks that had been discovered under Room 2. The interior wall boards Rooms 3 and 4 were replaced with new material. Wall boards in Rooms 1, 6 and 7 date from prior to the reconstruction and probably from their original installation, although they were reworked to accommodate relocation of doors. All flooring dates

from 1956 except in Room 2 where relocated original wood was used.

The exterior siding was replaced and new shutters were installed, based on the design of the surviving shutters. Apparently, most of the windows received new sash. Doors were relocated to their earlier locations and some new doors were constructed.

A late corrugated galvanized iron roof was removed. The roof structure was repaired with new rafters where needed, new roof lathing and wood shingles.

As noted above, the wood piers were replaced in 1992. The front porch flooring was replaced around 1995.

An approximately five inch slope of the rear wall at the east end has resulted in severe damage to the shutter and window because of rainwater sheeting down this wall.

The two shutters on the west wall have severe deterioration due to water.

Utilities

Electrical: the building is served by underground conduit which rises under the building. A panel board is located in the attic near the center of the front wall. It serves the Heating system and one duplex outlet, located in a recess in the floor of Room 1, just east of the door leading to the rear porch. The electrical system was installed in the 1950's. The wiring is "Romex" caable and should be replaced with new wiring in metal conduit. Smoke detectors in each room are mounted on the ceilings and are tied to an alarm in the main operations building.

Heating: the building is heated by a forced air system consisting of a squirrel cage fan blower and an in line electric resistance heating coil. Sheet metal ducts branch to locations where they descend in the wall between Rooms 1 & 3. No data plates were found on the equipment, but it was probably installed in the 1950's.

Assessment of Construction Materials

Foundation piers:

New log piers were installed during the 1956 restoration. They were replaced in 1992 with the present sassafras wood piers.

Floor framing:

Rooms 6 & 7 and Rear Gallery - new 9½ " high x 7" wide creosoted joists.

Rooms 1, 2, & 3 - Original floor joists, some hewn 7" high x 6" wide, some round logs with top flattened. Species not determined.

Front Gallery: west and center - 6 ½" wide x 9" high joists, old but age not determined. East - 6½ " wide x 8" high joists - new but age not determined. Species not determined. Beams 10 ½" wide x 9" high.

Beams: 8" wide x 12" height new beams at perimeter and east/west bearing walls. Species not determined.

Flooring:

Room 2: Original, random width tongue and groove wood salvaged from other rooms.

Rooms 1, 6 & 7: Random width tongue and groove wood, installed 1956.

Front Gallery: Random width tongue and groove wood, installed 1995.

Walls:

Rooms 1 & 7: Original wood boards, some beaded. Walls were reworked, doors moved, etc. during 1956 restoration.

Rooms 2 & 3: New tongue and groove wood.

Room 6: Original wood boards except west wall which is 1956. South wall reworked 1956.

Exterior:

Original siding is present on the front gallery. All other siding is bead horizontal boards that were installed in the 1956 restoration. West walls are one inch thick vertical boards with no studs.

Ceilings:

Rooms 1, 6, & 7: Exposed nominal 4 x 6 poplar joists in Room 1 and ceiling boards in all rooms are original, tongue and groove wood except east ¼ of Room 1.

Room 2: Exposed joists and tongue and groove ceiling boards date from the 1956 restoration. East ¾ of Room 1 is 1956.

Room 3: Exposed beams are original nominal 3" x 4" sassafras.

Front and Rear Gallery Columns:

Wood chanfered columns date from the 1956 restoration. They are typical of small building from this era.

Roof Framing:

Most roof rafters are original. Some replacement was done in 1956. Rafters are 4" x 4½" poplar. Shingle nailer strips are 1" x 2½ " spaced 6" on center. Some are original.

Roofing:

Wood shingles are 15" long, probably Western Red Cedar, installed in the 1956 restoration. Obtained from supplier in Tennessee (Eric Chamberlain).

Wall Framing:

According to the 1956 HABS drawings, the original studs and plates were of various sizes and of oak, poplar and sassafras. No data was available for new materials. Connections are mortise and tenon and wood pegs. (See HABS drawings)

Doors:

The south door in Room 1 is probably original and was relocated from Room 3. The door from Room 1 to the North Gallery may be original and, if so, was relocated in that wall in 1956. The west door in Room 6 may be original-relocated in a new frame. All other doors appear to date from 1956. Some door frames probably were salvaged and reused, but most date from 1956.

Windows:

Windows on the south wall and the east wall of Room 7 and south wall of Room 1 are original. The window on the east wall of Room 6 may be original. All other windows date from the 1956 restoration.

Shutters:

All shutters appear to date to the 1956 restoration and are based on shutters that were in place when the building was acquired in 1937. Shutters on the South and East sides are of two panel design. Shutters on the north and west sides are of vertical board with three horizontal tie boards.

Chimneys and Fireplaces:

The fireplace between Rooms 1 & 7 is original and is constructed using lime mortar. The fireplace at Room 2 dates to the 1956 restoration. The mantel in Room 2 dates to 1956

and is similar to the mantel shown in Room 6 on the HABS drawings. Mantles were removed from Rooms 1 & 7 and not replaced. (See Historic Photo, 1940)

Hardware:

Shutter hardware was reused or duplicated to correspond to the existing hardware. All hold-opens are as shown on the HABS drawings. Shutter hinges on the south and east facades are 3 or 5 knuckle butts. Hinges on the north and west facades are "H" hinges, surface mounted on the west.

Door hardware consists of butt hinges and exposed latches except the south doors in Rooms 1 & 6 which are iron rim locks in wood cases. The lock in Room 1 has the inscription "MATTISON BUSSELL & CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN." & "438" on its latch face.

Site:

The 1941 plan of the site (NT 8051) shows four outbuildings, a kitchen, nursery, overseers cabin and "sleepy hollow" a two story four room log house, supposedly the quarters for travelers on the Natchez Trace. These sites were identified in a July 1937 archeological survey conducted by Stuart M. Barnette. Later, the herringbone brick sidewalk that surrounds the house was uncovered. Traditional locations for slave quarters and an "old well" are also shown on the plan.

The grounds contained herb gardens, vegetable gardens, livestock enclosure and orchard. By 1826 the farm had 879 acres with 150 - 200 under cultivation. There were 15 slaves in 1820 and 42 slaves in 1830. An 1849 agricultural survey showed 16 plows, 4 yoke of oxen and 2 mules. (Carrier)

Observations & Recommendations - Tasks 1& 2

1. Reference drawings 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, & 3.2 and photo 3

The base of the wall at the right rear (northeast) corner of the house is 5 inches out of plumb. This is causing roof runoff to flow across the lower siding. The lower siding is badly weathered and with some surface soft-rot. Someone has dug into the decayed surface of the siding. These marks can be removed with a paint scraper and the siding can be salvaged. The siding wood was identified as yellow-poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera). Replacements, as needed, should be yellow-poplar.

To salvage the siding, one or two additional courses of shingles must be added to the rear (north) eave of the house to direct rain runoff away from the siding (and window W3). Alternatively, a gutter could be added to the rear of the structure.

Materials

Shingles	$150.00

Labor

2 workers - 1 day

2. Reference drawing 1.0 and photos 4, 5, & 11

All sassafras (Sassafras albidum) support piers located around the perimeter have decay in them. In addition, some piers have been damaged by wood boring beetles. With the exception of the pier located to the rear of the fireplace on the left (west) side of the structure, all piers are usable. All piers are resting on below-grade concrete pads, and these pads appear to be stable. Sapwood decay has reduced the effective diameters of the supports, but the heartwood remains sound. With properly applied preservative treatments, all but one support can be salvaged.

The support piers should be treated with borates. A borate paste (e.g., CuRap 20 by ISK Biosciences) should be applied to the below-grade portions of all supports and the paste covered with plastic sheeting before backfilling is done. Before backfilling, the perimeters of the piers should be treated with a registered termiticide applied by a certified pesticide applicator. CuRap 20 may cause a greenish discoloration in the lower areas of the piers because it also contains copper. CuRap 20 can be formulated without copper if this is a problem. The replacement for the extensively decayed support (west side) should have a layer of borate paste applied to its lower end before it is placed on its concrete support. These paste treatments will diffuse into wood and maintain the below grade portions of the supports in a serviceable condition. If additional protection is desired, holes could be drilled into the sides of the supports and borate rods (e.g., Impel Rods from Chemical Specialties, Inc.) placed in them. These rods could be replaced periodically as they dissolve. The bases of the fireplaces should be treated with a registered termiticide applied by a certified pesticide applicator.

Materials

Cu Rap 20 paste	$2000.00
Plastic wrap	200.00

Labor

2 workers - 4 days

3. Reference drawing 1.1 and photo 2

The red oak (Quercus spp.) side supports for the steps at the rear (north) of the structure are decayed and should be replaced. The left side of the steps is sagging more than one inch. The top step is abutting the bandboard behind it and has caused it to accumulate water and decay.

Replacement steps, if made from oak, should be fabricated from white oak heartwood. CCA-treated southern pine is a suitable substitute for white oak heartwood. The top should be separated from direct contact with the house (as in the front porch steps).

Materials

2 - 2x12	$100.00
1 - 1x12	30.00

Labor

2 workers - 1 day

4. Reference drawing 1.0, 1.1 & 2.1 and photos 3, 6, 7, & 11

All windows except W3 are sound and should continue to give satisfactory service. However, the joints of all windows should be flooded with paintable water-repellent-preservative formulation once per year.

Window W3 located at the right rear (northeast corner) of the structure is directly wetted by roof runoff because the wall is not plumb. The right side of the frame and the sill should be replaced. The new material should be dip-treated for 3-5 minutes in a paintable water-repellent-preservative formulation after all cuts have been made.

Materials

Frame	$200.00
Sill	30.00

Labor

2 workers - 2 days

5. Reference drawings 1.1 & 2.2 and photos 8 & 9

The shutters at windows W5 and W6 (west side of structure) are extensively decayed. The joints in the remainder of the shutters are unstable. All shutters should be replaced with new shutters

meeting AWI standard for custom grade. After fabrication, the shutter parts should be dip-treated for 3 to 5 minutes in a paintable water-repellent-preservative formulation. The units should not be painted until the solvent odor cannot be detected.

Materials		
	Shutters	$1650.00
	WRP	200.00
	Treating vat	300.00
Labor		
	1 worker - 3 days	

6. Reference drawings 1.1 & 2.0 and photos 1 & 10

The bases of the vertical front (south) porch supports have limited decay, but they can be salvaged by flooding their lower ends, where they contact the porch flooring, with a water-repellent-preservative (eg., Woodguard by ISK Biosciences) formulation once per year.

The bandboard behind the front (south) steps is decayed and should be replaced.
The flooring at the right (east) side of the front porch is buckling. This can be corrected by cutting an expansion joint between the first two boards. The entire front porch flooring will be stabilized by the application of a water-repellent-preservative once per year. If replacement of the porch deck becomes necessary, the replacement should be either yellow-poplar or white oak heartwood.

The red oak railings on the approach to the structure are extensively decayed and should be replaced immediately. I recommend using southern pine pressure treated with CCA. If oak must be used in the replacement, white oak heartwood should be used. The lower ends of the vertical supports should be dip-treated in a water-repellent-preservative formulation.

The shrubs located near the right rear (northeast) corner should either be removed or trimmed to avoid contact with the siding. A large limb on the walnut tree at the right rear (northeast) of the structure is decayed. Since the limb extends across a walkway, it should be removed.

Materials		
	Column treatment	$100.00
	1x12 bandboard	50.00
	2x4 railings	100.00
Labor		
	2 workers - 2 days	

7. Reference drawings 2.0, 2.1, & 2.2 and photos 1 & 2

The western red cedar (Thusa plicata) roof and yellow-poplar siding should be treated with a borate (e.g., Timbor from U.S. Borax or Bora-Care from Nisus Corp.) followed by a water-repellent (e.g., Joncryl 538 from Johnson Wax). This combination was used to treat the USS Cairo at Vicksburg and was shown not to change the appearance of the wood. On that project, 10% Timbor in warm water (one pound of Timbor powder per gallon) or Bora-Care diluted 1:1 with warm water were used to treat the wood. Joncryl 538 was placed over the borate as a 25% solution in water. These formulations can be applied by low-pressure spray (eg., a sprayer operating off of a tractor PTO). To be most effective, the entire roof and exterior of the structure should be thoroughly wetted the day before treatments are to start. The borate should be applied on each of two consecutive days followed by the application of Joncryl on the third day. Since borates are mild herbicides, the vegetation surrounding the structure should be draped with plastic during treatments, and following treatments the treating solution collected on the plastic should be diluted with water (e.g., with a garden hose) and dispersed in the area surrounding the structure. After these treatments are completed and the wood has dried (e.g., two weeks after treatment), the water-repellent-preservative can be applied to the porch flooring and other areas. The wood should be thoroughly dry before these additional treatments are applied. When the roof must be replaced, either split western red cedar or baldcypress (Taxodium distichum) heartwood should be used.

Materials		
	Timbor	$4000.00
	Joncryl 538	2000.00
	Spray unit	2000.00
Labor		
	2 workers - 3 days	

8. Reference drawing 1.0, 2.1 & 3.2 and photos 12 & 13

Carpenter bees have weakened the yellow-poplar beams over the rear (north) porch, but the beams are still serviceable. Favorite nesting places for carpenter bees are in unfinished wood not subject to direct sunlight. The white paint on the front (south) of Mt. Locust likely reflects enough sunlight onto the south porch roof supports to make them unattractive to carpenter bees. To discourage further carpenter bee activity the roof framing and supports for both the north and south porches should be treated with the borate-Joncryl combination discussed above (7). If further carpenter bee activity is observed, an insecticide registered for use with carpenter bees should be applied to the holes into their nests and the holes caulked shut with a transparent, flexible caulk. Any holes (approximately 0.5 inch diameter) to nests now in existence should be treated and caulked as discussed above.

Squirrels have created openings at the upper wall on the rear (north) porch to gain access to the attic. To discourage further access by squirrels, all openings to the attic or living space should be covered with hardware cloth screening. Perhaps placing squirrel nesting boxes on the surrounding trees will decrease squirrel activity in the structure.

Armadillo holes are present beneath the front (south) porch and at the base of the fireplace located near the right (east) wall. Since these holes may become nesting sites for other pests (e.g., snakes, rats, etc.), the holes should be flooded with water to cause current occupants to leave and then filled with gravel. The hole under the front (south) porch poses no structural concern, but the hole at the base of the fireplace could make the brickwork unstable and cause movement of the fireplace and/or chimney.

Materials

Beam treatment (included in 7 above)

Hardware cloth $ 30.00

Labor

2 workers - 1 day

9. Reference drawing 3.0, 3.1, 3.2

The wood on the interior of the structure remains sound. However, a fan should be used in each room and operated daily in warm weather to prevent condensation and subsequent growth of mold fungi, on bed linens, curtains, painted surfaces and historic artifacts.

Materials

Portable fans $500.00

Labor

Daily during warm weather

10. Reference drawing 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 2.0, 2.1, 2.2

The chimneys and fireplaces very extensively repaired or rebuilt during the 1956 restoration and are in good condition.

11. Due to the size and placement of windows, UV protection is not recommended. Artifacts should be placed to minimize UV exposure.

12. Existing ceiling mounted smoke detectors in each room are unobtrusive. They are connected to an alarm at the central operations building. Additional suppression measures would be difficult to conceal.

Maintenance Plan - Task 3

General Discussion

1. Exterior

The roof, siding, and porch roof framing supports should be treated with a biocide and water repellent as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations - 7 & 8." Following the initial treatment, the exterior should be retreated after one, three and five years and thereafter at five-year intervals.

Painted areas should be repainted as required.

2. Foundation Piers

The below-grade portions of the sassafras piers should be treated as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations - 2". Following the initial treatment, the bases of the piers should be retreated with borate paste at five-year intervals. The bases of the fireplaces should be treated with a registered termiticide, and the structure also should be inspected for signs of subterranean termite activity at five-year intervals by a licensed pest control operator.

3. Porch decks, windows and shutters

The porch decks, windows, and shutters should be treated as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations - 4, 5, and 6". Following the initial treatments, the decks and steps on the front (south) and rear (north) porches should be treated annually with a water-repellent-preservative (e.g., Woodguard) for five years and thereafter at three-year intervals. This can be applied by brush, roller or spray.

Joints in windows and shutters should be flooded annually with a paintable water-repellent-preservative. A small oil can with a spout can be used to direct the solutions to the joints. Window caulking also should be checked annually.

4. Porch roof framing and supports

Porch roof framing and supports should be treated as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations - 8" to discourage the nesting activities of carpenter bees. These areas should be checked daily during warm weather for any new signs of carpenter bee activity. If new activity is observed, each hole should be treated with an insecticide labeled for use on carpenter bees, and the holes caulked shut.

Maintenance Plan

5. Cleaning do's and don't's

In general, follow the rule, "less is better" when applying cleansers to historic wood. Cleansers will destroy the wood patina, and the surfactants that many of them contain may affect the efficacy of water repellents that may be used. Before retreating the porch decks with water repellents, use a brush and water to remove soil or other debris, but avoid using cleansers.

Painted items can be cleaned with dishwashing soap and brushes. Do not add trisodium phosphate to the cleaning solution.

Algae and moss can be periodically removed from the brick walkways by spraying them with a 10% Timbor (US Borax) solution in warm water. Since borate is herbicidal at that concentration, avoid runoff to nearby grass.

Maintenance Checklist

Daily

- Check cockroach bait stations (see IPM) for roach activity and replace as needed.
- Check mice sticky traps for mice and tracking dust for signs of rats. Replace any traps containing mice and smooth tracking dust surface as needed,
- In warm weather, place fans in each room and run them during daylight hours to prevent the accumulation of moisture in historic artifacts and bed linens, etc.
- Check the back porch support beams in warm weather for signs of new carpenter bee damage. Treat the bee holes with an insecticide labeled for use on carpenter bees and caulk them as needed.
- Check the front and back port steps and handrails for signs of instability. Treat with water repellent and/or replace these items as required. Replacements should be white oak heartwood.
- Check at the tops of walls on the back (North) porch for signs of squirrels gnawing boards to gain access to the attic. Block entrance holes as required.

Annually

- Flood joints in windows and shutters with a paintable water-repellent-preservative. A small oil can with a spout can be used to direct solution to the joints.
- Check window caulking for signs of failure. Replace as needed with a flexible glazing compound.

- The front (South) and rear (North) porch decks and steps should be treated with a water-repellent-preservative (eg., Woodguard by ISK Biosciences) for five years (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003) and thereafter at three-year intervals. Treatments can be applied by brush, roller, or spray.
- Flood the lower ends of the front (South) and rear (North) porch roof supports with water-repellent-preservative.
- Check under the structure for dens of armadillo, rats, or snakes.
- In 1999, treat the bases of the fireplaces with a registered termiticide.

Three-year Intervals

1. In the year 2001, retreat the roof, siding, and porch roof framing supports (on North and South porches) as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations" - 7 and 8).
2. Beginning in the year 2003, treat the front and rear porch decks and steps with a water-repellent preservative by brush, roller, or spray.

Five-year Intervals

1. In the year 2003, retreat the roof, siding, and porch roof framing supports (on North and South porches) as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations" 7 & 8, and thereafter at five-year intervals.
2. Replace the borate paste at the bases of piers by excavating to either 18 inches or to the footing (if less than 18 inches deep), remove the plastic wrap from the surfaces of the piers, apply the paste (e.g., CuRap 20), cover the paste with a plastic wrap, and backfill around the piers.
3. Check for signs of subterranean termite activity (e.g., presence of shelter tubes).

- The front (South) and rear (North) porch decks and steps should be treated with a water-repellent-preservative (eg., Woodguard by ISK Biosciences) for five years (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003) and thereafter at three-year intervals. Treatments can be applied by brush, roller, or spray.
- Flood the lower ends of the front (South) and rear (North) porch roof supports with water-repellent-preservative.
- Check under the structure for dens of armadillo, rats, or snakes.
- In 1999, treat the bases of the fireplaces with a registered termiticide.

Three-year Intervals

1. In the year 2001, retreat the roof, siding, and porch roof framing supports (on North and South porches) as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations" - 7 and 8).
2. Beginning in the year 2003, treat the front and rear porch decks and steps with a water-repellent preservative by brush, roller, or spray.

Five-year Intervals

1. In the year 2003, retreat the roof, siding, and porch roof framing supports (on North and South porches) as discussed in "Observations and Recommendations" 7 & 8, and thereafter at five-year intervals.
2. Replace the borate paste at the bases of piers by excavating to either 18 inches or to the footing (if less than 18 inches deep), remove the plastic wrap from the surfaces of the piers, apply the paste (e.g., CuRap 20), cover the paste with a plastic wrap, and backfill around the piers.
3. Check for signs of subterranean termite activity (e.g., presence of shelter tubes).

Integrated Pest Management Plan - Task 4

Since registered pest control products and approved procedures change periodically, those using this report should contact the Cooperative Extension Service at Mississippi State University for products registered in Mississippi. Currently recommended pest control procedures may be obtained by contacting the National Pest Control Association (NPCA). A copy of the "NPCA Field Guide to Structural Pests" should be made available to those in charge of maintenance of Mt. Locust.

1. Wood Protection

The treatments and application techniques discussed under "Observations and Recommendations" and "Maintenance Plan" are designed to minimize pests (e.g., fungi, beetles, termites, carpenter bees) that deteriorate wood. The recommended biocides and water repellents work in conjunction to minimize future wood deterioration problems. For instance, the borates are effective fungicides and insecticides but have very low mammalian toxicities. Borates have the added feature of minimizing corrosion of metal fasteners.

Water repellents impede the wetting of wood by precipitation and also serve to minimize leaching of borates. Dry wood will not be colonized by fungi and is less attractive to insects than wet wood, so water repellents also help to prevent wood biodeterioration.

2. Rodent Control

Squirrels have created openings into the attic of Mount Locust. As discussed in "Observations and Recommendations - 8", all openings into the attic should be screened with hardware cloth to discourage squirrel entrance. Likewise, the creation of new sheltered nest sites (e.g., placing nest boxes in nearby trees) may result in fewer squirrels in the structure.

No evidence of rat damage was apparent, but tracking powder and traps should be placed throughout the structure along wall to floor intersections (e.g., along the baseboard behind doors) to prevent the incursion of these animals into Mount Locust. Placement of traps and/or powders should be done as recommended by a licensed pest control operator.

The presence of mice can be monitored using sticky traps. As with rat traps, mouse traps should be located along the baseboards at wall to floor intersections at locations (e.g., behind doors, under beds, etc.) where they will not be visible to visitors.

3. Miscellaneous

Armadillos should not be allowed to make burrows under the structure. Existing holes should be flooded with water to cause current occupants to leave and then filled with gravel. Since armadillo burrows also may serve as dens for other pests (e.g., snakes or rats), filling the holes

may solve other pest problems.

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APPENDIXES



Photo 1 - Front (south) view of Mount Locust.



Photo 2 - Rear (north) view of Mount Locust.



Photo 3 - The base of the wall at the right rear (northeast) corner is 5” out of plumb.



Photo 4 - Sapwood decay has reduced the effective diameter of the sassafras piers supporting Mount Locust, but the heartwood remains sound.

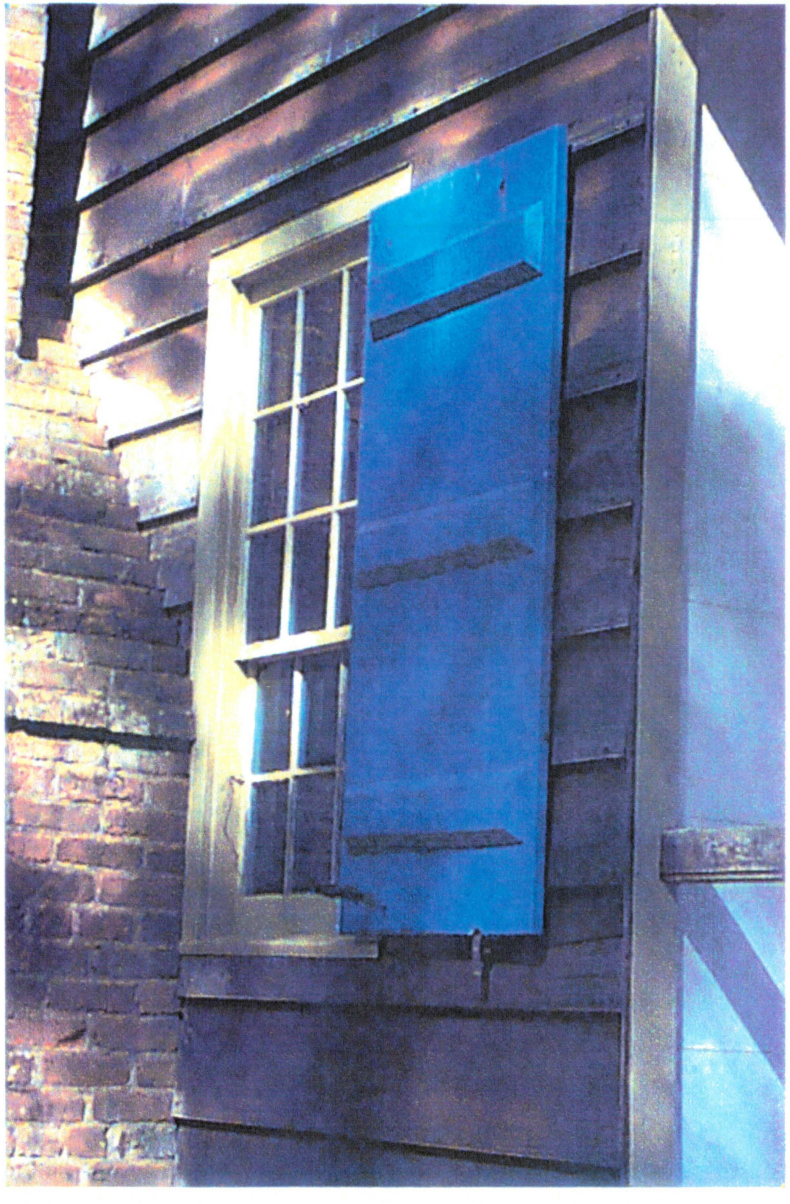


Photo 5 - The pier located to the rear of the fireplace on the left (west) side of the structure is extensively damaged by both decay fungi and wood boring beetles.





Photos 6 & 7 - The window located at the right rear (northeast) corner of the structure is directly wetted by roof runoff. The lower right side of the frame and sill are decayed as shown.





Photos 8 & 9 - The shutters for the windows located at the front and rear of the chimney on the left (west) side of the structure are decayed.



Photo 10 - A large limb on the walnut tree located near the southwest corner of the structure is decayed.

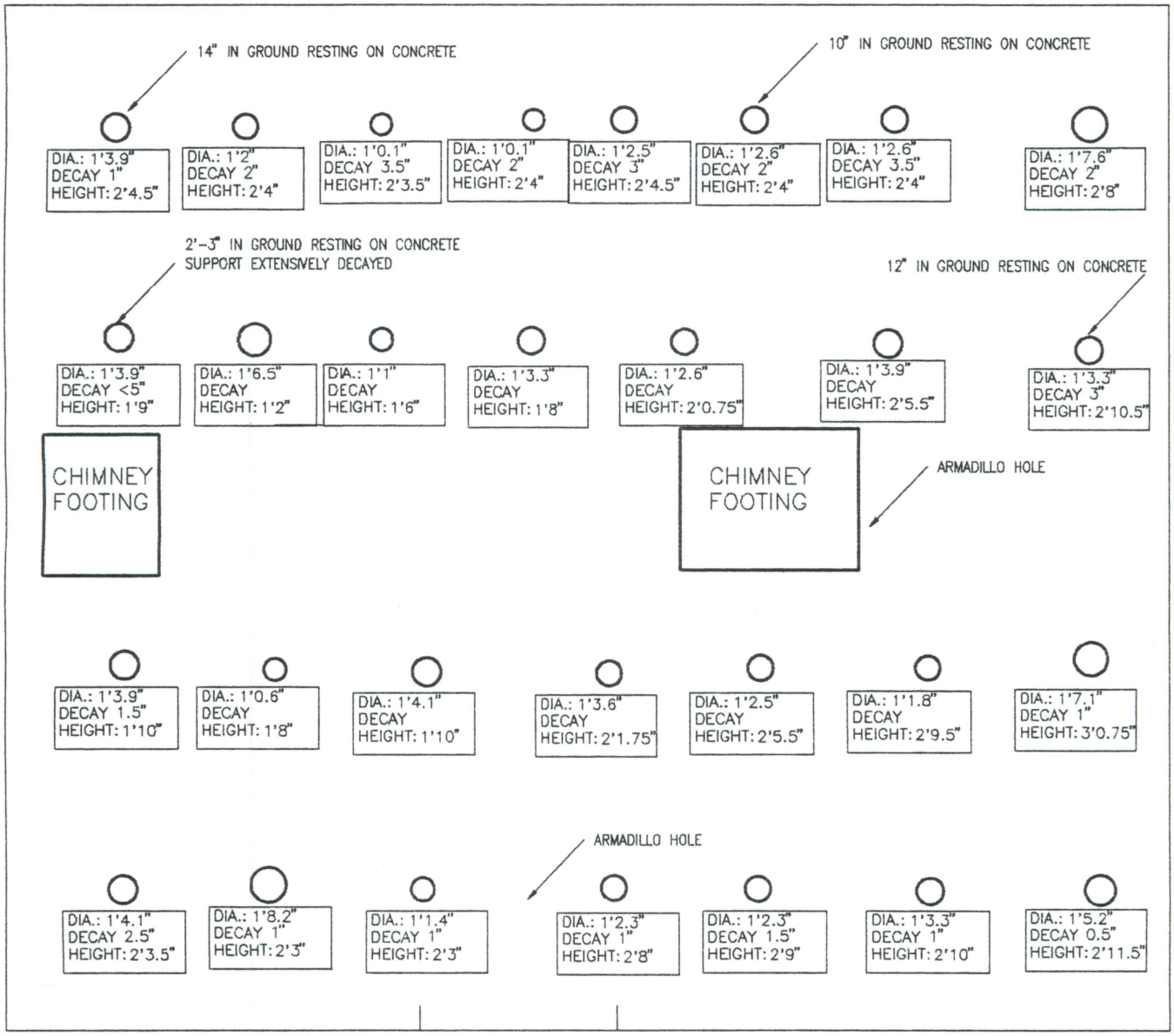


Photo 11 - The sassafras support piers should be treated with a borate paste applied to their below - grade areas.



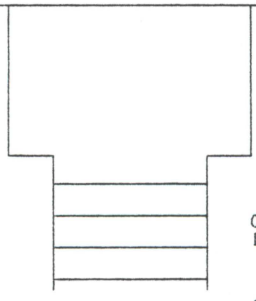


Photos 12 & 13 - Carpenter bees have damaged the roof supports of the rear (north) porch (above). The front (south) porch roof supports have not been damaged by carpenter bees (right).



DIA.:
DECAY
HEIGHT:

PIER TAG





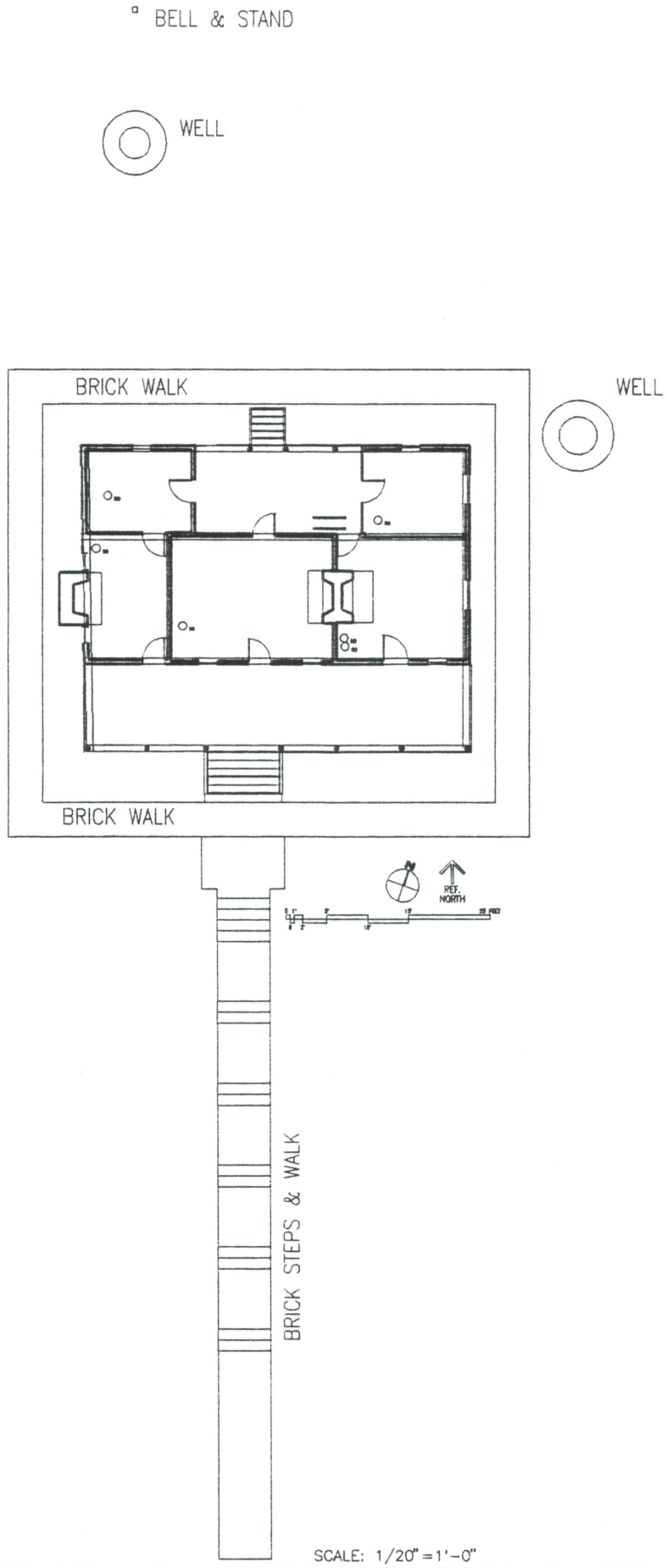




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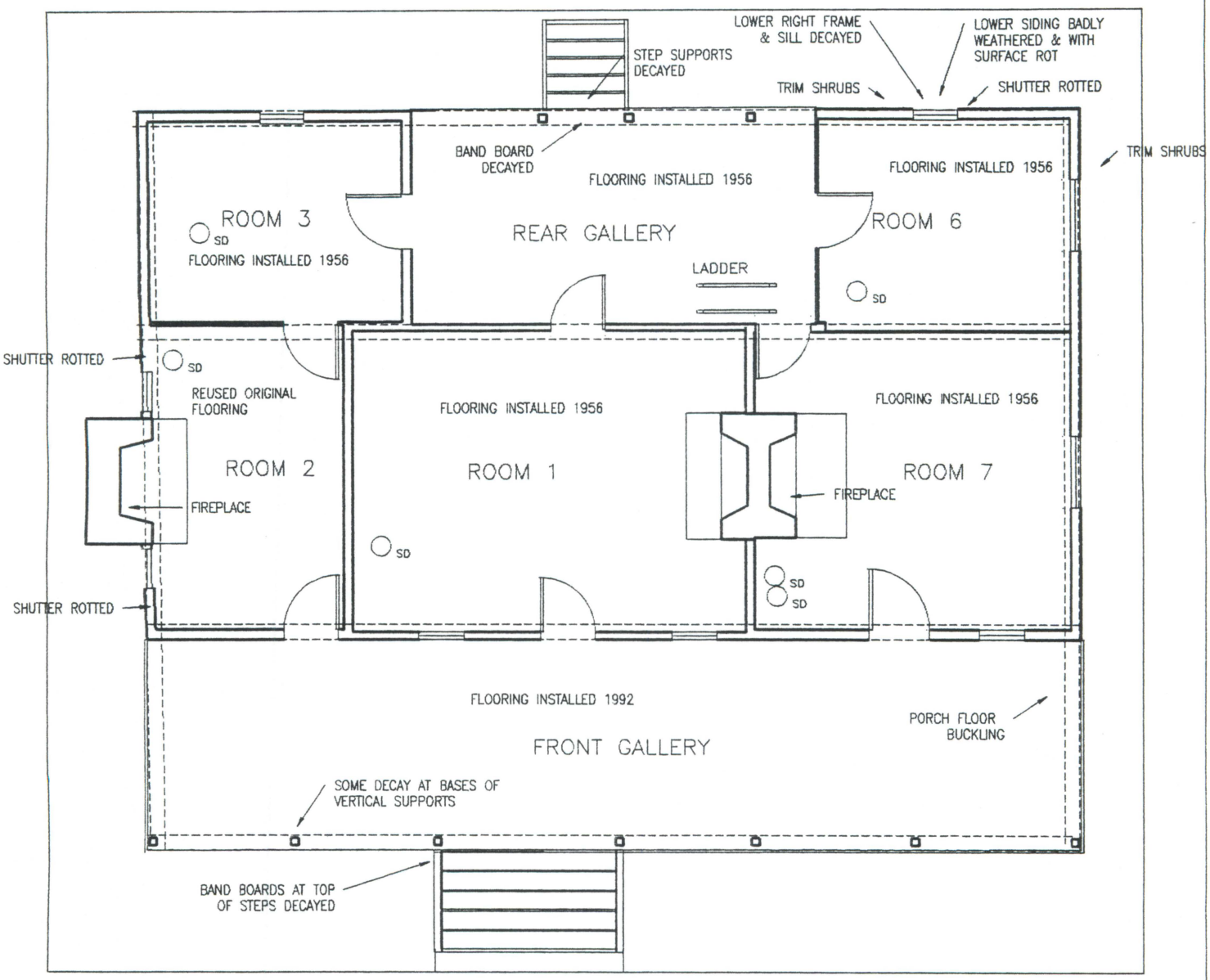
Mt. Locust

Drawing 1.0 Foundation Plan

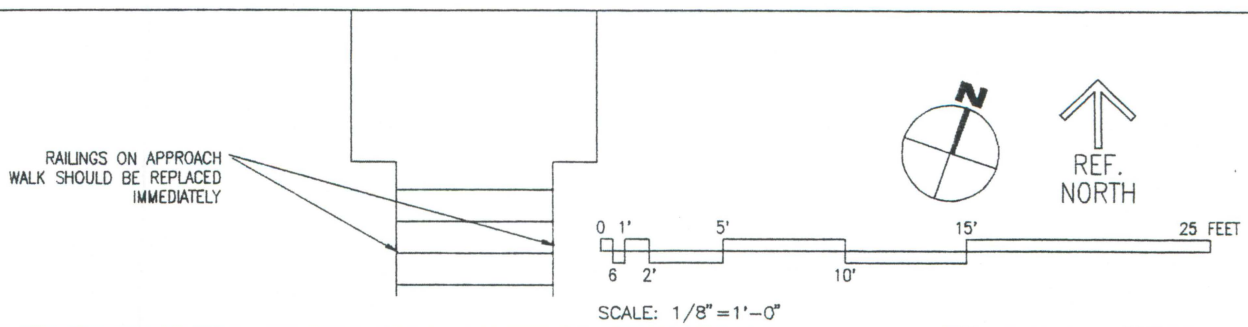


Mt. Locust

Drawing 0.1 Site Plan



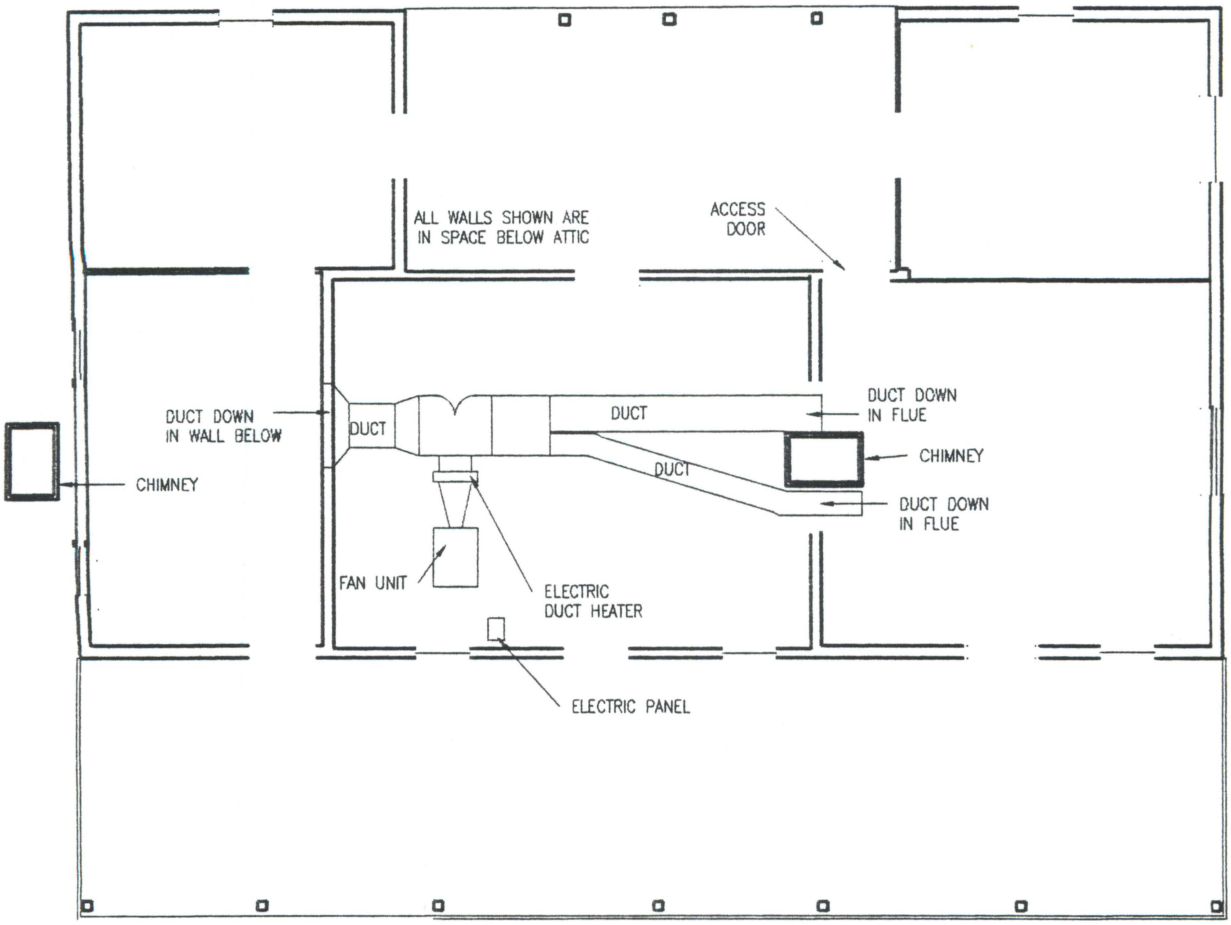
HERRINGBONE PATTERN BRICK WALK, 4'–2" WIDE



SCALE: 1/8" = 1'–0"

Mt. Locust

Drawing 1.1 Floor Plan









SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Mt. Locust

Drawing 1.2 Attic Plan



SOUTH ELEVATION
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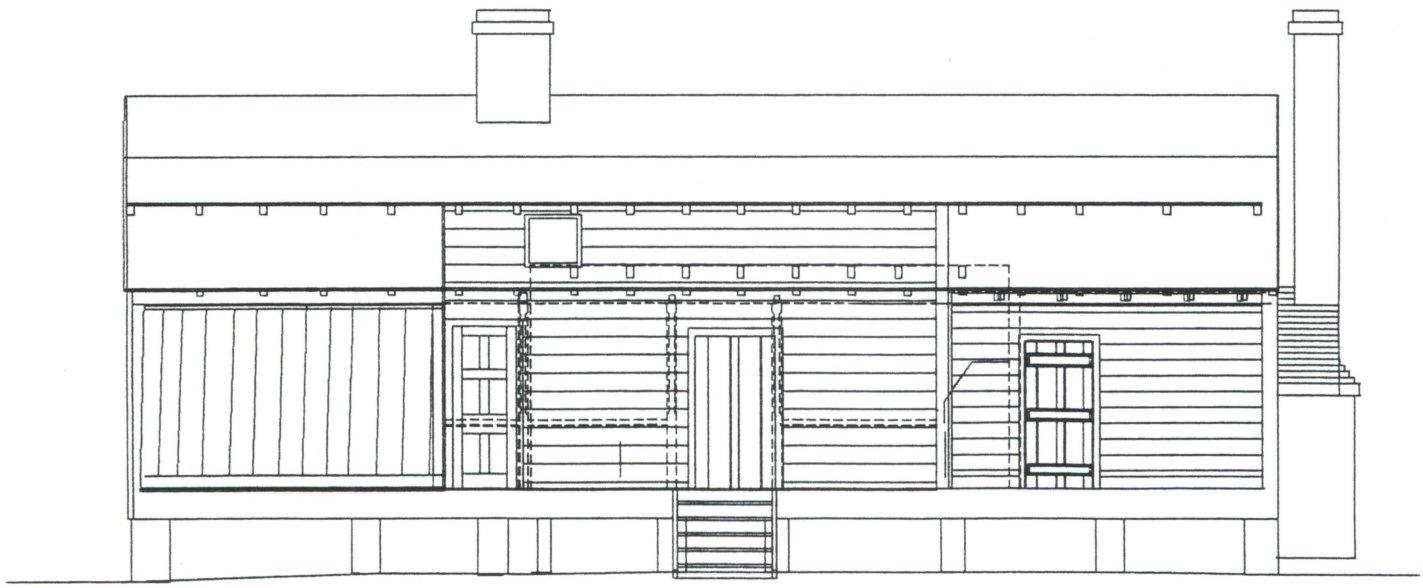


SOUTH ELEVATION & PORCH SECTION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Mt. Locust Drawing 2.0 Front Elevation & Section

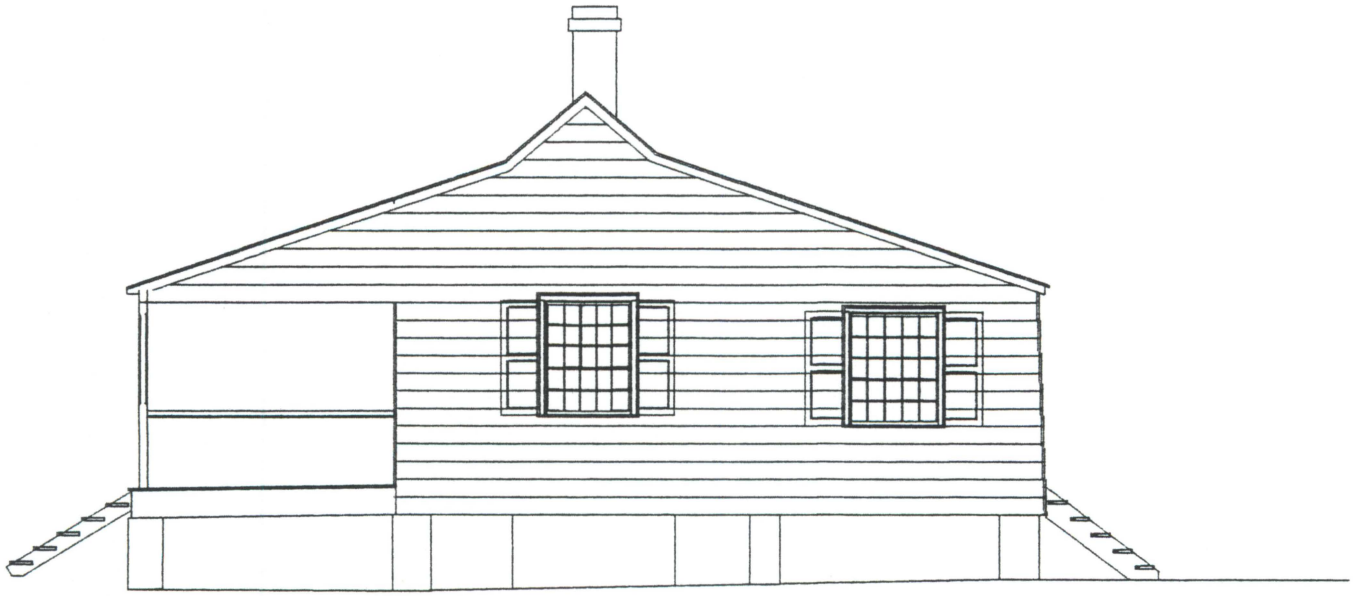


NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

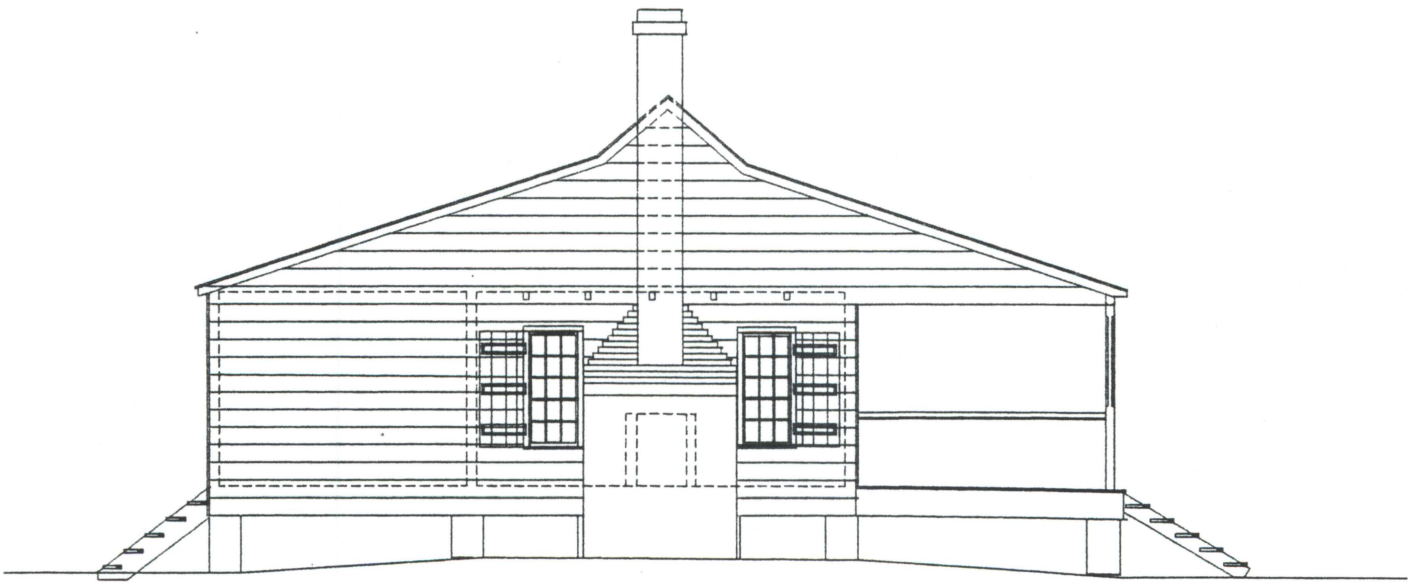


NORTH ELEVATION & PORCH SECTION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Mt. Locust Drawing 2.1 Rear Elevation & Section



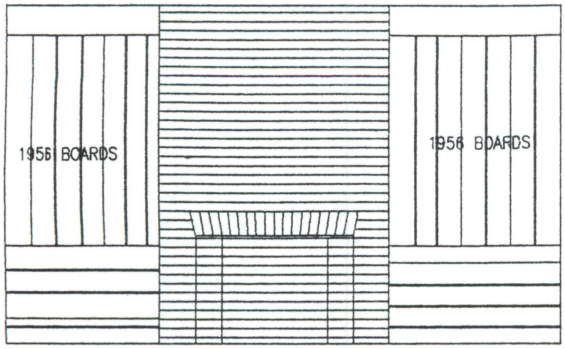
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WEST ELEVATION
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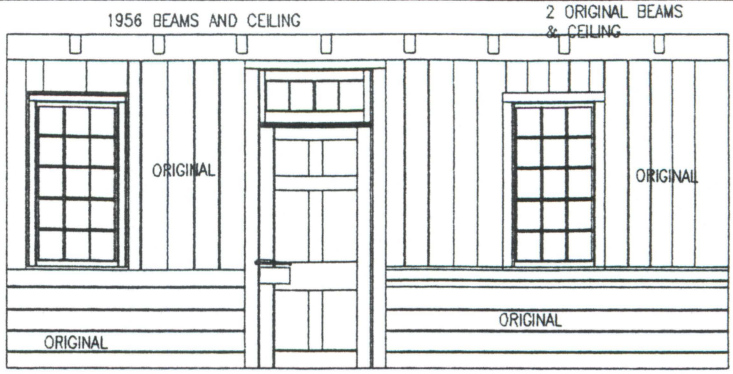
Mt. Locust

Drawing 2.2 End Elevations



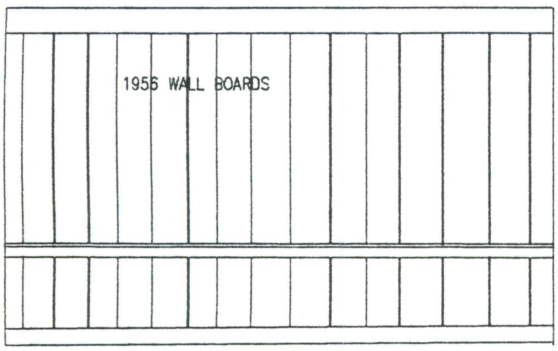
EAST

PLASTER & MANTLE REMOVED

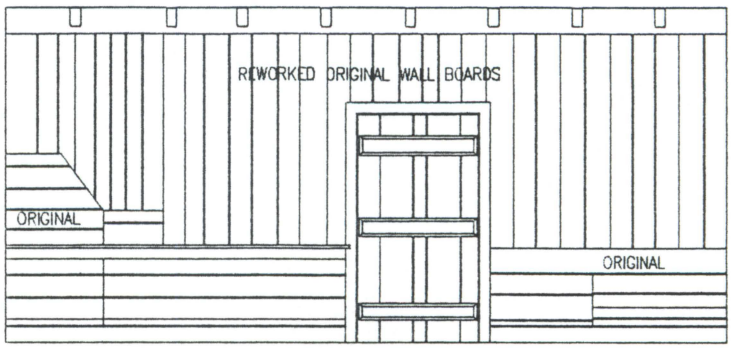


SOUTH

RELOCATED DOOR
ORIGINAL FRAME



WEST

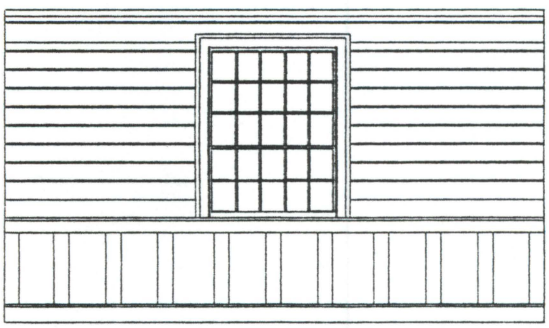


NORTH

RELOCATED DOOR
& FRAME

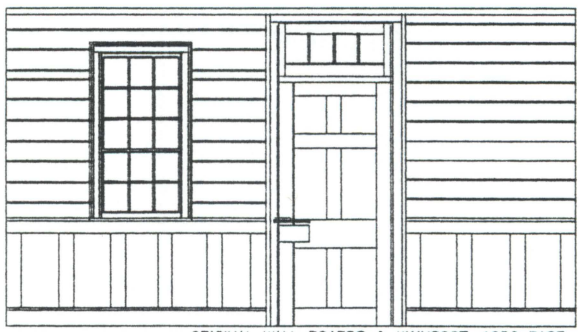
ELEVATIONS ROOM 1

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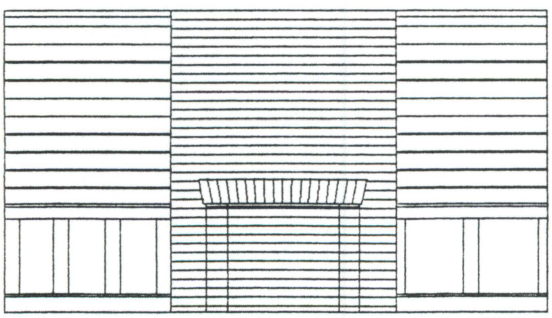
ORIGINAL WALL BOARDS & WAINSCOT, 1956 BASE

EAST



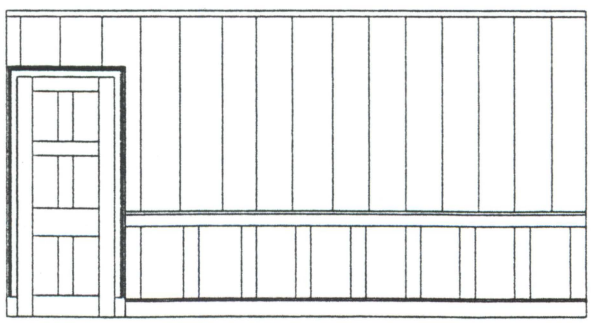
ORIGINAL WALL BOARDS & WAINSCOT, 1956 BASE

SOUTH



1956 WALL BOARDS, WAINSCOT & BASE

WEST



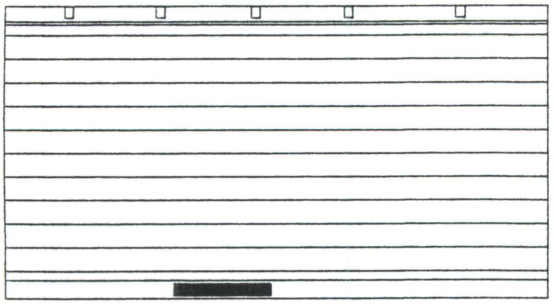
1956 DOOR &FRAME

REWORKED ORIGINAL WALL BOARDS
& WAINSCOT. 1956 BASE

NORTH

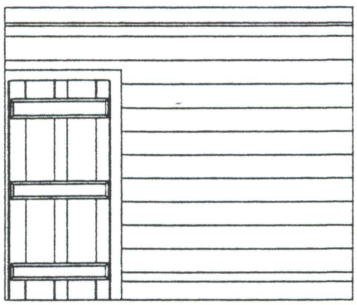
ELEVATIONS ROOM 7

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HEATING REGISTER

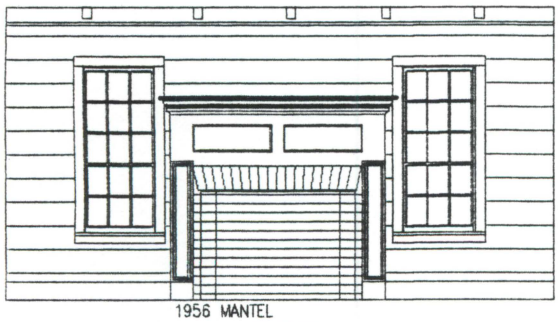
EAST



NEW DOOR & FRAME

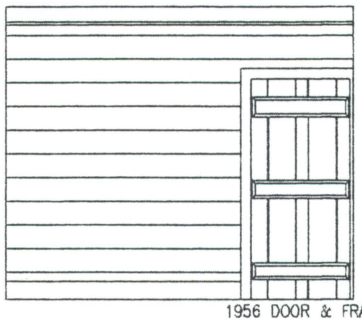
SOUTH

ALL WALL BOARDS, BEAMS, CEILING & BASE – 1956
FLOORING IS SALVAGED & RELOCATED ORIGINAL



1956 MANTEL

WEST

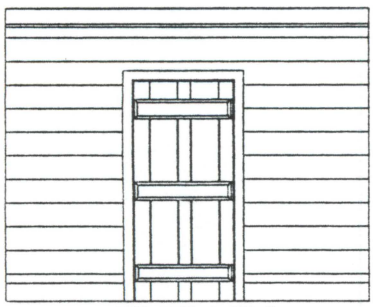


1956 DOOR & FRAME

NORTH

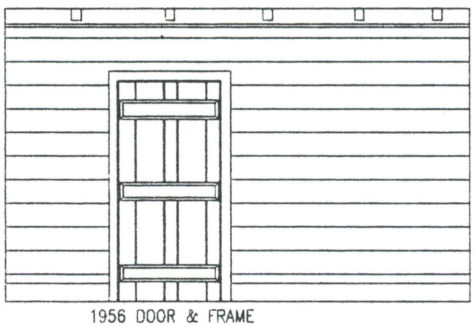
ELEVATIONS ROOM 2

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



1956 DOOR & FRAME

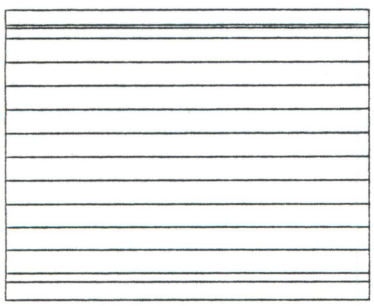
EAST



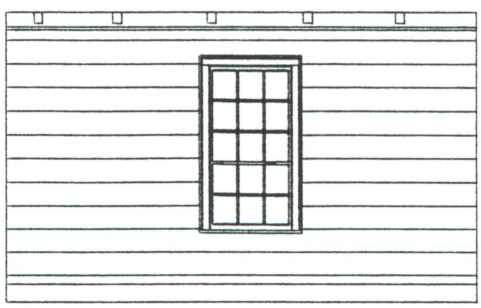
1956 DOOR & FRAME

SOUTH

ALL WALL BOARDS, FLOORING, BASE & CEILING – 1956
CEILING JOISTS ARE ORIGINAL



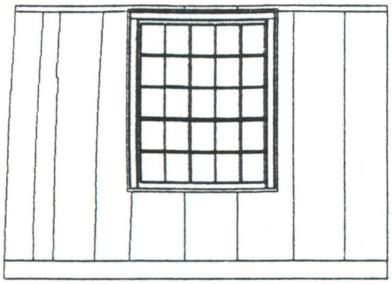
WEST



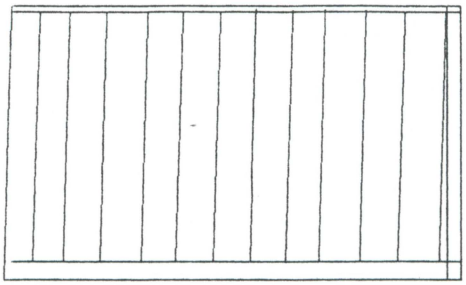
NORTH

ELEVATIONS ROOM 3

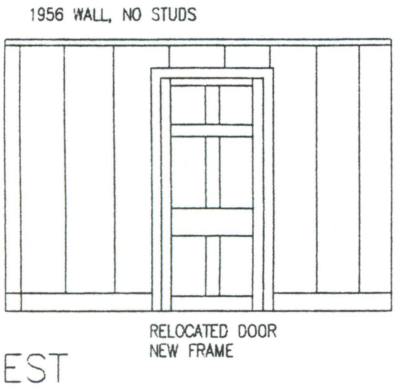
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



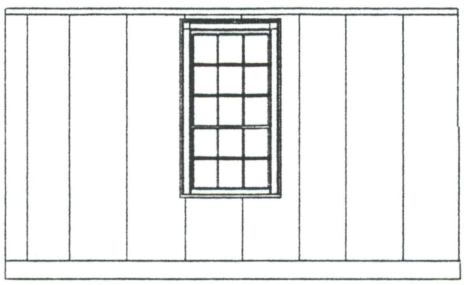
EAST



SOUTH



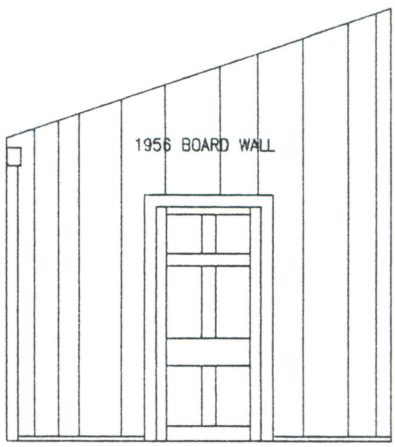
WEST



NORTH

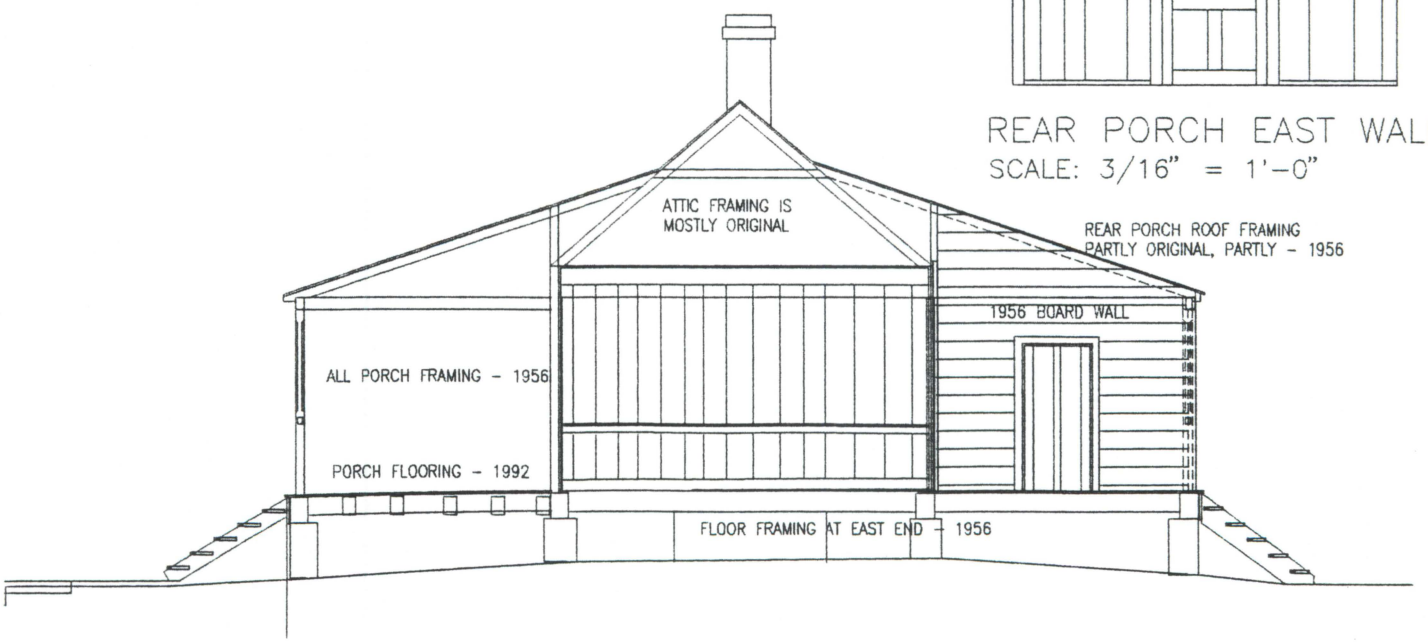
ELEVATIONS ROOM 6

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"



REAR PORCH EAST WALL

SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"

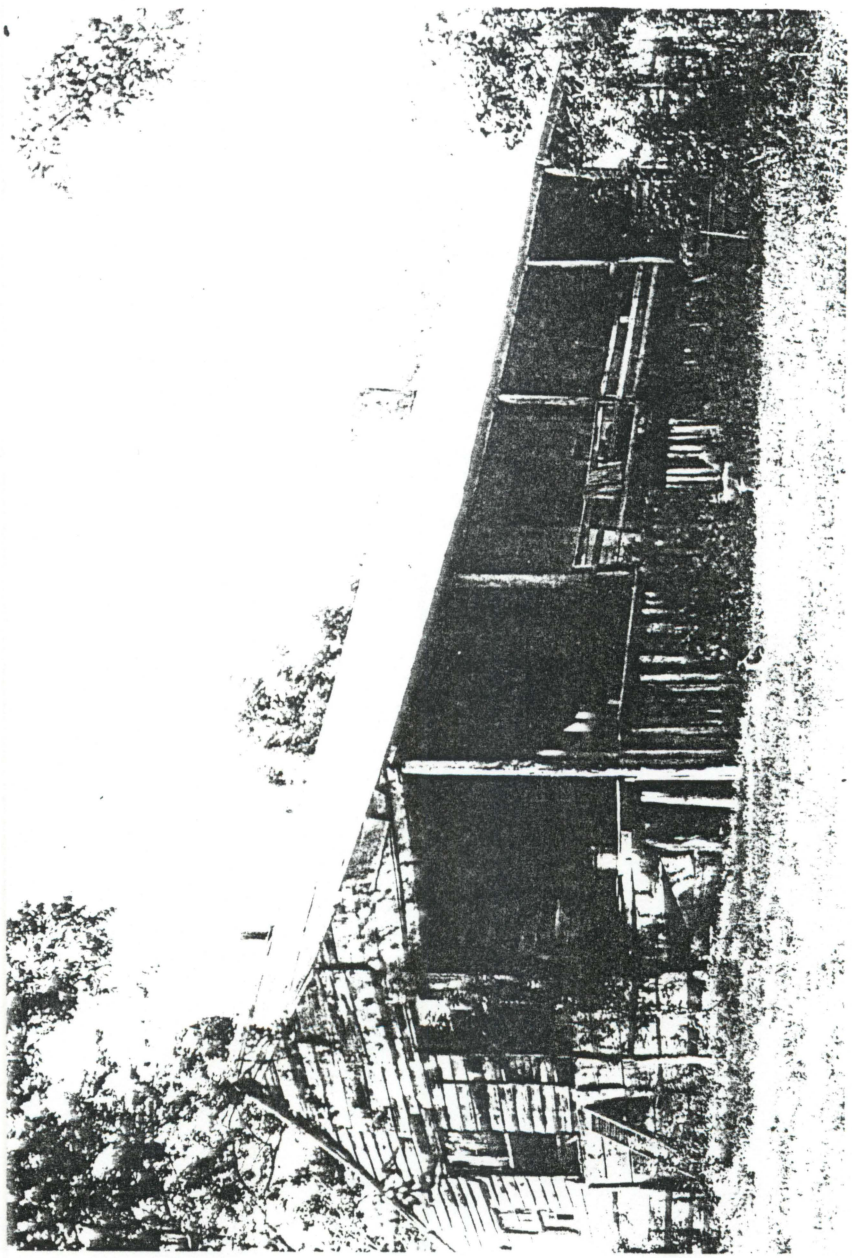


TRANVERSE SECTION @ ROOM 1 LOOKING WEST

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159



Historic American Buildings Survey
G. Victor Davis, Photographer

Copy of photograph taken
May 25, 1933

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159



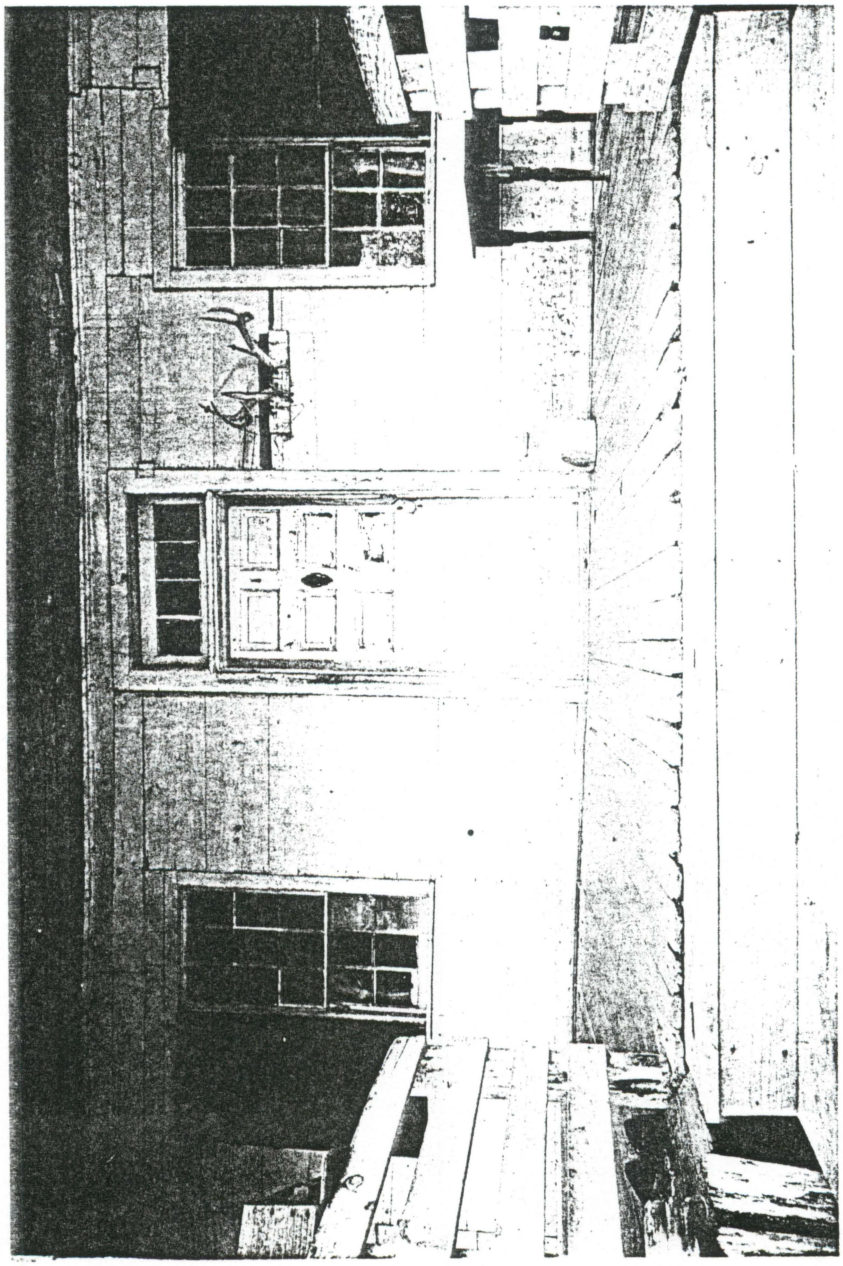
VIEW FROM THE NORTH

February 20, 1940

Historic American Buildings Survey
Lester Jones, Photographer

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159



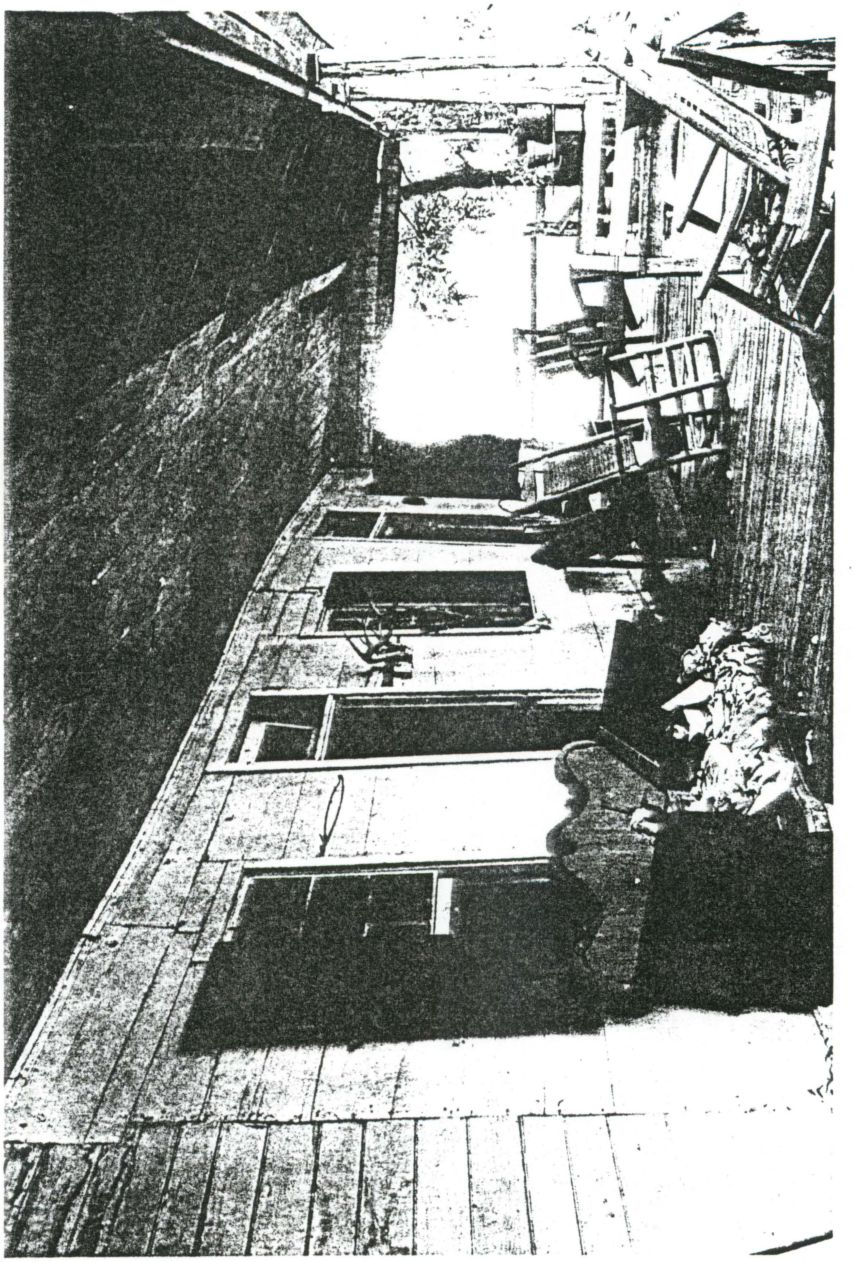
Historic American Buildings Survey
Lester Jones, Photographer

February 20, 1940

PORCH DETAIL

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159



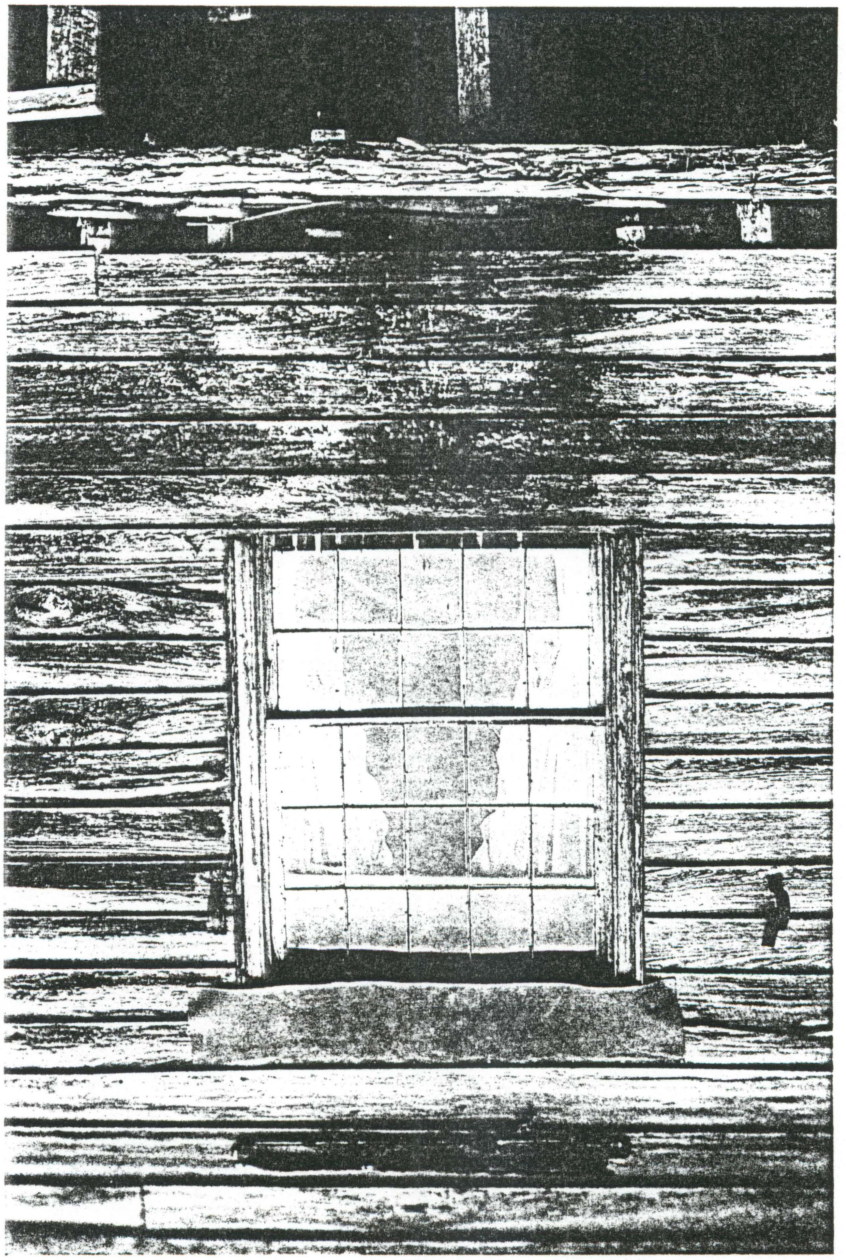
Historic American Buildings Survey
Charles E. Peterson, Photographer

Copy of photograph taken
May 26, 1938.

EAST PORCH DETAIL

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159



Historic American Buildings Survey
Lester Jones, Photographer

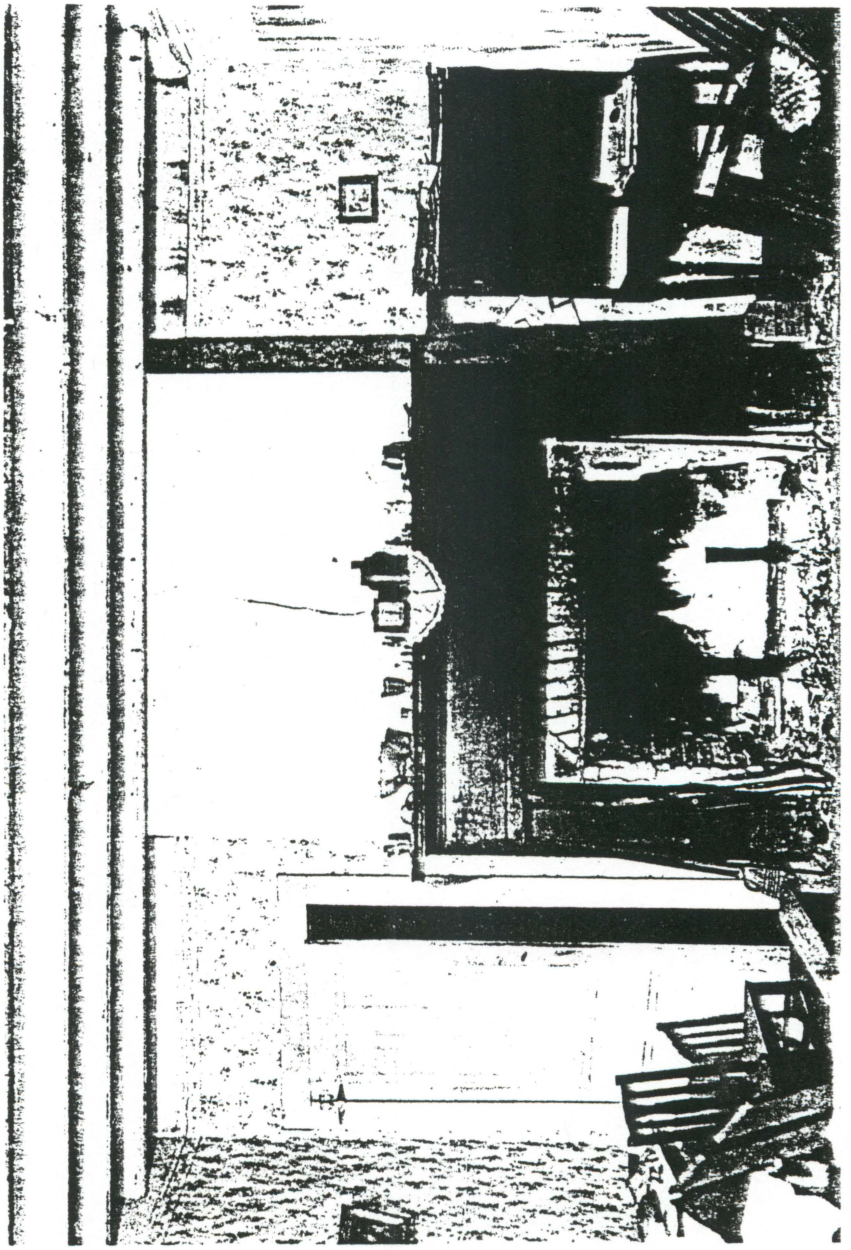
February 20, 1940

WINDOW DETAIL

5

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 Miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

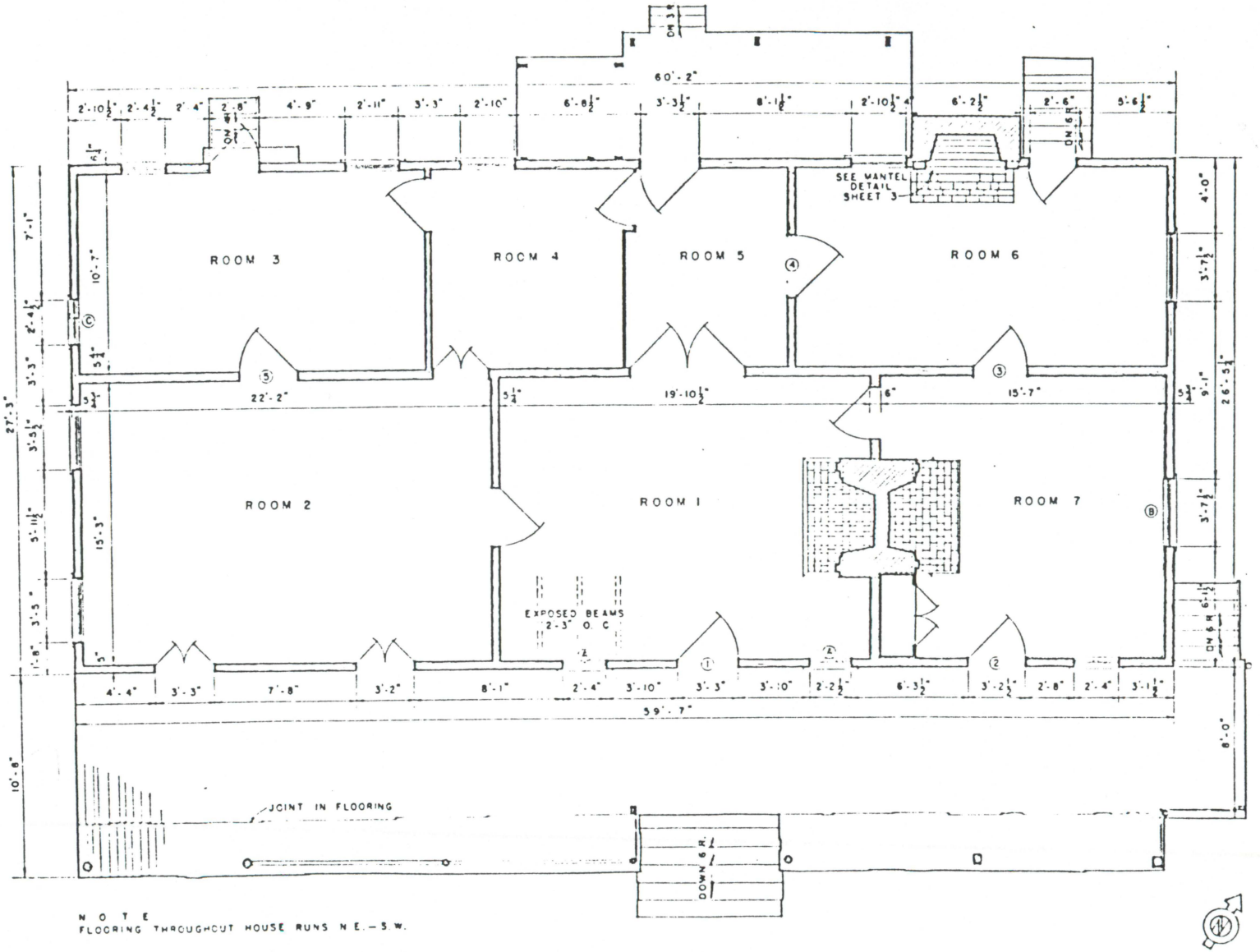
HABS No. MISS-159



Historic American Buildings Survey
Lester Jones, Photographer

February 20, 1940

MANTEL AND WALL DETAIL, CENTER ROOM



N O T E
FLOORING THROUGHOUT HOUSE RUNS N.E.—S.W.

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE ¼" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY
ADOLPH H. FELDER

1940 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM
FEDERAL PROJECT 498-A
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE

NAME OF STRUCTURE
OLD NATCHEZ TRACE CANNONSBURG VIC.
JEFFERSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO.
MISS-150

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 1 OF 4 SHEETS

¼" = 1'-0"
METRIC

FINISH SCHEDULE

FLOORS: WOOD, ALL ROOMS, 4½" TO 7" VARYING WIDTH.
WALLS: BEADED FLUSH BOARDS, 6½" TO 8", EXCEPT N.E. AND S.E. WALLS ROOM 5 (FIG 1) AND N.W. WALL ROOM 4 (FIG 2). WOOD PANELLED WAINSCOT, 3'-0" HIGH, IN ROOM 7. ALL WALLS PARTLY OR WHOLLY PAPERED.

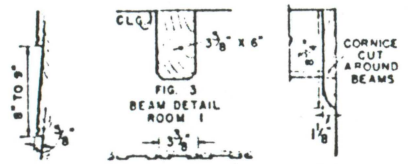
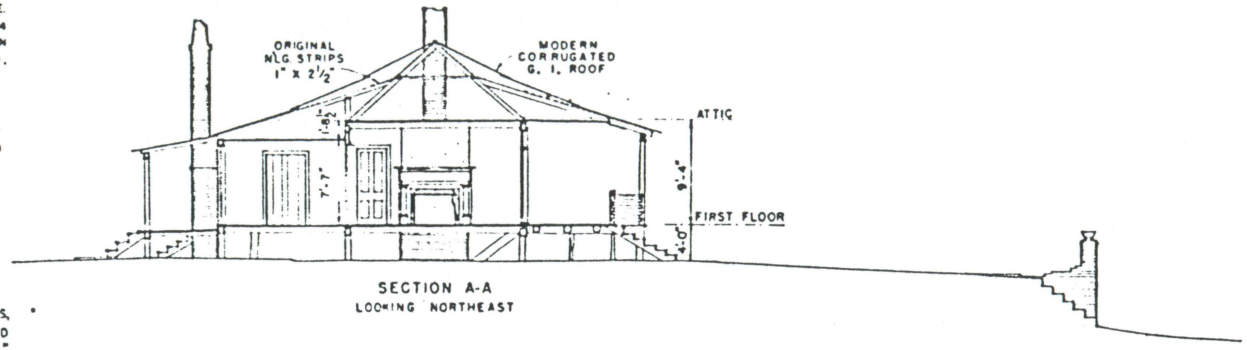


FIG. 1 SHIPLAP N.E. WALL RM. 5 — FIG. 2 VERTICAL SIDING N.W. WALL ROOM 4 — FIG. 3 BEAM DETAIL ROOM 1 — FIG. 4 CORNICE ROOM 1

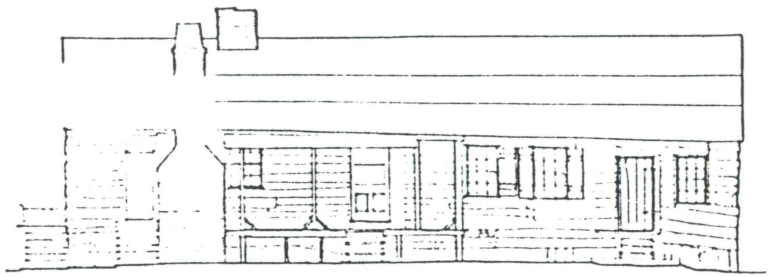
CEILINGS: WOOD, VARYING 4¼" TO 8¼" FLUSH BOARDS, BEADED BOARDS IN ROOMS 1, 3, 4, AND 6. CLG. PAINTED IN ROOMS 1, 2, 3, AND 4. EXPOSED BEAMS 2'-3½" ON CENTER IN ROOM 1 (FIG. 3). INT. WOOD CORNICE IN ROOM 1 (FIG. 4). CEILING HEIGHTS: 9'-3" IN ROOMS 1 AND 2, 7'-6" IN ROOMS 3, 4, 5, 6, 8'-8" IN ROOM 7. WOOD BASE IN ALL ROOMS.



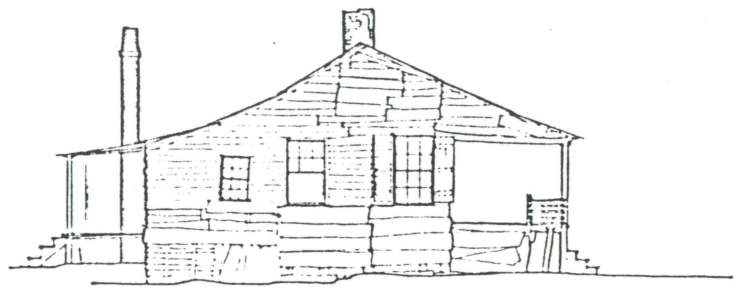
SECTION A-A
LOOKING NORTHEAST

SECTION AND ELEVATIONS

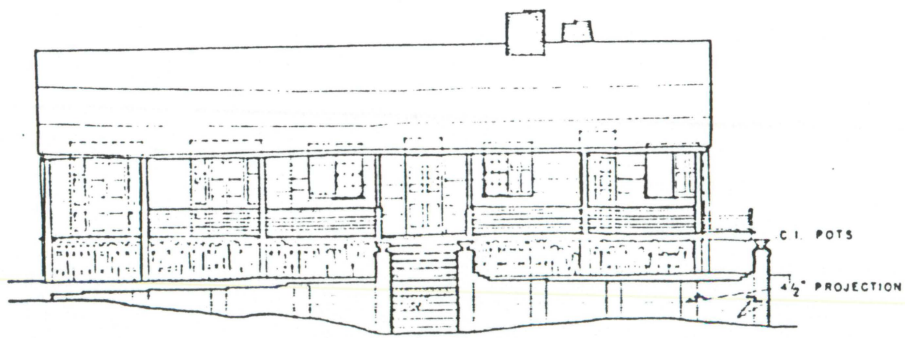
SCALE ⅛" = 1'-0"



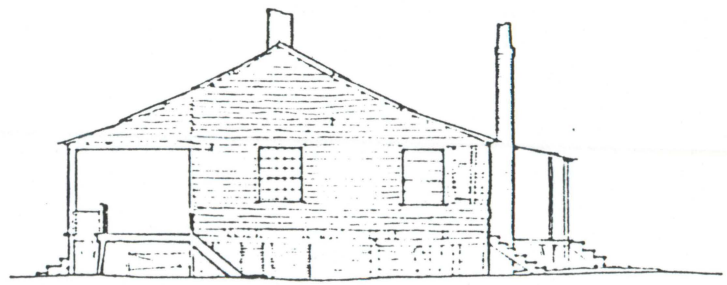
REAR (NORTHWEST) ELEVATION



SOUTHWEST ELEVATION



FRONT (SOUTHEAST) ELEVATION



NORTHEAST ELEVATION

SCALES
⅛"=1'-0"
METRIC

DRAWN BY
ADOLPH H. FELDER

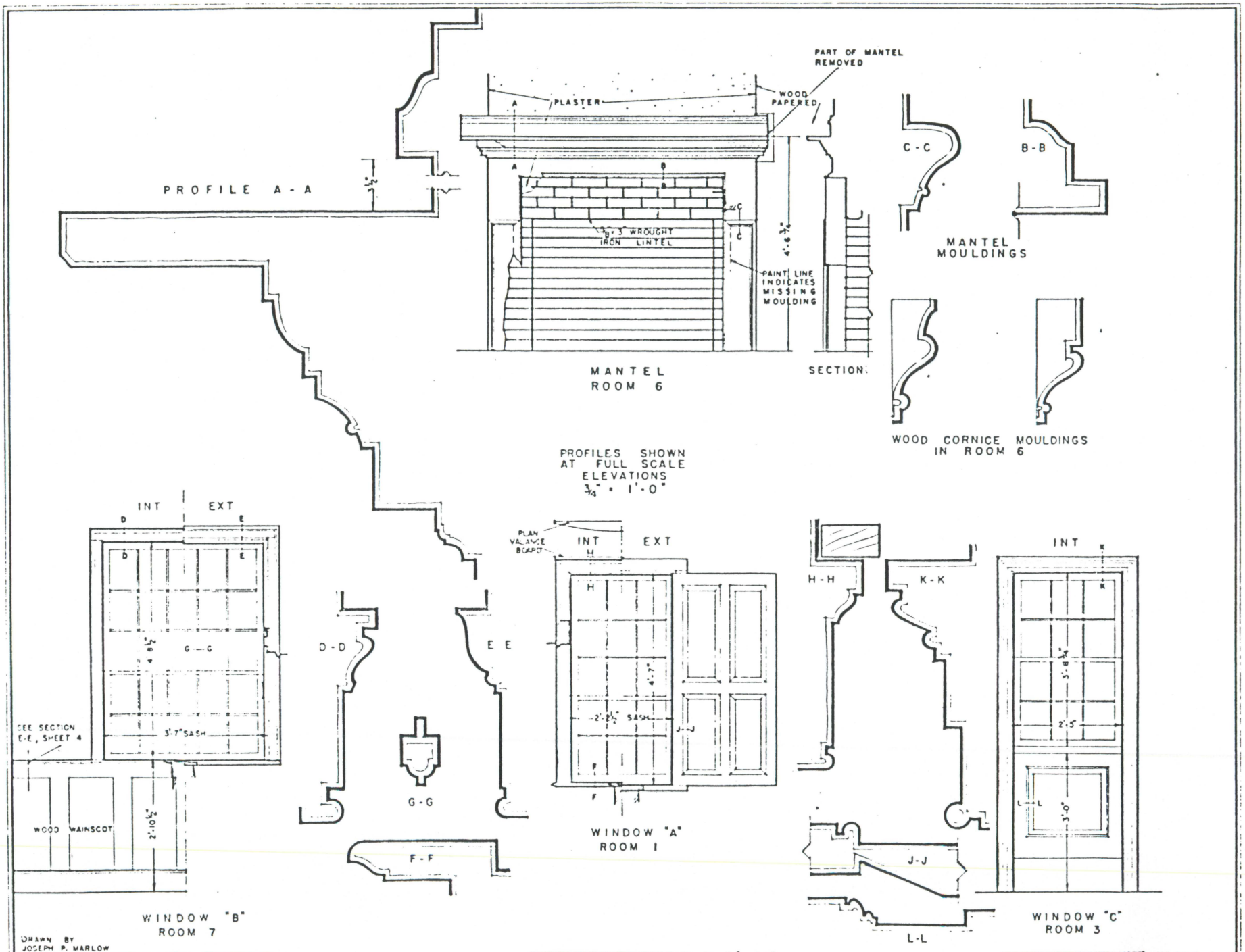
1940 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM
FEDERAL PROJECT 498-A
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE

OLD NATCHEZ TRACE, CANNONSBURG VIC
JEFFERSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO.
MISS 159

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 2 OF 4 SHEETS



DRAWN BY
JOSEPH P. MARLOW

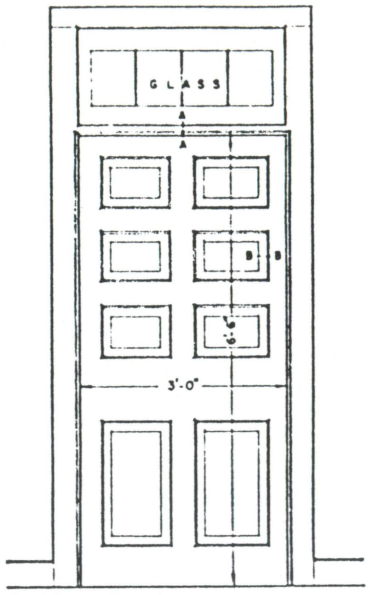
FULL SCALE 3/4" = 1'-0" METRIC

1940 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM
FEDERAL PROJECT 496-A

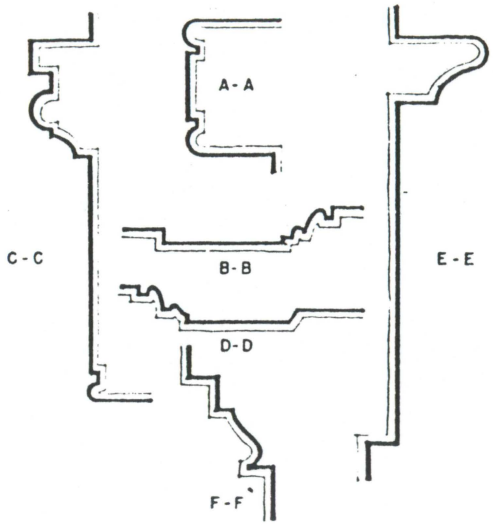
NAME OF STRUCTURE
MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE — OLD NATCHEZ TRACE — CANNONSBURG VIC — JEFF CO — SISS

SURVEY NO.
MISS-159

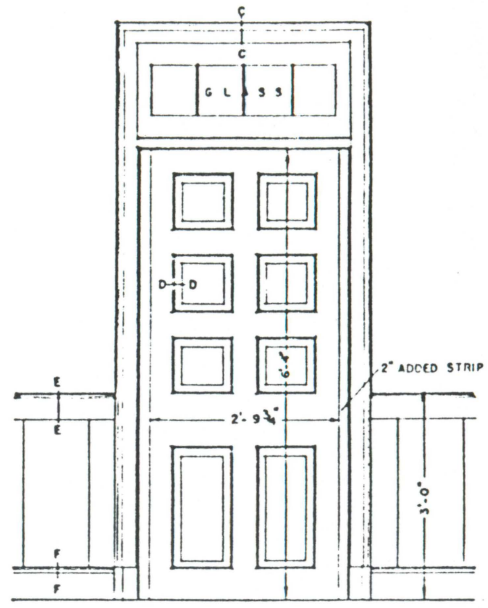
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY



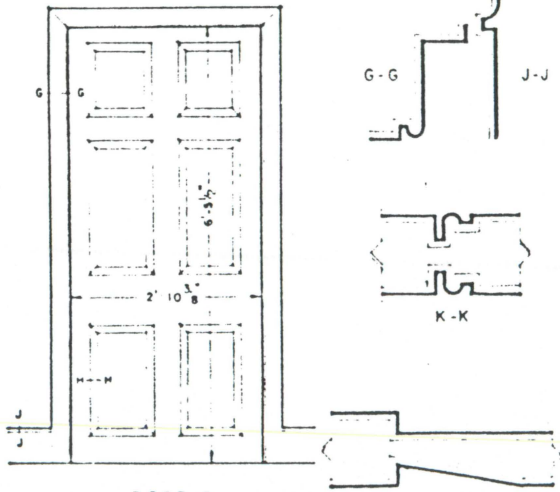
DOOR 1
ROOM 1



PROFILES SHOWN
AT FULL SCALE
ELEVATIONS
3/4" = 1'-0"

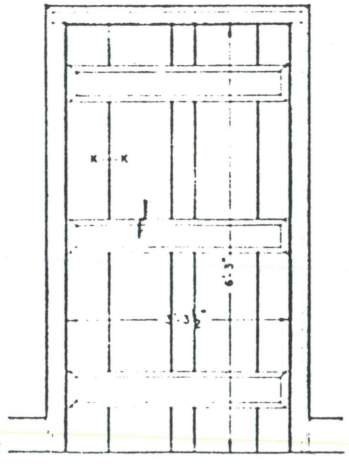


DOOR 2
ROOM 7

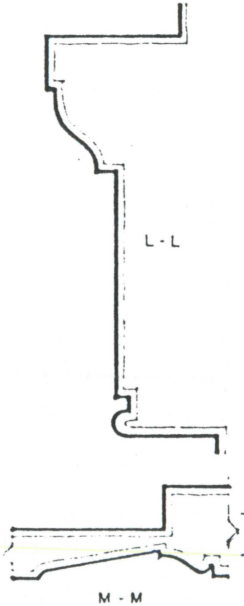


DOOR 3
ROOM 6

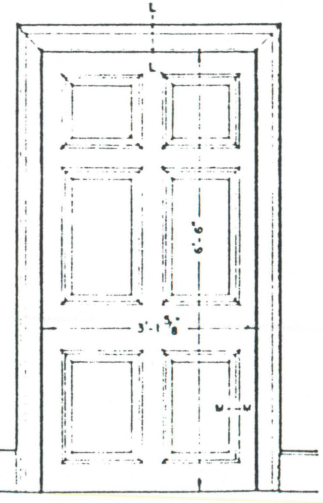
H-H



DOOR 4
ROOM 6



M-M



DOOR 5
ROOM 2

FULL SIZE
3/4" = 1'-0"
METRIC

DRAWN BY
JOSEPH P. MARLOW

1940 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM
FEDERAL PROJECT 488-A
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PLANS &

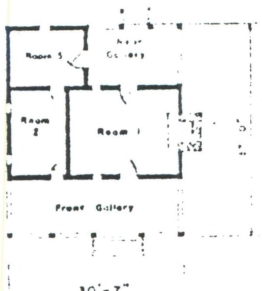
MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE

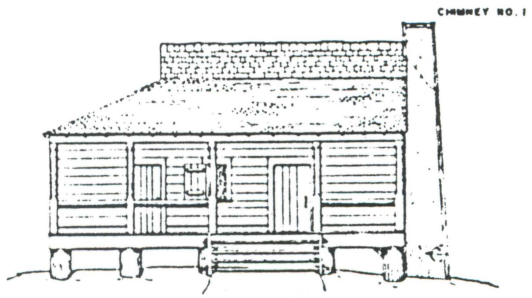
NAME OF STRUCTURE

OLD NATCHEZ TRACE CANNONSBURG VIC.
JEFFERSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI

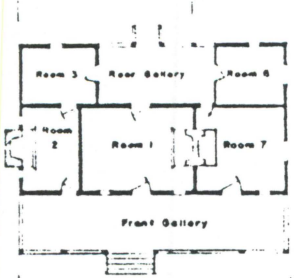
SURVEY NO
MISS-150

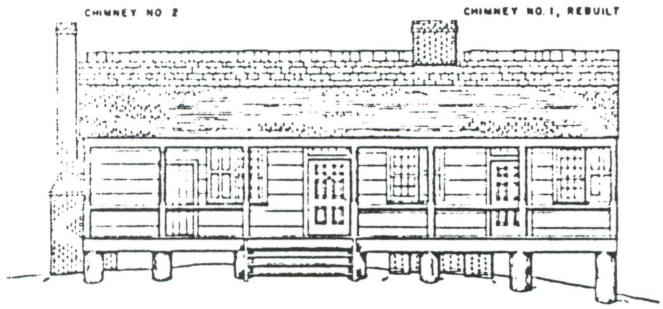
HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 4 OF 4 SHEETS



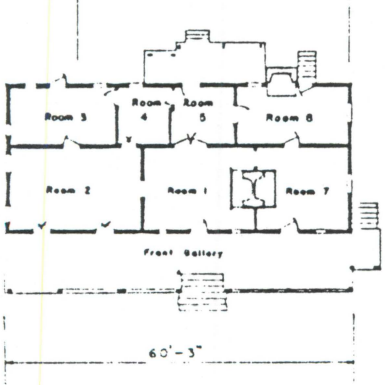


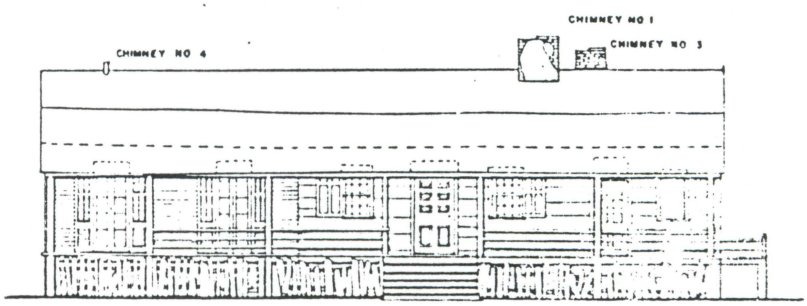
FIRST STAGE
(C. 1785)





SECOND STAGE
(C. 1820)
ATTEMPTED PERIOD OF RESTORATION





THIRD STAGE
BEFORE RESTORATION
AS MEASURED IN 1940

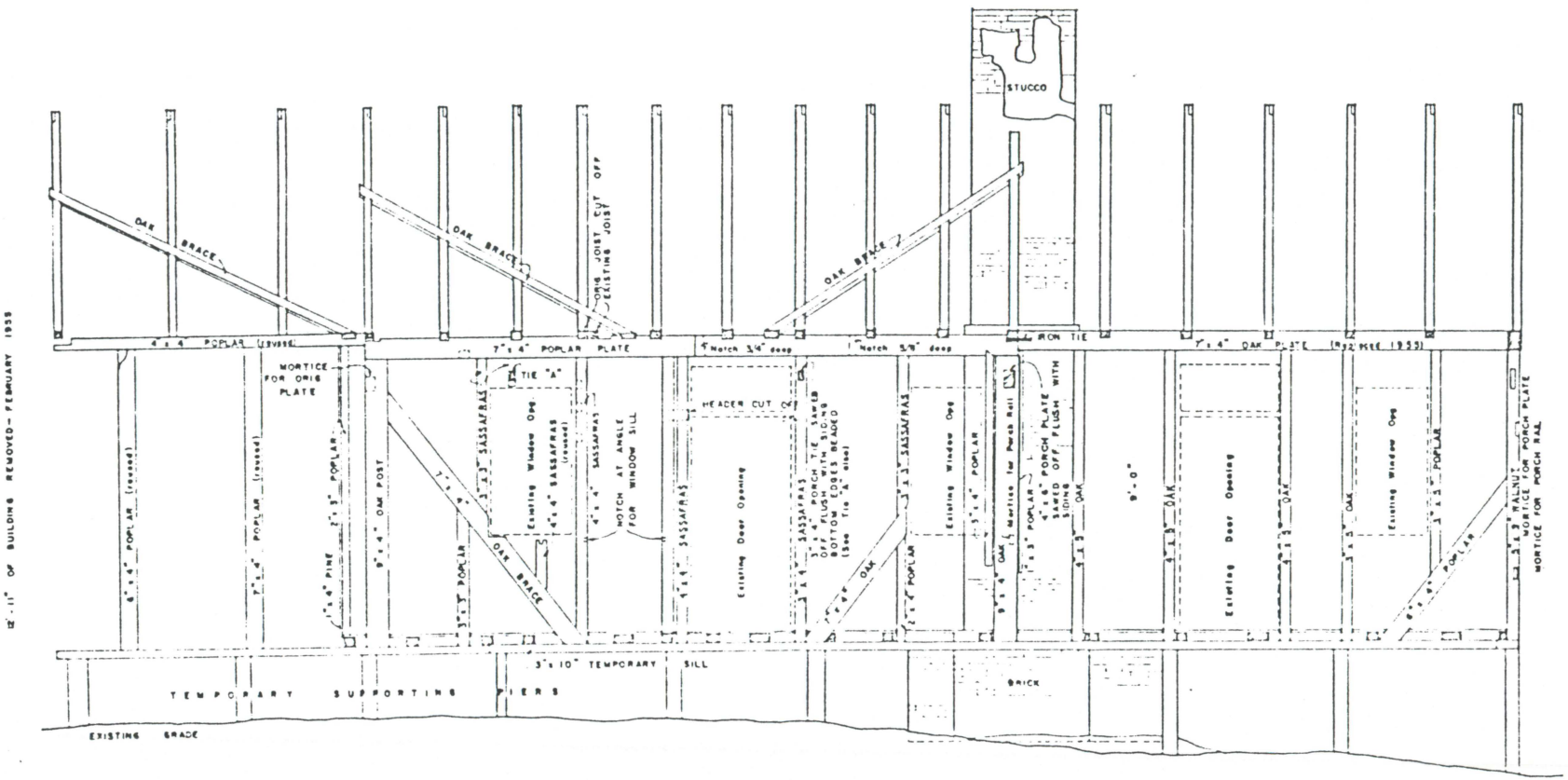
CONJECTURAL EVOLUTION OF STRUCTURE (DIAGRAMMATIC)

DRAWN BY M. A. JUDD 1954

NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION" MISS. (1940)

SCALE
FLOOR PLANS
ELEVATIONS
0 5 10 15 20
0 5 10

NAME OF STRUCTURE
OLD NATCHEZ TRACE
CANNONSBURG VIC
MOUNT LOCUST



FRONT WALL FRAME (SOUTHEAST)

SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"

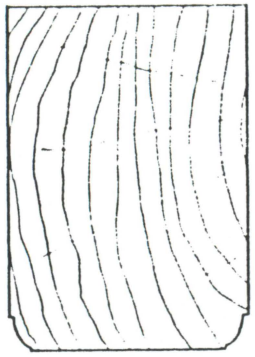
DRAWN BY H.A. JUDD &
CALVIN H. HOOKER, 1955
NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION", MISS-189 (1940)

EASTERN OFFICE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, USNPS
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
MOUNT LOCUST
(MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)
OLD NATCHEZ TRACE
JEFFERSON COUNTY
CANNONSBURG VIC
MISSISSIPPI

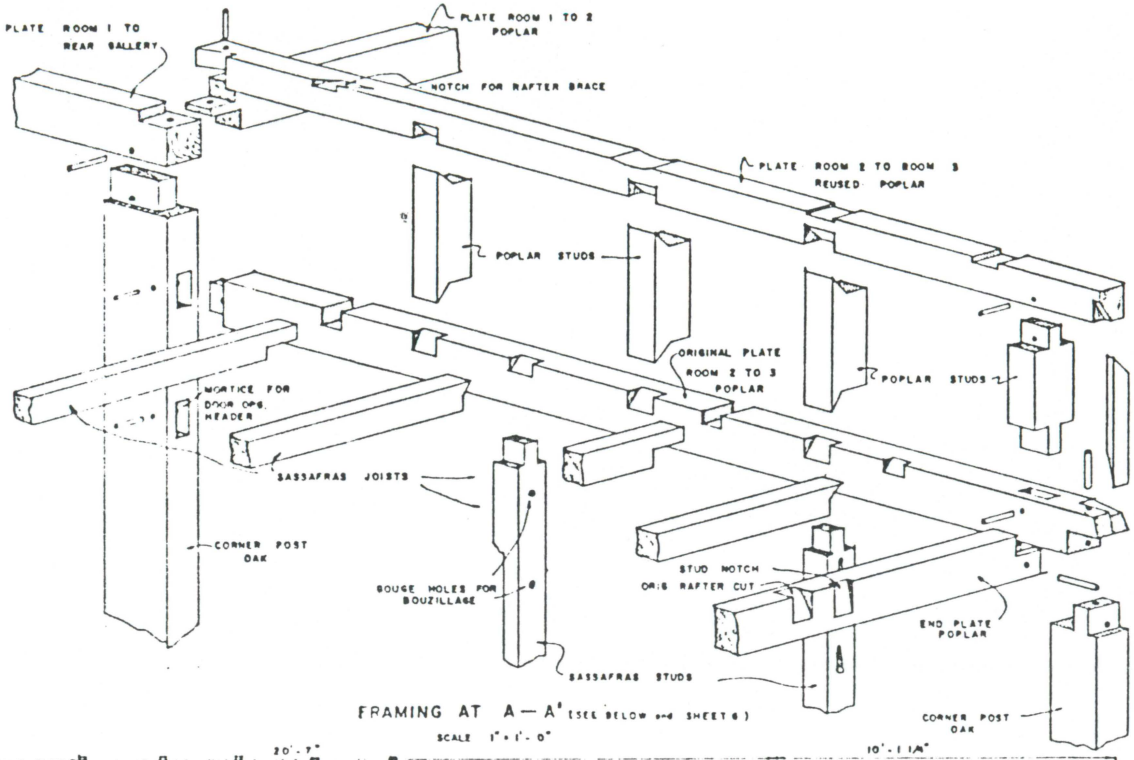
SURVEY NO
MISS-1594

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 2 OF 9 SHEETS



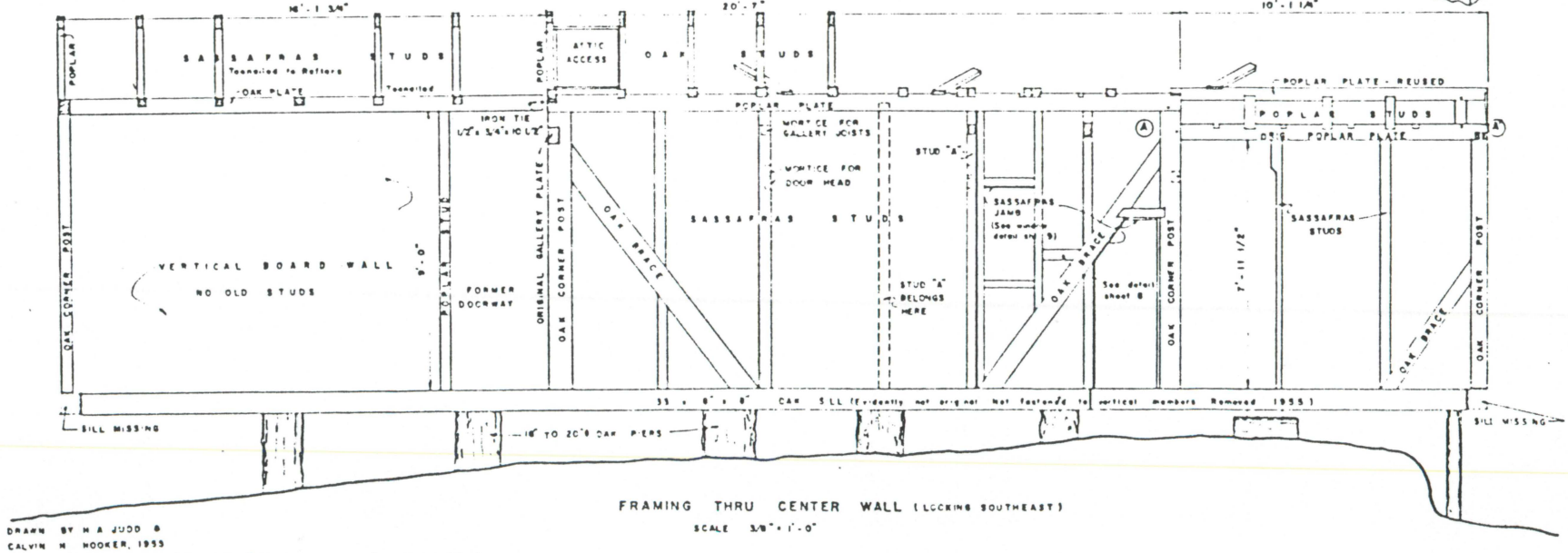
FULL SIZE SECTION OF JOISTS

ROOM 3



FRAMING AT A — A' (SEE BELOW and SHEET 6)

SCALE 1" = 1'-0"



FRAMING THRU CENTER WALL (LOOKING SOUTHEAST)

SCALE 3/8" = 1'-0"

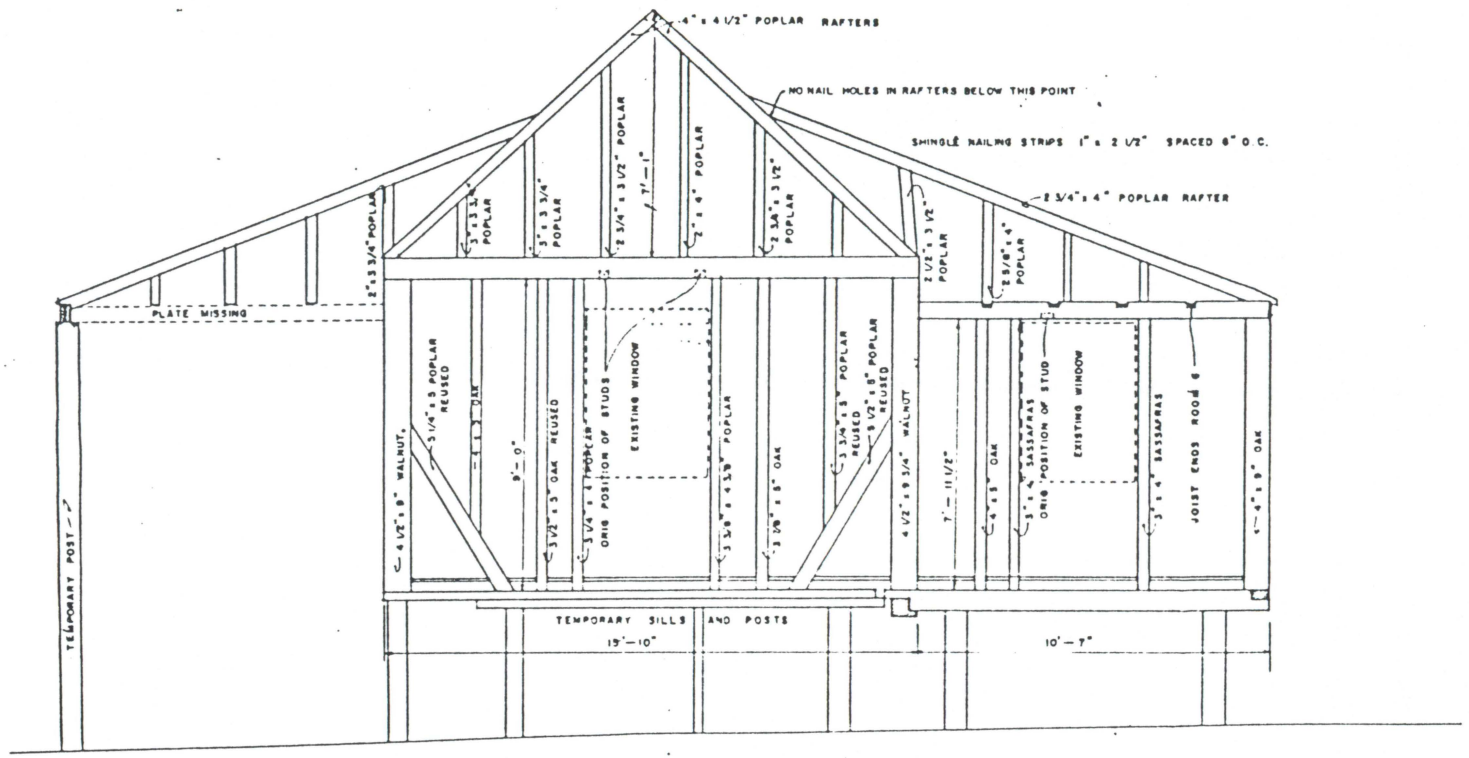
DRAWN BY H A JUDD &
CALVIN H HOOKER, 1953
NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION", MISS-159 (1940)

EASTERN OFFICE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, USNPS
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

NAME OF STRUCTURE
MOUNT LOCUST
(MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)
OLD NATCHEZ TRACE CANNONSBURG VIC.
JEFFERSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO
MISS-159-A

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 3 OF 9 SHEETS

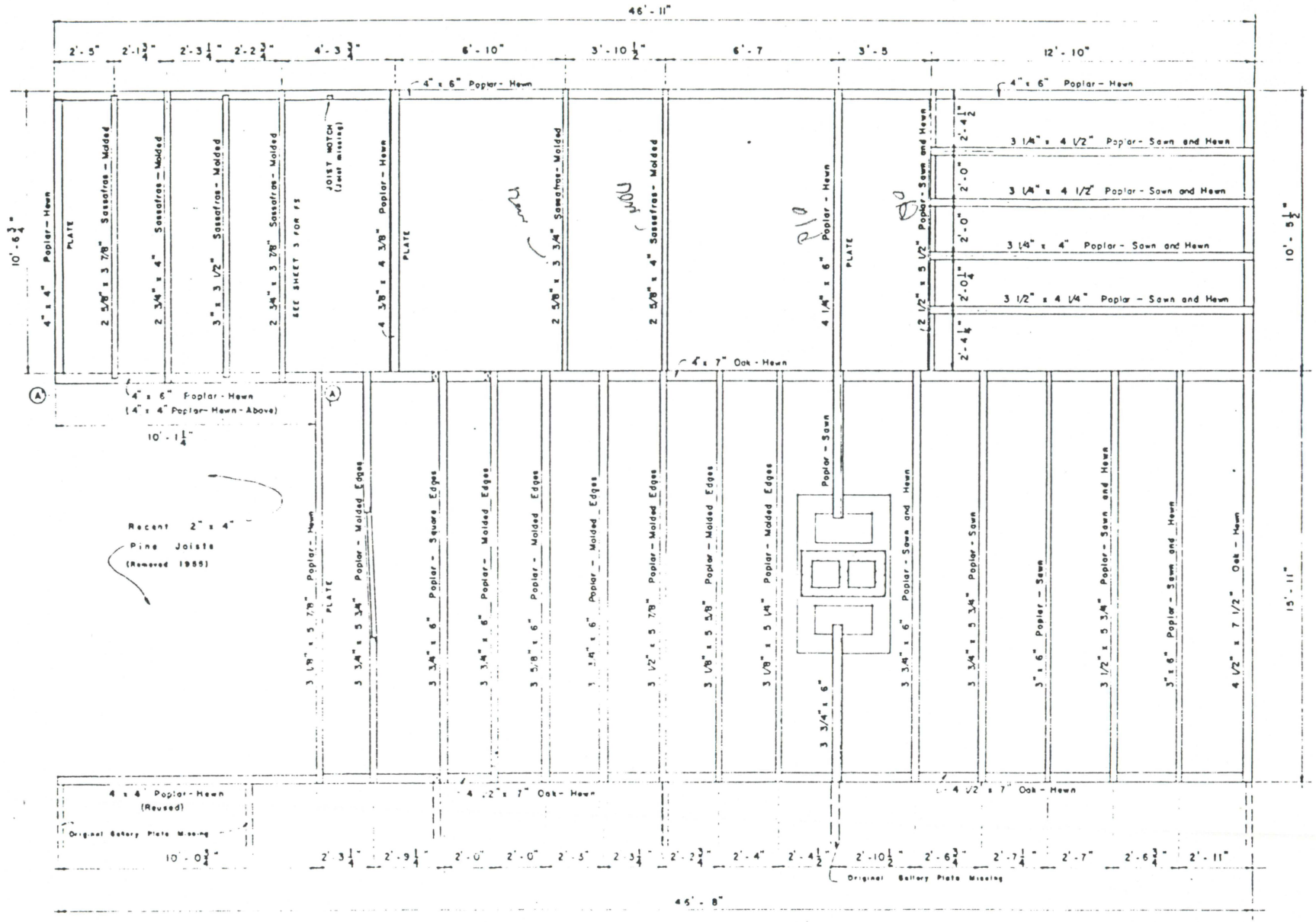


FRAMING NORTHEAST ELEVATION

DRAWN BY H A. JUDD 1935

NOTE: THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION" MISS.-159 (1940)

EASTERN OFFICE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION USNPS UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	MOUNT LOCUST (MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)	NAME OF STRUCTURE OLD NATCHEZ TRACE JEFFERSON COUNTY	CANNONSBURG VIC. MISSISSIPPI	SURVEY NO MISS 159-A	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 4 OF 9 SHEETS	

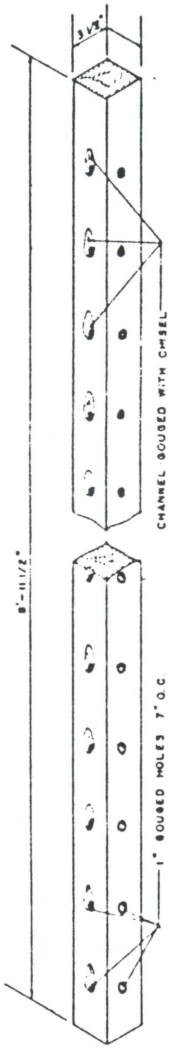


PLAN of CEILING JOISTS

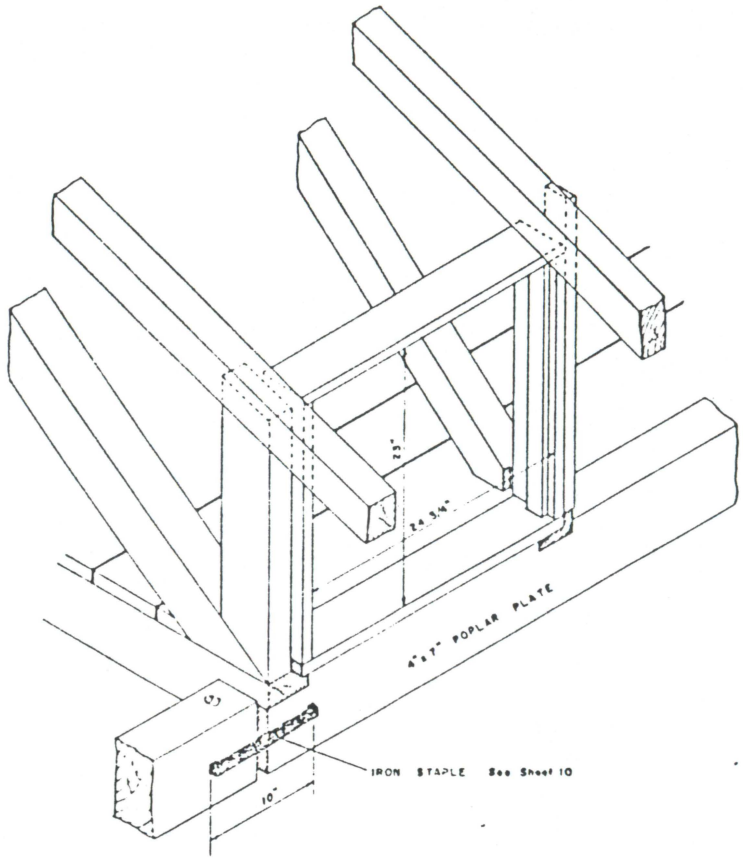
SCALE ⅜" = 1'-0"

DRAWN BY
CALVIN H. HOOKER, 1955
NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION", MISS-159 (1940)

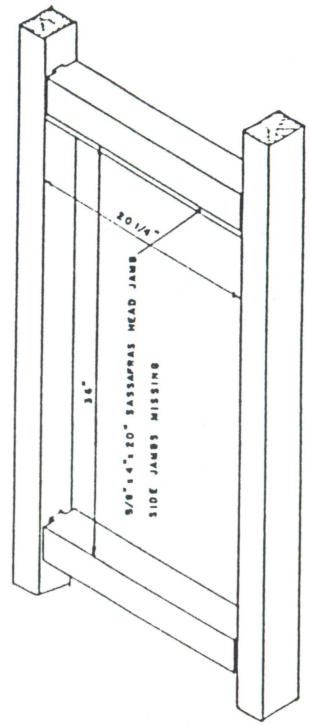
EASTERN OFFICE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, USNPS UNDER DIRECTION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	NAME OF STRUCTURE: MOUNT LOCUST (MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)	OLD NATCHEZ TRACE JEFFERSON COUNTY	CANNONSBURG MISSISSIPPI VIC.	SURVEY NO. MISS-59A	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 5 OF 9 SHEETS



REUSED PIECE, POSSIBLY FROM
A MUD CHIMNEY FRAME
SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



ISOMETRIC
ACCESS OPENING TO ATTIC
SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'-0"
SEE SHEET 3



ISOMETRIC
ORIGINAL WINDOW OPENING
SCALE 1 1/2" = 1'-0"
SEE SHEET 3

VARIOUS FRAMING DETAILS

DRAWN BY H.A. JUDD
NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION" MISS 159 (1940)

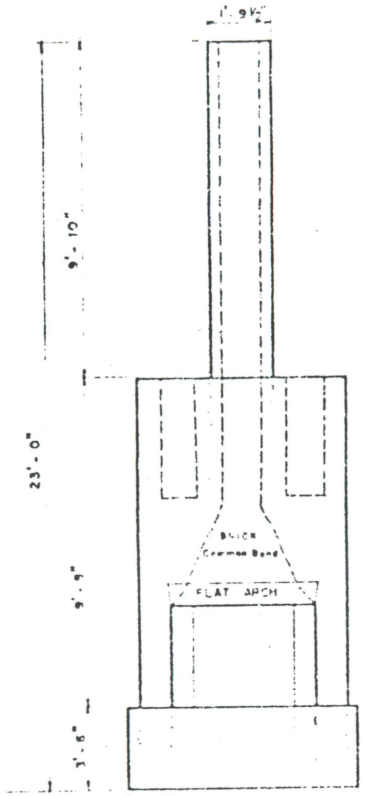
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MOUNT LOCUST
(MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)

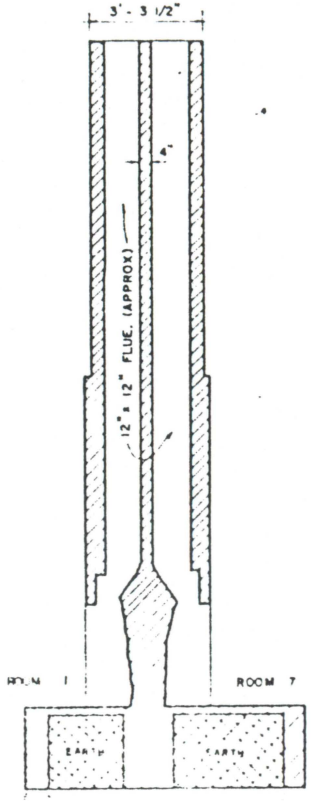
NAME OF STRUCTURE
OLD NATCHEZ TRACE CANNONSBURG
JEFFERSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO
MISS-159-A

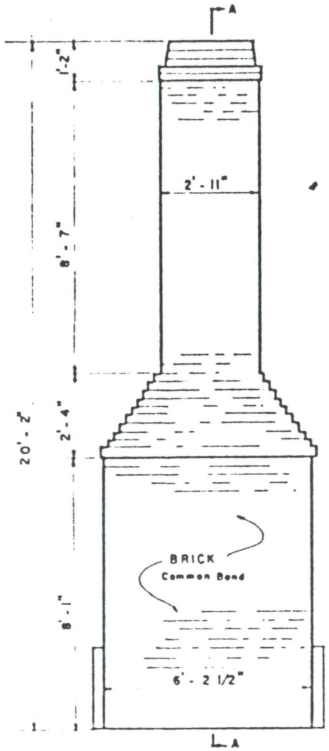
HISTORIC AMERICAN
BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 6 OF 9 SHEETS



FRONT ELEVATION

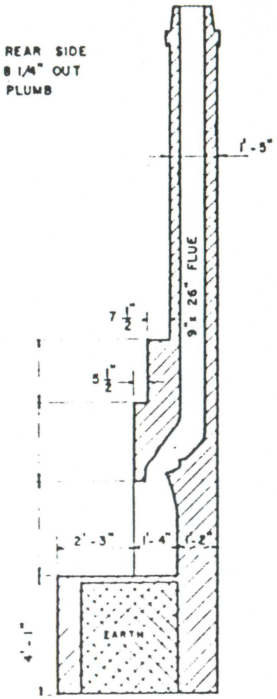


SECTION A-A



REAR ELEVATION

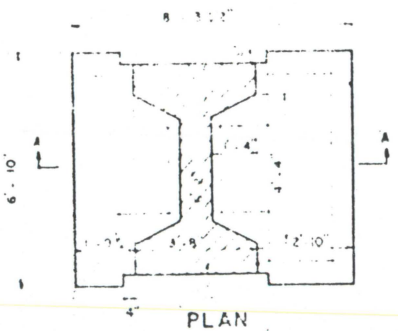
NOTE: REAR SIDE IS 8 1/4" OUT OF PLUMB



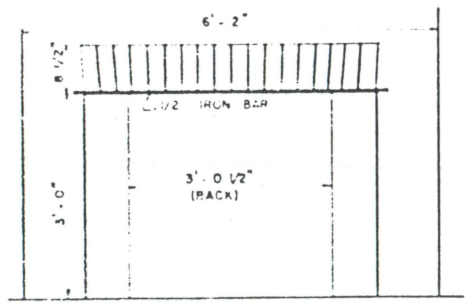
SECTION A-A

CHIMNEY ROOM 6

NOTE: MANTEL DETAIL SHEET 8

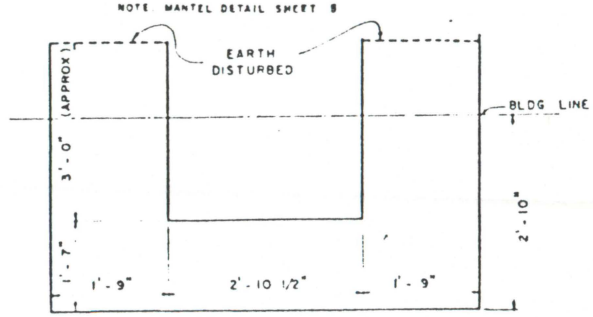


PLAN



FLAT ARCH

SCALE - 3/4" = 1'-0"



IMPRESSION MARKS ROOM 2

SCALE - 3/4" = 1'-0"

CHIMNEY ROOM 1 & 7

DRAWN BY
CALVIN H HOOKER, 1955
NOTE: THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION", MISS-159 (1940)

SCALE - 3/8" = 1'-0" EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

EASTERN OFFICE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, USNPS
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

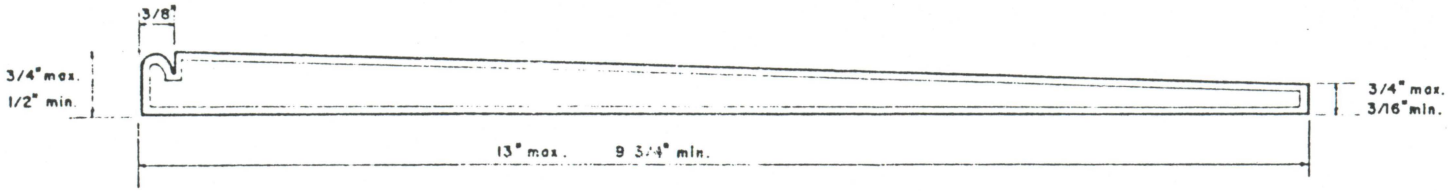
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MOUNT LOCUST
(MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE

OLD NATCHEZ TRACE
JEFFERSON COUNTY

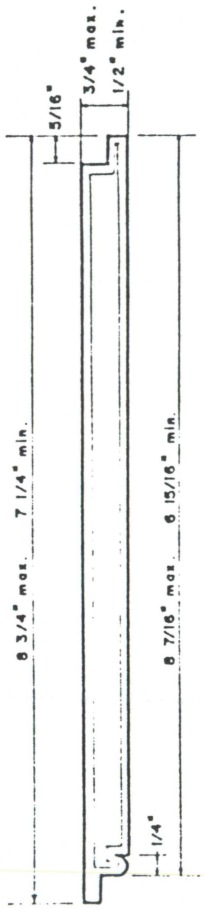
CANNONSBURG VIC.
MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO
MISS-59-A

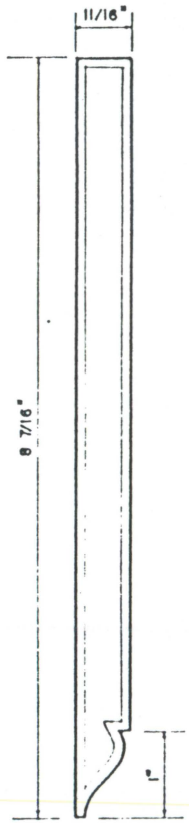
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 7 OF 9 SHEETS



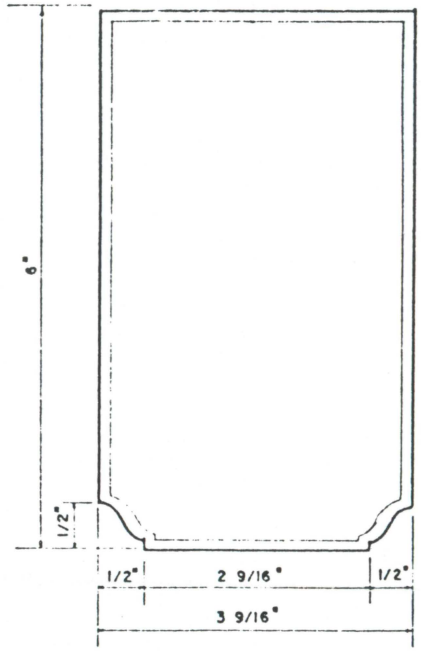
TYPICAL WEATHERBOARD
FOUND ON REAR GALLERY



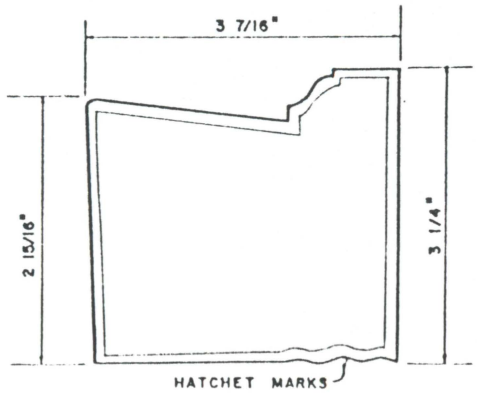
INSIDE SHEATHING



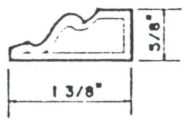
CORNICE
ROOM 1



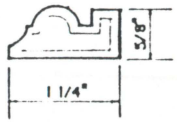
TYPICAL CEILING JOIST
ROOM 1



SOLID MEMBER WITH OGEE
FOUND IN FRAMING OF CENTER WALL



BACKBAND
WINDOW ROOM 7



BACKBAND
DOOR ROOM 7

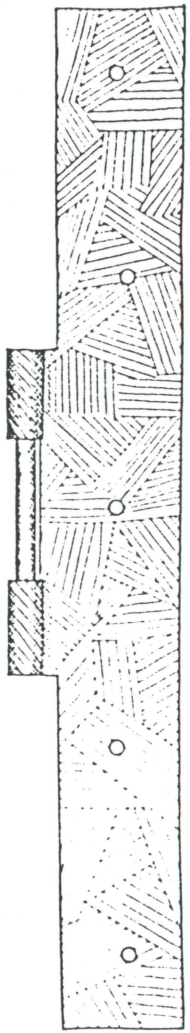
DRAWN BY H.A. JUDD 1936

VARIOUS FULL SIZE DETAILS

SUPPLIMENTRY TO MISS. 159 - SHEETS 3 & 4

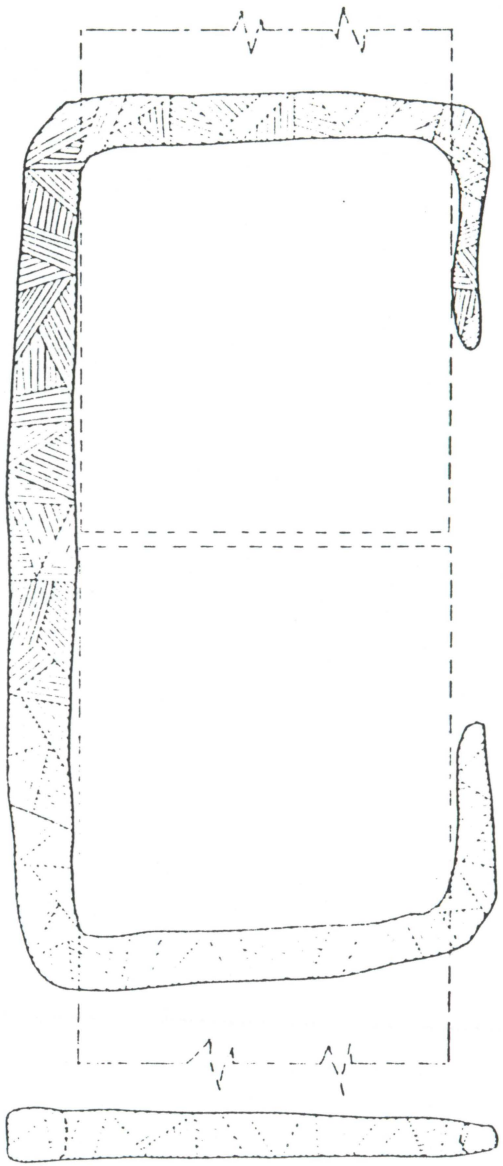
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EASTERN OFFICE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION USNPS UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN	MOUNT LOCUST (MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)	NAME OF STRUCTURE OLD NATCHEZ TRACE JEFFERSON COUNTY CANNONSBURG VIC. MISSISSIPPI	SURVEY NO. MISS 159A	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY SHEET 8 OF 9 SHEETS



LEAF OF 10" H HINGE

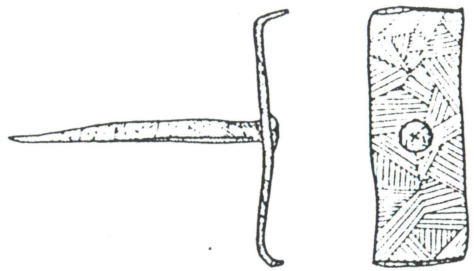
(FOUND DERELICT IN ATTIC)



IRON TIE

(FOUND IN PLATE AT JOINT BETWEEN ROOM 1 AND 7)

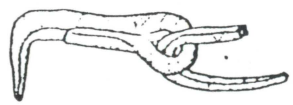
SEE SHEET 2, 3 & 9



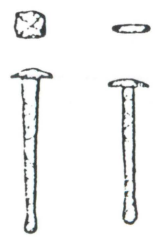
SHUTTER HOLD BACK



SHUTTER HOOK



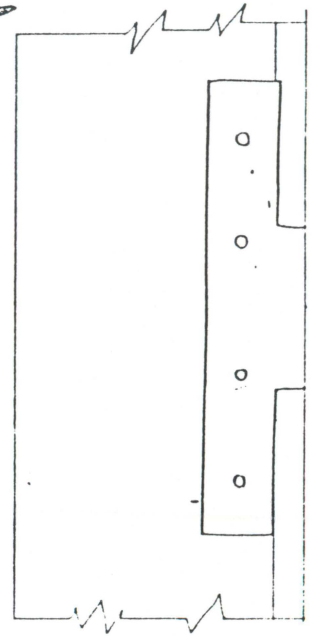
SHUTTER HOOK



COMMON NAIL FINISH NAIL

HAND FORGED NAIL

HEAD OF FINISH NAIL TO LINE WITH WOOD GRAIN



OUTLINE OF 5" H HINGE

(FOUND ON FRONT WINDOW FOR SHUTTER)

DRAWN BY H A JUDD

NOTE THIS HOUSE IS IDENTICAL WITH "MOUND PLANTATION" MISS 159 (1940)

HARDWARE

SCALE FULL SIZE

EASTERN OFFICE
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION U.S.N.P.S.
UNDER DIRECTION OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

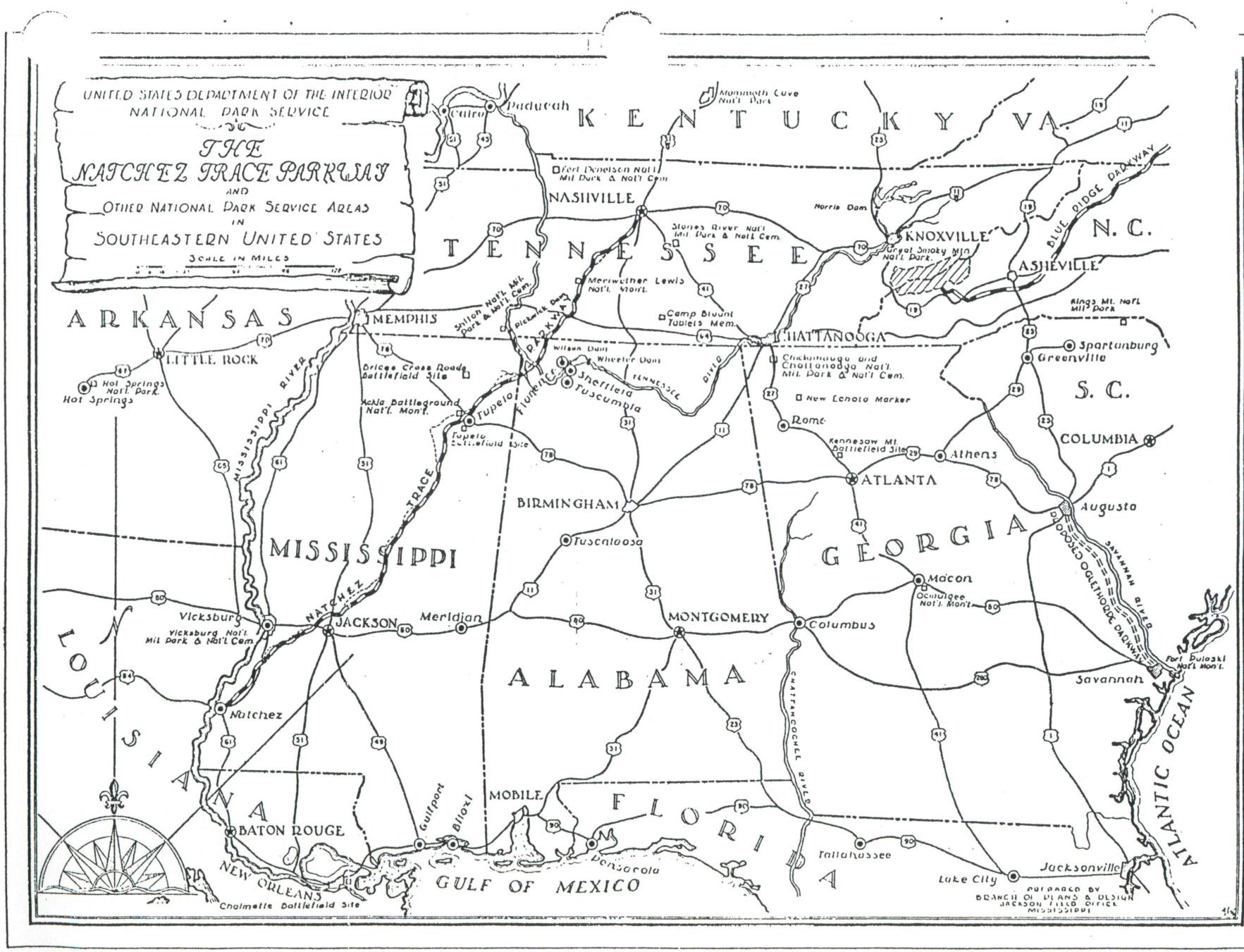
MOUNT LOCUST
(MOUND PLANTATION HOUSE)

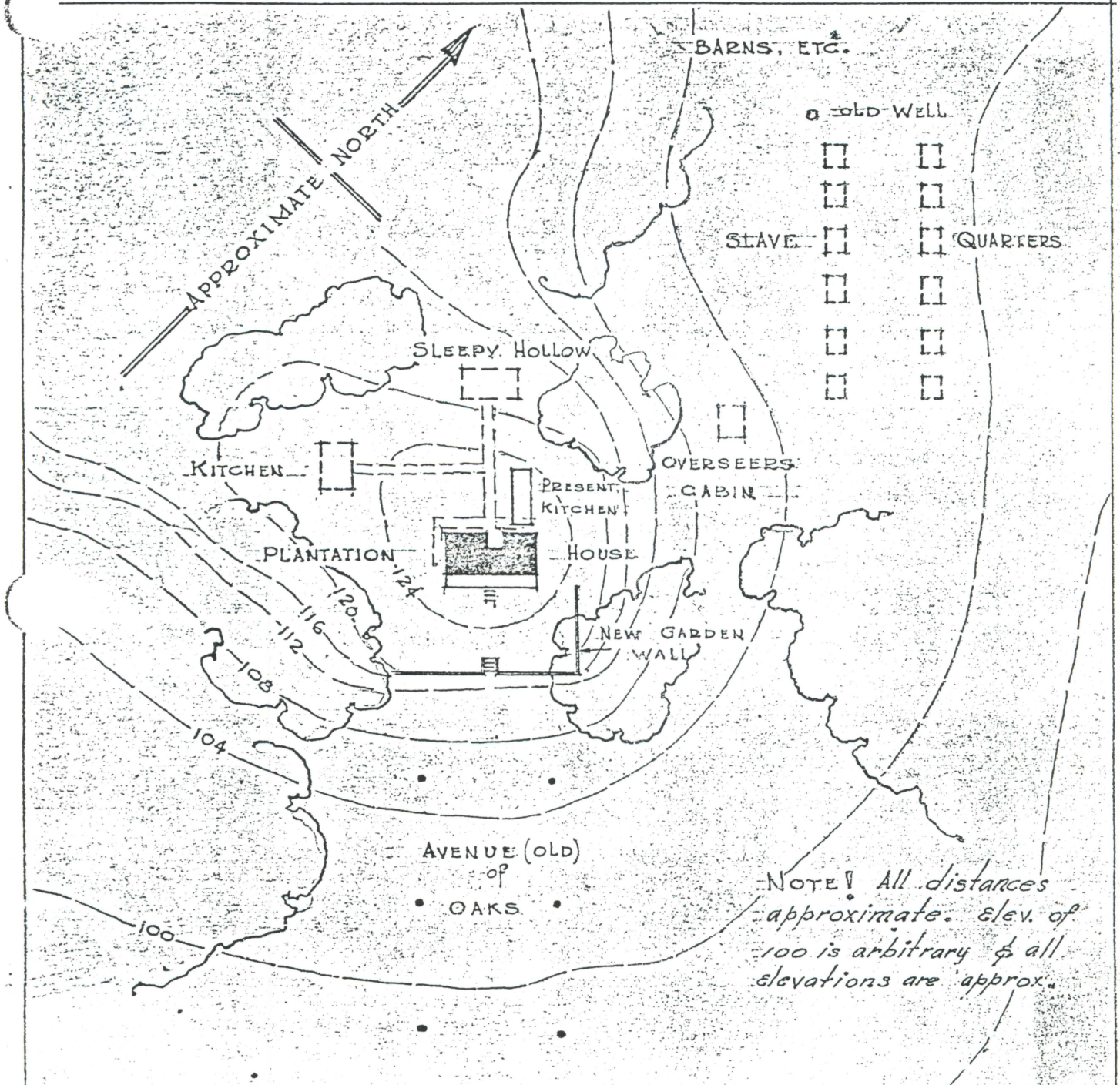
NAME OF STRUCTURE

OLD NATCHEZ TRACE CANNONSBURG VIC.
JEFFERSON COUNTY MISSISSIPPI

SURVEY NO.
MISS-59A

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SHEET 9 OF 9 SHEETS


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
THE NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
AND
OTHER NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AREAS
IN
SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES
SCALE IN MILES
KENTUCKY
TENNESSEE
ARKANSAS
MISSISSIPPI
ALABAMA
GEORGIA
LOUISIANA
FLORIDA
S. C.
N. C.
VA.
Paducah
Cairo
Mammoth Cave Nat'l Park
Fort Donelson Nat'l Mil Park & Nat'l Cem.
NASHVILLE
Stones River Nat'l Mil Park & Nat'l Cem.
Norris Dam
KNOXVILLE
Great Smoky Mtn. Nat'l Park
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY
ASHEVILLE
Kings Mt. Nat'l Mil Park
Spartanburg
Greenville
COLUMBIA
Augusta
Shiloh Nat'l Mil Park & Nat'l Cem.
Pickwick Dam
Meriwether Lewis Nat'l Mon't.
Camp Blount Tablets Mem.
MEMPHIS
CHATTANOOGA
Chickamauga and Chattanooga Nat'l Mil. Park & Nat'l Cem.
Wilson Dam
Wheeler Dam
Sheffield
Tuscumbia
TENNESSEE RIVER
TENN-TOM WATERWAY
Tupelo
Tupelo Battlefield Site
Brices Cross Roads Battlefield Site
Natchez Trace Nat'l Mon't.
New Echota Marker
Rome
Kennesaw Mt. Battlefield Site
Athens
ATLANTA
BIRMINGHAM
Tuscaloosa
LITTLE ROCK
Hot Springs Nat'l Park
Hot Springs
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
NATCHEZ TRACE
Vicksburg
Vicksburg Nat'l Mil Park & Nat'l Cem.
JACKSON
Meridian
MONTGOMERY
Macon
Ocmulgee Nat'l Mon't.
Columbus
OCMULGEE OGLETHORPE PARKWAY
SAVANNAH RIVER
Fort Pulaski Nat'l Mon't.
Savannah
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Natchez
BATON ROUGE
NEW ORLEANS
Chalmette Battlefield Site
Gulfport
Biloxi
MOBILE
Pensacola
GULF OF MEXICO
CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER
Tallahassee
Lake City
Jacksonville
PREPARED BY
BRANCH OF PLANS & DESIGN
JACKSON FIELD OFFICE
MISSISSIPPI



DIAGRAMMATIC ARRANGEMENT OF MOUND PLANTATION GROUP.

FROM VERBAL DESCRIPTION BY MRS CHAMBERLAIN.

For purpose of illustration only

OLD NATCHEZ TRACE

Sept. 13, 1937

dr. 2.R.P.

Mound Plantation
(Chamberlain House)
15 miles Northeast of Natchez, Miss.

HABS No. MISS-159

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Mississippi

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
CENTRAL UNIT--ST. LOUIS

Historic American Buildings Survey
A. Hays Town, District Officer
Louisiana National Bank Bldg., Baton Rouge, La.

MOUND PLANTATION (CHAMBERLAIN HOUSE)

N.s. Old Natchez Trace, Cannonsburg vicinity, Jefferson Co., Miss.

Physical Data

Present owner: U. S. Government.

Present occupant and use: Mr. Bill Chamberlain - residence.

Description (present condition)

Wall construction: Wood frame.

Size and form: 60' x 38'.

Number stories: One.

Porch: 10' wide across front.

Exterior openings, windows: Double hung in several varieties; 25-light at N. E. face; panelled shutters at porch.

Exterior openings: Front door, 8-panel with transom; some 6-panel, batten doors and French doors.

Cornice: None.

Roof: Gabled (originally broken slope); corrugated galvanized iron (originally shingles).

Chimneys: Two, brick.

Interior

Floors: Wood plank, varies 4¼" to 6½" wide.

Doors: 6-panel, 4-panel and batten.

Trim: Moulded, mitered.

Mantels: Wood, simple, early Georgian mouldings.

Stairways: None.

Plasterwork: Chimney breasts only are plastered, other walls and the ceilings are wood.

Additions and alterations: The seven rooms were not all built at one time, but over a period of years; roof lines were changed in modern reroofing process; most windows have been replaced.

Outbuildings: No old outbuildings remain.

Historical Data

Year of erection: First portion about 1778-80.

Built for (first owner): William Ferguson.

Architect or designer: Unknown.

Built by: Unknown.

Original intended use: Tavern.

Notable events and occupants:

William Ferguson built a one-room tavern in 1778 or not later than 1780 on what is supposed to be an Indian mound and also the site of a Spanish fort with stockade and moat, near Uniontown, now extinct. A room at each end, then later three rooms across the back, were added after 1783, or some time around 1800. Other buildings on the plantation of 1830 or 40 which have disappeared included, (1) a kitchen, (2) guest house ("Sleepy Hollow"), a 2-story log or brick house with brick foundation, 4 rooms, double chimney, (3) slave quarters, (4) overseer's quarters, (5) brick walks, (6) the Stockade, (7) the Moat.

"It seems that William Ferguson, who may or may not have erected the oldest unit of the house, came to the Natchez District in 1776 or 1777, and settled very shortly thereafter on the Mound Plantation property. The grant of the Spanish Government to Ferguson to 500 arpents of land bears the date of March 15, 1789. The Spanish deed was confirmed by the United States Board of Commissioners in 1805.

"It is known that Ferguson married a Miss Polina Burch in 1783. In 1800 he was sheriff of Pickering County, and died during the same year. Shortly after his death, his widow married James Chamberlain. Mrs. Chamberlain lived until 1843. Her descendants continued to live on the property, until it was acquired by the State of Mississippi for the Park Service in 1937." **

References:

"Architectural Survey of the Chamberlain House or Mound Plantation," by Stuart M. Barnette, Ass't Architect, N.P.S., dated August 14, 1937."*

References: (Cont.)

"Preliminary Report - The Chamberlain House and Dependencies of the Mound Plantation Development," by Fred P. Parris, Ass't Architect, N.P.S., dated November 18, 1937.*

*Typed copy attached.

**From a letter to Chas. E. Peterson, October 7, 1940, from Dawson A. Phelps of the Natchez Trace Parkway Project,

Prepared by F. Ray Leimkuehler October 30, 1940.
F. Ray Leimkuehler,
Architect in Charge, Central Unit,
Historic American Buildings Survey.

Approved: Emmett J. Hull Date Nov. 29, 1940
District Officer

Smith
Nat'l Hist. Sites
P + D
MG

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION MEMORIAL
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

October 1, 1940

MEMORANDUM for Acting Superintendent Malcolm Gardner:

We found that Mound Plantation House was a confusing hodge-podge of early and late architectural details which are not cleared up even after studying the reports by Messrs. Parris and Barnette. I doubt very much whether plans for restoring the building could be drawn until the architect has had an opportunity to open up the walls and get every bit of evidence which might be found. This should, of course, be done for any restoration job.

In making our drawings, which are rather limited in extent, we have attempted to include only the earlier details such as might have been in place when the building was a place of some consequence on the old Trace. If the building is further worked over, additional sheets should be added to this set.

A parallel exists in the case of the Old Rock House here on the St. Louis riverfront. It was first measured in 1934 when the building was occupied and it was not possible to pry around behind the modern walls and ceilings. Only two sheets of drawings were made at that time. In the last two years we have removed the modern parts and excavated around the walls. As a consequence, we learned so much more that we had to prepare an entirely new set of nine sheets of drawings.

I hope in any case that our drawings will be of some assistance to the making of your plans.

Phelps

Will you please give us any additional historical data you may have (that is, anything of importance not mentioned by Parris or Barnette) so we can incorporate it into the usual historical notes which accompany our physical records?

Charles E. Peterson,
Senior Landscape Architect.

cc Chief of Planning
Mr. Zimmer
District Officer Hull

REPORT OF STABILIZATION WORK
MOUND HOUSE
SECTION 3-W
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
AUGUST 8-16, 1944

At the instructions of the Superintendent and with the approval of the Resident Landscape Architect, Architect Smith, Maintenance Foreman Beasley, and Chief Ranger Harryman travelled by government truck to the Mound House, Section 3-W, Natchez Trace Parkway, to assist in stabilizing and doing such work necessary to prevent the building from further deterioration.

Superintendent Gardner and Architect Smith had previously inspected the Mound House. It was decided that the building was not safe for further occupancy, and that sufficient work should be done to prevent further deterioration, until the building could be restored.

Since no skilled labor was available, Architect Smith, Chief Ranger Harryman, Ranger Baker, Maintenance Foreman Beasley, and two colored laborers, did the necessary work. Tools, some rough lumber, and incidental materials were taken from the Headquarters Area. Fifteen rolls of roll-roofing were purchased in Jackson, Mississippi, en route to the project.

In the operation of the work the remaining small part of the rotted front porch floor, not original, was removed to eliminate a hazard and to allow better access to the foundation at the front of the building. The rear porch, not original, was completely removed to eliminate a hazard.

The sills at the exterior walls had settled considerably and were jacked up and new sills and piers added.

Windows, doors, and siding were so badly deteriorated that it was decided to cover the exterior walls with roll-roofing to keep the building dry. Fourteen rolls of roofing were used for this purpose. The existing corrugated galvanized iron roofing on the roof was found to be satisfactory.

As a protective measure from fire and vandalism, a fence was built around the building and the area within the fence was cleaned of tall grass, weeds and debris.

The work started about 1:30 PM, August 8, 1944, and was completed about 4:30 PM, August 16, 1944.

Submitted by

Robert E. Smith

Robert E. Smith,
Architect.

10-23
(May 1929)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Natchez Trace NATIONAL PARKway

FILE NO. 845-06.3

MOUND PLANTATION

Jefferson County, Mississippi

A Historical and Archeological Report

November 22, 1941

Dawson A. Phelps
Associate Historical Technician
Natchez Trace Parkway

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the tegrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6—7410

1676

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PREFACE

Research on the history of the Mound House was begun in 1939 by Assistant Historians Thomas L. Hefferman and Randle B. Truett. It was continued intermittently until the fall of 1940 when, in anticipation of the archeological investigation of the area, the author of this report made a thorough investigation of the available archival material.

The historical information contained in this report was made available to Associate Archeologist Jesse D. Jennings, who planned and directed the archeological phase of the study. Excavation was immediately supervised by Mr. Albert C. Spaulding, State Supervisor, Natchez Trace Parkway-Work Projects Administration Archeological Survey, O.P. 65-2-62-368. Mr. Spaulding's unit report was edited to make Chapter V of this report.

In February 1940, a field party from the Historic American Buildings Survey supervised by J. Ray Leimkuehler made an architectural survey of the House, and submitted its report on Oct.30, 1940, HABS NO. MISS-159.

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VI.	SIGNIFICANCE	49-55b
VII.	RECOMMENDATIONS	54-57
	APPENDICES:	
	Note on Bibliography	

INTRODUCTION

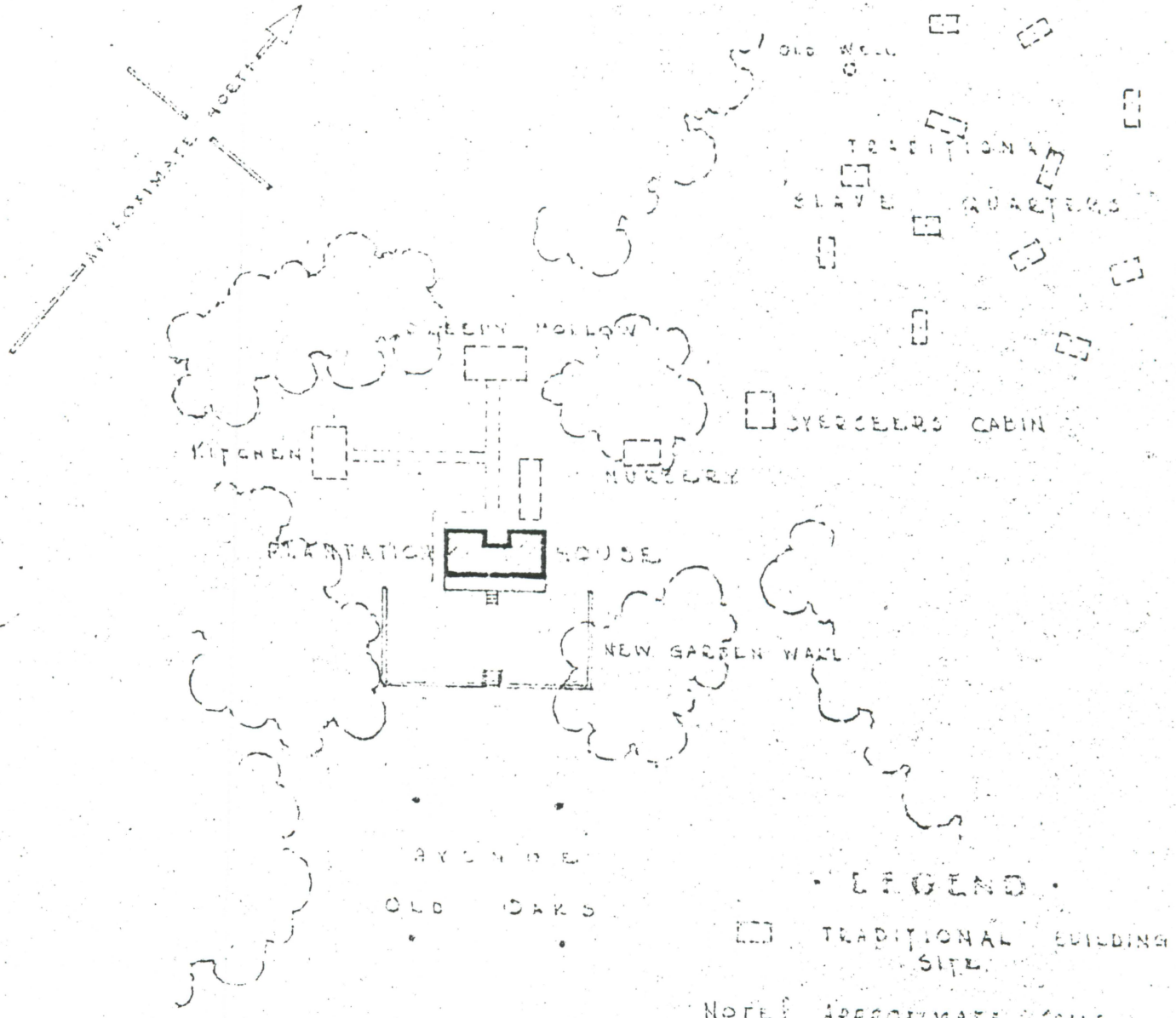
The Mound Plantation House and lands sufficient for development were acquired by the United States in 1937 as part of the parkway lands of section 3-N of the Natchez Trace Parkway in Jefferson County, Mississippi. Very little time had been available for research on the history of the house; so it was acquired largely on the basis of its traditional history. It seemed that it had sufficient historical significance to justify its acquisition as one of the sites closely associated with the Natchez Trace.

Locally, the site is, and seems, for many years to have been known as the Mound House. It has been surmised that at one time it was known as the Ferguson Tavern. No such name has, however, been used in the records thus far examined. In 1842, Mrs. Pauline Ferguson, in her will referred to the place as "Mount Locust, or the Bloomart tract."[1/]

It was said that the house stood on an Indian mound, and that it had been built sometime between 1775 and 1785. It was also alleged that a Spanish blockhouse surrounded by a moat and stockade had stood on the land. Its purpose was to serve as a frontier outpost, defending the Natchez area against raids of the Choctaw Indians.

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1. Last Will and Testament of Pauline Ferguson, October 28, 1842. Jefferson County, Mississippi, Probate Papers, Series A, file 158.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRADITIONAL LAYOUT
MOUND PLANTATION GROUP
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

DRAWN BY
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
FOR
BRANCH OF HISTORIC SITES

OCT. 31-1941

PLAN NO. PKY NT 8051

Stories were told of how Ferguson had used some of the timbers from the fort in building his house. The rest of the lumber was said to have been carried from Natchez on pack horses. This lumber was believed to have been used in flatboats which carried produce from Ohio and Kentucky to Natchez. After the cargo was unloaded, the boats were broken up and the salvaged lumber was sold on the open market.

The Chamberlain family believed that the house, as originally constructed, consisted of one room and that additions were erected until the house was even larger than it is at present. They also believed that Ferguson, and Mrs. Ferguson after his death, operated the house as a tavern catering to travelers over the Natchez Trace. The sketch between pages 1 and 2 of this report shows the arrangement of the plantation as given to representatives of the Park Service by Mrs. Chamberlain.

A. The Mound House.

B. The Kitchen.

C. Sleepy Hollow or the Guest House. It is said that the Mound House was not large enough to accommodate all of the guests. In consequence, the Guest House, consisting of four rooms, was built just to the rear of Mound House. Family tradition as to when this house was built is vague. No mention of this house has been found in any documents.

D. Nursery. This house was probably a one-room cabin, in which the children of the slave women who worked in the fields

were kept while their mothers could not take care of them. It is not unlikely that this house also served as a dispensary where the slaves were treated by the Plantation physician.

E. Overseer's House. Mrs. Johnnie Chamberlain who lived in the house from 1887 to 1937 says that the Overseer's House was still standing when she came to live at the place. It was, she says, a two-room house with a double brick chimney, built of hewn logs, dimensions approximately 40' x 20', and faced almost due east.

F. Slave Cabins.

G. Barns and Storehouses.

A careful search has been made in the source materials in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History for some indication of the appearance of the Mound House in the early Nineteenth Century but without result. Indeed, no mention of the place has been found in any of the available journals, diaries, or books of travel. It is rather remarkable that the Mound House is not mentioned in the journals of any of the preachers or circuit riders of the first two decades of the Nineteenth century. These men, perhaps, half a dozen, such as William Winans, Learner Blackman, and Jacob Young, kept careful and voluminous journals and mentioned the names of perhaps hundreds of families who lived in what is now Adams, Jefferson, and Claiborne Counties.

If it is deemed desirable, a fairly representative description of the appearance of the Natchez area can be compiled from accounts

found in the above-mentioned works. Since the area adjacent to the Mound House has been in cultivation since 1785, the appearance of the country around may be very similar to what it was during the period of the maximum importance of the Natchez Trace, say from 1800 to 1825.

After the property had been acquired, it was realized that traditional information was not adequate justification for development. Consequently, it was determined that a careful search should be made in the county records of Jefferson and Adams Counties and of local records of the Spanish Government of Natchez, which have been preserved in the Adams County courthouse, for information concerning the history of this house. Probably four weeks were devoted by the author of this report to research in the above-mentioned local records. On February 22, 1941, a WPA archeological project directed by Mr. A. C. Spaulding under the general supervision of Associate Archeologist Jesse D. Jennings began its work on the Mound Plantation site. The project operated for three months and was suddenly terminated because of a necessary reduction in the WPA labor quota. The major portion of the work originally contemplated had been completed at this time. The record of this investigation appears as Part V of this report.

A preliminary survey of the Mound House was made by Assistant Architect Stuart M. Barnette in July 1937, and a report made in a Memorandum for Messrs. Vint and Spalding, August 14, 1937. Further study was made by Assistant Architect Fred P. Parris in that year

and a preliminary report was submitted on November 18, 1937. In 1940 the Historic American Buildings Survey made a measured drawing, Misc. No. 159, of the house which, with photographs and written historical and descriptive data, was prepared by F. Ray Ledmkuehler, Architect in Charge, Central Unit, HABS, on October 30, 1940, and approved by District Officer, Emmett J. Hull, November 29, 1940.

I

THE MOUND HOUSE

The written history of the Mound House began when its location was noted on a plat of a survey of 325 arpents of land made by William Vousdan, Deputy Surveyor of the Spanish Government of Natchez in 1785.

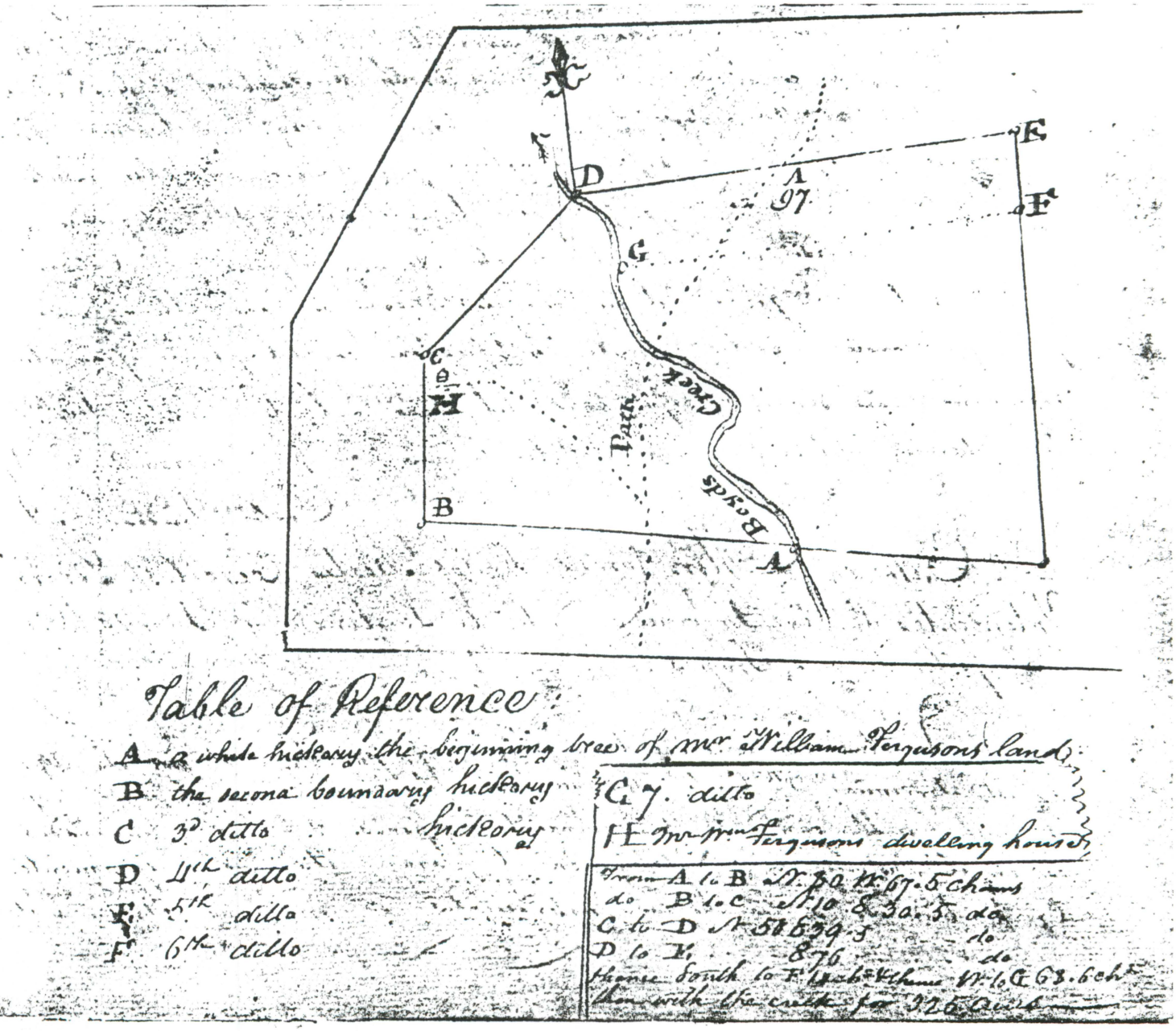


Table of Reference:

A a white hickory the beginning tree of Mr. William Ferguson's land
B the second boundary hickory
C 3d ditto hickory
D 4th ditto
E 5th ditto
F 6th ditto
G 7. ditto
H the Mr. Fergusons dwelling house

From A to B N. 30 W. 67.5 Chains
do B to C E. 10 & 30.5 do
C to D N. 58 E. 39.5 do
D to E. 8.76 do
thence South to F. 11 Ch. 4 Links W. to G. 63.6 ch.
then with the creek for 326 Acres

This tract of land was part of a tract originally granted by the British Government to John Bloomart on April 25, 1776:

We George III . . . Do Give and grant unto

John Blomsart . . . that tract of land situated upon the Waters of Fairchilds Creek distant from Natchez about Eighteen Miles bounded on the South Line by Vacant Land as also on the East and West lines on the North Line partly by Vacant Land and partly by Lands advised to be granted to Philip Herman.

2000 acres[1]

The identification of the land deeded by Crane to Ferguson as being a part of the Bloomart tract rests on the following certification made by William Vousden, Surveyor, employed by the Spanish Government of Natchez, in 1785:

I do hereby certify that I have, at the special request & desire of Mr Wm Ferguson and Mr Walterman Crane both of the district aforesaid, surveyed and laid out for and in the name of him the said Wm Ferguson three hundred and twenty five acres being the moiety of a tract of land of six hundred and fifty acres granted in the name of Thomas Harman &c and sold by his most catholique majesty as part of John Bloomarts confiscated property in the year 1782.

Wm Vousdan Depty survey

Natchez Decr 2d 1785[2]

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1. Public Record Office, Board of Trade, West Florida Letters Patent, 1772-1780, vol. 34. Mss. copy in Mississippi Department of Archives and History. In 1906, Dunbar Rowland had copies made of a considerable number of documents bearing on Mississippi history from the above-named collection. These papers have been bound in 10 folio volumes under the title Mississippi Provincial Archives, English Dominion. The Bloomart grant appears in vol. X, p. 206. This collection is cited hereafter as MPAED.

2. Written Evidences of Notice No. 292. Photostatic copy of documents presented by heirs of William Ferguson to the Board of Commissioners West of Pearl River Established by a law of Congress regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the State of Tennessee . . . July 5, 1805. Report No. 292, Files, General Land Office, Washington, D.C., cited hereafter as Written Evidences.

The tract was described as follows:

Three hundred and twenty five arpents superficial measure situate at Coles creek bounded westwardly by the lands of Hannah Lum, North by that of David Odum, South by vacant land and Eastwardly that of Mrs. Sarah Truly. 3/

When the General Land Office made surveys of the lands in the Natchez area, it ran the township lines and numbered the grants of land from the British and Spanish governments as sections. This particular tract appears as section 65 of T6N, R1W, Land District West of Pearl River. 4/

At the time of his death in 1800 William Ferguson owned another tract of 500 arpents of land, which was also a part of the original Bloomart tract. We do not know when Ferguson entered his petition for this land. We find, however, that a decree of the Spanish Governor of the Natchez District March 20, 1784, directed the surveyor, William Vousdan, to survey and locate this land:

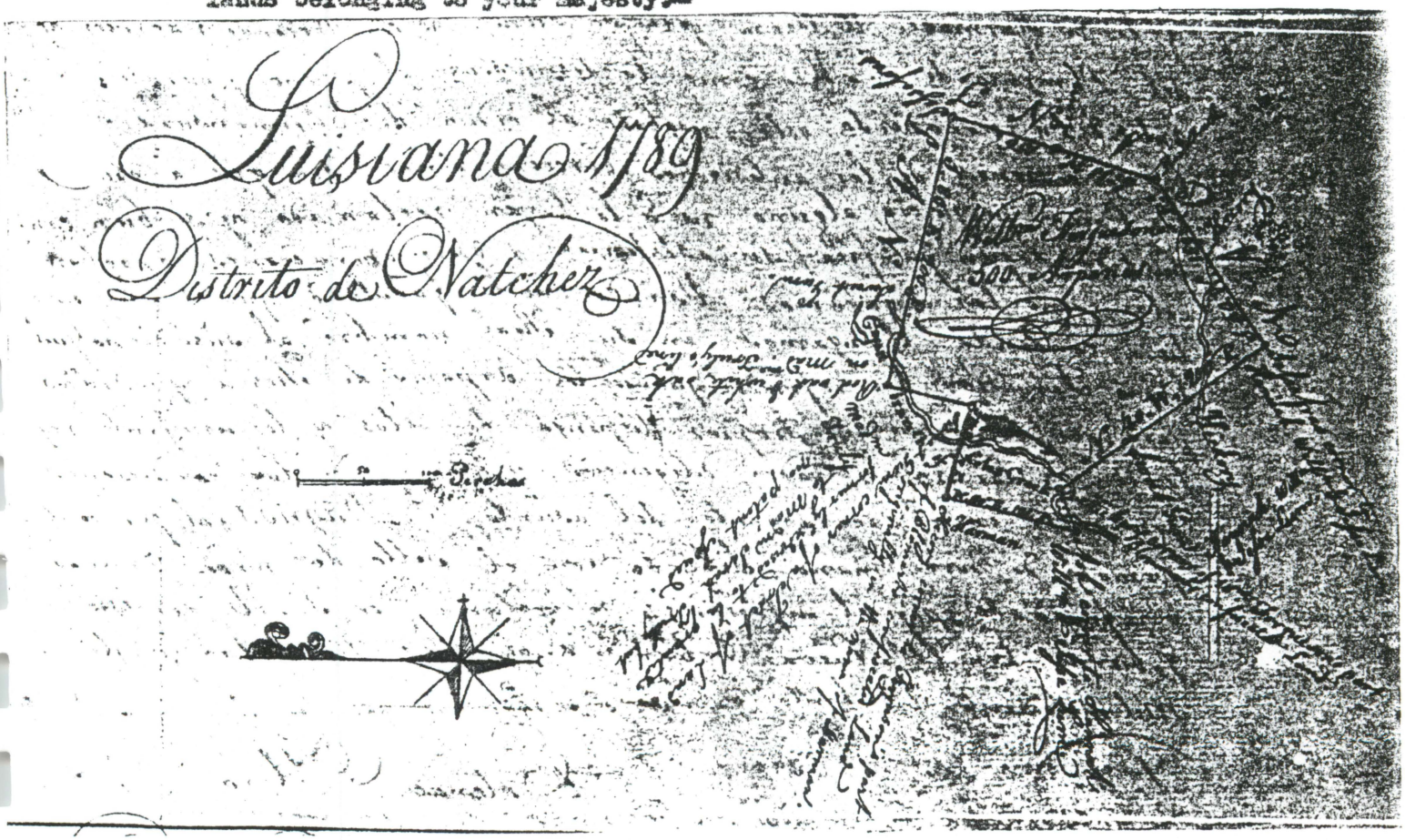
The Surveyor of this District, William Vousdan, shall go measure for this petitioner, William Ferguson, The 500 Arpents of land, superficial, which he asks for in this petition, and finished, he shall drew up by continuation of this decree the proceedings, signing it, so that being counteraigned by the Surveyor-General of this Colony, Don Carlos Trudeau, the corresponding titles may be dispatched to him by the Governor. 5/

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3. Ibid.
4. See plat on p.11 of this report.
5. Records of the Spanish administration of Natchez are preserved in Havana, Seville, and Natchez. Papers concerning diplomatic affairs, Indian trade, military administration were removed to New Orleans when Spain relinquished Natchez to the United States, and were later removed, some to Cuba, and the others to Spain. Records of the local Civil administration, in Spanish, French, and English, were retained in Natchez, have been bound into 40 folio volumes. They are now on file in the office of the Chancery Clerk, Adams County, Mississippi. They

While the title to this tract of land bears the date of 1789, it seems likely that, in accordance with customs of frontier society, Ferguson entered immediately into possession of his land, and probably began farming it. The deed to this tract bears the date of March 5, 1789:

Don Carlos Trudeau, royal surveyor of the province of Louisiana, certifies that 500 square arpents of land (measured with the perche of the city of Paris, 18 feet, king's measure, as used in this colony) located in the district of Natchez alongside the bayou commonly called Coles Creek, about 20 miles distant to the northeast from Fort Panmure, partly bounded on the east by lands of Hannah William and Jefse Lum and on the other side by lands belonging to your majesty.[6]



are arranged chronologically and consist of deeds, actions at law, settlement of estates, bills of sale, and contracts of all kinds. Shortly after the establishment of Adams County, a selection of the more important documents were translated into English by order of the County Court. A translation of all the documents in French

Plat of the survey of this tract of land bears the notation, "Hickory corner of Wm. Fergusons part of Bloomarts confiscated land."

The land above referred to, granted to John Bloomart in 1776, continued in his ownership until 1782. As consequence of Bloomart's taking part in the abortive revolt against Spanish authority in 1781, the land was confiscated:

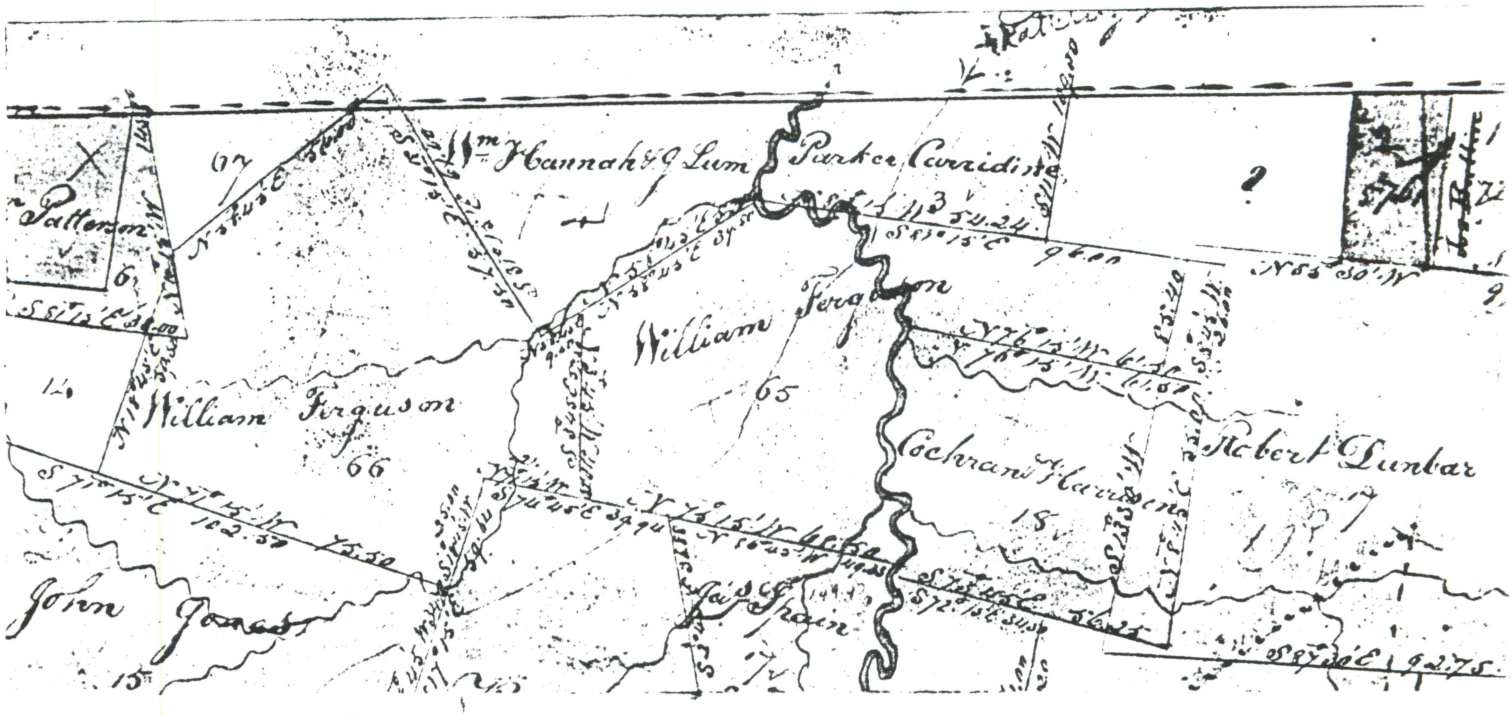
> . . . we have seized and confiscated, to the use of the King, a Tract of land situate at the place called "Bayou Creek", containing six hundred and fifty arpents, bounded on the north by land of the Widow Traly, on the northwest by land of Lunn, on the north East by land of Abraham Adams, and on another side by lands not granted; upon which said tract there is no settlement; . . . 7/

Title to the lands acquired by Ferguson, a part or all of the Bloomart tract, originally granted by the British Government in 1776, was confirmed to his heirs on July 5, 1805, by the Board of Commissioners West of Pearl River, in accordance "with a law of Congress regulating the grants of land, and providing for the disposal of the lands of the United States South of the State of Tennessee." 8/

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or Spanish was made by the Works Progress Administration in 1935-1938. Documents from the original are cited as Spanish Records, with volume and page. Documents from the Adams County translations are cited as Spanish Records, Translations, volume number A,B,C, etc., with page. The WPA translations are cited as Spanish Records, Translations, volume number in Roman numerals, and page.

6. Written Evidences.
7. Spanish Records, Translations, vol. A, p. 24-43.
8. Ibid.

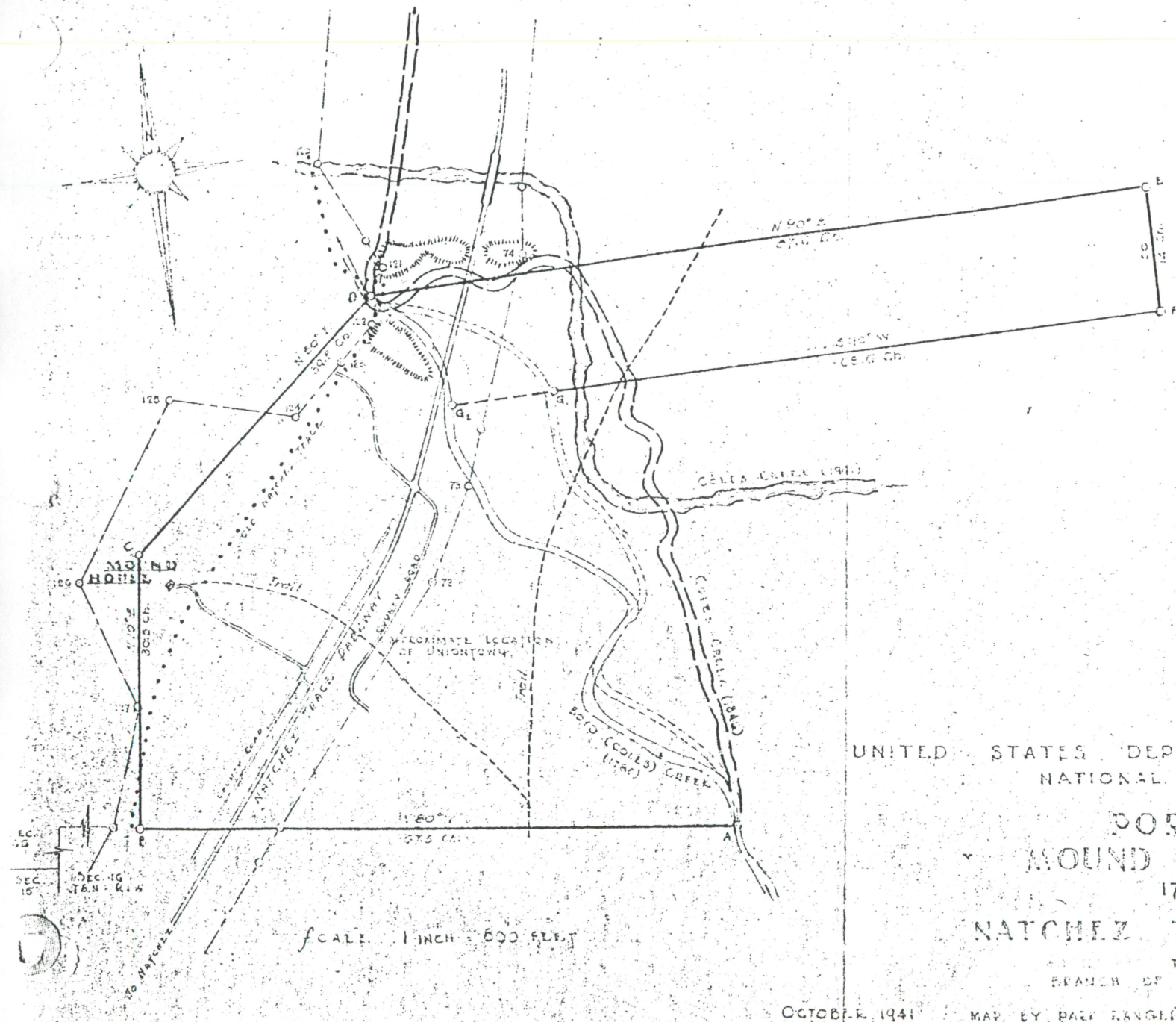


Part of Plat of Original Survey, T8N, R1W,
Land District West of Pearl River.

These lands, acquired by Ferguson in 1785 and 1789, appear as sections 65 and 66, T8N, R1W, Land District West of Pearl River. Park Ranger Claude A. Wagner, Jr., made a study of this area in 1939-1940 and found that the site of William Ferguson's residence, as shown on the 1785 plat, is identical with the location of the Mound House as platted on Assistant Engineer C. W. Stumph map of 1939.[9] According to the Chamberlain family tradition, the house has not been destroyed by fire. This is confirmed by the archeological investigation of Mr. A.C. Spaulding in 1941.[10]

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9. Memorandum: Claude A. Wagner, Jr., to Acting Superintendent, March 8, 1940, Appendix.
10. Report of A. C. Spaulding, Part V.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERI
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PORTION OF MOUND PLANTATION 1785-1941

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

TRACED BY
BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN
FROM
MAP BY PARK RANGER C.A. WAGNER - SEPT. 21, 1939

OCTOBER 1941

PLAN

From the above cited evidence, it is possible to date, within narrow limits, the time when the Mound House was built. It is specifically noted in the 1785 plat that the house then stood on its present location. That "there was no settlement" on the tract is also stated in the act of the Spanish governor, 1782, in confiscating John Bloomart's property. Therefore, it was erected sometime between 1782 and 1785.

Family tradition holds that Ferguson married Polina Burch in 1783. The correctness of this belief is confirmed by a statement made by Mrs. Ferguson in 1794. In a petition to the Governor asking for the settlement of her father's estate, she said:

> Your petitioner begs leave to think it high time that a partition should be made especially to your petitioner who has been married near eleven years, has five small children, and can never stand more in need of her part than at present.[11]

It would seem, therefore, that Ferguson erected the house to receive his bride, and that event occurred in either 1782 or 1783.

To the objection that the house was erected on land not owned by Ferguson, the following facts offer a substantial refutation:

1. In the frontier country it was the ordinary practice for the settler to select his land, move onto it, erect his house, and begin farming before securing title. Such events

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11. Spanish Records, Feb. 4, 1794, Translations, vol. E, p. 289.

occur over and over on the American frontier, and the Natchez District, even though under Spanish rule, was American in its social organization. It is estimated that more than ninety per cent of the population in 1790 was English-speaking.[12]

3. Ferguson was, in 1782, attempting to secure a deed to 300 arpents of land from Silas Crane. In 1777,[13] Silas Crane made a bond of 500 pounds to William Williams and William Ferguson, to be released after Crane had delivered the deed to 300 arpents of land. In 1781,[14] Ferguson began suit before the Governor of Natchez to compel Crane to deliver the deed. The suit continued until the 12th of June 1782,[15] at which time Crane was ordered to deliver the deed liberating the 300 arpents of land to Ferguson. It seems likely that Ferguson had selected the land in question and taken possession of it before getting deed to it.

According to family tradition, the original house consisted of one room. No written evidence confirming this fact has been uncovered, yet it seems likely that such was the case. Assistant Architect Stuart M. Barnette, who examined the structure in 1937, seems to agree:

> The oldest part of the structure comprises the present living room and the attic above. Concrete evidences of this fact may be found in the framing in both the attic and foundations. In plan this unit measures approximately 18 feet by 20 feet. Today, of the old part of the house, the champhered ceiling beams, two pair of

12. Marcus L. Hansen, "The Population of the American Outlying Regions in 1790," The American Historical Association, Annual Report, 1932, 3 vols. (Washington, 1932), vol. I, p. 405.
13. Spanish Records, Translations vol. II, p. 246.
14. Ibid., pp. 255-257.
15. Ibid., pp. 236-238.

six-light window sash with part of the original frames, the front door, now incorporated in another part of the house, the exterior shutters, framing, clapboards on northwest wall, some flooring, and the greater part of the chimney remain and are original. An early mantel which may have been the first to be incorporated in this room now frames the fireplace in the north bedroom. This now employs some mouldings, which are not contemporary with the earliest interior trim found in the house, but at the same time the general spirit and character of this mantel as a whole would lead one to feel that these mouldings may have been added later or replaced other earlier ones.

The exterior shutters deserve some special consideration for their unusual characteristics. First of all they have four almost equally sized solid panels and are in one section, that is; instead of having two leaves, each of which would be hung from the jambs as is the general custom, the shutter is like a miniature door and was hung from one jamb on "H" hinges and secured at the opposite side with a single wrought iron hook. The stiles and rails on the hinged face are beaded and the panels are plain faced and sunken. On the opposite side the panel which started below the face of the unmolded stiles and rails rises by means of a broad splay to project beyond the face of these framing members. There is no filet at the meeting of the splay and the panel face. All of these features are in a fair state of preservation.

The disposition of the original openings in the three sides, northeast, southeast, and southwest now enclosed by additions made subsequent to erection of original unit, can be determined only by removing their respective finish to permit an examination of the framing in such walls. The doors, frames, and trim now appearing in these walls belong to the late ante-bellum period. It is probable,however, that the window now in the northeast end once occupied the position now usurped by the large southwest bedroom door and that a small single door stood where the north leaf of the double door to the rear hall now stands. The fireplace mantel incorporated in this room is also ante-bellum. As has previously been stated, it is believed that the mantel in use in the north bedroom may have been the original piece. This could be repaired and reset in its original position. The original front door employed between the two bedrooms on the southwest end of the house could also be relocated to resume the service for which it was originally intended.

The stumps of what are believed to have been ceiling joists appear on the exterior of the southwest wall and are interpreted as evidence that a front porch once extended across these three bays of the original building. Archeological excavations at this point may reveal the foundations of such a porch and when it is possible to examine the roof framing without its covering it is likely the front plate may disclose some evidence to substantiate this opinion.

The matched siding on this same elevation was probably put on in the eighteen thirties and was in all likelihood superseded by beaded weather boarding like that to be found on the southwest wall of the rear stair hall. Such boarding also must have appeared on the two ends.

An offset appears high up inside the chimney stack and is interpreted as evidence of retopping which probably occurred at the time the northeast front bedroom wing was added. Time and the elements have not dealt lightly with the chimneys of these early houses and in most cases of such early structures retopping has been necessary.

A more obvious innovation is the corrugated iron roof which supplanted the original covering of wood shingles or shakes.[16]

If the tradition is correct and the house was originally a one-roomer, it probably remained so until 1799. Original bills, as cited below, for labor and materials are now filed in the records of the probate of Ferguson's estate.

1799 Dr. William Ferguson

To ceiling 500 feet @ 5½ dolls per square		27,,4
616	feet flooring @ 3½ dolls & ditto	21,,4
71	feet /indec./ @ 1½ per ditto	13,,2½
71	feet washboards @ per ditto	4,,3
71	feet Casing @ do per ditto	4,,3
150	feet partition @ 71 pr Hund	10,,4
	Front piece	10,,2
	Making two hall doors @ 2½ each	2,,4
	Casing two hall doors	12,,"
	Making closet door	2,,2
	Casing small hall windows	4,,7
	Casing Closet door	2,,4
	Casing large hall window	1,,5
	Casing small Closet door	1,,4
	Making 2 shutters	3,,4
	plaining and putting up 2 joists	2,,2
	Laps for Ceiling	1,,"
	hanging doors and windows in the hall	2,,4
	Casing two doors @ 3/each	6,,
	Making 2 shutters @ 1½ each	3,,
	Making 30 lites sash @ /2 each	7,,4
	pulling up & weather boarding 2 squares	4,,

16. Memorandum of Assistant Architect Stuart M. Darnette for Messrs. Spalding and Vint, August 14, 1939.

Freiming Gallery		15,,
Laying Gallery Floors		9,,
hewing sills for Gallery		3,,
sawing blocks		2,,
	Dolls	179,,6¼

[on back]

John Hailer being duly sworn saith that the Estate of William Ferguson deceased is justly indebted unto him in the sum of one hundred and seventy nine Dollars and six bits

Sworn before me) John Smith
this 11 Day of March 1801)
Reed contents in full 1802 Nov 6

John Hailer

Mr. William Ferguson du.
To Silas L Payne Dr.

1799			
Sep 12	To cash by son		$2. ——
	to Part of a piece Muslin		7 ——
October 8.	to 3¾ yards Flannel	1/	3. 4
	12lb Nails	/3	4. 4
30	to 1 Bridle		4.4
	paid George Cochran for you		2 —
	Your Blacksmith Acct at Union Town		5.4
	Shoeing your horse at Uniontown		1.
	Cr.		$ 30
	By Note of hand to you $22.4		22.4
			$7.4
	To 68 panes of Glass		12 6
			$ 20 - 2
	By 12 Panes Glass there being only 12 panes in each window at the Ston fifteen in two of the windown and one with 2 panes which makes 56 panes	or	2 2
		balance due	18 — 17/

They seem to show that a considerable improvement was made on Ferguson's house. A brief study of the itemized bills, and a comparison with surviving features led Junior Architect

17. Jefferson County, Mississippi, Probate Papers, Series A, File 158.

V. C. Sloane, Central Design Office, National Park Service, Columbus, Ohio, in 1941 to believe that the bill was for building additions consisting of the northeast and southwest front rooms, and perhaps a portico on the southwest end.

No documentary evidence, although a careful search has been made in both the Adams and Jefferson County records, has been found concerning subsequent history of the house. Family tradition indicates that further additions and changes have been made. To determine the nature and date of such changes lies rather within the province of an architect than that of a historian, and can be done only when a competent historical architect with adequate labor has been assigned to this task.

II

WILLIAM FERGUSON

Nothing is known of the origin or early life of William Ferguson, the man who, more than 150 years ago, erected his one-room house on a small knoll overlooking Coles Creek, 20 miles northeast of Natchez. The Chamberlain family says he was a Virginian. No written evidence, from which the correctness of this view can be determined, exists in the records of the Spanish administration at Natchez or in the records of Adams and Jefferson Counties, Mississippi. That Ferguson was a Virginian, however, is unlikely. He is known to have been in Natchez as early as 1776. He was a merchant, and a Virginian was unlikely to engage in such type of business.

The earliest mention of a Ferguson name in the Natchez area was made in 1771 when Edward Mease, an agent of the British Government in West Florida, recorded his observations of a trip made through the provinces of West Florida in 1770 and 1771. Mease reported that among the 64 inhabitants living at Natchez or in its vicinity in 1770 was one Samuel Ferguson, his wife and three children.[1] There is a remote possibility that William was a relative and followed Samuel to Natchez at some later date.

It is quite probable that Ferguson was in Natchez as early as 1774. Some of the pleadings and testimony of a suit in which Ferguson was seeking to enforce the provisions of a bond given by

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1. Edward A. Mease, Narrative of a Journey through Several Parts of the Provinces of West Florida. Ms., MPAHD, vol. IV, p. 737.

Silas Crane in 1774 to perfect title to 300 arpents of land and convey it to him, have been preserved.[2] Ferguson was associated with William Williams and a man by the name of Lum. The latter, probably, is one of the Lum family who owned the tract of land adjoining, on the north, the lands of Ferguson. Crane admitted that he gave the bond to Ferguson and Williams, and explained its nature.[3] He testified that he had surveyed land in 1774 at the request of Lum and Company.[4] Earlier, he had referred to the "house of Lum Ferguson and Company" in connection with the same transaction.[5]

Although there is no direct mention of Ferguson's presence in Natchez, the presumption is strong that he was there at the time. If such be the fact, the tradition that he was a Virginian very probably is untrue. Very few, if any, of the settlers in the British province of West Florida who arrived before 1774 came from America. Most were British. American migration did not begin until persecution in the revolting colonies drove many Loyalists out of the country.[6]

We know that William Ferguson lived in Natchez in 1776 and that he was then engaged in the mercantile business. In 1785, he gave testimony before a Spanish court and produced for its record

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2. Bond of Silas Crane to William Williams and William Ferguson, Spanish Records, Translations, vol. II, pp. 246-247.
3. Petition of Silas Crane, Dec. 9, 1782, ibid., pp. 253-254.
4. Petition of Silas Crane, June 12, 1782, ibid., p. 256.
5. Petition of Silas Crane, Jan. 22, 1782, ibid., p. 259.
6. Cecil Johnson, "Expansion in West Florida, 1770-1779," Mississippi Valley Historical Review, vol. XI, pp. 481-496.

a statement of Francis Fisher's account with him, as follows:

Mr. Francis Fisher

1776				To William Ferguson			
May 27	For	1	Weeding hoe	1	—		
	"	25	yds sheeting	15	"	5	
	"	3	yds Cottonade	3	"	6	
	"	1	quire paper		"	4	
	"	3	quarts Rum	1	"	4	22 " 3
June 27	"	2	/indec./	1	"	—	
	"	3	yds Cottonade	3	"	6	
	"	2	Gembletts	"	"	2	
	"	1	White Shirt	2		—	
July 19	"	1	yard fine Linen	1	"	-	
	"	3	scones thread 1½	1	"	½	
November 5	"	6	lb Sugar	1	"	4	
	"	2	" Coffee			5	
			Supra Cr	32	"	5½	
1777							
March 31	By Cash			16	"	5	
1779							
Oct 1	By Wm Cash in full			16	"0/2		
				32,,5/2			

Natchez March 26, 1787 I do hereby Certify the above to be an exact copy of Francis Fishers acct on my Books. Will Ferguson. 7/

This document proves that Ferguson in 1776 was doing general merchandising business. It would seem also from the fact that he was extending credit that he was well established and had been doing business for several years.

In 1777, we find that Ferguson was still in the mercantile business. In that year, Silas Crane made a bond to William Williams and William Ferguson. There is, of course, no way of knowing, but it is a good guess, that Ferguson had not been doing

7. Spanish Records, vol. IX, p. 358.

so well in business, and to increase the capital in his business he had taken in a partner. Such an explanation seems likely when we recall that the War for American Independence was then in progress and that British shipping was suffering from the depredations of American privateers.[8]

The next peep we get of Ferguson is for the year 1778. He testified in the court of the Spanish governor of Natchez:

> . . . I had a warrant from Col. Commandant, John M Gillivray to act as Clerk of the Garrison and works bearing date the 24 or 25 September 1778 till the 10th December following, the within named Mr Alexander M Intosh Commanding.[9]

It seems likely that Ferguson served in the army during the Spanish invasion of the colony of West Florida 1779-1781. This is indicated by the fact that Ferguson, on October 4, 1779, with 80 other citizens signed an address to the Commandant Lt. Col. Dickson:

> . . . beg leave to return you herewith our most sincere thanks for your generous and disinterested attention to our welfare in the capitulation of Baton Rouge . . .[10]

The most reasonable explanation for the making of such an address was that the signers had been members of the garrison at Baton Rouge and were exchanged through parole by Dickson's efforts.

During the years 1781 to 1784, we know that Ferguson continued to live in the Natchez area. During this time, he was involved in a number of lawsuits involving the collection of debts and the

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8. Spanish Records, Translations, vol. II, pp. 246-247. Williams apparently had a British grant for 500 acres on Coles Creek. At any rate Ferguson's heirs presented a claim for this land, which they alleged was granted in 1776. The claim was rejected for lack of evidence.

9. Ibid., 1785, vol. I, p. 46.

10. Address to Lt. Col. Dickson, Oct. 4, 1779, MPAHD, vol. IX, p. 173.

ownership of slaves and horses. The records of these suits do not seem to be particularly enlightening either as to social conditions or to give any significant details of Ferguson's life, hence they are not cited.

From the records of these cases, we know that Ferguson was operating as a planter and evidently had a considerable area under cultivation, as he hired Noel Pittman as overseer for the season of 1783. In a suit, Ferguson complained that the insolence and laziness of Pittman was so great that he was compelled to dismiss him.[11] Since it was at about this time that Ferguson settled on the tract of land which was to be known as the Mound Plantation, it is quite likely the events above described occured at the Mound Plantation.

In 1783, Ferguson was married to Polina Burch, and moved to Mound Plantation just before or after his marriage. He continued to live at this place until his death in 1800 or 1801. We have few details of Ferguson's career during this period. He seems to have been fairly prosperous and to have accumulated what was a considerable property for the period. He seems, also, to have been a man of some prominence in his community. This is evidenced by the fact that he was appointed alcalde for the Coles Creek District in 1797.[12]

Further indications of this come from the fact that Prentiss Sargent, first governor of the Territory of Mississippi, on September 9, 1799, appointed William Ferguson to be the first sheriff

11. Spanish Records, Translations, vol. G, p. 107.
12. Spanish Records, Translations, vol. II, pp. 40-50.

of Pickering County, renamed Jefferson after the Republican triumph of 1800.[13]

Shortly after appointment to this office, Ferguson, George Cochran, John Girault, William Moss, and James Truly were appointed trustees of the town of Union, according to a Pickering County indenture. It is more probable, however, that the men simply organized themselves as trustees to acquire the property as no act of incorporation is to be found in the Mississippi Territorial records. On September 14, 1799, Ferguson by indenture conveyed to the above named trustees:

> all that tract or parcel of land (held by Spanish Titles) situate lying and being in the County of Pickering aforesaid, containing Sixty Six acres and bounded as follows (Viz.) on the North, West, South, and part of the East by lands belonging to the said William Ferguson, and a branch between the said Town Land, and the said Washington Durehes Plantation, to the main Coles Creek, with the said Creek to where it intersects lands of James Truly, sold to Adam Snyder, at the time of survey, as appears by a plat and plan of said town, hereunto annexed.[14]

No record as to the circumstances of Ferguson's death is known to exist, nor is it possible to determine the date. Family tradition also is silent on this point. It occurred sometime between August 1, 1800, when he transmitted to the governor of Mississippi Territory the return of an election,[15] and March 2, 1801, when John Girault, Probate Judge, Pickering County, appointed two citizens

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13. Journal of the Indian Department, 1803-1808. Mss., MDAH. Contains list of county officers in Mississippi.

14. William Ferguson to Trustees of Union, Jefferson County, Miss., Deed Book A-1, pp. 15-17.

15. Ferguson to Sargent, Aug. 1, 1800, Mss., Mississippi Territorial Papers, File A, Folder No. 1, No. 43, MDAH.

"to make an inventory and appraisement of the goods and chattels of William Ferguson . . . deceased."[16]

Following is the inventory of Ferguson's estate as appraised by the orders of the Probate Court:

A true and perfect inventory of all the goods, Chattels and personal estate Lands & Tenaments of Wm Ferguson Esq late of the County of Pickering - deceased, made by us whose names are hereunto subscribed, the 18 day of July A.D. 1801

213	Two Hundred Thirteen acres of Land on Coles Creek worth One Thousand & Sixty five Dollars	1065		
500	Five Hundred acres Land on Waters Coles Creek worth Fifteen Hundred Dollars	1500		
250	Two Hundred fifty acres Land on the waters of St. Catherine worth Seven Hundred & Fifty Dollars	750		
150	One Hundred Fifty acres Land on same waters worth four hundred fifty dollars.	450		
150	One Hundred Fifty acres Land on same waters worth Four Hundred & Fifty Dollars	450		
2	Horse beasts worth Seventy Five Dollars	75		
20	Twenty Head of Hogs worth forty dollars	40		
6	Windsor chairs worth fifteen dollars	15		
2	Two old trunks worth Two dollars	2		
2	Two feather beds worth Thirty dollars	30		
2	Two poplar tables worth four dollars	4		
1	One bedstead worth Three dollars	3		
	One ax and two old hoes worth two dollars	2		
1	One old Desk worth four Dollars	4		
1	One old Saddle worth ten dollars	10		
	Six plates on dish & six knives and forks all old worth two dollars	2		
4	Four old Chairs worth one dollar fifty Cents	1		50
	two iron pots & one oven worth Three Dollars	3		
1	one Coffee pot (old) worth two dollars	2		
1	old looking glass worth one dollar	1		
	Forty four Hundred and nine dollars & fifty cents	4409		50

[17]

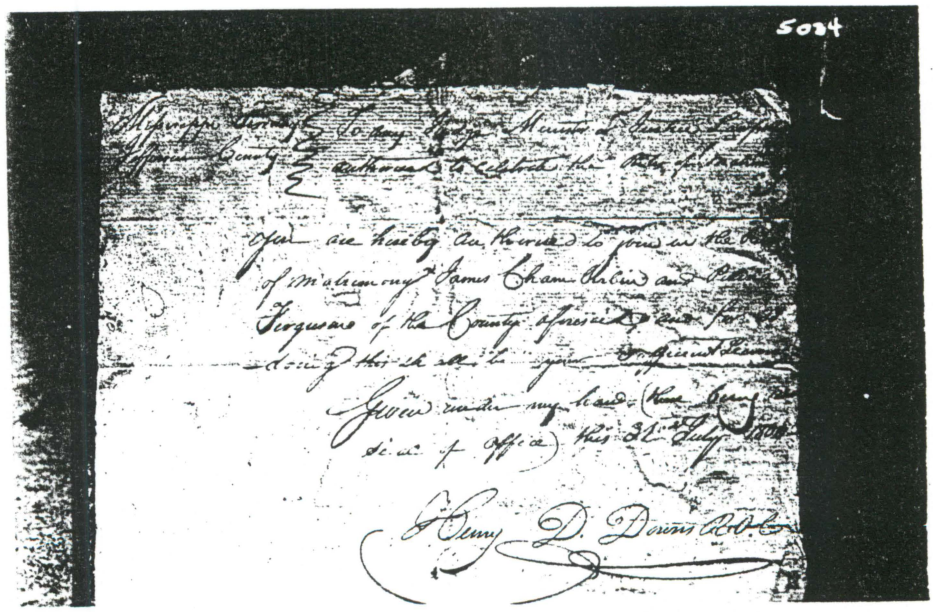
16. Jefferson County Probate Papers, Series A, file 158.
17. Ibid.

The inventory throws little light on the question of whether or not Ferguson operated a Tavern. From the items listed it would seem that his possessions were not sufficient to take care of a family of nine, seven children and two adults. This is not conclusive, however, as Mrs. Ferguson owned at least one slave, and, it is quite likely, other property as well. So here we can say only of the tradition that the building was a stand, not proved.

III

PAULINE FERGUSON

The most interesting personality which emerges from the study of the rather fragmentary and often confusing documents and traditions of the Ferguson-Chamberlain family is Pauline Ferguson. She was, according to family tradition, the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Burch, of Virginia, the widow of a Revolutionary soldier, who settled in the Natchez area in 1778. In 1783, Pauline or Polina, as she sometimes signed her name, became the wife of William Ferguson. By this marriage, she had 7 children. Family tradition further represents Mrs. Ferguson as being a very industrious and hardworking businesswoman, and that it was largely through her efforts the family became prosperous.



Marriage Record 1805-1837 Jefferson Co. Miss. Book A, p. 32 July 31, 1806

After William Ferguson's death in 1800 or 1801, she married James Chamberlain, said to have come from Virginia. After her second marriage, she had four children. Little is known of Chamberlain. His name rarely appears in the Family records. The date of his death does not appear in the Family Bible. That he was still alive in 1810 is known, because his name appears in a State census for that year.[1] Family tradition has nothing to say about Chamberlain. No memories have been preserved as to any of his activities or what happened to him. His fate becomes a somewhat intriguing mystery, because, in later years, his wife dropped the name Chamberlain and signed all papers and documents as Pauline Ferguson. This name appears on her tombstone which is located in the Family cemetery not far from the house.



1. Census of 1810, Jefferson County, Mississippi, Mss., MDAH.

IV

WAS THE MOUND HOUSE A TAVERN?

One of the most persistent traditions concerning the Mound House is that until about 1843 it was one of the Stands to accommodate travelers over the Natchez Trace. The matter was touched on in the section dealing with William Ferguson, but as was stated little or no documentary evidence was noted.

A record of the proceedings of the Jefferson County Court, 1802-1832 (3 volumes), about 750 pages, was carefully examined for a record of tavern licenses having been granted to Ferguson or Mrs. Ferguson, or to her under the name Chamberlain. No such record was found.

It would seem that the tradition concerning the use of the house as a tavern from 1783 to about 1800 is incorrect. In the first place, there was little travel over the Trace at this time.[1] Secondly, a one-room house would scarcely be used for such a purpose.

The origin of the tradition, however, can easily be accounted for. Under frontier conditions travelers through the wilderness stopped at every house and it is quite likely that such was the case in this instance.

The enlargement of the house in 1799 might have been made for the purpose of providing accommodations for travelers over the Trace. The acquisition of the Natchez area by the United States in the year

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1. Natchez Trace Parkway Survey, Senate Document 148, 76th Congress, 3d Session, pp. 30-35.

1798 increased travel between Natchez and Nashville. It is, therefore, not unlikely that Ferguson prepared to take advantage of this increase. In 1800 the mail was regularly carried between the above-mentioned places. This action undoubtedly was influential in bringing about a great increase in travel.

Another of the family traditions which tends to support the contention of the existence of a tavern is that a two-story, four-room, log house called Sleepy Hollow was built directly back of the house and was used as a guest house. The archeological report on this site shows that a building once stood on this site. It was not possible, however, to trace the foundation lines. The fact that a building stood on the designated site confirms the tradition.

The Chamberlain family tell a number of circumstantial stories concerning guests at the tavern. While they cannot be confirmed, the very fact that they have been remembered tends to support the view that the house was used as a tavern. Among such tales are:

1. That Jackson stayed at the tavern in 1813, and that he, with General William Carroll, revisited the place in 1832. It is possible to check on this latter date and examination of Jackson papers revealed that he was at the Hermitage at that time. While the date is obviously an error, the possibility that Jackson did spend a Christmas at the tavern is not excluded.

2. It is said that on one occasion news reached the tavern that cholera had made its appearance at Natchez. The news was so

terrifying that one of the guests collapsed at the table and died from shock. He was buried in the family cemetery not far from the house.

3. It is said that on one occasion two strangers became excited in a political argument with one of Mrs. Ferguson's sons and that one of them violently attacked the boy, but just at that moment the huge negress coming into the room, saw what was happening, dropped a platter, and threw one of the assailants through the door, thus ending the fight.[2/]

Such tales, impossible of verification, tend to support the belief that the house was actually used as a tavern.

The following is an inventory of Mrs. Ferguson's personal property made after her death in 1849. It, too, is inconclusive on the tavern matter. This might be expected, however, as the inventory was made seven years after the date on which it is believed that the tavern ceased to operate.

10	Blanket	$5	: 5 :
11	quilts	10	: 10 :
14	Table Cloths	10	: :
9	Pr Sheets		: 3 :
3	furniture covers		: 1 :
2	Mosquito bars		: 5 :
11	pr pillow Cases		: 1 :
20	towels		: 1 :
6	Bolster Pillows		: 10 :
5	Mattresses		: 15 :
7	feather beds		: 30 :
4	Bed Spread		: 2 :
4	Cherry Bedstead		: 40 :
1	Walnut "		: 3 :
4	Cots		: 2 :
1	Bureau		: 10 :
1	Sideboard		: 25 :

2. Mississippi Works Progress Administration Source Material for Historical Research Project, Jefferson County, Assignment No. 15, Mss.

1	Book Case	: 10	:
1	Armoir	: 5	:
1	Walnut Press	: 2	:
1	Cherry desk	: 1	:
1	poplar chest	: 1	:
12	Windsor Chairs	: 12	:
1	Rocking do	: 5	:
12	split do	: 20	:
1	center table	: 20	:
2	folding tables	: 5	:
3	plain walnut do	: 3	:
2	fire sets	: 20	:
3	Mirrors	: 10	:
1	Spyglass	: 1	:
1	Lot Silver Spoons	: 50	:
1	Castor	: 20	:
1	pr plait Candle Sticks	: 5	:
1	pr brass do	: 1	:
2	glass shades	: 10	:
1	lot of books	: 20	:
1	lot of kitchen furniture	: 10	:
2	sofas	: 5	:
1	Lot glass ware	: 5	:
1	Set Ivory Knives & Forks	: 20	:
1	Lot of China	: 1	:
1	tea table	:	: 3/

If the house was a tavern, such a fact should be noted in travelers' journals or diaries. Those available in Mississippi, both published and unpublished, have been carefully examined, but, unfortunately, without result. If the point is deemed to be of sufficient importance, research in the Library of Congress might yield results.

The Mound House is located about 20 miles, or an average day's journay from Natchez. This makes it seem probable that a Stand should have been located at this point. This fact tends to support the tradition.

In view of the persistance of the tradition, as well as the partial confirmation by archeological excavation, it would seem

3. Jefferson County Probate Papers, Series C, File 579.

to be sure that the Mound House was, for perhaps a considerable period, a tavern or stand.

V

ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA

A. INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of the archeological work was to verify and supplement information gathered from documentary and oral sources about the establishment. Hence the excavations were designed to investigate specific problems suggested by historical research and were guided by the historian. The main questions examined through excavation are as follows:

1. The nature of the mound upon which the house rests.



2. To investigate the mound to see if any remains of a reputed Spanish blockhouse, moat, and stockade could be found.
3. To expose remains of reported outbuildings, walks,

etc., in order to verify traditional locations and to supply architectural details if possible.

B. METHODS OF EXCAVATION.

In connection with questions 1 and 2 above, a vertical technique was employed. Trenches 3 feet wide and of varying length were dug into the mound until undisturbed soil was reached. The vertical cross sections thus obtained were studied, mapped, and photographed.

The outbuildings and walks were searched for and exposed by stripping thin layers of earth. Exploratory trenches 3 to 5 feet wide were dug through the indicated areas, until significant remains were encountered. Then the trenches were widened to expose those features. A large part of the work at this site was devoted to cleaning of these features, particularly brick rubble. All important remains were mapped and photographed.

C. DESCRIPTION OF EXCAVATION.

The excavations can best be discussed by the following units:

1. The Mound.

Excavation here was to check a tradition that the mound was of Indian origin, to search for a reported moat and stockade, supposedly of Spanish origin, and to look for traces of a building preceding the Mound House. Eleven trenches were dug here. Trenches were dug at right angles to the slope of the mound to obtain profiles and preserve soil conditions. Four of these showed a normal profile, with about 1 foot of wash earth at the foot of the slope containing brick and iron

artifacts. This washed earth thinned greatly or vanished completely from 10 to 15 feet up the slope of the mound. Underlying the washed earth of recent origin was a compact brown clay with a vague weathering profile present; this was clearly soil in place, and it is certain that the mound is largely composed of natural soil with no artificial additions.

No trace of a stockade or moat was found.

A later trench was dug beneath the house at the highest part of the mound. This trench, about 20 x 3 feet in dimensions and some 3 feet deep, was excavated to test for possible Indian loading on the top of the mound. The cut showed a zone of light buff soil from 1 to 2 feet thick at the top. In this zone was found one Indian sherd and a number of modern artifacts; a number of irregular root molds were also present.This soil was quite hard and no lensing and mottling of the type usually associated with Indian mounds was noted. Beneath this top zone was a layer of reddish earth about 0.7 foot thick. One thin line of black was observed in this layer also. The red layer was practically level and actually appeared at the surface 6 feet northeast of the north end of the trench. No artifacts were found in this layer. Below the red layer to the bottom of the cut was a dusty soft layer of earth containing some large black stains which were probably due to roots. No artifacts were found here and it is probably undisturbed earth. The interpretation of this profile is not clear; the red layer looks like an old surface; its red color is presumably due to

oxidation, but does not look like fire discoloration. A floor is suggested by the level nature of the red zone. If this is correct, the earth above must be of artificial origin since no natural deposition could have occurred on this elevated point. But the top zone appears to be of natural origin and the few artifacts it contained may well have been introduced by root holes or burrowing animals (they ranged from a Higgins India Ink bottle to an Indian potsherd). The absence of artifacts on or near the floor level is also not like the situation encountered in many Indian sites, and the conclusion is that whatever the correct explanation of the situation may be; there is no clear evidence of Indian loading on the top of the mound.

To summarize the Mound explanation:

a. The bulk of the mound is of natural origin, as is suggested by its shape. There is a faint possibility that 1 to 2 feet of Indian loading is present, but the excavator believes that this is unlikely.

b. No moat was discovered, although the old mound had at its eastern end a sharp shoulder which was probably of artificial origin, possibly caused by a road running close to the mound here.

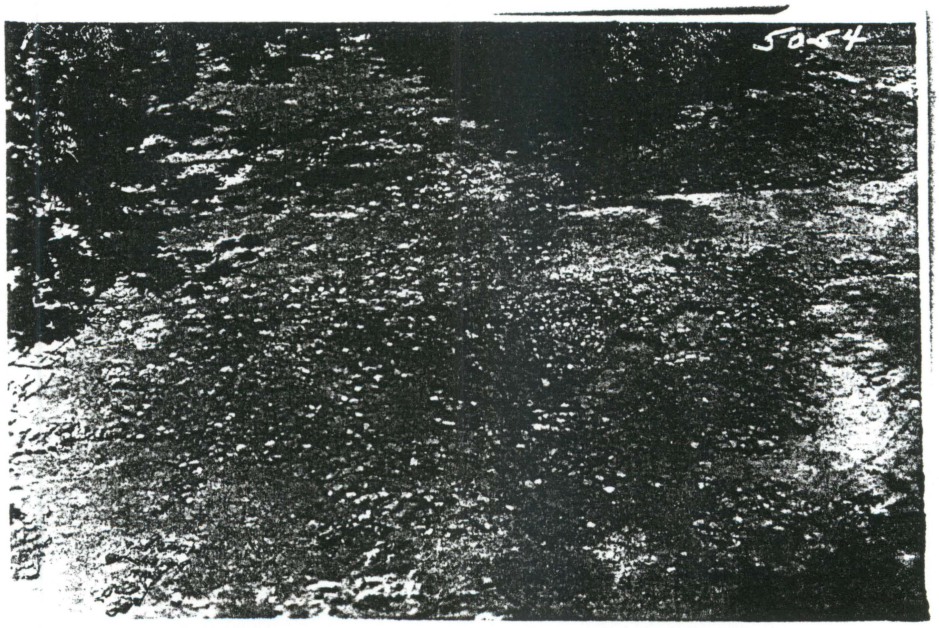
c. No trace of a stockade was found.

d. No trace of any predecessor of Mound House was found, unless the red zone mentioned above is actually an old floor. If the latter is true, there are no data as to

whether the floor was associated with the Indians or with later builders.

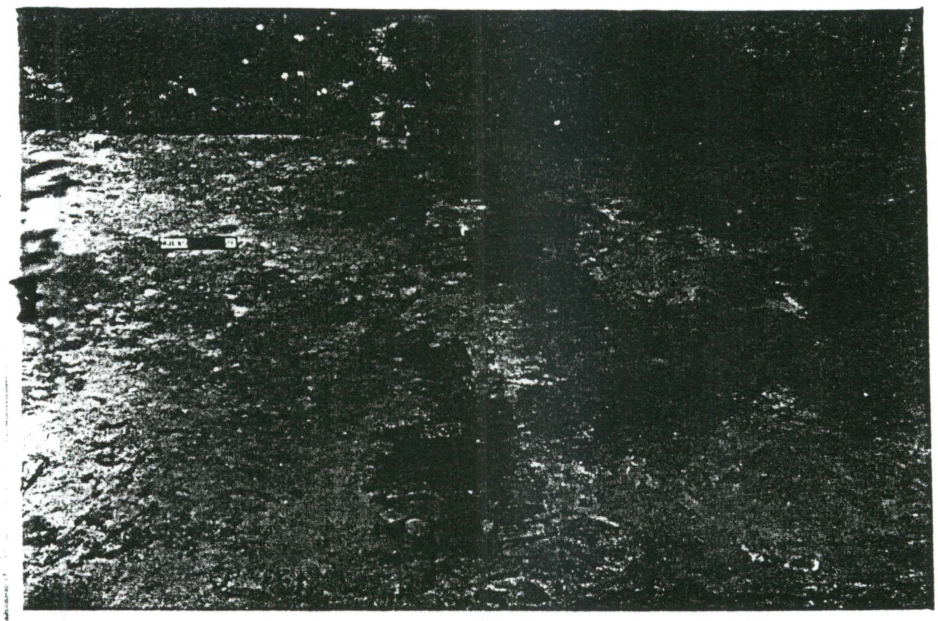
3. The Kitchen.

This building was located about 70 feet west of the main house according to tradition and was connected with both main house and guest house by brick walks. The site showed little but a few bricks on the surface, being largely covered with grass and brush. Extensive rubble was found immediately underneath the sod with the first exploratory trench and the excavation was widened until it was approximately 70 x 75 feet.



The building is represented by an irregular pile of brick rubble with occasional patches of brick in place. More scattered rubble extends out for many feet from the main body of brick, particularly to the south and southwest. Little of

architectural significance was noted in the rubble. One patch of 10 bricks in place forms a rectangle which may be part of a house pier. Extending out for about 20 feet from the rubble toward the Guest House is a fragmentary line of brick. This is probably the remnant of a walk from kitchen to Guest House. On the east is a group of bricks in place which undoubtedly formed part of a walk, probably connecting the kitchen with a walk leading from the house.



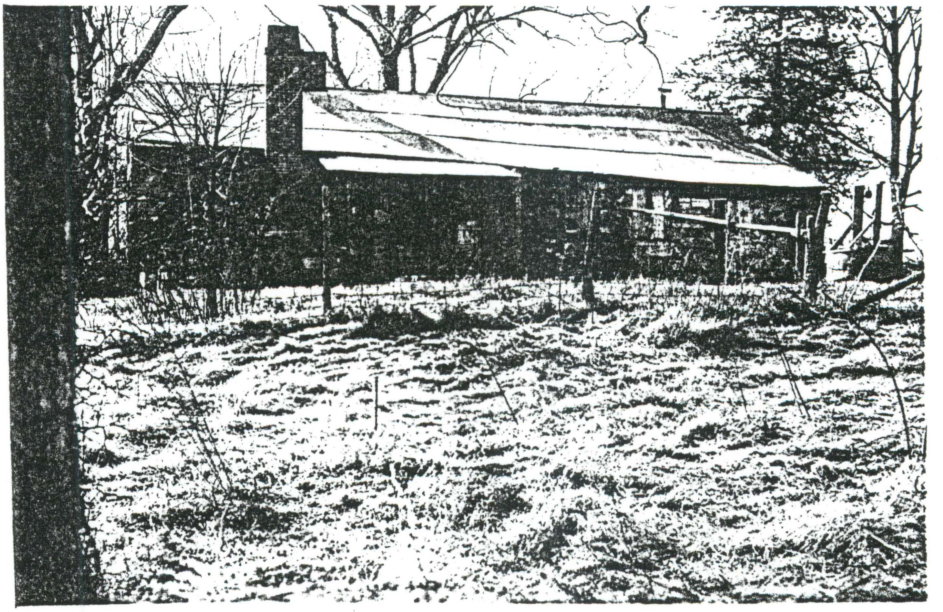
A few feet to the northwest of the kitchen rubble is a well preserved brick floor, about 15 x 10 feet in size. Its presence is not explained by tradition but it is evidently associated with the kitchen. It has been suggested that this floor was a patio or outdoor workroom for summer use.

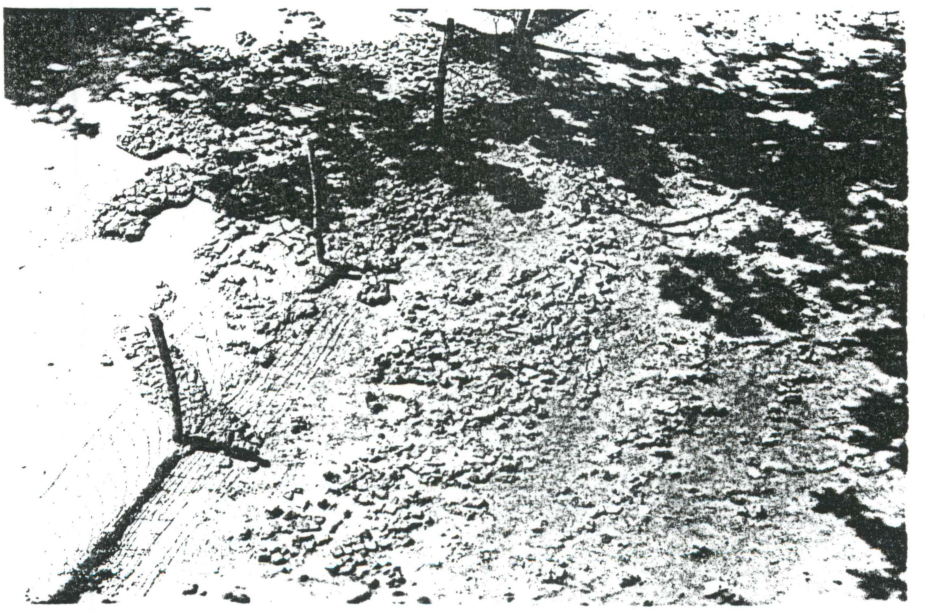


The excavations confirm the traditional location but supply few items of information about architecture. The method of laying brick in the walks and floors can be observed but the main building is disorderly rubble, probably largely derived from piers and chimney, since no trace of a brick floor was found.

3. The Guest House.

Here a low grassy mound was visible on the site of the building. An excavation about 50 x 50 feet showed another rubble pile immediately beneath the sod. The rubble showed only a few bricks in place and practically no information was noted. Scattered rubble extended from the Guest House to the kitchen area.

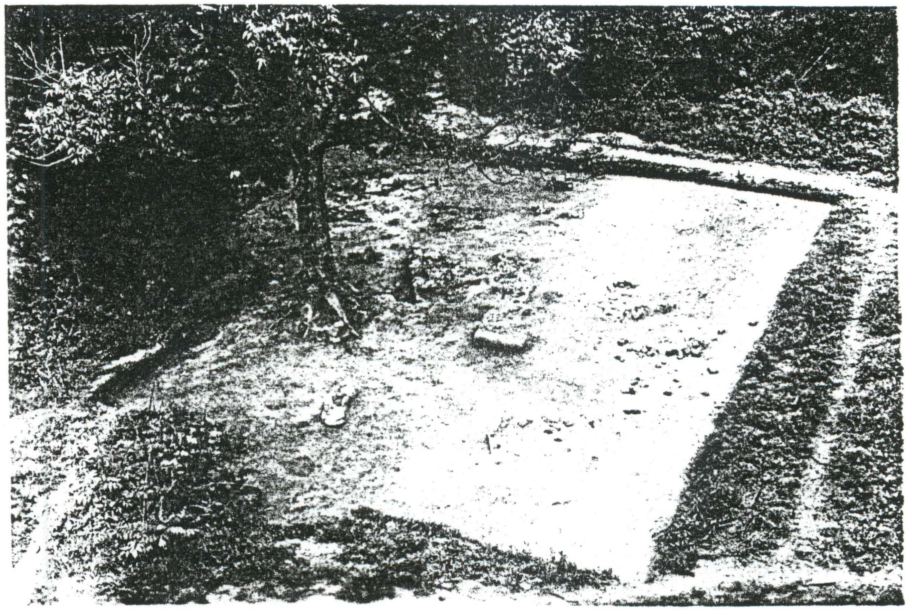


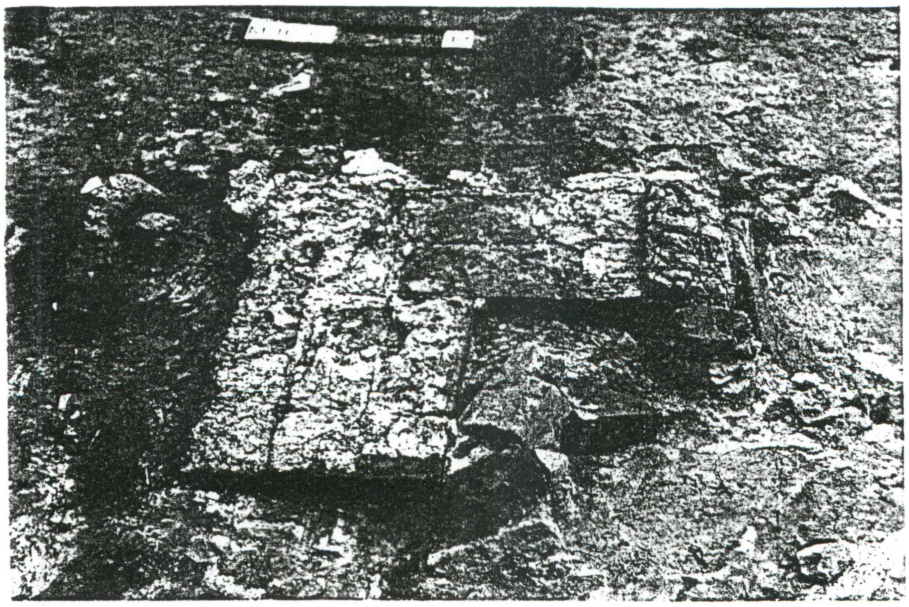


The concentrated rubble here again confirms the traditional location.

4. The Overseer's House.

This building lay about 170 feet north of the main house. The site showed no particular feature before excavation except a slight unevenness. An excavation about 40 x 35 feet in size showed several scattered fragments of brick, and one L-shaped

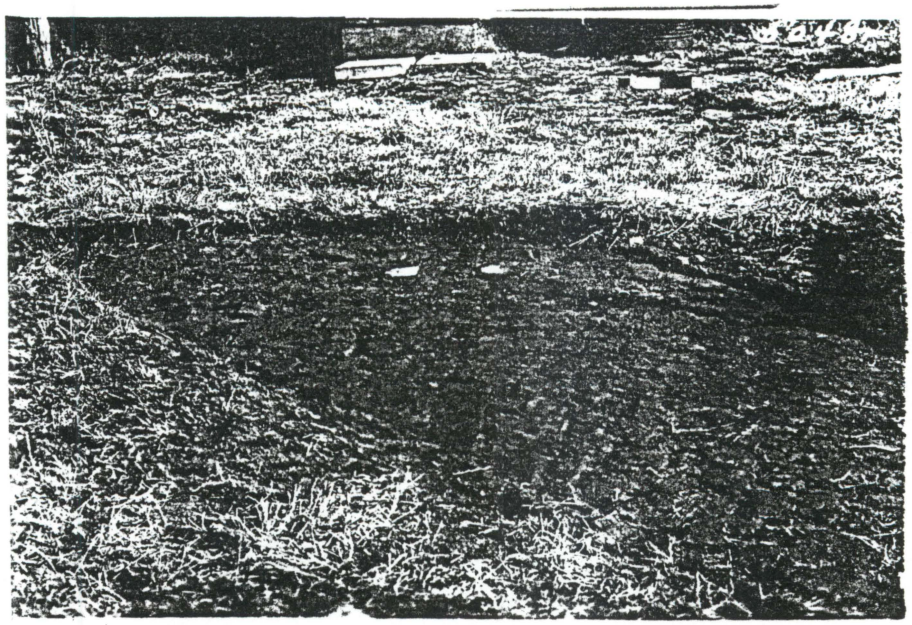




section of brick in place looked like the base of a corner pier. If this is correct, other formless small groups of rubble may be remains of other piers. These bricks were about 0.4 foot below the surface, as some wash has been deposited here. Much mortar was noted with the bricks in this feature.

5. Main House and Yard.

A number of walks, in most cases quite well preserved, were cleaned. All lay just beneath the sod. Two walks ran



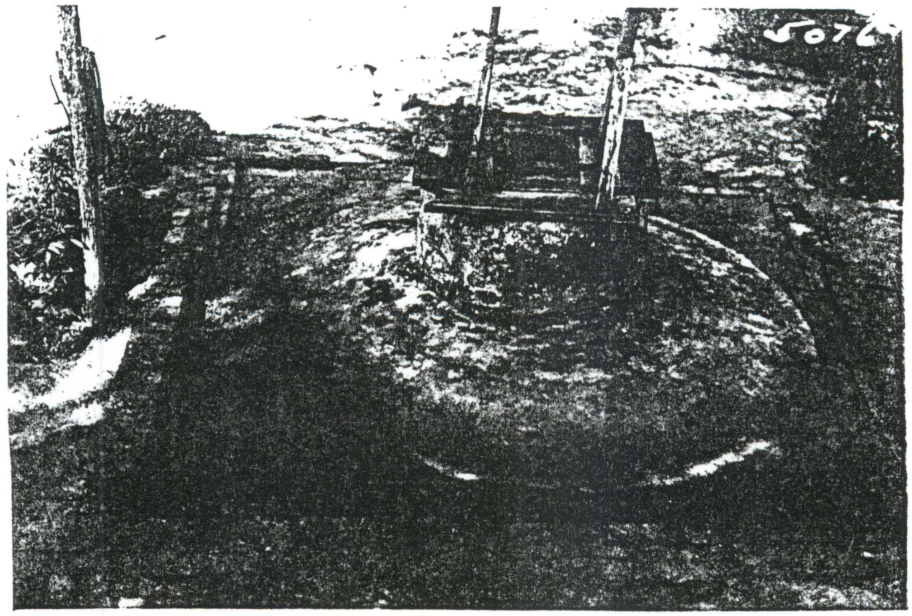
along northeast and northwest sides of the house. The former extended in fragments for nearly 10 feet beyond the corner of the house, but here it disappeared with no hint of its destination. It ran in the general direction of the Guest House. On the other end the walk breaks off a few feet past the centerline of the wall of the house; here it is headed directly

for a set of steps from the porch and may have ended there originally.(if the steps and walks are of congruent age).



Extending out from this walk toward the old cistern on the northeast side of the house is a rectangular platform of bricks, about 1.5 x 3 feet in dimensions. This was probably a step up to the margin of the cistern. The remains of an extensive walk system around the house and yard were outlined.

The cistern is surrounded by a wall of brick forming a 12 foot square. This wall is approximately a foot high on the southwest side. Associated with the cistern is an underground conduit of brick and mortar leading from the edge of the house to the cistern.



Some patches of rubble were also found in the back yard, but their significance is unknown. Two immediately southwest of the cistern might possibly be the remains of a walk from cistern to kitchen, although the brick is too disturbed to state this positively.

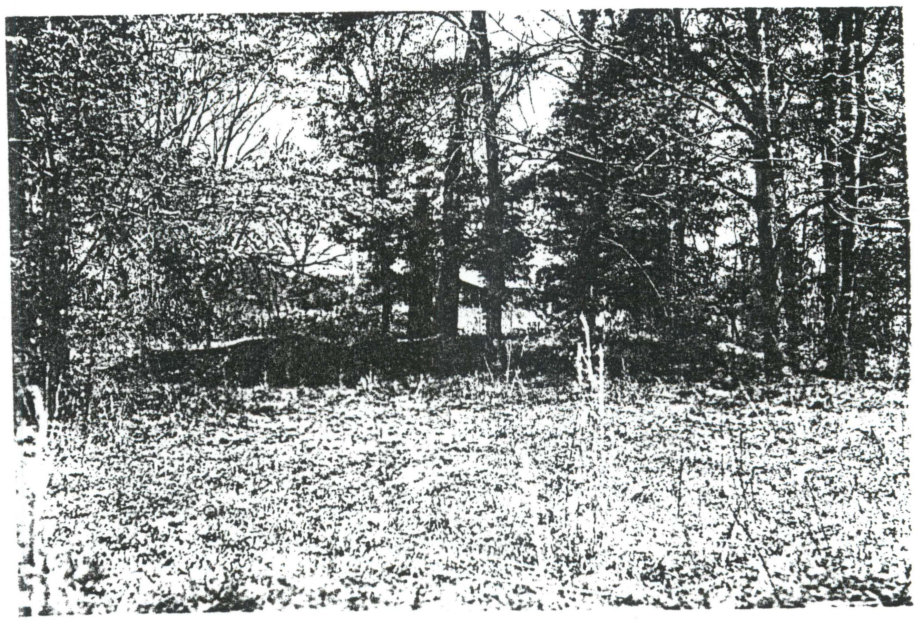
The site of the reported chimney on the southwest side of the house was excavated. Here only a few scattered bricks were found, with one small patch in place. The latter was well away from the house and looked more like a walk. It was certainly not a part of the chimney, of which no identifiable fragments were noted. A search was made under and along the front porch for other walks with negative results. The half buried southwest side of the front yard retaining wall was cleaned also.

6. The Nursery.

This was a building where the children of slaves were kept while the parents were at work in the fields. No tangible remains were found in the spot indicated and it was concluded that either the location was not correct or that the building was too flimsy to allow any preservation.

7. The Brick Kiln.

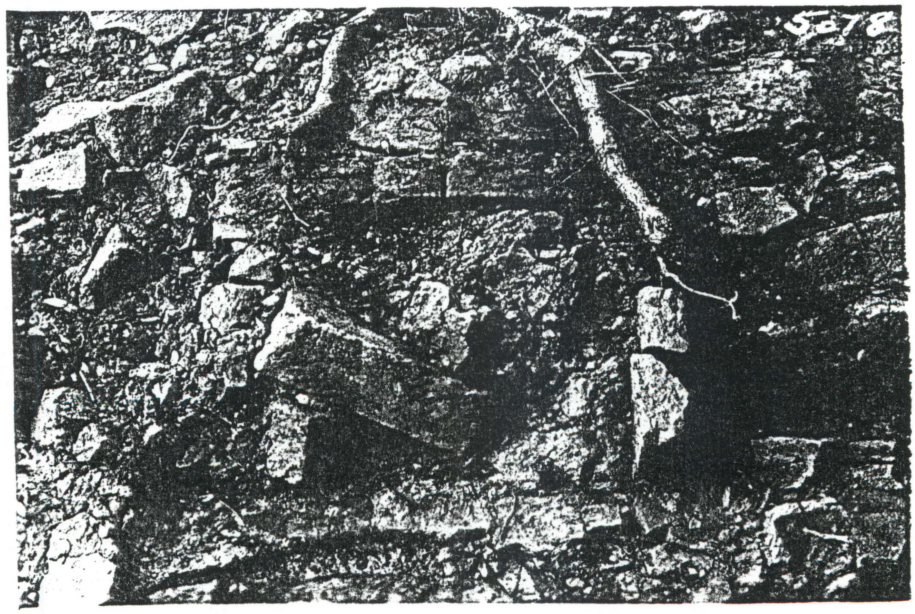
This structure lay about 540 feet south-southwest of the main house. The site is marked by a low mound (about 3 feet high) and appears on the Topographic Map as a mound. Near it runs a sunken road.



Immediately below the grass on top of the mound is a rectangular brick floor 32 x 40 feet in size. The bricks on the edge are quite well preserved but the center is almost completely rubble. Considerable rubble extends down

the side of the mound below the floor proper. In some cases the brick in place inside the edge of the floor is at a higher level than the floor edge, suggesting a collapsed wall, but the arrangement of the brick (would have been visible if wall were erect) argues against this. One spot has an arched effect.





It has been suggested that this might have been an aperture to obtain draft when the wall was upright.

This is a definite structure and, at least, the shape and dimensions could be accurately determined, as well as some details of the brickwork.

8. The Slave Cabins.

A large amount of the work expanded on the site was devoted to area to the north and northwest of the main house. Over 16,000 square feet of trench was dug in an effort to locate the remains of slave cabins. Most of the area was covered with a tangle of briars and weeds which had to be cleaned before excavation began.



No definite remains of buildings were found, despite excavation to undisturbed earth. According to tradition the slave cabins were built of wood, with wooden floors and clay

chimneys. The entire area has been deeply plowed with the tractor, so failure to find remains of such structure is not at all surprising. However, occasional small fragments of brick and artifacts indicate that the area was inhabited and may be correctly designated as the slave cabin area.

At one place in this area stood a cabin which Mrs.Johnnie Chamberlain remembers as having continued to stand for years after she had come to live at the Mound House. Nothing was found here but some scattered refuse and a few irregular dark molds, probably those of roots. The absence of remains in a positively identified site is of considerable importance in the interpretation of the negative evidence found in the slave cabin area.

D. GENERAL REMARKS.

Artifacts were abundant everywhere except in the slave cabin area. Many were obviously of recent origin. These were discarded and a sample of the remainder kept. Artifacts of Indian origin (about 20 flint points and a few sherds) were kept also. The relative absence of pottery probably means that this was not an intensively settled Indian site.

VI

SIGNIFICANCE

The Mound Plantation House was built in 1783, the year in which the treaty between the United States and Great Britian terminated our War for Independence. Thus, its history covers the whole period of the existence of this country as an independent nation. Neither the Mound House nor the people who lived there have had an important role in the stirring events of the last century and a half which characterized the history of the United States, of the Territory and, later, of the State of Mississippi, or even, indeed, of the relatively small Natchez area.

Except for the tradition, extant in the Chamberlain family, that Andrew Jackson was a guest at the house during tavern days, it has not been associated with the names of any well known personages either of Mississippi or American history.

It may well be asked then whether there is any justification for the acquisition of this property by the National Park Service and its preservation and development. Does the Mound Plantation possess sufficient historical significance to justify the expenditure proposed in the developments recommended elsewhere in this report?

To arrive at a satisfactory reply to this question, we must know that the conception of what is and what is not significant in history has undergone a profound change during the past half century. If such a development as we propose had been offered

before 1890, it would have been summarily rejected; and properly so. At that time, despite the tremendous achievements in historiography during the preceding half century, interest was centered in events and personalities.

To be sure, the historian, any reputable historian, at least, had to be certain of his facts. Meticulous research was necessary to establish them. The only facts that seemed worthy of record were those which affected the military, political, diplomatic, or constitutional history of state or nation. This meant that stress must be placed on the contributions of individuals — statesmen, generals, diplomats, or jurists. Carlyle's dictum that history is the "lengthened shadow of a great man"was sedulously adherred to.

Great histories, those of Bancroft, Schouler, Henry Adams, Rhodes, and Prescott, were produced and read. Indeed, it is still profitable to read these works. They, except for an occasional digression or afterthought, passed over many of the things which we would like to know about our ancestors.

But American historiography did not remain static. It possessed the same initiative and resiliency as were displayed in other fields of activity — science, industry, transportation, and the arts. It may be true that historians did become obsessed with an infericrity complex and showed it by attempting to make their art a science by adopting the terminology and methods of scientists. In this way, new vistas of America's past were unveiled. Phases and aspects, forces and movements, underlying and conditioning American life, were brought to light, and were seen to have had such importance as to

illuminate many hitherto obscure and little understood events and movements in American history.

F. J. Turner, John B. McMaster, Charles A. Beard, John R. Commons, William E. Dodd, and U. B. Phillips are the names of only a few of the men who, in half a century, have remade our conception of what it is considered meet and proper to include in the literature of American history. These men, and countless others, have demonstrated that obscure movements and anonymous men and women have profoundly influenced the course of American life. And what is more, they have added new interest, new zest, and new importance to the study of history.

This new history has had a marked influence on the unfolding American scene. Not merely statesmen, but individuals, bankers, and even an occasional labor leader, all have found it enlightening and profitable to have some knowledge of history. Probably no president of the United States has had a keener consciousness of history than has Franklin D. Roosevelt. Repeatedly, he has cited apt precedents and parallels to justify a given course of action. Some historians may disagree with his reading of history, but the significant thing is that he shows a broad familiarity with it.

This new conception of history has had a profound influence on our selection and treatment of historic sites. Congress, under the influence of an "episodic" conception of history, has long recognized the importance of preserving areas of national significance. In 1890 the Federal Government established and Congress appropriated funds for the acquisition of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military

Park including the battlefields in Chickamauga Creek, in northern Georgia, and around Chattanooga in southeastern Tennessee. There occurred the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge, which played a decisive part in determining the outcome of the war in the West. This was followed by similar appropriations creating other military parks. Still other appropriations were made to preserve spectacular archeological areas. These appropriations were made sporadically, some as a result of pressure of local political groups, but no general pattern for the identification and preservation of national historic sites was developed.

Since the National Park Service was made responsible for the preservation and development of historic sites, it has proceeded on the theory that the job could be intelligently done only on the basis of adequate information. This information was then to be digested and assimilated into a comprehensive record and survey of all historic sites, and the fact that Congress was, and has continued to be willing, to make appropriations for the Historic Sites Survey, is eloquent testimony that the newer conceptions of history have been widely disseminated among the American people. We may be sure that before the National Park Service will agree to any expenditure for the preservation and development at Mound House, it must be demonstrated that it possesses national historical possibilities.

In the light of the above, let us examine the facts concerning the Mound House.

1. It stands on the old Natchez Trace, a highway which is intimately associated with the history of the Southwestern Frontier

and a highway which, for a generation, was one of the most important routes of travel and transportation in the United States.

It has stood during all phases of Trace history. It was built when this frontier road was an Indian trail "the path to the Choctaw nation." It stood when the first Europeans began to travel the route between Natchez and the Cumberland. It stood when the government of the United States developed this frontier trail into a national road. It stood when the Natchez Trace, in response to social and economic changes, had ceased to be a trunk highway and became merely a series of roads connecting local communities. It now stands on the proposed Natchez Trace Parkway, a new type of national highway.

2. Mound House was the home of a typical American frontier family. It is simply an accident that one family has occupied the place for more than 150 years. Because of this accident, it has been possible to discover many of the details of its history through local and county records.

The life of William Ferguson, the man who built the one-room house on a mound near Coles Creek in Natchez around 1783, and that of his successors, may be considered as typical of countless other Americans who, from the Eastern states or Europe, went to the frontier seeking more opportunities than they had known at their old homes. For a short time, he was a merchant. Then, in the manner of all frontiersmen, he began to acquire land and at the time of his death owned nearly 1500 acres. Americans seemed to know, intuitively perhaps, that a solid basis for wealth was ownership of land.

Ferguson's widow survived him for nearly half a century. During her lifetime, utilizing the available means of securing wealth—farming, planting, and probably tavern keeping — she acquired a competence and became, not rich, but well-to-do. Tens of thousands of Americans must have been doing the same thing about the same time. Probably the plantation enjoyed the period of its greatest prosperity from 1830 to 1860, and was typical of the plantations of the lower South. It had nothing in common with the exotic developments that produced the pilgrimage homes of Natchez and vicinity, scarcely 20 miles away. Since 1860, the history of the plantation seems to fit the pattern of that of thousands of the same medium sized plantations of the entire South. Its owners found themselves impoverished through loss of their capital, became the victims of the vicious system of Southern post-war agriculture. Most of the land was lost; the buildings, without proper care, decayed, and, in many cases, disappeared. Three generations of the family have lived in a state approaching poverty.

In the Mound House and its history can be recognized the agricultural history of a region, extending over the whole period of our national history. On the basis of data presented in the narrative section of this report and in view of the prevailing historical philosophy of the National Park Service, it would seem that the significance of the history of the Mound House is: It was typical of thousands of other frontier plantations of the lower South. Its owners did not become wealthy or famous. They lived normal lives, did the same things that other Americans did, fought in the various

wars as private soldiers or subalterns, and were in no sense remarkable.

Yet their story can be made interesting. Its presentation can give an appreciation of one phase of our history which possesses enormous significance for everybody. There must be in the Southern States dozens, if not hundreds, of sites which might properly be selected for such a development as is proposed here. The justification for selecting the Mound House is that it lies on a national historical parkway, and thus will be available to innumerable visitors.

VII

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Mound House was acquired by the National Park Service in 1937. Since that time the proper use of the building and grounds has been under discussion by all local branches of the Service. Inspections of the area have been made by Service personnel, including the Associate Director, the Supervisor of Historic Sites, the Chief of Planning, Chief of Operations, Chief of Engineering, and other officials of the Washington and Region One offices. In this fashion, countless ideas have been presented, and no claim for originality can be made for any of the things proposed in this report.

It is the recommendation of this office that the Mound House be reconstructed and restored to its appearance of *circa* 1800-1830, to be used as a house museum. Then, from the house as a focal point, outbuildings simulating the appearance of a frontier plantation should be erected, the latter to be arranged to meet the needs and uses of parkway travelers by providing tourist facilities.

In this scheme of development, the Mound House will be the central feature. It will be visible from the parkway, and will easily attract attention to the area. Other features of the proposed development include:

1. A restaurant or dining room to be erected on the site of the former kitchen.

2. A lodge with, perhaps, a number of bedrooms, to be erected

on the site of "Sleepy Hollow", the Guest House.

3. Concessionaire's residence to be erected on or near the site of the Overseer's Cabin.

4. Overnight cabins to be erected in the general area where the Slave Cabins stood.

5. Barn and storehouse to be erected on the traditional site of the old plantation barn. This will make it possible for the concessionaire to keep oxen or horses, which could be used in providing excursions in wagons of the early nineteenth century type over adjacent sections of the old Trace.

All these buildings should be erected in an architectural style of the same period as the Mound House.

Justification for this recommendation is to be found in the following facts:

1. It was originally thought that it would be possible to restore the complete layout of a frontier plantation. It was believed that sufficient information could be secured by historical and archeological research to provide data for planning such a development. While a considerable volume of information has been secured during the past year, it still is not sufficient to enable planning for a restoration. From archeological research we have learned that the house was not built on an Indian mound and that it was not the site of a Spanish frontier outpost. The correctness of the family tradition as to the location of the outbuildings was confirmed only as to their existence. No information as to the dimensions, the details, or materials and appearance of such buildings has been recovered.

From historical research we find that a building was erected about 1783, size unknown. From an itemized bill for labor and materials dating from 1799, we know that a considerable addition was made to the house. No further details as to the house or outbuildings have been discovered. Obviously, data for drawing plans for the reconstructed Mound House must be secured by the architect who will supervise the tearing down of the house in preparation for its reconstruction.

2. The possibility of restoring the Mound House as the only feature of this project has been discussed. Such, however, would be unsatisfactory because, in the first place, the house was the major unit in a group of buildings and to leave it standing alone would present an incomplete and, therefore, inaccurate picture of a frontier plantation. It would be uneconomical to administer, as it would be necessary to provide for the custodian's residence and utilities. Under the proposed development, utilities could be provided from a single unit, not only for the Mound House, but also for the overnight cabins and restaurant facilities and for a ranger's house, office, and gasoline station which it is proposed to build in the immediate vicinity.

In planning for the administration and protection of the parkway, it has been determined that the vicinity of the Mound House is the proper location for a unit which will probably include a ranger's office, radio station, and a ranger's residence, with the necessary utility area.

It may be thought that such use as we are proposing for this

area cannot be justified on the basis of its historical use. Such, however, is not the case when we recall that the Mound Plantation House was used not only as a family home and as a plantation center, but probably also for many years as a stand, accommodating travelers over the old Natchez Trace. What could be more fitting than that travelers over the Natchez Trace Parkway should be accommodated at this historic site and under conditions which, from a point of view of appearance, would simulate the appearance of the place in the early eighteen hundreds?

The house has reached such a state of delapidation and decay that, if it is deemed desirable to preserve it, immediate steps to stabilize and rebuild must be taken. Many of the supporting timbers have rotted away and, in many places, the support is dangerously weak. A caretaker now lives in the house and gives some protection. The primitive cooking and heating arrangements constitute a first class fire hazard.

I, therefore, recommend that an allotment of $10,000 be set up to begin work on the reconstruction and restoration of the Mound Plantation House. The first step in this program would be to set up and fill an historical architect's position on the Natchez Trace Parkway. It would then be the architect's first duty to study the house and draw up plans for its reconstruction and restoration.

(Sgd) Dannon A. Phelps

Dannon A. Phelps,
Associate Historical Technician.

cc: The Director,
Mr. R.F. Lee,
Mr. Vint,
Regional Director, One.

APPENDIX

NOTE ON BIBLIOGRAPHY

Sources of information on the history of the Mound House are meager and scattered. The records of the Spanish administration of Natchez are incomplete, and furnished data only on the activities of the Ferguson family and on the location of the Ferguson lands. These records have been carefully examined and should yield but little more information.

When the United States secured possession of Natchez, the area was organized into Mississippi Territory, and divided into two counties, Adams and Pickering. Since the Mound House was located in Pickering County, the Adams County records supply no information.

The Mississippi Territorial papers, now preserved in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, were carefully examined and furnished only the information that William Ferguson was the first sheriff of Pickering County.

After the election of 1801, Pickering County was renamed, becoming Jefferson County with Fayette becoming the county seat in 1825. The court house burned in about 1905 and only a part of the county records was saved. Almost none of the Pickering County records was saved. Among the papers which contain information on the Mound Plantation House or the Ferguson and Chamberlain families are:

> Probate papers; Minute Book, County Court, 1802-1828; Deed Book; Will Book; Minute Book, Probate Court; and Minute Book, Court of Errors and Appeals.

Further information as to the Mound House establishment should be furnished by the tax rolls of Jefferson County. It is not known whether or not these are still in existence; or if they are in Fayette or Jackson, Mississippi. It also may be that further information could be found in the books of travel, journals or diaries, or in the manuscript collections of the Library of Congress.

THE FERGUSON HOUSE

An Architectural Study

The Ferguson house has been the subject of intermittent study since its acquisition by the National Park Service in 1937. In July of that year Architects Stuart M. Barnette and Fred P. Parris inspected the house. The report of the former, "Architectural Survey of the Chamberlain House or Mound Plantation," was made August 14, 1937. The report of the latter, "Chamberlain House and Dependencies...," was made November 18, 1937. An archeological survey of the area was made by A. C. Spalding in 1940-41 under the supervision of Archeologist J. D. Jennings. The excavation report signed by Spalding was made on May 28, 1941. The results of an extensive study of the Ferguson house and of the Ferguson-Chamberlain families, largely from the Jefferson County records, made by Historical Technician D. A. Phelps, were reported in "Mound Plantation, A Historical and Archeological Report," November 22, 1941.

The salient facts revealed by the above-mentioned studies are presented below as an introduction to the architectural study which constitutes the main part of this paper.

This paper is a result of a re-study of the documents relating both to the history of the house and to the Ferguson-Chamberlain families. In addition, five days were devoted to a detailed examination of construction details in collaboration with Architect

C
O
P
Y

R. E. Smith. The technical information supplied by Mr. Smith has been indispensable in the preparation of this study.

Traditional Information

1. William Ferguson built a one-room house in the 1770's.

2. Additions were made to the building at different times until 1937, when it had grown to a nine-room structure. For a considerable length of time the Ferguson house was a stand, offering entertainment to travelers over the Natchez Trace.

3. Room No. 2 was enlarged from an original length of 10 feet to its present length of 20 feet. At the south end of the original room was a fireplace flanked on each side by closets.

4. Polina (Paulina) Ferguson Chamberlain divorced James Chamberlain in about the year 1812. Sometime later he was killed in a tavern brawl in Virginia.

5. Four out-buildings identified as kitchen, guest-house, overseer's cabin and nursery were erected as part of the establishment and were located on the sites shown on the sketch map which accompanies the report of Assistant Architect Stuart M. Barnette.

6. A system of brick walks and retaining walls was built during the 1830's.

Documented Information

1. The documents dating from the period of Spanish rule at Natchez, now on file in the Chancery Clerk's office, Adams County,

Mississippi, show that William Ferguson lived in or near Natchez from about 1774 until his death in 1800 or 1801.

2. In 1782 Ferguson applied to the Spanish Government for a grant of land on which it was specifically stated "there is no settlement" and to which he secured title in 1785. This land was surveyed by the General Land Office after Ferguson's death and appears on the plat of Township No. 8, Range No. 1, Land District West of Pearl River, as Section 65. Actual title to the land in question was vested in Ferguson in 1785. The plat made by the surveyor employed by the Spanish Government at Natchez in 1785 shows the location of a house noted as "Mr. William Ferguson's Dwelling House." In September 1929 Park Ranger C. A. Wagner made a survey of Section 65 and reported that the existing Ferguson House stands on the same site as the house shown in the 1785 plat.

3. William Ferguson married Polina (Paulina) Burch in 1783.

4. Law suits to which Ferguson was a party, records of which still exist in the Adams County Chancery Clerk's office, involved only very small, even trifling amounts, indicating that he was not well-to-do even for that period.

5. William Ferguson was appointed Sheriff of Pickering County in 1799.

6. In 1799 William Ferguson made extensive repairs or alterations in an already existing house or built a new house, as evidenced by the existence of two bills for materials purchased in

1799 and presented to the executor of his estate after his death in 1801.

7. Ferguson's death occurred sometime between August 1, 1800, and March 2, 1801.

8. Mrs. Polina Ferguson married James Chamberlain, July 31, 1806.

9. On a map of the State of Mississippi made by Samuel Gwin and George Daugherty, 1838, "Mrs. Ferguson's" is shown as one of the stopping places on the Natchez Trace. This is the only documentary evidence thus far discovered proving the Ferguson house was a stand.

10. Mrs. Paulina Ferguson died on January 19, 1849.

Architectural History

NOTE: To simplify the discussion, the numbers assigned to the various rooms in the house by the HABS Survey No. MISS-159 are used throughout this report. Architect R. E. Smith has adopted the same scheme of room numbers in a floor plan which is a part of his report of June 13, 1947. Photographs of details discussed in this paper may be seen in Architect R. E. Smith's report of June 13, 1947.

Room No. 1: On the basis of the evidence summarized above it seems certain that room No. 1 was the one-room house built by William Ferguson sometime between 1782 and 1785. Assistant Architect Barnette cites the style of trim and decoration as evidence that the room was built in the late 18th century. Additional evidence was found from a minute inspection of the fireplace. It

appears that the fireplace, instead of the present shallow type, originally was a deep fireplace. This appears from the fact that the hearth in room No. 7 was built at a later date than the original fireplace. The construction joint is clearly visible in that part of the chimney beneath the floor. The framing of the room furnishes still further evidence that it was originally an independent structure. The ceiling plates on either side extend over and cover the four corner posts. The stumps of three ceiling joists, sawed off flush with the wall, are to be seen about 18 inches below the plate on the outside wall. These seem to indicate that a front porch once extended across the front of this building. It is impossible to determine the amount of original material still preserved in this room. The presence of square cut nails in large numbers indicates that siding, floor and wall coverings have been completely or in part renewed.

Room No. 7: The framing of this room and the method of joining it to room No. 1 prove that it is of a later date. The evidence that the hearth was built at a later date than the chimney has already been cited. The ceiling plates are not supported by a new corner post where the room corners with room No. 1. Actually, they are supported on pieces of timber nailed onto the original corner posts of room No. 1. In addition, the plates are tied together by pieces of strap iron.

Room No. 2: In this room the ceiling plates are tied into

those of room No. 1 in the same way that the plates in room No. 7 are tied onto those of room No. 1, except for the pieces of strap iron. Structural details confirm the family tradition that room No. 2 originally was much smaller than the present and that the enlargement was made at a relatively late date. There is a break in both ceiling plates at a distance 10 feet from the walls of room No. 1. On the northwest wall a false ceiling plate about 14 inches lower than that now existing is to be observed. No architectural explanation for such phenomenon seems available. On the opposite wall there is evidence that such a false ceiling plate at one time existed but has been removed. The material used in the construction of the addition to room No. 3 is of recent date and consists of standard stock. Wire nails were used.

A curious break in the floor about 6 inches from the wall of room No. 1 seems to indicate that rooms No. 1 and 2 once had an unbroken floor. It is thus possible that the floor in room No. 1 was renewed in 1799 at the time the extensive alterations were made of Ferguson House.

Rooms No. 3, 4, and 5: Little in the way of architectural detail indicates the date of this part of the building. Second grade, or used scrap-lumber and timbers were for the most part used so that no particular characteristics can be assigned to any of these rooms.

Room No. 6: The most striking characteristic of room No. 6

is the chimney to be found on the northwest side. Construction details of this chimney are identical with chimneys observed in the Foster house built about 1799, in a Bisland house (Oakland-Mistletoe) built in 1808, in Sweet Auburn built about 1820, and in a Spanish type house in Washington of unknown date. This and the mantel, which Barnette recognizes as 18th century in character, indicate that this room was very early and possibly was added at the time of the 1799 work.

Attic: There is little or no evidence that the attic was ever partitioned into rooms. The ceiling of room No. 1 serves as a floor, and this is the only part of the attic which has been floored. The cross braces tying the corners of room No. 1 together furnish further proof that room No. 1 was an independent structure. Other braces used to tie in the corners of room No. 7, the former corners of room No. 2, give further support to this view.

Roof Structure: The framing of the roof is of such a nature as to indicate that all that part of the roof extending from a point 10 feet southwest from the southwest end of room No. 1 to the northeast end of the house was erected at one time. It includes both the porch and rooms No. 6, 5, 4, 1, and that part of 3 which extends 10 feet southwest from the southwest corner of room No. 1.

The roof structure is characterized by two sets of rafters.

The main rafters extend from the plates on either side of rooms No. 1, 2, and 7 to the ridge. Secondary rafters extend from a midpoint of the main rafters on both sides to plates, the first atop the porch columns, the other being that of the outside walls of rooms No. 3, 4, 5, and 6. Some of the main rafters are tied together with collar beams.

On top surface of that part of the main rafters extending from the plates to the junction with the secondary rafters there are no nail holes. This is a sure indication that rooms No. 3, 4, 5, and 6 were not added piecemeal to the main structure, but were built and roofed as an integral part of the structure as it now exists.

The bills for building materials bought by Fergusen before his death and now filed in the Jefferson County Probate Papers throw little light on the extent of the additions made to the house in 1799. Six hundred and sixteen feet of flooring mentioned in the Nailer bill would provide sufficient material to floor rooms No. 2, 6, and 7. The two shutters mentioned as item 15 of the Nailer bill might be the green shutters on the windows in room No. 1. A hall and gallery are mentioned but there is no indication as to their location. Two fifteen-pane windows are mentioned in the Payne bill. The fifteen-pane sash in the northeast end of room No. 7 may have survived and be the same.

Conclusion

The walls of room No. 1 are probably those of the one-room house built by Ferguson ca. 1783-1785. It is possible that part of room Nos. 2, 6, and 7 were included in or were all of the building Ferguson did in 1799. There is, however, little in the way of written documents or existing architectural features which may be cited as definite proof.

The house as it now stands is the product of improvisation, remodeling and repair. Materials used in these changes in part seem to have been used lumber or timbers, making it impossible to establish any sequence in which the work was done.

Restoration Possibilities

There seems to be general agreement on the part of all Service personnel concerned with the study of the Ferguson house that it possesses great potential value as an exhibit. Unfortunately, as is evident from a casual inspection and as set forth in detail in Architect R. E. Smith's report of June 13, 1947, it must undergo extensive rehabilitation.

Numerous suggestions along this line have been made. The most appealing perhaps is that room No. 1 be restored to its original condition as a one-room frontier house. The lack of historical evidence either documentary or structural as to the external appearance makes it impossible to consider such a proposal.

Restoration to the condition of a plantation home of the 1830's is another proposal. Here again it is impossible because there is no evidence as to size or appearance during that period.

A more recent and modest proposal has been made to restore the building to the condition existing before the addition of 12 feet on the southwest end of the structure. Historically, this proposal cannot be justified, even though the dimensions of the building before the enlargement are known. The existence of the 10-foot false plate in the northeast end of the inner wall of room No. 2 and the evidence that one formerly existed in the outer wall make it appear that there was at one time a break in roof structure at the southwest end of room No. 1. There is no evidence as to the appearance of this end of the structure before the extension was built. The family tradition of the existence of a chimney in the south end of this room only adds to the difficulty of imagining the appearance of this end of the structure.

The only restoration justified on a documented historical basis is to stabilize the house "as is." This would involve the replacement of all decayed timber or lumber throughout the entire building. Architect Smith estimates that of the total material in the stabilized structure 75 per cent would be new.

Significance, A Revised Estimate

In the Ferguson house the Natchez Trace Parkway has an old building of no architectural distinction, a quality shared by most

frontier structures and many plantation homes.

It stands by the Natchez Trace and is associated with the history of that road by virtue of the fact of its being for a time a stand. Aside from this association the house, with a single exception, has no historical significance. By a series of accidents rare in American history it was occupied by one family--Ferguson-Chamberlain--from about 1783 to 1937. William Ferguson achieved only local fame as the first sheriff of Pickering County, Mississippi. After his death his widow and children and her children by a later marriage and their descendants occupied the house until 1937. For a brief period during the later years of Polina Ferguson's life the family prospered; consequently, until about the time of the Civil War the family might be described as well-to-do. But for the association of the house with the Natchez Trace, the history of the Ferguson-Chamberlain family, who occupied it for 150 years, would have deserved scarcely more than a footnote in local histories.

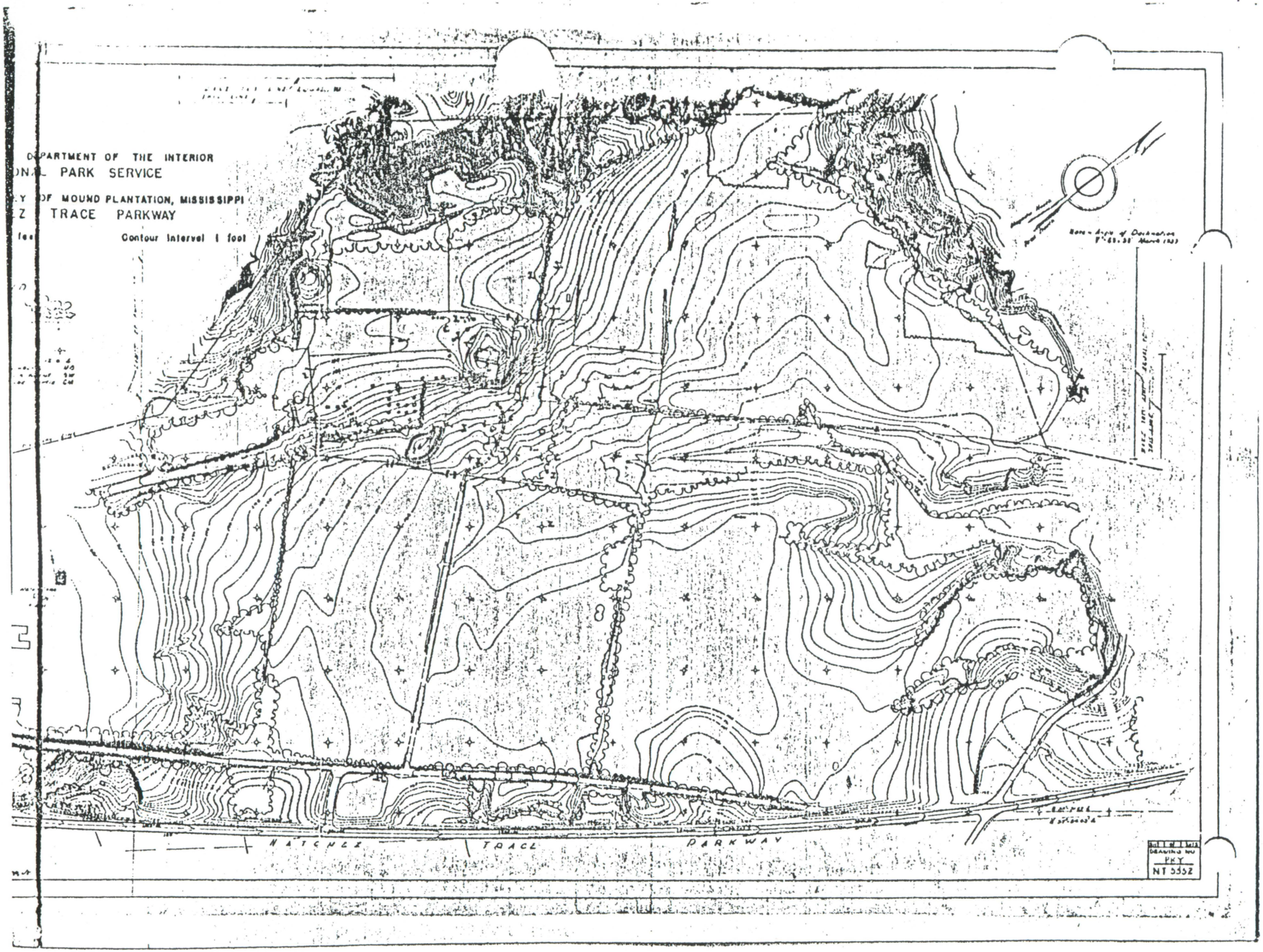
The exception noted above is that the house may be considered as a document of social history which reflects the history of the region from its frontier beginnings, through the prosperity of the ante bellum South and the poverty which followed Civil War and Reconstruction.

Interpretive Use

What contributions to the interpretation of the Natchez Trace

may be expected from preserving a stabilized Ferguson house as an exhibit? It seems that two can be expected. The most important is that it would preserve some of the atmosphere of the Natchez Trace in recalling the days when it was a nationally important highway. As the only existing structure between Washington, Mississippi, and Duck River, Tennessee, known to have been used during the heyday of Trace history, it is an asset which should not be neglected. Its development as a house museum to illustrate the accommodations to Trace travelers might be considered as desirable. Such use would be in addition to that mentioned above and would in no way conflict with it.

Dawson A. Phelps,
Historical Technician.
June 13, 1947.


DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
OF MOUND PLANTATION, MISSISSIPPI
TRACE PARKWAY
Contour Interval 1 foot
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
DRAWING NO
PKY
NT 5552

Form 10-174
(Rev. 8-56)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Site Report 9SP1

COMPLETION REPORT OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

REGION	AREA	COUNTY	STATE
One	Natchez Trace Parkway	Jefferson	Mississippi

PROJECT OR JOB TITLE	PCP NO.
Ferguson House Stabilization	F-8

LOCATION IN AREA	MASTER PLAN NO.	BUILDING NO.
Section 3-W		100

WORKING DRAWING NO. AND TITLE

APPROPRIATION TITLE AND SYMBOL	WORK ORDER NO.
14X1035 Constr. NPS (CA) 14X1037 Constr., Liq. of Cont. Auth. NPS	313.3 (CA) 513.6

CONTRACT NO.	DATE WORK STARTED	DATE WORK COMPLETED
	January 1955	March 1956

NAME OF CONTRACTOR	ADDRESS
Day Labor	

COST ANALYSIS

CONSTRUCTION ITEMS	QTY.	UNIT COST IN PLACE	TOTAL COST IN PLACE
Square feet stabilization (22,450 cu. ft.)	1,372	21.32	$29,252.82
		TOTAL	$29,252.82

Fiscal Accounting Office Clearance

SIGNED

V. L. La Follette, Administrative Officer

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

PERSONAL SERVICES	EQUIPMENT	MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES
$14,857.45	Op. $344.71 Dep. $206.15	$8,725.54

OTHER
Facilitating Services $517.11 Other: $4,601.86

ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	CHANGE ORDERS FIRST	SECOND	THIRD
FINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH

THIS PROJECT OR JOB HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS, AUTHORIZED CHANGES

SUBMITTED BY (*Name and title*)	Dawson A. Phelps, Park Historian	DATE December 16, 1958
APPROVED BY (*Name and title*) SIGNED (Sgd.) Malcolm Gardner	Malcolm Gardner, Superintendent	DATE December 16, 1958

(ATTACH NARRATIVE STATEMENT, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND "AS BUILT" DRAWINGS TO THIS FORM)

GPO 914176

Narrative to Accompany Project Completion Report

MOUNT LOCUST STABILIZATION

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

The land on which Mount Locust, a historic house dating from around 1780, stands was acquired by the National Park Service as a part of the Natchez Trace Parkway right-of-way in 1937. According to local and family tradition, the house that existed in 1937 had grown by accretion and remodeling from an original one-room cabin said to have been built by William Ferguson, an early settler in the region. Some preliminary investigation, historical and architectural, tended to confirm the tradition. From the time of the acquisition in 1937 it was the intention of Parkway planners to stabilize or restore the house, the sole surviving structure of an extensive development, as an interpretive feature of the Parkway.

At the time of the acquisition the house was occupied by Mrs. T. J. Chamberlain and some of her children. The Chamberlain family were descendants of James Chamberlain, who in 1806 had married William Ferguson's widow. The Chamberlain family occupied the house from 1806 to 1937.

At the time of the acquisition the Parkway had no facilities to maintain the house and, as a matter of convenience, arranged with Mrs. Chamberlain's youngest son, Bill, to occupy and maintain the house. At this time he was employed by the Service as a caretaker. The Bill Chamberlains continued to occupy the house until 1944. An attached photograph shows that even though occupied, so far as maintenance is concerned the house had been sadly neglected for many years. Indeed, it had deteriorated so far that one wonders how it continued to stand. The Service in 1944 decided that the only means of preserving the house was a temporary stabilization. This was achieved by attaching a coat of tar paper to the exterior and making repairs essential to make sure that it would not fall down.

Documentary Research

Serious study of the history of the house began in 1940 when an archeological study of its immediate environs, financed by the WPA, was initiated. The main result of the study was to confirm the oral tradition regarding the location of some of the appurtenant buildings and to disprove legends that a Spanish fort

had once stood on the site or that it stood on an Indian mound. No information concerning the origin of the structure itself was discovered.

At about the same time a thorough search of the historical records of Jefferson and Adams Counties, and of other records in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and in the Louisiana State University Library, resulted in the discovery of a considerable amount of pertinent historical data concerning the history of the house and of the Ferguson and Chamberlain families. Historical studies continued intermittently from 1940 to 1954 and provided sufficient material to prepare a fairly detailed historic site report. However, steps looking toward the stabilization of the house and the development of a historic house museum were delayed for many years and it was not until 1954 that the preliminary steps looking toward the stabilization were undertaken.

Architectural Research

Late in 1954, Charles E. Peterson of EODC was assigned to supervise the stabilization project. Since Mr. Peterson was unable to give direct personal supervision to the project, it was decided to employ Mr. Henry A. Judd of Connecticut to provide direct day by day supervision. Peterson and Judd arrived at Natchez in January 1954 to begin a detailed architectural investigation of the house. This investigation, which made it necessary to completely disassemble all elements in the building, was carried out during the months of January and February. By early March it had become possible to trace the steps by which the original one-room structure had grown to the rambling nine-room building which the Park Service had acquired in 1937. These investigations proved that certain additions had been made to the original building very early--possibly prior to 1800--and that it had been radically changed and enlarged during the 1820's and again during the 1840's.

At this point it became necessary to decide the extent and character of the restoration. Should it be the aim of the stabilization to restore the house to its original condition of about 1780, or to its appearance after the additions of the first decade of the 19th century, to its condition as of about 1820, or to its condition as of 1840? Perhaps it should be remarked at this point that aside from the addition of very poorly constructed lean-tos at the rear, the house had undergone no radical change or enlargement since the 1840's.

Mr. Peterson, on March 8, 1955, made a detailed presentation of the results of the architectural investigation of the preceding two months at a meeting held in Philadelphia. Representatives from the Director's Office, from EODC, and from the Regional Office, after hearing Mr. Peterson's presentation, decided that the aim of the stabilization should be to restore Mount Locust to its condition as of about 1820. It appeared to be impractical to prepare detailed architectural plans for the job and it was decided that plans should be improvised, step by step, by Messrs. Peterson and Judd.

Construction

Mr. Judd was instructed to employ necessary supervisory personnel and skilled laborers to complete the job. In reality this decision had been anticipated and Mr. Judd had, during the time that the study was in progress, taken preliminary steps toward locating and purchasing the necessary materials. He was thus in a position to immediately begin the stabilization of the existing structure and restore missing features. The work continued without interruption until about April 20, 1956. Mr. Judd was fortunate in securing the services of Gordon Whittington, a Natchez carpenter, who had had considerable experience in restoration work. Only a very small crew of laborers could be used because it was necessary to prepare plans as they were needed.

The most difficult aspect of the job was the acquisition of materials. The house had been built at the time when a wide variety of woods was available for lumber. During the past 150 years many of these woods had disappeared from the market and it was necessary to locate sources of supply, frequently at small and obscure mills, some of which were 75 to 100 miles distant. Much of the lumber had to be produced by special order to duplicate that used in the original building. By improvisation, modern nails were remade to duplicate old nails. I kept in fairly close touch with Mr. Judd during this period and recall that frequently he was discouraged by many of the difficulties met. However, I believe that he had a lot of fun in doing the job. It was impossible to buy lumber with 18th century trim. Tools to finish lumber for reproducing 18th century trim had to be improvised and the work was done by the laborers on the job.

Hardware

Since none of the original hardware, locks, hinges, etc., had survived, it was necessary to determine the types used and

then find replacements. Local antique shops were of little help. A few satisfactory items, salvaged from old houses in the vicinity, were acquired by gift or purchase. Other items were reproduced by a local blacksmith.

Heating System

To provide adequate heating for a historic house is a somewhat perplexing problem. The open fireplaces that satisfied our pioneer ancestors would be the historically accurate method, but, because of the danger involved, could not be considered. The installation of floor or wall heaters was considered, but the idea was dropped because they were too obviously modern intrusions. The final solution was the decision to install an electric heater in the attic, conduct heat by ducts to fireplaces, and by fans force it down into the rooms. In that way we secured the historically accurate method of heating from open fireplaces. The unit selected to do this job, a 15 kw. heater, 240 single phase, Westinghouse 1/4 h.p. motor, and Vicking blower, purchased from Wesix Electric Heater Company, 390 First Street, San Francisco 5, California. Cost $440, f.o.b.

Furnishing Plan

As the time for the completion of the restoration approached, it became apparent that to furnish the house in the period of the 1820's was a matter which would require a great deal of research and study. Because no one on the Parkway or on the EODC staff was adequately equipped by training or education to prepare a furnishing plan, it was decided to employ an expert for this purpose. In April 1956, after considerable negotiation, the Park Service entered into a contract with Mr. Worth Bailey of Alexandria, Virginia, to prepare a furnishing plan. Mr. Bailey spent several weeks in Natchez for field studies and completed a furnishing plan about November 20 of that year. The plan was characterized as excellent by reviewing officials and received proper approval in December.

Furnishing the House

During Mr. Bailey's visits to Natchez in the spring and summer of 1956, we investigated quite thoroughly the supply of antiques in and near Natchez. We found that for the most part antique dealers in Natchez were interested in furniture and equipment of the late ante-bellum period, such as might be found in

great mansions like Stanton Hall. The matter was brought to the attention of the Old Natchez District Historical Society. The president of the society, Mr. Everett Truly, appointed a committee to help acquire suitable furnishings for Mount Locust. The chairman of this committee was Mrs. Earl Hart Miller, who has been an enthusiastic collector of antiques and who has a great familiarity with early American furniture, household appliances, dishes, and textiles. It soon became apparent that many of the pieces of furniture could not be purchased on the Natchez market, and as a consequence it was necessary to have reproductions manufactured. This was fairly easy to do because Mr. Bailey's report contained illustrations and descriptions of the desired articles.

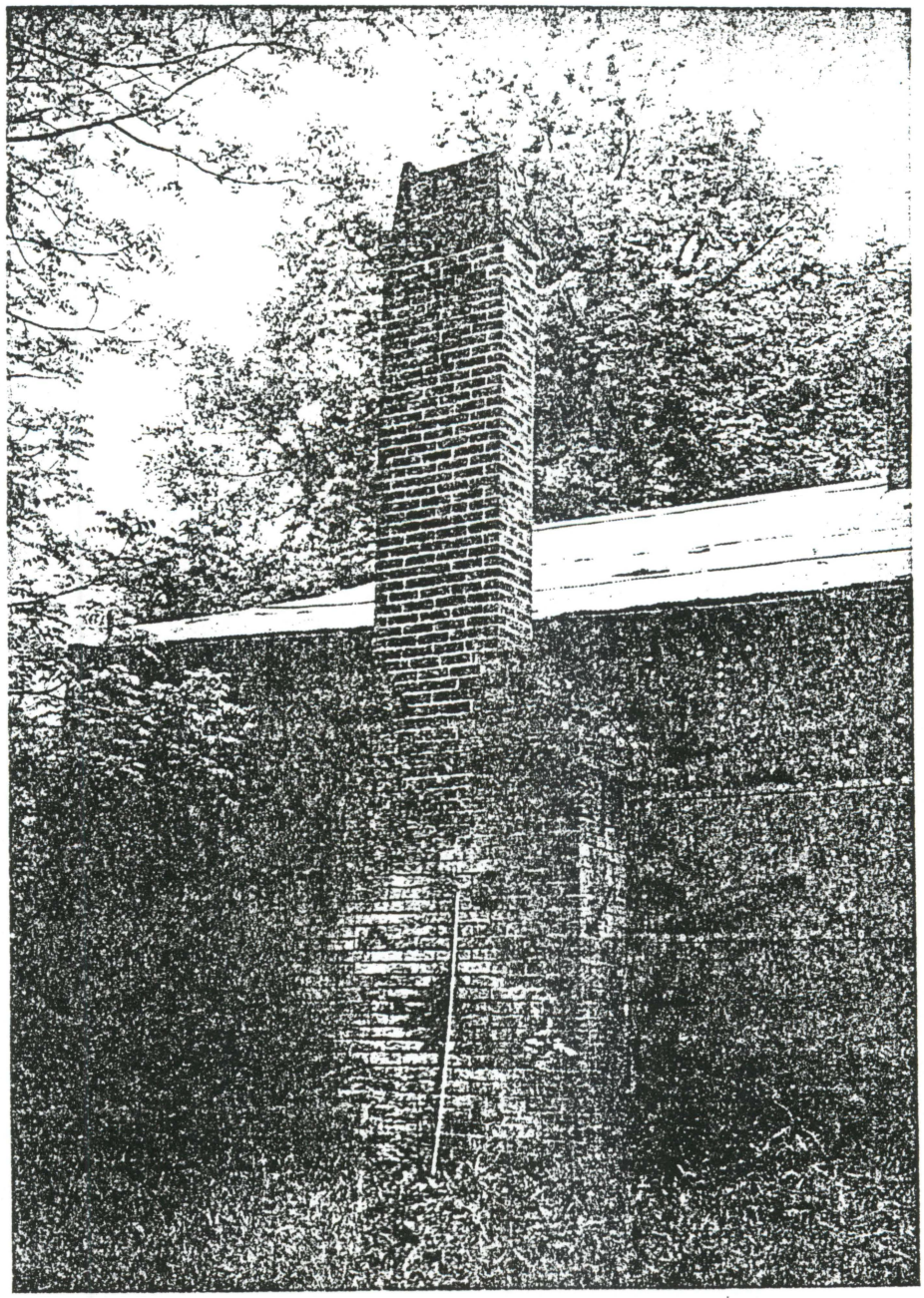
Mr. David Pruitt, a cabinet maker and reproducer of antique furniture, agreed to and did build half a dozen or a dozen of the larger items. Mrs. Miller was able to induce a number of people in Natchez to give smaller items suitable for Mount Locust. The month of January and the first half of February, 1957, were characterized by feverish efforts to acquire the furnishings, etc., provide decoration, and get the house ready for the dedication on February 15. Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Miller and other ladies of Natchez, the effort was successful. The last curtain was hung at noon on February 15; floors were swept, furniture dusted, bric-a-brac arranged for the dedication ceremony, which was scheduled for 2:30 that afternoon.

The story should end at this point, but there must be an anticlimax. It had been necessary to borrow some pieces of furniture from the ladies of Natchez to prepare for the opening. Since the opening a number of pieces of furniture have been acquired, and for all practical purposes it can be said that the Mount Locust restoration is complete. A few items still are needed, and we hope that as time passes, these will be acquired by gift.



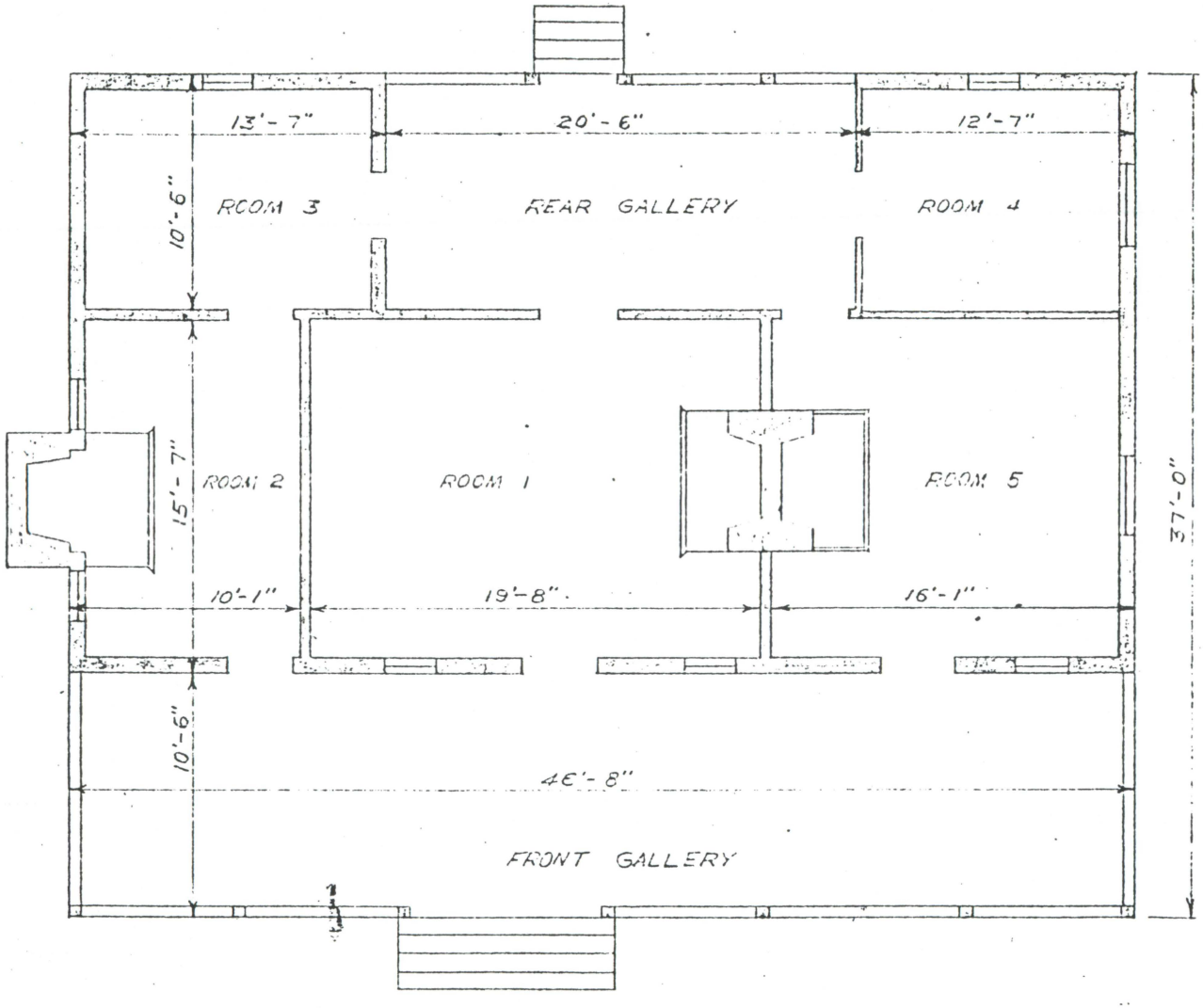
[illegible] Locust
(Ferguson House)
Before Restoration
View from the Northeast
1940
Natchez Trace Parkway, Section 3-W

Photograph to Accompany Project Completion Report



MOUNT LOCUST
(Ferguson House)
Exterior Walls Covered with Tar Paper in 1944
Before Restoration
Natchez Trace Parkway, Section 3-W

Photograph to Accompany Project Completion Report



NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

MOUNT LOCUST
(Ferguson Place)

After Restoration

Bldg 100

Scale: 1/8" = 1'

The Chamberlain House and Dependencies

or

The Mound Plantation Development

Jefferson County, Mississippi

The Chamberlain house lies in Jefferson County, Mississippi, about seventeen miles northeast of Natchez, very near an early settlement called Uniontown which has now entirely disappeared. The house is situated on high ground about two hundred yards northwest of the old Trace with an avenue of trees leading from the Trace up to the front porch. It will also be visible from the Parkway. Uniontown was located on the southeast side of the Trace opposite the Chamberlain house. The residence has been previously known as Ferguson's Tavern, Mound Plantation, and the Chamberlain House.

The structure and property acquired by William Ferguson in the Spanish District of Natchez about 1775, has been the homestead of various descendants of the family from that time up to 1937 when the State of Mississippi bought the house and part of the property for the National Park Service.

The tavern was erected on high ground traditionally believed to be an Indian mound and also the site of a Spanish fortified outpost. At the time William Ferguson built the original one-room tavern, about 1778, the stockade was standing, and a moat is reported to have existed at the base of the mound to which the settlers of Uniontown fled in the event of an Indian attack.

The original building was only a single room 16' X 20' which, with fireplace, was probably used as a tavern for traders and wayfarers traveling along the Natchez Trace. No doubt there were numerous outbuildings, including a kitchen, smoke house, barns, and later on slave quarters, as well as other outbuildings necessary in the operation of a sizable plantation on the grant of land which Ferguson had secured.

To the central room was added an additional room on either end, after which the three back rooms were probably added. It is likely that the additions were not begun until after Ferguson's marriage in 1783 and that later additions may have been made due to increasing travel along the Natchez Trace.

To date, according to the architectural evidence now existing, the center room, or original house, will bear out a date of approximately 1780 with the first addition somewhere around 1800.

In the writer's opinion the Chamberlain house, solely as an outstanding example of architecture of the period, would not justify its restoration by the Service; However, if the historical evidence of its connection with the Natchez Trace and the social and economic history of the old Southwest are considered sufficiently important by the Historical Division, there are now existing details of construction and information sufficient for its restoration as of 1830 or 1840.

In the event that a restoration is considered, a survey should be made in the form of an archaeological investigation to locate, if possible, the outbuildings described by the Chamberlain family. The following structures are reported to have been grouped around the main house:

1. The Kitchen

   Back of and a few feet to the left of the house - a single room structure with a chimney.

2. The Guest House or "Sleepy Hollow"

   Directly back of the main house - a two-story house, four rooms, double chimney, built of logs or brick with brick foundation.

3. The Slave Quarters

   Twelve to sixteen cabins in the bottom north and east of the main house. Single room cabins - built of logs, each probably having a chimney.

4. The Overseer's Quarters

   To the right of and approximately on line with the front of the guest house, probably about midway between the guest house and slave quarters group - a two-room house, double chimney, built of logs probably with a brick foundation.

5. The Brick Walks

   Said to be existing around the main house and are now covered with earth. In all probability the brick walks connected the main house with the kitchen and guest house.

6. The Stockade

Surrounding the main structure at the foot of the mound.

7. The Moat

On the outer side of the stockade.

Archaeological investigation should also verify or disprove the belief that the mound on which the house now stands is an Indian mound artificially made. In the course of such an investigation some indications might be found as to the exact location of the Spanish fort which is said to have occupied the present house site.

Of the features and structures said to have existed at some time during the different stages of habitation, slight visible evidences, other than the existing house, remain to indicate such an extensive development as has been described. At the southeast end of the house a small deposit of broken bricks is the only indication of what may have been the chimney, said to have been in Mrs. Ferguson's room. Back of, and to the left of this brick deposit, or farther southwest are scattered broken bricks which might be the site of the old kitchen (all indications and probable locations will be shown on a topographical map to be prepared by the Bureau of Public Road Engineers on the Parkway project).

At the site indicated for the guest house ("Sleepy Hollow"), said to have been a two story log or brick house with two rooms on each of the two floors, with a double fireplace and central chimney, only a few scattered broken bricks are visible. These scattered pieces of broken bricks have little or no significance as yet, but the site should be investigated. Besides the present topography is suggestive of once having been a building site.

The spot pointed out as having been occupied by the overseer's quarters and the adjoining part of the bottom land where the slave quarters were located now bear no surface evidences whatever of once existing buildings, except that the ground is suitable and conveniently located in relation to the plantation house.

One can only speculate as to the location of the stockade and moat since neither was used after attacks by the Indians were no longer feared. However, if they were once existing, traces could probably be found at the base of the mound.

If the outbuildings were built as described, it would be a fairly simple task to locate the kitchen, "Sleepy Hollow," the overseer's

quarters, the moat, the stockade, and brick walks by digging several narrow trenches to a depth of two or three feet.

On the building sites such trenching should reveal either the remains of the brick chimney and wall foundations or show soil disturbances where they were removed. Mrs. Chamberlain remembers that the bricks from these structures were removed to provide material for more modern structures elsewhere on the property. A series of trenches, (2' or 3' wide) excavated to the undisturbed clay line, dug into the mound at the base, should reveal the profile of the once excavated moat and the filled-in post holes which once held the vertical posts of the stockade.

It is doubtful whether or not any traces of the slave quarters could be found unless the cabin foundations were set in the ground 12" to 18" or unless part or all of them had chimneys. To find indications (filled-in pier or post holes) of the foundation logs or piers, the disturbed top soil would have to be removed in very thin layers until undisturbed soil is reached.

If a restoration of the Chamberlain house and plantation group is justifiable as a historic development in connection with the Natchez Trace, the group when finished to have a definite utility value, such as providing overnight accommodations for visitors, then the following recommendations are made:

1. That an archaeological survey or investigation be made to determine the exact location of as many of the outbuildings as possible and to verify as well as determine the existance and extent of the moat and stockade. At the same time narrow trenches should be dug into the face of the mound to determine whether or not it is an artificial Indian mound or a natural formation.

   It is recommended that all this investigation be done with CCC labor under the direction of a technician versed in archaeological methods and practices.

2. If archaeological investigation verifies or reveals the location and sizes of the buildings and features of the plantation, it is recommended that an architectural study be made of other contemporary plantation groups now existing, as well as any buildings of the type that may have been recorded.

3. That a complete set of plans and specifications be prepared for the restoration of the Chamberlain house and reproduction of the

outbuildings as of 1830 or 1840. Sufficient modern conveniences should be included to make the buildings adaptable to modern day usage.

It is probable that the disposition of the architectural features of the front facade of this addition was very similar to that of the wing at the opposite end of the present structure; that is, a door and window opening on the long gallery.

This verbal restoration, while purely conjectural, finds ample precedent among numerous houses of the same type in this section of the country.

The framing of the lean-to indicates that this addition in its entirety was made at one time. The presence of early nineteenth century paneling under the windows in the bedroom at the southwest end is rather disturbing however. It was finally decided that this paneling was removed from some other part of the house, probably from under the original windows in the adjoining front bedroom at the time of the second remodeling of that section. The presence of the early mantel piece in the bedroom at the opposite end has been accounted for earlier in the report.

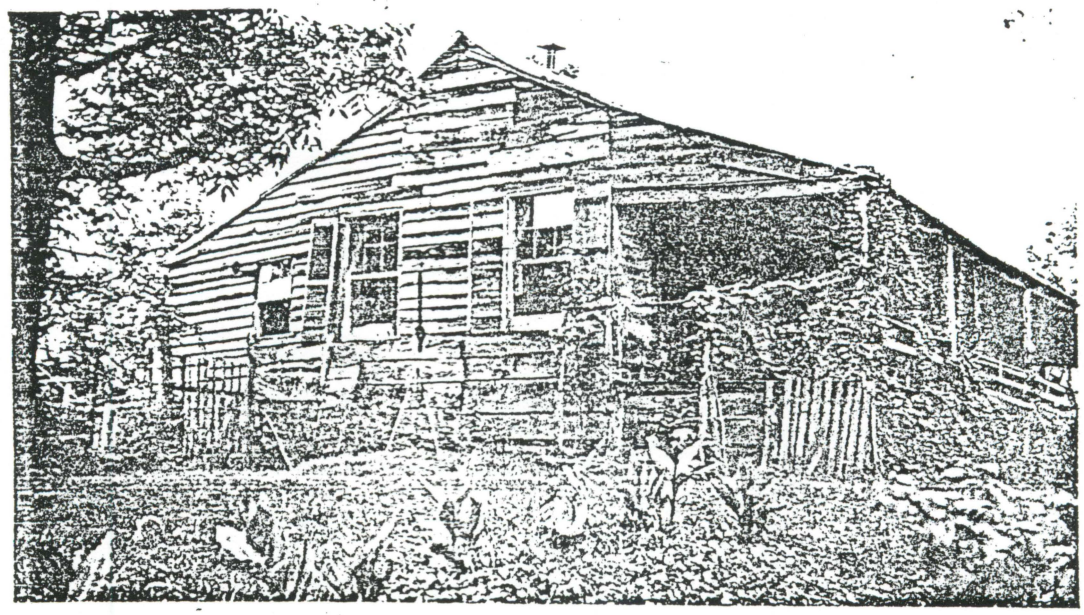
With the exception of the rambling rear ell, the enlargement of the opening between the rear hall and the living room is probably the latest constructional innovation. This change could not have been made many years prior to the War Between the States.

Stuart M. Barnette,
Assistant Architect.

cc: Mr. Vint
Spalding
Gardner
Parris ✓

smb:obn

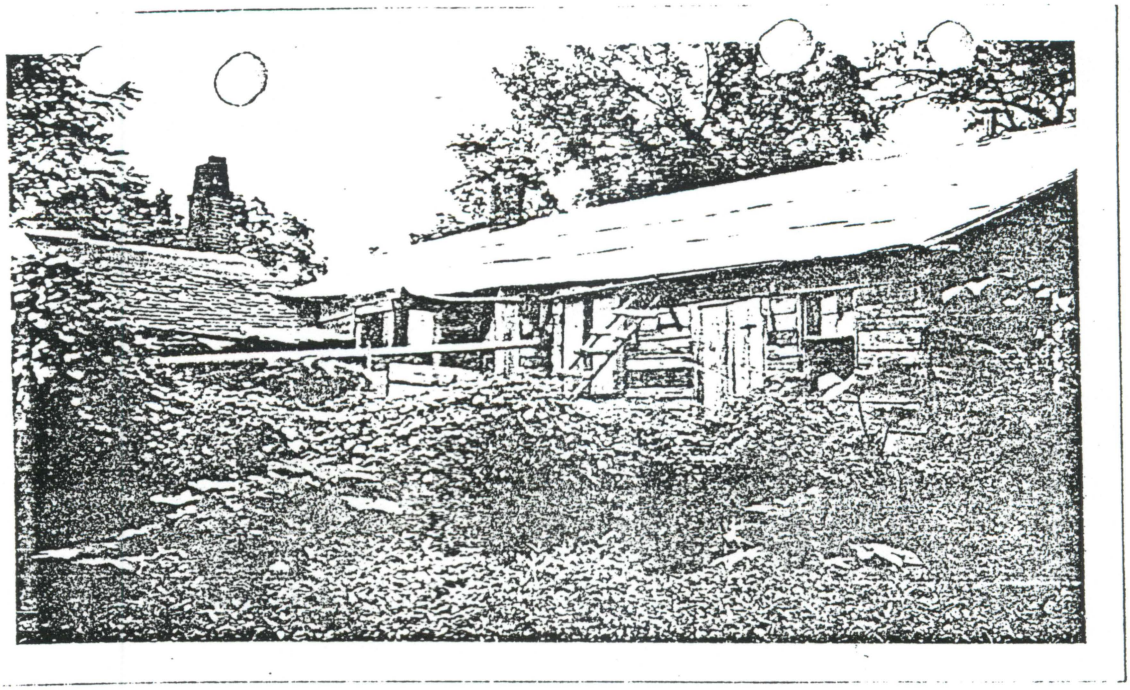
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Southwest end of house--note arrow and camera tripod indicating where scattered broken bricks were found. May possibly be location of end chimney.



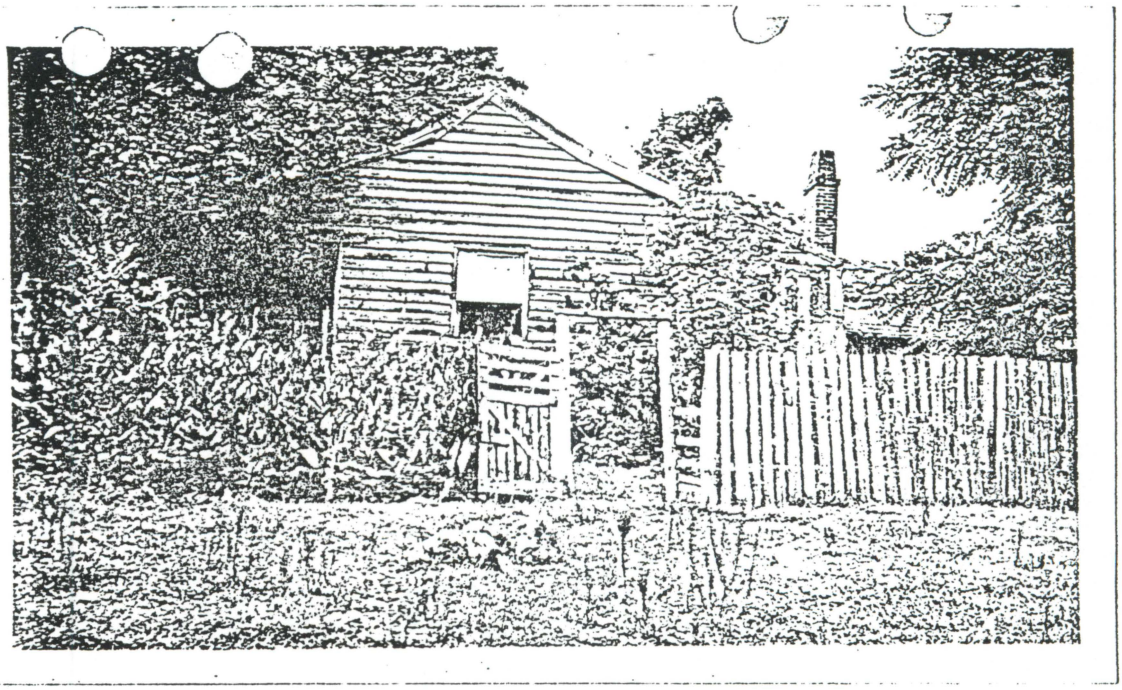
View looking northeast. Arrow indicates possible location of old kitchen. See sketch map.



View looking east--from probable location of old kitchen. Present kitchen is partially covered with wood shingles.



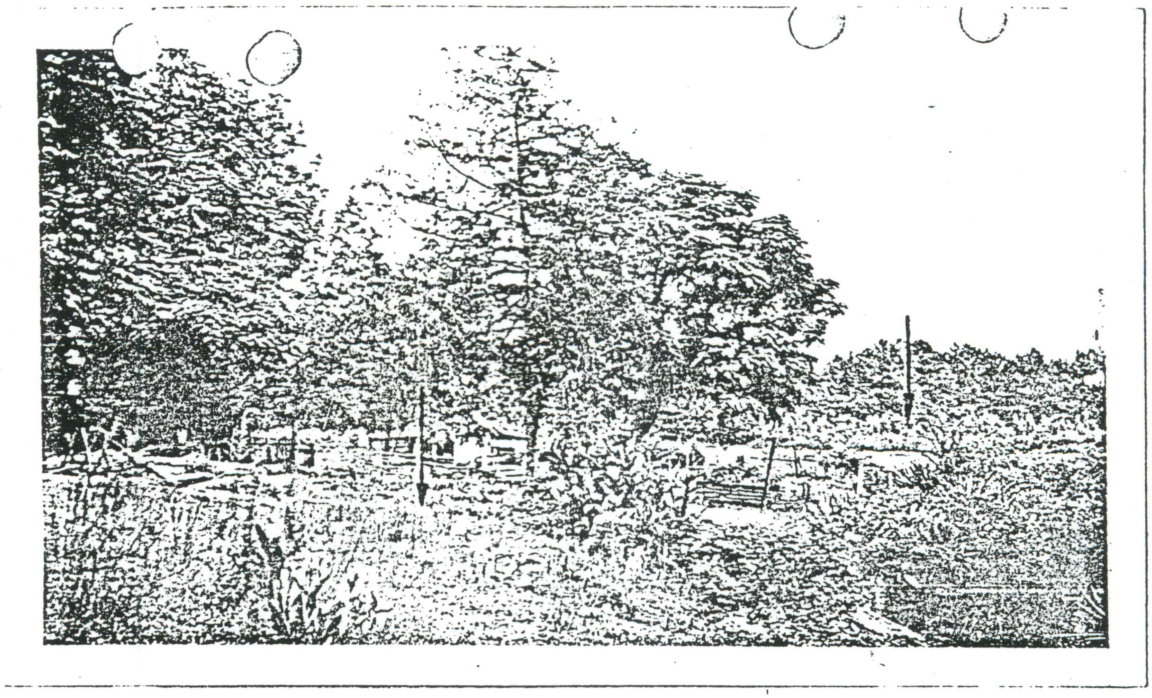
View looking south--arrow and camera tripod indicates possible location of guest house. Rear of present kitchen is partially visible to the left.



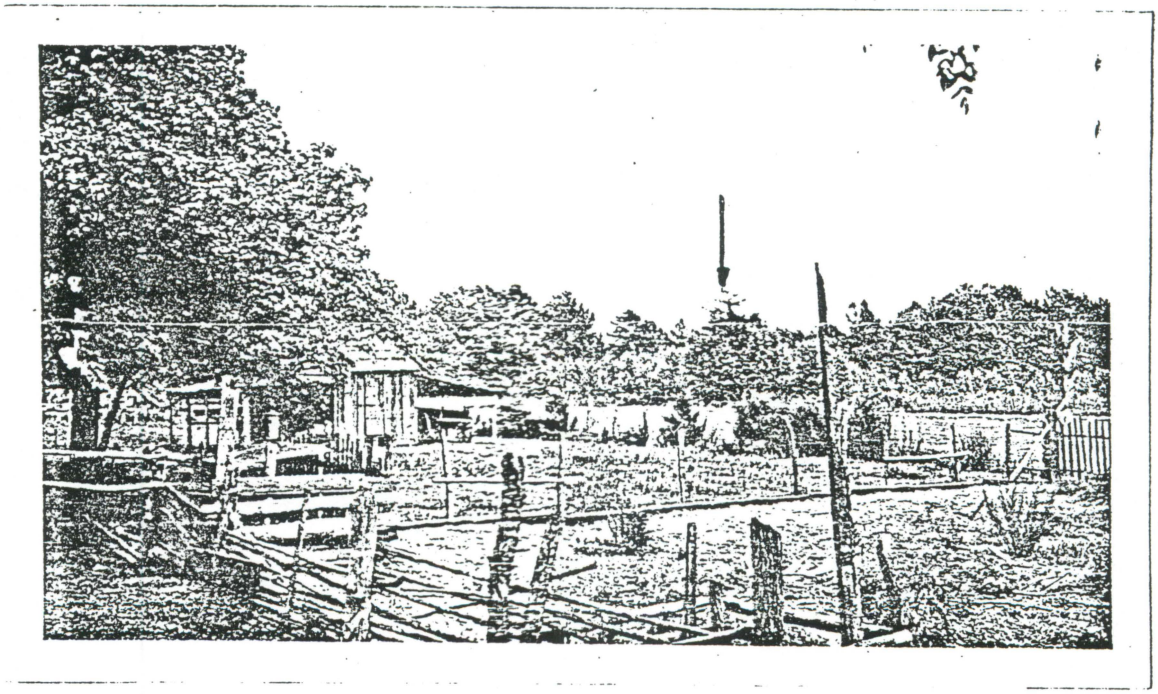
Northeast end of house



Northeast end of the house from about the base of the mound. View looking northwest. Note that mound is comparatively flat and could be a natural formation.



View showing approximately where caretaker's house (arrow to left) may have stood and flat ground to right where slave quarters were located. View looking north from northeast end of house.



View showing location of slave quarters. View from about the location of caretaker's house.



View of garden wall and base of mound. View looking north. Note that so called mound has very gradual slope.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE ASSESSMENT REPORT

Natchez Trace Parkway
Rural Route 1, NT 143
Tupelo, Mississippi 38801

MOUNT LOCUST HISTORIC HOUSE
BUILDING 1
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

Dates of Inspection and
Condition Assessment Report: 1991

Inspected by:
Center for Architectural Conservation
College of Architecture
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0155

Prepared for:
Park Historic Architecture Division
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

and

Southeast Regional Office
National Park Service
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Compiled by:
Center for Architectural Conservation
College of Architecture
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0155

NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY
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PROJECT STATEMENT

The Inventory and Condition Assessment Program (ICAP) is a systematized methodology to inventory and to assess the condition of or inspect maintenance features and a computer program to manage the substantial volume of information developed under the program.

The inventory and condition assessment is based on a comprehensive field inspection conducted by park, regional office, or DSC staff and/or private architectural/engineering (A/E) contractors. The inspection team prepares a report assessing the findings of the inspection and recommending, where necessary, appropriate repair treatments. For prehistoric and historic buildings these recommendations are consistent with the "Standards for Managing Historic and Prehistoric Structures (Including Ruins)" in the "Cultural Resource Management Guideline, NPS-28". A comprehensive building report for non-historic buildings is titled "Inventory and Condition Assessment Report". For prehistoric and historic buildings, a comprehensive building report is titled "Historic Structure Assessment Report". A comprehensive building report consists of the following information.

1. **General Date** - Background, size and geographical location.

2. **Historical Data** - For historic and prehistoric buildings, the historic significance of each feature is identified. Important List of Classified Structures (LCS) and Cultural Resources Management Bibliography (CRBIB) information is also furnished.

3. **Inventory Data** - Descriptions of features.

4. **Condition Assessment Data** - Deficiencies identified through the inspection process, with corrective work recommendations.

5. **Cost Data** - Estimated costs for all recommended work broken down into material and labor.

6. **Graphic Data** - A site sketch, simple plan drawings, and photocopies of representative views indicating existing conditions are also provided.

DEFINITIONS

MAINTENANCE PRIORITY

Priority 1: Buildings assessed priority 1 are those that must be maintained.

Condition Criteria:

- the building has fire/life/health safety and other code deficiencies; and/or
- the building has other significant critical and serious deficiencies that may effect the useful life of the building.

Management Criteria:

- the building is a cultural resource; and
- the building is significant based on specific servicewide, Regional or park management initiatives or directives.

Priority 2: Buildings assessed priority 2 are those that should be maintained.

- the building meets any of the requirements of priority 1. However, due to limited funding/resources maintenance is deferred. Every effort should be taken to upgrade these buildings when possible, in order to ensure proper maintenance.

Priority 3: Buildings assessed priority 3 are those that may be maintained.

- the building is scheduled for future cyclical and/or repair/rehabilitation work which may require special coordination of maintenance activities in order not to conflict with the planned work;
- or the building does not meet any of the requirements of priority 1 and 2.

BUILDING CONDITION

Excellent - A building is in excellent condition if any of the following conditions are present. Both interior and exterior features of the building are in like-new (or better) condition and building utility systems are without obvious or known defects. (This level does not apply to historic or prehistoric buildings.)

Good - A building is in good condition if the following conditions are present. The significant features are intact, structurally sound and performing their intended purpose; there are few or no cosmetic imperfections; the significant features need no repair; and only routine and/or cyclic maintenance is required. Examples are touch up painting needed or other minor items needing maintenance.

Fair - A building is in fair condition if any of the following conditions are present. There are signs of wear, failure or deterioration, though the building is generally sound; or if failure of a significant feature of the building is evident. Examples are worn floor or wall coverings and building utility systems in need of minor repair.

Poor - A building is in poor condition if any of the following conditions are present. The significant features are no longer performing their intended purpose or are missing; significant features show signs of imminent failure or break-down; structural integrity is marginal; major repairs are needed; or fire, life, health and/or safety standards for occupancy are questionable. Examples include exterior envelope which allows the elements to attack the interior and/or utility systems which are inadequate.

Obsolete - A building is in obsolete condition if any of the following conditions are present. It is beyond economic rehabilitation; is not historic or prehistoric and is not architecturally significant; and major health and/or safety violations exist. (This level does not apply to historic or prehistoric buildings.)

FEATURE CONDITION

The conditions *Good, Fair,* and *Poor* are equivalent to the **MM** conditions "1" as good, "2" as fair, and "3" as poor. For historic and prehistoric structures, it is also used as part of the criteria in establishing the significance of a feature.

A feature is evaluated as <u>Good</u> when:

- the feature meets the established Maintenance Management program condition guidelines, and
- the feature is intact, structurally sound and performing its intended purpose, and
- the feature needs no repair or rehabilitation and only routine and preventive maintenance is required.

A feature is evaluated as <u>Fair</u> when:

- the feature generally meets the Maintenance Management program condition guidelines and provides an adequate level of service, or
- there are early signs of wear, failure, or deterioration, though the feature is generally structurally sound and performing its intended purpose, or
- there is failure of a sub-component of the feature, or
- replacement of up to 25% of the feature or replacement of a defective sub-component is required.

A feature is evaluated as Poor when:

- the feature does not meet the Maintenance Management program condition guidelines, or
- the feature is no longer performing its intended purpose, or
- the feature is missing, or
- deterioration or damage affects more than 25% of the feature and cannot be adjusted or repaired, or
- the feature shows signs of imminent failure or breakdown, or
- the feature requires major repair or replacement.

TREATMENT RATINGS (Historic and Prehistoric Buildings Only)

Preservation: Defined as the act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and material of a building.

Feature: Defined as the basic component or issue on which the ICAP program collects information for inventory use. A feature may be an architectural element, structural component, engineering system or a functional requirement.

1. PRESERVE

Statement of Importance:

- the element is associated with those qualities for which the building is considered to have cultural value and dates from the period(s) of significance, and/or
- the feature is highly distinctive architecturally and dates to the buildings's period(s) of significance, and
- the level of damage or deterioration is such that it is still feasible to preserve.

Condition: Poor to Good- Preserve

2. PRESERVE WHEREVER POSSIBLE- REPLACE IN-KIND IF TOO DETERIORATED TO SAVE

Statement of Importance:

- the feature has acquired significance in its own right or makes an important contribution to other historic periods or levels of significance identified for the building, or

- the feature makes a significant contribution either to the building's historic appearance or as an integral part of its historic construction, or

- the feature meets "1" level criteria except that preservation is not feasible.

Condition: *Fair to Good- Preserve*
Poor- Replace

Note Exception: If the feature is antiquated and no longer serves a functioning role, retain it, in situ, as an historic artifact, wherever possible.

3. PRESERVE WHEREVER POSSIBLE- IF TOO DETERIORATED TO SAVE, FEATURE MUST BE REPLACED WITH COMPATIBLE MATERIAL AND DESIGN.

Statement of Importance:

- the feature contributes to the historic appearance of the building and dates either to the period(s) of historic significance or represents later, sensitive repair or replacement work, or

- the feature dates to the historic period(s) of significance of the building and represents a substantial amount of historic fabric.

Condition: *Fair to Good- Preserve*
Poor- Replace

4. PRESERVE WHERE THERE IS NO COMPELLING REASON FOR REMOVAL; UNDERTAKE ALL NECESSARY ALTERATION WORK AS SENSITIVELY AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING ANY DEMOLITION WORK.

Statement of Importance:

- the feature dates to the historic period(s) of significance of the building or is a later, sensitive repair, but does not represent a substantial amount of historic fabric, is not distinctive, nor does it make any measurable contribution to the building's historic appearance or system of construction.

Condition: *Fair to Good- Preserve*
Poor- Alter/Replace

5. REMOVE/ALTER/REPLACE; UNDERTAKE ALL WORK AS SENSITIVELY AS POSSIBLE.

Statement of Importance:

- the feature is not significant and through design or condition detracts from the historic appearance of the building, or

- the feature is a poor design and/or construction detail which contributes to the deterioration of the building, or

- the feature creates a serious code violation which can not be mitigated. (In cases where mitigation is not possible, removal or alteration of the feature may, in some cases, take precedence over higher ratings normally assigned to the feature.)

Condition: Poor to Good- Remove/Replace

6. SPECIFIED TREATMENT IS NOT REQUIRED, HOWEVER, IF ANY WORK IS DONE ON THIS ELEMENT IT SHOULD BE SYMPATHETIC TO THE HISTORIC QUALITIES OF THE BUILDING.

Statement of Importance:

- the feature has no historic value.

0. DEFAULT RATING - FEATURE NOT EVALUATED

The ICAP computer program will default to this value. A rating of zero (0) should alert the reader that an evaluation of the significance of the feature has not been made.

PRIORITY

A *Critical* deficiency of a feature exists where:

- there is advanced deterioration which has resulted in the failure of the feature or will result in the failure of the feature if not corrected within one year or
- there is accelerated deterioration of adjacent or related building materials as a result of the feature's deficiency,
- there is a threat to the health and/or safety of the user, or
- there is a failure to meet a legislative requirement.

A *Serious* deficiency of a feature exists where:

- there is deterioration which, if not corrected within 2-5 years, will result in the failure of the feature or
- a threat to the health and/or safety of the user may occur within 2- 5 years if the deterioration is not corrected, or
- there is deterioration of adjacent or related materials and/or systems as a result of the feature's deficiency.

A *Minor* deficiency of a feature exists where:

- standard preventive maintenance practices and conservation methods have not been followed, or
- there is a reduced life expectancy of affected or related materials and/or systems, or
- there is a condition with long-term impact beyond 5 years.

WORK RECOMMENDATIONS

Within the inventory section of a comprehensive report, each time a fair or poor condition is indicated, a work recommendation will appear in the back of the report. Occasionally, several related deficient features can be grouped together under one work recommendation. When this happens, the description of each of the affected features refers the reader to the feature with the work recommendation and no condition quantities are cited for the affected features.

COST ESTIMATES

The cost figures included in the work recommendations are estimates to be used for the planning of future work. They can be based on the inspector's own records, cost data provided by the Park, or standard cost estimating guides such as R.S. Means, but they are only estimates. Costs for architect's or engineer's fees or other contingencies are not included.

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

bedrm or BR- bedroom
bldg- building
bsmnt or bmt - basement
btwn- between
clg- ceiling
dbl- double
dine or DR- dining room
E- east
elev- elevation
exist- existing
fdn- foundation
ftg- footing
fl or flr- floor
galv- galvanized
gyp bd- gypsum board
kit- kitchen
LF- linear feet
LR- living room
mtl- metal
N- north
NFPA 101 - Life Safety Code, National Fire Protection Association
oc- on center
opg- opening
orig- original
reqd- required
rm- room
S- south
SF- square feet
SY- square yard
sgl- single
sht mtl- sheet metal
sm- small
stl- steel
T&G or T + G- tongue and groove

typ- typical
UBC- Uniform Building Code
W- west
wd- wood
wdo- window

****

--EXECUTIVE SUMMARY----------

SIGNIFICANCE: Mount Locust Historic House originated around 1780 & was restored in 1956 back to its original condition as a frontier home of 1820. It served historically as a home & inn catering to travelers on the old Natchez & today it functions as a museum.
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: 1-story wood structure building with long front & small back porch (gallery); wood siding with double hung windows on each side of exterior walls.

--IDENTIFICATION/MANAGEMENT INFORMATION----------

OTHER NAMES: Ferguson House

BUILDING ADDRESS
PARK ORGCODE: 5570

DISTRICT ORGCODE: 5570
Natchez Trace Parkway, Route 4, Box 250
Natchez, MS 39120
LOCATION: Natchez Trace
COUNTY: Jefferson

REAL PROPERTY INFORMATION
ACQUISITION DOCUMENT: - - -
ACQUISITION COST: $ 0
ACQUISITION DATE: 1937
GENERAL LEDGER ACCT NO:
SF 1166 NUMBER: 6080
SF 1166 DESIGNATION: HISTORIC BUILDING MUSEUM
TOTAL IMPROVEMENT/MODIFICATION COSTS: $ 0

NUMBERING INFORMATION
NUMBER ON BUILDING: 116-300
LCS ID NUMBER: 11385
HOUSING NUMBER:
ENERGY NUMBER:
CONCESSIONER NUMBER:

SIZE INFORMATION
TOTAL FLOOR AREA: 920 SF
FIRST FLOOR AREA: 920 SF
ADDITIONAL FLOOR AREA: 0 SF
TOTAL BASEMENT AREA: 0 SF
FINISHED BASEMENT AREA: 0 SF
UNFINISHED BASEMENT AREA: 0 SF
ROOF AREA: 1900 SF
PERIMETER LENGTH: 170 LF
NUMBER OF STORIES: 1
NUMBER OF ROOMS: 5
NUMBER OF BATHROOMS: 0

BUILDING INFORMATION
BUILDING ORGCODE: 5570
MANAGEMENT UNIT: NATR
BUILDING CONDITION: Fair
MAINTENANCE PRIORITY: 2 - Medium
MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: B DATE: 00/00/00
ELEVATION: FT
UTM COORDINATES: / /

OTHER PROPERTY INFORMATION
NPS LEGAL INTEREST:
FEE - FEE SIMPLE
MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: NONE

APPRAISAL INFORMATION
REPLACEMENT COST:
APPRAISAL YEAR:
APPRAISAL SOURCE:
PERCENT OCCUPIED: 0%
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1780-1789

SUMMARY COST INFORMATION
TOTAL: $ 1712
CRITICAL: $ 780
SERIOUS: $ 932
MINOR: $ 0

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--I D E N T I F I C A T I O N / M A N A G E M E N T I N F O R M A T I O N (cont)----------

UILDING CODE INFORMATION
APPLICABLE CODES:
NFPA 101
ANSI-A117.1

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION: Museum
OCCUPANCY LOAD:
HAZARD OF CONTENTS: Low
SEISMIC ZONE: 1
CONSTRUCTION TYPE: Wood (5)

OPERATIONS INFORMATION
Open to the public
SEASON: Feb through Nov
HOURS: 8:30am to 5:00 pm daily
TREATMENT RESPONSIBILITY
INTERIM TREATMENT: NPS
APPROVED ULTIMATE TREATMENT: NPS
ROUTINE MAINTENANCE: NPS
CYCLIC MAINTENANCE: NPS
ULTIMATE TREATMENT: PROPOSED DATE: 00/00/00
DOCUMENT: Z - Regional/WASO Neglect Removal Memoran
TREATMENT TYPE: PRESERVATION

--S I G N I F I C A N C E----------

SIGNIFICANCE: National
NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS: 1 - Entered - Documented DATE: 00/00/00
NHL STATUS: No

-H I S T O R I C A L I N F O R M A T I O N----------

PERIOD OF CONSTRUCTION: Historic
HISTORIC FUNCTION:
SINGLE DWELLING(INCL ROWHOUSE)

CURRENT FUNCTION:
MUSEUM (EXHIBITION HALL)

--D O C U M E N T A T I O N----------

SC PARKCODE:
RAWINGS:

TITLE	DOC ID #	DATE	LOCATION
Preliminary Study No. 2	N/A	02/03/55	

EPORTS:

TITLE	DOC ID #	DATE	LOCATION
Mount Locust Stabilization	N/A		Natchez Trace Parkway
Mount Locust on the Old Natchez Trace	N/A		Eastern National Park & Monument Association

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--H I S T O R I C A L D O C U M E N T A T I O N----------

HABS NUMBER: HAER NUMBER: NATIONAL REGISTER NUMBER:
CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT BIBLIOGRAPHY (CRBIB)

--MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS/MODIFICATIONS----------

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1780-1789 CONSTRUCTION: Built TEXT: Date of original construction
COST: $ 0 DESIGNER: Charles E. Peterson/Henry A. Judd DESIGNER'S OCCUPATION: Architect
HABS archit

TOTAL IMPROVEMENT/MODIFICATION COSTS: $ 0

--I N S P E C T I O N T E A M I N F O R M A T I O N----------

EVALUATION PROCEDURE
This building is one of the oldest historic buildings in Mississippi and originated about 1780. The building is generally in good condition. The piers were replaced in 2/92.

INSPECTION TEAM
DATE OF INSPECTION: 12/19/90
INSPECTION TEAM PERSONNEL:
Ali A. Miri
Historical Architect
Ctr for Arch Conservation
Georgia Tech
Atlanta, GA 30332-0155
(404) 894-8739
AREAS: Architecture
TIMES:
INSPECTION: 4 HRS.
REPORT PREPARATION: 12 HRS.

DATA ENTRY
DATE OF DATA ENTRY: 01/04/91
NAME: Jennifer L. Rakestraw
ADDRESS: Ctr for Arch Conservation
Georgia Tech
Atlanta, GA 30332-0155
(404) 894-3390

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
EXTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4111	WALLS:WALL SURFACE	11" wide wood siding	1821	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		1821	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	SF	POOR
4112	WALLS:WALL STRUCTURE	Wood studs	1937	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		1937	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	SF	POOR
4113	WALLS:WALL INSULATION	None			
	MM UNIT: NATR				
	HISTORIC RATING: 6				
	REVISION DATE: 07/15/92				
4131	FLOORS:FLOOR SURFACE	7" wide, 1" thick wood/in the front & rear porch	745	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		745	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4133	FLOORS:FLOOR STRUCTURE	8 1/2" x 6 1/2" wood joist, 28" on center	745	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		745	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	SF	POOR
4134	FLOORS:RAILING	Wood: 3"x3"/in the front & rear porch	76	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		76	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	LF	POOR
4141	WINDOWS:WDO FRAME	Wood in all exterior windows	9	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		9	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4142	WINDOWS:WDO SASH	Wood/double hung, 9 over 6 & 15 over 10	18	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		18	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4143	WINDOWS:WDO TRIM	Simple flat wood around the windows	96	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		93	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		3	LF	POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
EXTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4144	WINDOWS:WDO GLAZING	Single pane glass: 7 1/2"x10" & transom	148	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		126	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 06/03/92		22	EA	POOR
4146	WINDOWS:WDO LINTEL	Wood	9	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		9	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4147	WINDOWS:WDO SILL	Wood	9	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		9	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4149	WINDOWS:WDO SHUTTERS	2 & 4 panel wood	11	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		11	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4151	DOORS:DOOR FRAME	Wood in all exterior doors in the front & rear	7	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		7	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4152	DOORS:DOOR	Wood 6 panel: 4 EA/tongue & groove wood: 3 EA/one in front & two in the rear	7	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		7	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4153	DOORS:DOOR TRIM	Simple flat wood	120	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		120	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	LF	POOR
4155	DOORS:DOOR HARDWARE	Steel handle, steel latch: 3, & lock sets	7	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		7	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4156	DOORS:DOOR LINTEL	Wood in all exterior doors	7	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		7	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
EXTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4161	FINISHES:COATINGS	White paint on front wall, blue on the	376	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	doors, & beige on the windows in front,	376	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3	rear & both sides of the building	0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4171	STAIRS/RAMPS:STAIR/RAMP SURFACE	Wood: 9'x10" & 4'x12"/in front & rear	60	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		60	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 6		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4174	STAIRS/RAMPS:STAIR/RAMP RAILING	Wood in front (13 LF) & in the rear (10	23	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	LF)	23	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 6		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	LF	POOR
4190	EXTERIOR:EXTERIOR OTHER	Wood posts: 8'-0" high/six in the front	10	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	porch & four in the rear	8	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		2	EA	POOR
INTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4211	FLOORS:FLOOR SURFACE	Wood (pine & white poplar) on all room	920	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	floors	920	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4213	FLOORS:FLOOR STRUCTURE	8 1/2" & 6 1/2" wood joists, 28" on	864	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	center	864	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	SF	POOR
4214	FLOORS:FLOOR INSULATION	None			
	MM UNIT: NATR				
	HISTORIC RATING: 6				
	REVISION DATE: 07/15/92				
4221	WALLS:WALL SURFACE	Wood poplar in all rooms/white & yellow	975	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		975	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
INTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4222	WALLS:WALL STRUCTURE	Wood studs	488	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		488	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4223	WALLS:WALL TRIM	6" high simple wood base in all rooms	234	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		234	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	LF	POOR
4231	CEILINGS:CLG SURFACE	7" wide tongue & groove wood: 572 SF/	955	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	19" wide wood: 383 SF	955	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4232	CEILINGS:CLG STRUCTURE	4"x9" wood beams (joists), 33" on center	955	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		955	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4233	CEILINGS:CLG TRIM	2 1/2" wood moulding: 110 LF/6" simple	275	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	flat wood	275	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4243	WINDOWS:WINDOW TRIM	Decorative & simple wood on the interior	123	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	part of the windows	113	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		10	LF	POOR
4251	DOORS:DOOR FRAME	Wood	1	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		1	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4252	DOORS:DOOR	9 1/2" wide, 1" thick tongue & groove	1	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	wood door	1	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4253	DOORS:DOOR TRIM	Simple wood on the interior part of the	16	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	sleeping door	16	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	LF	POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
INTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4255	DOORS:DOOR HARDWARE	Wood handle & wood lock on the front	1	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	entrance of the sleeping room	1	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4256	DOORS:DOOR LINTEL	Wood	1	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		1	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 4		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4261	FINISHES:COATINGS	Paint on the wall of the hall & two	2273	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	sleeping rooms	1003	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		1270	SF	POOR
4281	FIREPLACES:MANTEL	Decorative wood mantle: 1/simple brick	3	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	mantle: 2/in the hall room & sleeping	3	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2	room	0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4282	FIREPLACES:FIREBOX	8" brick in all fireplaces	3	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		3	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
4283	FIREPLACES:DAMPER	Steel in the sleeping room fireplace in	1	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	front of the storage	1	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	EA	POOR
ROOF					
4311	SYSTEM:ROOF SURFACE	Wood shingles	19	SQ	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		19	SQ	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	SQ	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SQ	POOR
4313	SYSTEM:ROOF STRUCTURE	Wood trusses: 24" on center	1915	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		1915	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	SF	POOR

INVENTORY/CONDITION ASSESSMENT - LEVEL 2 MOUNT LOCUST HISTORIC HOUSE

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
ROOF					
4314	SYSTEM:ROOF INSULATION	Damaged insulation in the attic area	955	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		0	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 6		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		955	SF	POOR
4322	OPENINGS:ROOF VENTILATION	None			
	MM UNIT: NATR				
	HISTORIC RATING: 4				
	REVISION DATE: 01/14/91				
FOUNDATION					
4413	WALLS:FDN VENTILATION	None			
	MM UNIT: NATR				
	HISTORIC RATING: 6				
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91				
4416	WALLS:FDN INSULATION	None			
	MM UNIT: NATR				
	HISTORIC RATING: 6				
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91				
4422	PIERS:PIER/PILE STRUCTURE	Round wood piers, replaced in 2/92	29	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		29	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 07/15/92		0	EA	POOR
4431	CHIMNEYS:CHIMNEY SURFACE	Red brick	255	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		255	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4432	CHIMNEYS:CHIMNEY STRUCTURE	8" brick	25	LF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		25	LF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 2		0	LF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/10/91		0	LF	POOR
4434	CHIMNEYS:CHIMNEY CAP	Clay cap	2	EA	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		2	EA	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	EA	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 01/14/91		0	EA	POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
UTILITY SYSTEMS					
4611	PLUMBING:SUPPLY PIPE NET MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	None			
4612	PLUMBING:WASTE PIPE NET MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	None			
4615	PLUMBING:SEPTIC SYSTEM MM UNIT: HISTORIC RATING:	Not inspected			
4618	PLUMBING:WATER TREAT SYS MM UNIT: HISTORIC RATING:	Not inspected			
4631	ELECTRICAL:INCOMING SERVICE MM UNIT: HISTORIC RATING:	Not inspected			
4652	HVAC:HVAC EQUIPMENT MM UNIT: HISTORIC RATING:	Not inspected			
FIRE/LIFE/HEALTH SAFETY					
4711	FIRE EGRESS:MEANS OF EGRESS MM UNIT: HISTORIC RATING:	Not inspected			
4721	INTRUSION:INT ALARM MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	None	1 0 0 1	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
FIRE/LIFE/HEALTH SAFETY					
4733	FIRE DETECTION:FD DETECTOR MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/14/91	None			
4741	SMOKE CONTROL:SMOKE ALARM MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 07/15/92	Smoke detectors hard wired into building's electrical system	5 5 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4743	SMOKE CONTROL:DEVICE/EQPT MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	None			
4757	FIRE SUPPRESSION:EXTINGUISHERS MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	ABC, Adger & Unsol/in the hall, storage & sleeping room	3 3 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4761	SEISMIC:STRUCTURAL MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	Zone 1: major damage/two-story rectangular building on wood piers			
4771	HANDICAPPED ACCESS:PARKING MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	2 - 12'x20' asphalt spaces marked	2 2 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4772	HANDICAPPED ACCESS:ENTRY/ROUTE MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 07/15/92	Asphalt from parking area to the building/handicapped access planning is underway	3800 3800 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4774	HANDICAPPED ACCESS:RESTROOMS MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	5'-0" wide, 16'-0" long	1 1 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4775	HANDICAPPED ACCESS:DRINKING FOUNTAIN MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	Located outside of toilet room area	1 1 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
FIRE/LIFE/HEALTH SAFETY					
4781	HEALTH SAFETY:D WTR TREATMENT MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	Canesbury Church Hill water system			
4782	HEALTH SAFETY:W WTR TREATMENT MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 07/15/92	None required	1 1 0 0	EA EA EA EA	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4783	HEALTH SAFETY:FOOD SERVICE MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	Building does not provide a public food service			
4784	HEALTH SAFETY:REFUSE COLL/STOR MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	Solid waste management of Mississippi			
4785	HEALTH SAFETY:PEST INFEST MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 07/15/92	Building should be on annual inspeciton & treatment plan due to past infestation			
4786	HEALTH SAFETY:HAZARDOUS MATL MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 03/14/91	None			
GENERAL BUILDING/SITE					
4911	SITE FEATURES:DRIVE/PARKING MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 6 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	Asphalt 9'x20' for cars	25 25 0 0	SF SF SF SF	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR
4912	SITE FEATURES:GRADE/DRAINAGE MM UNIT: NATR HISTORIC RATING: 5 REVISION DATE: 01/10/91	Slopes away from the building	4500 4500 0 0	SF SF SF SF	TOTAL GOOD FAIR POOR

MM CODE	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	INVENTORY QUANTITY	UNIT	CONDITION
GENERAL BUILDING/SITE					
4913	SITE FEATURES:VEGETATION	Grass around the building	4500	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR		4500	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 5		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR
4914	SITE FEATURES:WALKWAY/PATIO	3'-0" wide red brick walkway herringbone	996	SF	TOTAL
	MM UNIT: NATR	pattern all around the building	996	SF	GOOD
	HISTORIC RATING: 3		0	SF	FAIR
	REVISION DATE: 03/14/91		0	SF	POOR

MM CODE / ELEMENT / UNIT	DEFICIENCY CODE	RECOMMENDATION	QUANTITY	UNIT	MAT / LABOR / MARK-UP
EXTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4143 WINDOWS WDO TRIM PRIORITY: SERIOUS CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 3	Rotted sill in the window on the rear elevation	Remove rotted sill/provide wood sill the same size & shape & replace	3	LF	$ 10 62 22 ======= $ 94
4144 WINDOWS WDO GLAZING PRIORITY: CRITICAL CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 3	Broken & cracked glass in the windows on the front, rear & side elevations	Remove all broken & cracked glasses/provide single plate glass the size of each pane	22	EA	$ 125 90 65 ======= $ 280
4190 EXTERIOR EXTERIOR OTHER PRIORITY: SERIOUS CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Others RATING: 3	Cracked columns in the rear porch	Clean out any debris & all paint from cracks; brush cracks water repellant preservative; prime & paint as required	2	EA	$ 50 100 45 ======= $ 195
INTERIOR ENVELOPE					
4243 WINDOWS WINDOW TRIM PRIORITY: SERIOUS CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 4	Cracked & damaged wood trim in the sleeping room on the right side of the sitting room	Repair cracked wood trim	10	LF	$ 0 65 20 ======= $ 85
4261 FINISHES COATINGS PRIORITY: SERIOUS CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 3	Dirty walls in the hall & sleeping rooms	Paint all walls, ceilings, walls, & windows in the hall & sleeping rooms	1270	SF	$ 80 350 129 ======= $ 559
ROOF					
4314 SYSTEM ROOF INSULATION PRIORITY: CRITICAL CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 6	Damaged & old insulation in the attic area	Remove all damaged insulation, provide 3 1/2" thick R11 batt insulation & insert between the joists	955	SF	$ 240 145 116 ======= $ 501

MM CODE	ELEMENT UNIT	DEFICIENCY CODE	RECOMMENDATION	QUANTITY	UNIT	MAT LABOR MARK-UP
FIRE/LIFE/HEALTH SAFETY						
4721	INTRUSION INT ALARM PRIORITY: CRITICAL CONDITION: POOR SOURCE: Means RATING: 6	Building does not have intrusion alarm system	NPS - Harper's Ferry Center is currently conducting study for system/costs not available at this time	1	EA	$ 0 0 0 ======= $ 0

MOUNT LOCUST HISTORIC HOUSE
1
NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

DIVISION	CRITICAL FAIR	CRITICAL POOR	SERIOUS FAIR	SERIOUS POOR	MINOR FAIR	MINOR POOR	SUBTOTAL
EXTERIOR ENVELOPE	$ 0	$ 280	$ 0	$ 289	$ 0	$ 0	$ 568
INTERIOR ENVELOPE	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 644	$ 0	$ 0	$ 644
ROOF	$ 0	$ 501	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 501
FOUNDATION	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
FURNISHINGS	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
UTILITY SYSTEMS	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Plumbing	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Electrical	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
HVAC	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Conveyance	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
FIRE/LIFE/HEALTH SAFETY	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Fire/Life Safety	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Handicapped Accessiblity	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Public Health	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
GENERAL BUILDING/SITE	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
SUBTOTAL	$ 0	$ 780	$ 0	$ 932	$ 0	$ 0	
TOTALS	$ 780		$ 932		$ 0		$ 1712

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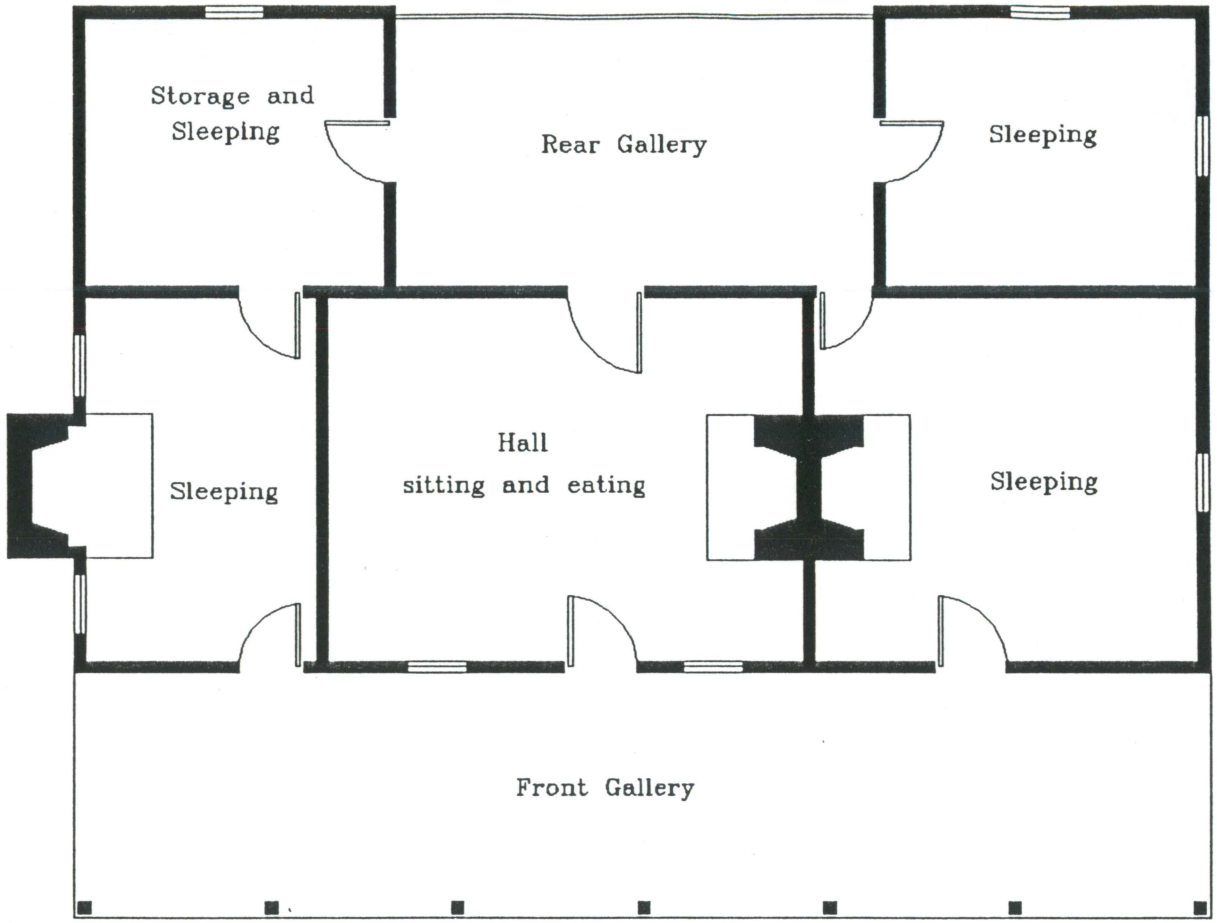
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Mount Locust
Historic House

Natchez Trace
Parkway

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

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