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TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711 (512)463-6100

11 April 1994

FYI and possible use.

TRF





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

# NEWS RELEASE

TRUETT LATIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 512-475-3092 P.O. BOX 12276 AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

LOCUST GROVE ADDED TO NATIONAL REGISTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Locust Grove, a significant Harrison County historical site, was officially listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 20, 1979. Nominated for inclusion in the Register by the Texas Historical Commission, the site is now formally recognized for its contribution to the history of the American people.

Locust Grove is a fine example of a Greek Revival plantation house of mid-19th century Texas and stands as one of the oldest houses in the small community of Jonesville. Built for Alpheus Wright between 1847 and 1849, the house has remained in the family to the present.

The National Register is a nationwide inventory of historic properties considered to be worthy of preservation for their cultural and historical values. Locust Grove is one of approximately 620 Texas sites of archeological, historical, or architectural significance which have been included in the National Register, under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

This designation does not infringe upon the private property rights of site owners. It does offer a measure of protection from disturbance in any federally-funded or licensed project such as highway or reservoir construction. National Register properties are also eligible for financial assistance through the grants-in-aid program. Such funds can be used for acquisition, preservation, or restoration of the sites. The federal funds distributed to the states as grants-in-aid are not tax monies; they are part of lease payments to the Department of the Interior for resource exploration on public lands. Funds are allocated to the states each year through the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of the Interior Department. The money is administered in Texas by the National Register office of the Texas Historical Commission, under the direction of Truett Latimer, State Historic Preservation Officer and Executive Director of the agency. Texas' 1979 allocation of \$1,494,000 is the fifth largest state grant in the nation, reflecting Texas' active preservation efforts.

The Texas Historical Commission is the Official State Agency for Historic Preservation. It acts as a clearinghouse for preservation information, sponsors educational and consultation programs, and publishes preservation-related materials. The agency is responsible for the state historical marker program and for an extensive program of workshops, publications, and services in the fields of preservation, archeology, and museology. The Commission works closely with a network of 250 county historical commissions as well as 237 non-profit heritage organizations in the state.

-30-

dist: regional

9/21/79

TRUETT LATIMER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



P. O. BOX 12276  
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

August 10, 1979

Dear Mrs. Hodges:

Recently the Texas Historical Commission nominated the Locust Grove in Jonesville, Harrison County, Texas, for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. On June 20, 1979, it was entered in the Register and is now afforded the privileges granted under the Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

We are enclosing a pamphlet on the National Register program, its significance and its implementation. If you have questions about possible grants-in-aid or the applicability of the 1976 Tax Reform Act or need further information, please contact our office.

Your interest in the preservation of Texas heritage is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Truett Latimer", is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Enclosure

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered JUN 20 1979

Name

Location

Locust Grove

Jonesville  
Harrison County

Also Notified

Honorable John G. Tower  
Honorable Lloyd M. Bentsen  
Honorable Sam B. Hall, Jr.

**COPY OF CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

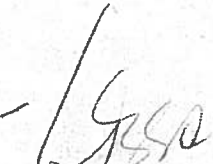
For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

April 18, 1979

Dear Gayle:

Enclosed is the original nomination and additional requested material for Locust Grove, Harrison County, Texas. Marcella had asked for the further justification quite some time ago. Let me know if this is sufficient.

Thank you very much.

  
Lissa Anderson  
Coordinator  
National Register Nominations

:LA

RECEIVED  
FEB 24 1978

HARRISON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MARSHALL, TEXAS

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

NOTABLE CITIZENS

ALBERT AGNOR  
WORLD CHILI CHAMPION  
BAILEY ANDERSON  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERAN  
MYRON BLALOCK  
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER  
EDWARD CLARK  
GOVERNOR, CONFEDERATE GENERAL  
MILLARD COPE  
PUBLISHER, AP DIRECTOR  
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SIGNER, TEXAS DECLARATION  
OF INDEPENDENCE  
T. WHITFIELD DAVIDSON  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,  
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WILLIAM DELAFIELD  
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LEMUEL D. EVANS  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE,  
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE  
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ELKANAH GREER  
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U. S. SENATOR  
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CONFEDERATE GENERAL  
HUDDIE (LEAD BELLY) LEDBETTER  
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R.W. LOUGHERY  
EDITOR, TEXAS REPUBLICAN  
BILL MOYERS  
PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR,  
PUBLISHER, AUTHOR  
PENDLETON MURRAH  
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WILLIAM B. OCHILTREE  
ATTORNEY-GENERAL, SUPREME  
COURT JUSTICE  
LUCY HOLCOMB PICKENS  
WIFE OF AMBASSADOR (RUSSIA),  
GOVERNOR (SOUTH CAROLINA)  
ROBERT POTTER  
SIGNER, TEXAS DECLARATION  
OF INDEPENDENCE, SECRETARY  
OF NAVY, REPUBLIC OF TEXAS  
GEORGE P. RAINS  
GENERAL, TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD  
HORACE RANDAL  
CONFEDERATE GENERAL  
THOMAS J. REYNOLDS  
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GENERAL, CONFEDERATE SENATOR  
ASA WILLIE  
SUPREME COURT JUSTICE  
ISAAC VAN ZANDT  
AMBASSADOR, REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

3704 Fitzgerald  
Marshall, Texas 75670

February 23, 1978

Mr. David Moore  
Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Moore:

It was a pleasure to meet you on my too-brief visit to the Commission offices the day of the tax seminar. Both Mrs. Lale and I are looking forward to the visit to Harrison County which Marie indicated you and Stan will be making soon.

We now have what I believe to be all the information needed to complete the record on Locust Grove. Perhaps the best way to convey it is to answer in order the questions which Marie initially raised in her letter of June 23, 1976:

1. Is Jonesville still an extant community? The answer is yes, although it is not an incorporated municipality. The postoffice now known as Jonesville was established under the name of Border when John C. Dunn was appointed postmaster on January 18, 1847. The postoffice and the community with it were moved a mile and a half south in 1868 to place themselves on the Southern Pacific Railroad when its rails were relaid. It was moved again in 1874 to place it on the Texas and Pacific Railroad. The locus of the Jonesville community is the T. C. Lindsey general store operated by Tom and Sam Vaughn, a surviving nineteenth century establishment which has been used as a setting for several Walt Disney movies. Still standing in Jonesville is the last operating cotton gin in Harrison County, though it has been closed for several years, since cotton disappeared as a farm crop in Harrison County.

2. Did the stage stop which was mentioned have any relationship to the Wright house? The answer is no. This information was gratuitously included in the original submission only to show that Locust Grove was located in an established antebellum community.

3. Are the one-story rooms which made the house a U-shaped structure original? The answer is yes. See the attached supplemental data supplied by Mrs. Willard Hodges of Dallas, present owner of Locust Grove and a direct descendant of the original owner. Mrs. Hodges also has supplied a sketch drawing of the floor plan to clarify the architectural relationships.

4. Where are the Motley and Long homes? See Mrs. Hodges' attached statement.

5. How do you know these homes were built by the same man? See Mrs. Hodges' attached statement.

6. Can you provide a chronological list of ownership? See Mrs. Hodges' attached statement.

7. Can you give any biographical information on any of the other owners? See Mrs. Hodges' attached statement.

8. Can you provide a brief comment stating why you think this house is significant? Locust Grove is a surviving example of an architectural style to which prosperous planters aspired in the early years of antebellum Harrison County. As such it offers to the present and to future generations a living picture of life styles based on the economic system which flourished during a period when Harrison County was one of the most populous and influentially one of the most important counties in Texas. This system, and with it much of the statewide leadership provided by residents of Harrison County, expired in 1865, of course. Nevertheless, the house remains. Its original owner was one of the pioneers of both Harrison County and the economic system on which much of Harrison County's early preeminence was based.

9. Was the name Locust Grove chosen by the original owner? As noted in the original submission, the house first was known as "Florence Dale" in honor of a daughter born in the house on June 25, 1849. The name was changed to Locust Grove later.

I hope to answer shortly the similar questions which have been raised about Pine Hill. At the moment I am awaiting a reply from the present owner, a resident of Houston, to my letter to him about these questions.

Best regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely

*Max S. Lale*

Max S. Lale  
Chairman

Supplemental Data on Locust Grove  
Jonesville, Harrison County  
Texas

1. Question: Are the one-story rooms which made the house a U-shaped structure original?

Yes. When the house was built beginning in 1847, the back part was an open court, U-shaped with north base squared; the east side of the court was the large dining room, and the west side was formed by two small bedrooms which, together, were the size of the dining room, making both sides of the U the same size. These original rooms are still part of the house - the only change in structure was that the open space was floored and roofed, making a large hall. The north, east, and west walls of this hall are the original outside walls of the front hall, the dining room, and the two west bedrooms. The south wall was added to complete enclosure of the area. The double doors which originally were at the north base of the U (opening from the front hall into the gallery which ran all around the U) were moved to the south end of this large hall, and remain there today. In brief, the only room that was "added" was the result of enclosing the open space. This enclosure work was begun in October 1908 - the carpenters had to delay the work for my birth on October 8 and my mother's recovery to the point that she could resume operation of her household and oversee the preparation of meals for the carpenters.

2. Question: What are the locations of the Motley and Long houses in relationship to Locust Grove?

Locust Grove is on "Bill Coleman Road" - a little unnumbered county road, formerly the old stagecoach road mentioned in the narrative on Locust Grove, running in front of Locust Grove. To reach the site of the old Robert H. Motley place (house no longer standing), follow Hwy 1998 east out of Marshall; go past Scottsville Cemetery continuing east, where Hwy 1998 runs into Hwy 134, take 134, going southeast. This is at a point where there are several mailboxes and a house on the left and a house on the right. The Motley house site is on the left side of the road, several hundred yards past the point where 1998 merges into 134. Large magnolia trees (and other trees) identify this spot.

The Col. Long place (Lonely Dell) was not right in this area - it was nearer Elysian Fields, but I am not personally familiar with the exact location.

I have no documented proof that the same person who built Locust Grove also built the Motley and the Long houses. It would be most unusual for one to find documentation of this type of thing. My mother told me that the same builder was used for the three houses and she had this information from her father. I have seen a picture of the Long house, and the exterior (front and what I can see of the side) was identical to Locust Grove. I have been in the Motley House and know personally that it was like Locust Grove except that the hall extended the full length of the house



whereas Locust Grove had the open U-shaped court in the back.

3. Question: What is the chronological chain of ownership to the present?

1. Alpheus Billings Wright, original owner who had the house built. Construction started in 1847. Wright died December 16, 1869.
2. Lucy Benefield Taylor Wright, widow of A. B. Wright, owner until her death on January 21, 1888.
3. Robert Ross Wright, son of A. B. and Lucy (Taylor) Wright, owner until his death on September 13, 1888.
4. Eudora Carolina Perry Wright, widow of R. R. Wright, owner until her death on October 16, 1902.
5. The seven children of Eudora Perry Wright were heirs to her intestate estate, and they sold their interests to the eldest child, Eugene Earl Wright. The six heirs who sold to the seventh were: Lucy Ross Wright Coleman (Mrs. Thomas Algernon Coleman), William Alpheus Wright, Robert Ross Wright (II), Von Bismarck Wright, Eudora Wright Akin (Mrs. Walter L. Akin), and Edward Pope Wright.
6. At the death of Eugene Earl Wright on March 7, 1924, his six siblings became heirs to his intestate estate, and they sold to the eldest sister, Lucy Ross Wright Coleman (Mrs. Thomas Algernon Coleman).
7. On June 21, 1952, Lucy Ross Wright Coleman conveyed the 15-acre house site including "Locust Grove" to her only daughter, Eudora Earle Coleman (now Mrs. Willard L. Hodges), retaining a lifetime estate. Full title passed to Eudora Coleman when Lucy Wright Coleman died on April 8, 1953. The deed is recorded on page 46 of Harrison County Deed Book 416. I am still the owner of this property.

Brief biographical data on the owners of this property are attached.

*Eudora Coleman Hodges*  
*February 18, 1978*

Biographical Data on Owners  
of Locust Grove

1. Alpheus Billings Wright - in original narrative.
2. Lucy Benefield Taylor Wright, widow of A. B. Wright. Born June 8, 1808, in Nash County, North Carolina, died January 21, 1888, Jonesville, Harrison County, Texas, at home of her daughter, Mrs. C. C. Hart, whose home was near Locust Grove, on part of the original Wright property. Buried in Concord Cemetery, Jonesville, Texas. Daughter of William and Hannah (Dudley) Taylor, both of Nash County, N. C. - moved ca 1812 to Todd County, Kentucky. A. B. Wright and Lucy Benefield Taylor married in Todd County in 1830 (License #385, Book A, p. 56). The Wrights came to Harrison County in 1847 - see original narrative.
3. Robert Ross Wright, only son of A. B. and Lucy (Taylor) Wright, was born February 9, 1840, in Todd County, Kentucky. He died September 13, 1888, at his home, Locust Grove, Jonesville, Harrison County, Texas. He is buried in Concord Cemetery, Jonesville, Texas. On April 4, 1865, at "Whitehall," the Perry home, he married Eudora Carolina Perry, daughter of Dr. Harwood Pope and Mary Ann (Earl) Perry. Robert Ross Wright received his early education in his home and in local schools and at old Baylor University, when it was located in Independence, Texas. I have two of his textbooks, inscribed and dated in his own handwriting. Then he studied dentistry in the Philadelphia Dental College, leaving a few months before graduation to enter the Confederate Army. He was with the Marshall Guards and Texas Hunters, a member of Co. A, 3rd Texas Cavalry, <sup>(Capt. T. W. Winston)</sup> Gen. Walter P. Lane's Brigade, Van Horn's Division. He came home on furlough in 1865 because of his father's illness and was still on furlough when the Civil War ended. He married and lived in his home, Locust Grove, and managed the farm during his father's illness, continuing to live there until his own death. His mother and unmarried youngest sister, Florence, also lived there until a short time before his death; also in the home were his widowed sister Emma Hope (Mrs. Adam) and her baby daughter, for whom R. R. Wright was appointed guardian. They lived there until Mrs. Emma Hope married C. C. Hart in 1873, in Harrison County. Not licensed to practice dentistry, Robert Ross Wright was engaged in farming. He was an ardent sportsman, enjoying hunting and all such sports in the out-of-doors. He was a high-spirited and people-oriented man, taking great pleasure in entertaining his friends in his home. He was a devoted husband and father and a man of unusually high moral principles.
- Eudora Carolina Perry Wright, widow of Robert Ross Wright. Born October 22, 1840, in Lowndes County, Alabama, died October 16, 1902, in Marshall, Harrison County, Texas, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thomas A. Coleman, buried in Concord Cemetery, Jonesville, Texas. She was a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Harwood Pope Perry of "Whitehall," near present-day Leigh, Texas, in Harrison County. Dr. Perry was born and reared in Louisburg, Franklin County, N. C., and Mrs. Perry was born in New York but moved to Louisburg, N. C., when quite young, married there and moved with her husband to Lowndes County, Alabama, where they lived before moving to Texas during the very last year of the Republic of Texas. Their daughter, Eudora Carolina,

received a very fine education in the classics, languages, and numerous fine arts in the excellent and large school operated by her parents in their home, with teachers brought in from the East and from North Carolina. She was a very beautiful and talented woman, widely loved and admired. She was among the young women of the community who made the silk flag (which she designed) that was presented to the Marshall Guards and Texas Hunters when they entered the Civil War conflict. She composed and delivered the presentation speech and the flag was received by young Robert Ross, who at that time was her secret fiancé. When the flag was too worn for further use, it was given to Robert Ross Wright, and he brought it home in his saddlebag when he came home on furlough during his father's illness. A piece of the fringe, the remnants of the flag, and the original speech in Eudora's handwriting are still owned by descendants of this couple.

5. Eugene Earl Wright, eldest child of Robert Ross and Eudora (Perry) Wright, was born March 3, 1866, in Locust Grove, Jonesville, Texas. He died, unmarried, on March 7, 1924, at his home in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is buried in Concord Cemetery, Jonesville, Texas. At an early age, he assumed his place as the male head of the family and helped and supported his mother in her task of operating the farm and rearing her family after her husband's death, leaving her with seven children, the youngest only two. Earl Wright was educated in his home and in the local schools and, for a time, at A&M College, College Station, Texas. He was in the insurance business, holding positions of high responsibility with several outstanding Texas and Louisiana insurance agencies. He was a man of unusually diversified interests and tastes, and had a circle of friends that extended throughout the United States. At one time he owned the largest coin collection in the United States. He was an unusual man in his capabilities and interests and a man who favorably influenced many because of his fine character and his intense interest in people. One of his special projects was finding ambitious but financially distressed young boys and taking them into his care and training, many of these young men developing into fine business men, chiefly in the field of insurance. Even today, Earl Wright's relatives are acquainted with children of some of these young men who recall the help from the "old man" or "the Colonel" as they affectionately call him, as their fathers did.
6. Lucy Ross Wright Coleman, sister of Eugene Earl Wright, was born January 6, 1868, in Locust Grove, Jonesville, Texas. She died April 8, 1953, in her beloved home, and was buried in Concord Cemetery. On October 5, 1892, in the parlor of Locust Grove, she was married to Thomas Algernon Coleman of Leigh, Texas, Harrison County. They were the parents of four children: an infant daughter, who died at birth; Walter Sidney Coleman, born July 30, 1898, now deceased; Will Whaley Coleman, born August 23, 1906, deceased; Eudora Earle Coleman, born October 8, 1908.

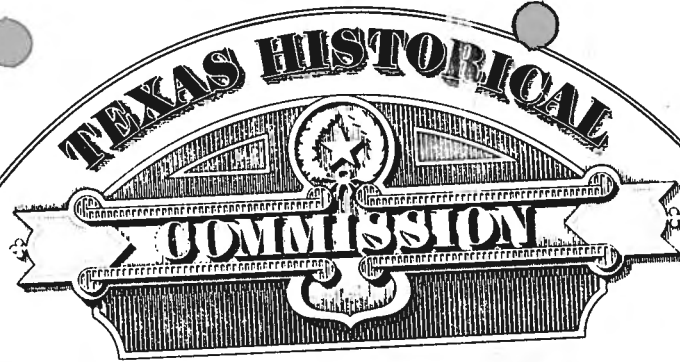
As the eldest daughter, Lucy Ross Wright was a constant companion and assistant to her mother, burdened with the responsibilities that fell to her as a young widow with children and handicapped by ill health. Earl and Lucy became the strength of the family, helping with the younger children and other family responsibilities and devoting their time and love and care to their family. This devotion to others continued after Lucy's marriage - she loved her family, her friends, and just humanity and her purpose in life was to serve - which she did, freely and wonderfully. She and her husband held a position of very high regard in the community where they were not only leaders but ever-ready helpers in time of need.

7. Eudora Earle Coleman Hodges, daughter of Thomas Algernon and Lucy Ross (Wright) Coleman, was born October 8, 1908, in Locust Grove. Educated in local schools, Marshall High School, and a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, in 1929. Taught school for eight years, then entered the business world, going into service with the United States Government in 1939. Retired from Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Treasury Department, in 1973. Married Willard L. Hodges in Dallas, Texas, on June 20, 1953. Living in Dallas since 1940, present residence 10243 San Juan Avenue, Dallas. No children. Hobbies, history and genealogy.

*Eudora Coleman Hodges*  
*February 18, 1978*

BUETT LATIMER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

P. O. BOX 12276  
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711



November 2, 1977

Dear Mrs. Abney:

In talking with Max Lale last Friday, he mentioned that he thought you had already mailed the supplementary material on Pine Hill and Locust Grove. If you did we have never received it and I wondered if you might have a copy of the material that you could send us.

Enclosed is the letter I sent to Max last year asking for more information. In March of this year one of our architects visited the site briefly to take photographs, sketch the site, note the acreage, etc. He was able to answer most of the questions I had concerning the architecture. However, there are still some areas that I need information and I have indicated such by the check marks.

If you can send this information, we will nominate the buildings right away.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie D. Landon".

Marie D. Landon  
Coordinator, National  
Register Nominations

Mrs. James K. Abney  
Wanda Court  
Marshall, Texas 75670

cc: Max Lale

Enclosure

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

June 23, 1976

Mr. Max Lale  
3704 Fitzgerald  
Marshall, TX 75670

Dear Mr. Lale:

Thank you for gathering information on the Pine Hill and Locust Grove plantation houses. I have placed both of these houses on the agenda for the August 3rd Review Board meeting.

I think I have sufficient material to bring the properties before the Board, but before I can complete the nomination form, I have a few more questions on each nomination. Could you please direct this letter to those people responsible for collecting the architectural and historical material.

PINE HILL

1. Is the kitchen wing a total reconstruction?
2. Can you give specific or approximate dates of when the house was built, when it was changed to Greek Revival, and when additions were made?
3. Can you provide the dates of when the particular owners resided there?
4. Can you give more biographical information on the owners, particularly the man who first built it and any of the prominent or long-time owners, like Judge Williamson?
5. How many acres are being nominated?
6. Is there any evidence to support the belief that Augustus Phelps remodeled the structure into a Greek Revival house?
7. I read something about a "plus-shaped" hall. Is there a central hall and two side halls?

LOCUST GROVE

1. Is Jonesville still an extant community?
2. The stage stop was mentioned that was two miles away at Hinton's Spring---did this have any relationship to the Wright House?

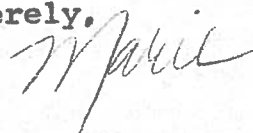
3. Are the one-story rooms which made the house a U-shaped structure original? If not, when were they added?
4. The architectural description of the original and present floor plan is a little confusing. Can you send a sketch of the original plan and how it has been transformed for modern use? For instance, are the two bedrooms in the west wing and the dining room in the east wing?
5. Where are the Motley and Long homes that you say the builder of the Wright home also constructed? Are they also around Marshall? How do you know the same man built all three houses?
6. Are the slave cabins, gin, barn still standing? Are there any other historic or non-historic outbuildings?
7. Can you provide a chronological list of ownership to present? Can you give any biographical information on any of the other owners?
8. Can you provide a brief comment stating why you think this house is significant---architecture? History?
9. How many acres are being nominated? If there are more than 10 acres, can you send a sketch map showing the area being nominated and the extant structures? (This also should be done for Pine Hill if it is larger than 10 acres.)

If you can provide us with all or some of this information, the Pine Hill and Locust Grove nominations will be much more complete. Oh yes, were both of these plantation names ("Pine Hill" and "Locust Grove") chosen by the original owners? Are they currently known by these titles?

Will you be at the Annual Meeting in Galveston this year? I am really looking forward to that meeting and hope to get a chance to visit with you again. Brooks may be able to come for the latter part of the meeting and I am anxious for y'all to meet him finally.

Have a nice summer!

Sincerely,



Marie D. Landon  
Historian, National Register  
Programs for Texas



Texas Historical Commission  
Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  
Truett Latimer  
Executive Director

July 21, 1976

Mrs. Eudora Coleman Hodges  
10243 San Juan Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75228

Re: Locust Grove

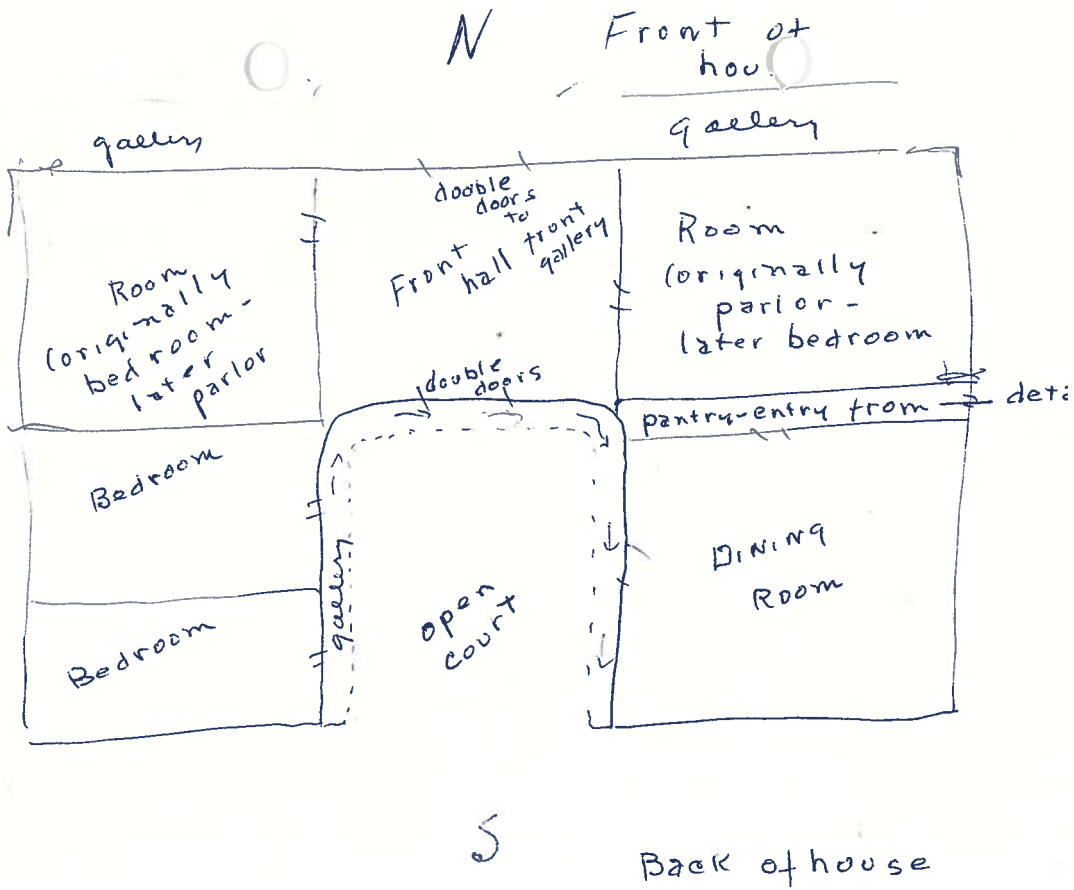
Dear Mrs. Hodges:

The above named site or structure will be considered by the Board of Review for the State of Texas for approval to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. This review is pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 rulemaking published in the Federal Register. The Review Board meets in Austin, Texas on August 3, 1976.

The National Register, established by Congress in the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, was created to record the heritage of the nation as reflected in its architecture, archeological sites, and other historic places. Therefore, the Register is the official schedule of the nation's tangible cultural property which is worthy of preservation. By identifying these irreplaceable resources across the face of the land, we can build a future with both a rich environment and a visible continuity with the past.

The inclusion of an historic property on the National Register is primarily an inventory listing that in no way infringes upon the private property rights of the owners. National Register properties may or may not be open to the public, at the discretion of the owner. In addition, the property's inclusion on the National Register qualifies it to receive a matching grant-in-aid for preservation or restoration through the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation of the National Park Service. To date, however, funding for this





Mrs. Fernbach - in doing some housekeeping in <sup>memoranda</sup> files I noticed that my record copy of this little sketch does not show I sent you a copy. So, belatedly, here it is for whatever interest it may have. None of the other folks on the historical organizations here knew of this - it had always been said that Quenbrell never "lit" Harrison County, Texas - but I remember clearly that my dear Aunt Beah tried to do it - he resided here. This spot is only about a mile north-northwest of my old home "Locust Grove", in the Greenville area, built in 1847 by my great grandfather A. B. Wright, since in use, owned by a kindred descendant and occupied by my mother's widow. It has never been bought - always occupied by family, and is on National Register, but of more importance to me - it is so big and beautiful and pure in style - and is home.

Sincerely,  
 Eugene C. Hodges  
 1145 Deas Ave. N.W.  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30607



**LOCUST GROVE**  
**ONE MILE NORTHWEST OF HIGHWAYS 134 AND 1978**  
**NEAR JONESVILLE, HARRISON COUNTY, TEXAS**  
**UTM REFERENCE: 15/392015/3601415**

3601  
3230'

3602

ILATEXI  
7149 11 SE  
3603

3604

3605

770000 10-26-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Locust Grove #300224

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER About one mile NW of intersection of highways  
134 and 1998.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Near Jonesville

VICINITY OF

1

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Texas

048

Harrison

203

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDEN
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Eudora Coleman Hodges

STREET & NUMBER

10243 San Juan Ave.

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Dallas

VICINITY OF

Texas 75228

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harrison County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

March 1977

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Texas Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

...

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Locust Grove is a two-story frame Greek Revival plantation house located near the small East Texas community of Jonesville in Marshall County. Built between 1847 and 1849 for Alpheus Wright, the structure once served as the focal point of a large mid-nineteenth century cotton plantation. Although the plantation no longer exists, several outbuildings dating as far back as the pre-Civil War period still stand in the house's immediate area. A slave cabin, log cabin and barn are situated to the rear or south of the house within an area of about eight acres. A fence encloses the house and the slave cabin; however, the remaining structures are located just outside the fence. These remaining outbuildings stand in deteriorated condition; nevertheless, they provide good reminders of the importance these buildings had to the operation of the plantation.

Resting upon a brick pier foundation, Locust Grove faces north and is dominated on the front by a two-story inset gallery. The gallery extends the length of the house and is divided into five bays by six square wood columns on each floor. The columns are capped with molded capitals and are linked by slat balustrades. Double door entrances with transom and sidelights pierce each floor and are flanked on either side by 6/6 windows.

Displaying exterior brick chimneys that extend beyond the gable roof in the east and west facades, the structure featured a u-shaped floor plan with two, one-story gable roofed wings projecting from the rear of the two-story main house. In 1908 the courtyard between the two wings was enclosed with a one-story gabled roof addition which created a large hall running the width of the house. A double door rear entrance, originally opening onto the courtyard, was removed and re-installed in the addition. The kitchen and laundry room which were situated just east of the house in a separate structure were adjoined to the house near the southeast corner in 1908. The kitchen's interior brick chimney is still visible and rises from the apex of the kitchen's gabled roof. A garage was later added onto the kitchen thus providing Locust Grove with its present floor plan.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1847-1849

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Locust Grove represents a good example of a Greek Revival plantation house of mid-nineteenth century Texas and stands as one of the oldest houses in the small community of Jonesville. Built for Alpheus Wright, the house once served as the center of a large plantation and has remained within the possession of Wright's descendants since its completion between 1847 and 1849.

Alpheus Wright moved from Trenton, Kentucky to Harrison County in 1847. That same year, Redding S. Fridgen, a wealthy landowner in the area, married Wright's eldest daughter and sold 640 acres to Wright. Construction soon began on the two-story frame house, and by 1849 the structure was completed. When Wright's youngest daughter, Edith Florence, was born in the house in 1849, the building was called Florence Dale in honor of this child. However, the name did not stick, and eventually the house became known as Locust Grove, although the name's origin is not known.

The Wright plantation prospered throughout the 1850's, but the Civil War and Wright's illness in the mid 1860's contributed to the decline of the plantation. Wright's only son, Robert, returned from his assignment with the Confederate army to visit his father and run the plantation. When Wright died in 1869, his widow, Lucy Taylor Wright, became the owner, and Robert managed the farm. After their deaths in 1888, the land was subdivided among the family members and the house became the property of Robert's widow, Eudora Perry Wright. After her death in 1902 the house has been owned by various family members and is still owned by a direct descendant of Alpheus Wright.

The community of Jonesville was founded in 1847 in the eastern section of Harrison County about four miles west of the Louisiana border. The township was originally called Border, but the name was soon changed to Jonesville. When the railroad arrived in 1868, most of the townspeople moved one and one-half miles south near the railroad tracks. As a result, Locust Grove stands as an excellent reminder of the old townsite and represents one of the oldest and most impressive residences in the area.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Handbook of Texas, edited Walter Prescott Webb, Austin. Texas State Historical Assoc., 1952.  
 Hodges, Mrs. Eudora Coleman, "Locust Grove", unpublished narrative, 1977.  
 Lale, Max S., unpublished narrative, 1978.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 8 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Scottsville, Tex.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 | 39,2 | 0,1,5 | 36 | 0,1 | 4,1,5  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B    |    |    |    |    |     
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C    |    |    |    |    |   

D    |    |    |    |    |   

E    |    |    |    |    |   

F    |    |    |    |    |   

G    |    |    |    |    |   

H    |    |    |    |    |   

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area totals eight acres and includes the main house and associated outbuildings.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David Moore / Research Asst. Joe Williams / Program Director

ORGANIZATION

Texas Historical Commission

DATE

10-12-78

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 12276

TELEPHONE

512-475-3094

CITY OR TOWN

Austin

STATE

Texas

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Joe Williams* 10-25-78

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

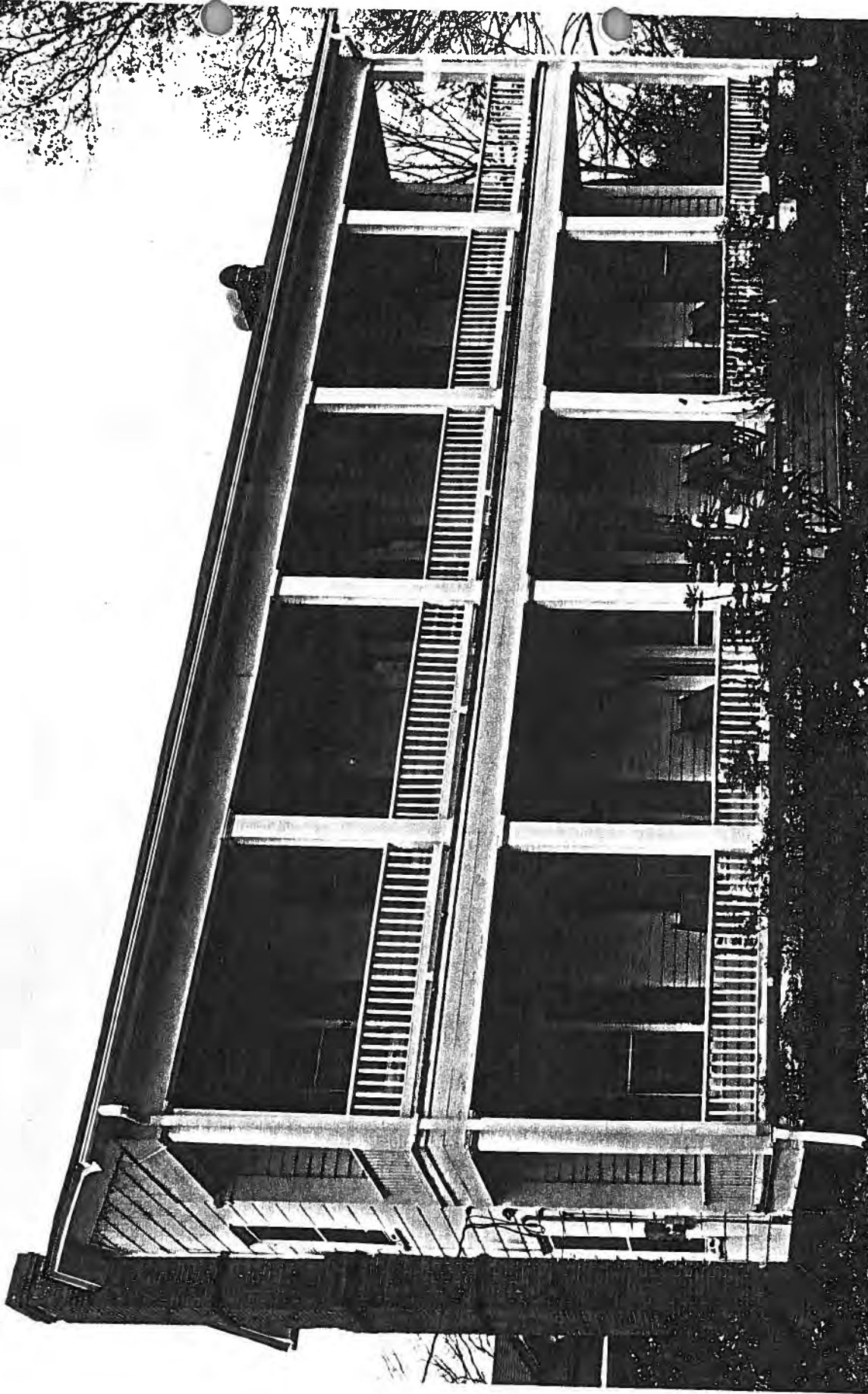
ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 1

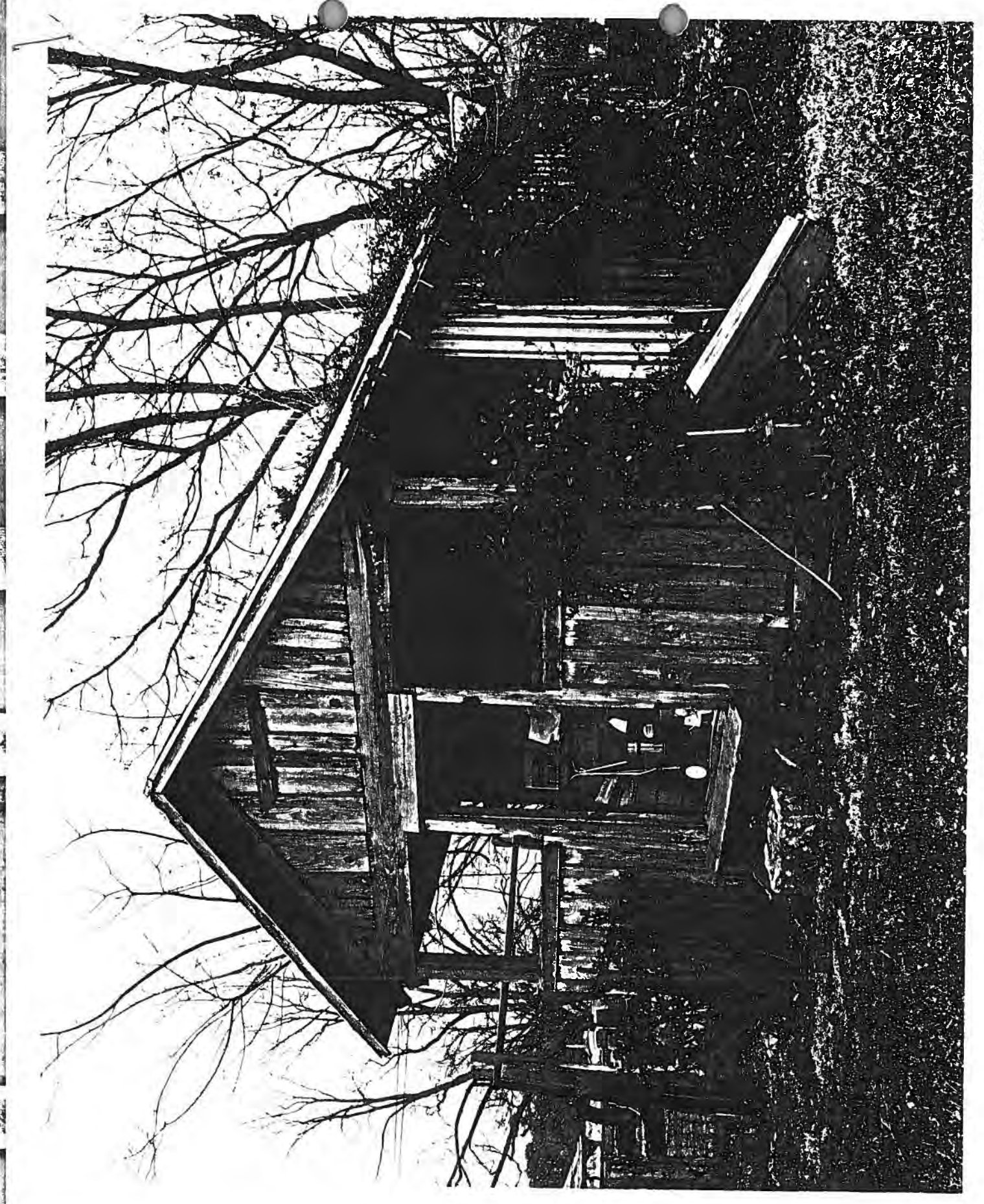
The nominated property is described by the enclosed map. The majority of the property, including the main house and slave quarters, is enclosed by a fence measuring 120' x 280'. The boundary is extended, however, to surround a barn and log cabin. All the outbuildings are historically linked with the plantation's operation.

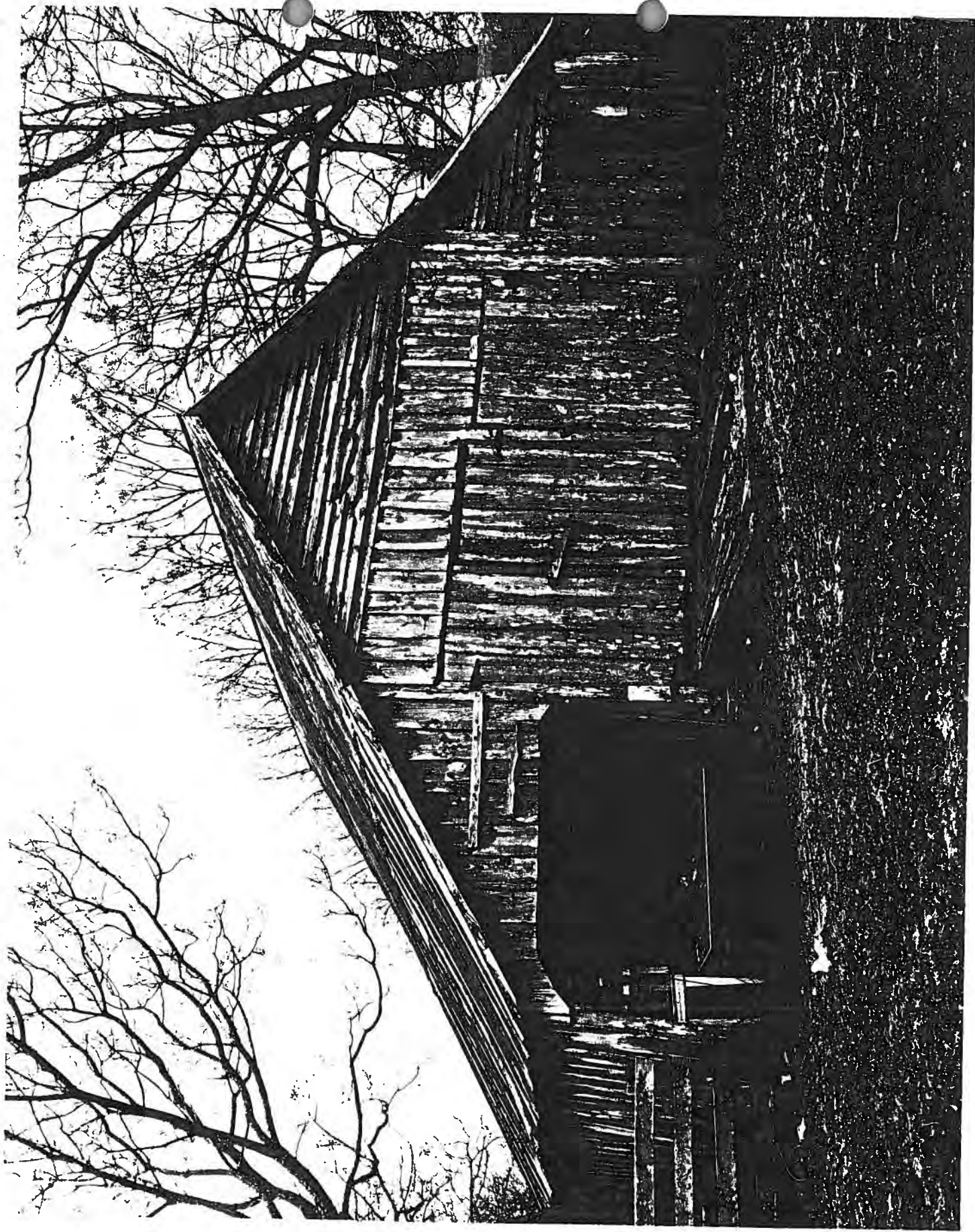


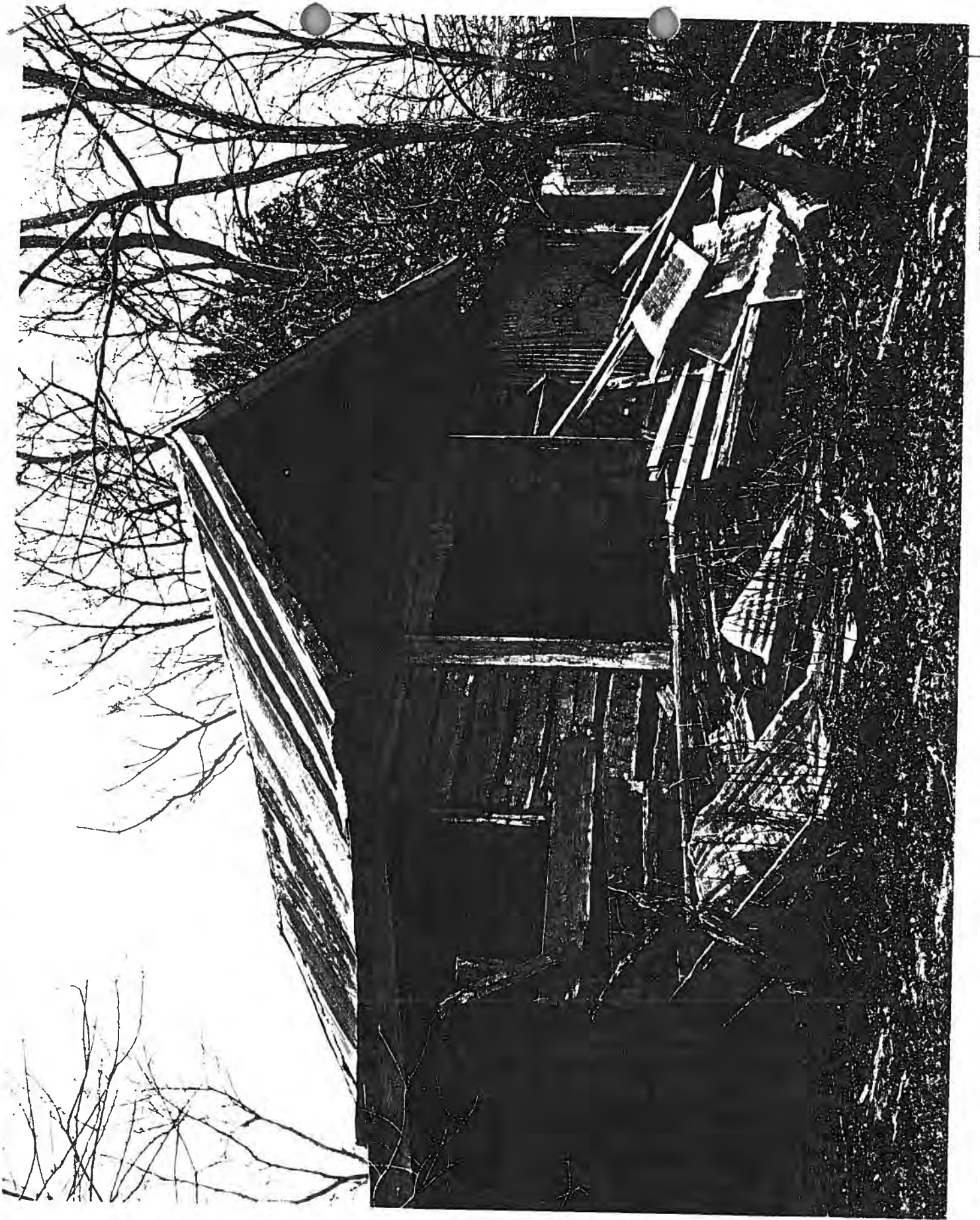














LOCUST GROVE  
1847

In 1847 Alpheus Billings Wright and his family moved from Trenton, Todd County, Kentucky, to a community in southeastern Harrison County, Texas, which became Jonesville in 1849. The original postoffice was Border, opened January 18, 1847, with John C. Dunn as postmaster, but on September 5, 1849, the name was changed to Jonesville in honor of the first merchant there, one William Jones. Thomas E. Rives was postmaster of Jonesville in 1849. (List of Post Offices, Harrison County, Texas, pages 56 and 57, National Archives, Washington, D. C.) The arrival of the Wright family is documented in a handwritten account of the Wright ancestry begun by A. B. Wright's grandson, Eugene Earl Wright, in 1886, when he was 20 years old.<sup>(1)</sup> On October 11, 1847, in Harrison County, the eldest Wright child, Elizabeth Hannah, married Redding S. Pridgen, Reverend William Steel, officiant. (Page 91, Harrison County Marriage Record 3) A. B. Wright purchased 640 acres of land, encompassing what was to become his house site, from Redding S. Pridgen, who was not only his son-in-law but also his wife's cousin. There must have been some kind of contract (possibly only a "gentlemen's agreement") because the deed of sale-conveyance was not executed until January 4, 1853 (acknowledged January 4, 1853, recorded July 17, 1854, on page 273 of Harrison County DB N). The land was in the R. S. Pridgen survey, Holland Anderson Headright, about 12 miles east of Marshall and 2-3 miles northwest of old Jonesville location.

The house, a 2-story frame structure with 7 rooms, two front halls (upper and lower), and a vestibule, was built facing north with the old stagecoach route from Jefferson, Texas, to Louisiana, directly in front, approximately 200 yards from the residence. The stage junction was at William Rosser Hinton's spring, about 2 miles northwest, on the stagecoach road. At this junction the horses were watered and fed and one coach went on to Shreveport, Louisiana, and another went northeast via the Webster, Blocker, and Dr. Harwood Pope Perry plantations, on down old Swanson Landing road to Swanson's Landing on Caddo Lake. The laundry room and kitchen, a 2-room structure, was separate from the main house. Lucy Benefield (Taylor) Wright planted seeds for two magnolia trees in her front yard before construction began on the house. These magnolia trees are still standing.

The house was erected on oak foundation blocks and pillars of brick made by brick-mason slaves owned by a neighbor, John Johnston Webster, in kilns at the Webster plantation, Mimosa Hall. Bricks for the chimneys were also made in the Webster kilns and purchased by Wright. The masonry work was done by Webster's trained brickmasons.

The house was constructed of mixed lumber, chiefly heart pine. The lumber, purchased from Josiah D. Perry's mill at Swanson's Landing on Caddo Lake, was hauled to location in wagons pulled by oxen. (Josiah D. Perry was an uncle of Eudora Carolina Perry, who later married A. B. Wright's only son, Robert Ross Wright.) Outside walls of the house were covered with weatherboards and the house was roofed with cedar shingles. Wall braces were oak and/or pine, and possibly some cypress, mortised and pegged with wooden pegs. The floors were plain plank floors. Some of the inside walls were plastered; others, and ceilings, were of 18" heart pine planks with the cracks covered by strips approximately 8 inches wide and 1 inch thick. Examples of the original walls of this type may be seen today in the "big dining room" and the old laundry room.

(1) Exhibit A and Exhibit B

The house was built with identical galleries across the front on the upper and lower levels, with 6 simple square columns extending the entire height and with plain balustrades running across the entire front, upper and lower galleries. The double entrance doors (front, back of front hall, and vestibule) were of oak with fixed louvers, all put together with wooden pegs. Side and transom glasses framed the front doors. These front and back doors are still in use. Most of the windows are the originals; marks from the original blind fasteners were visible and old fasteners were pulling out even after the house was restored in 1908. The moveable louvered window blinds now on the house are the originals, some having been repaired but basic construction unchanged. The house sills are oak, hewn by slaves, approximately 12-14 inches squared and 24-30 feet long. They are still as sound as petrified stone.

The kitchen and laundry rooms were in a 2-room structure with a common flue on the southeast side of and apart from the main structure. Service from these rooms to the "big" house was via a covered walkway called "the gangplank" and entry into a small vestibule in the house through double doors described earlier. From this vestibule doors led into the front room on the north (either a bedroom or the parlor), south into the dining room, and west into a gallery which ran the full length of the back part of the house, which was in a squared U shape around an open court. From this little courtyard gallery one could enter the two back bedrooms, the vestibule, the dining room, and the front hall (via double oak doors, thence on into the east and west downstairs rooms and on up the stairway). One of the back bedrooms was built for the express purpose of accommodating transients, peddlers, and so on, and was designated as "the lodging room." An interesting feature of the old laundry room (now a storeroom) is the loop hook in the ceiling, all that remains of A. B. Wright's home-rigged shower bath.

The name of the builder of the Wright home is unknown but it is known that he also built the Robert H. Motley and the Col. Benjamin Long homes (Lonely Dell), both of which were almost identical to the Wright home.

Slave cabins were back of the house on the southwest. The original orchard was east. The mule-powered gin was on a hill due south. The barn was a 2-story building south-southwest of the house. Some of the timber from the old barn is in the present, badly deteriorated barn.

In 1908 the house was restored but no major architectural changes were made. The laundry room and kitchen were pulled up and joined to the house on the east and are now used, respectively, as a storeroom and a kitchen-family dining room. The original dining room is still in use, unchanged, and is called "the big dining room." When the work was done in 1908 the outside walls of these two rooms were covered with weatherboarding to match the other outside walls. The open court on the south side of the house was enclosed and is now a large hall; the original weatherboarding remains on these walls. The original double door which was on the south side of the front hall was moved to the back (south) entrance to the hall and was framed with side glasses and a transom glass to match the front door. The opening between the front and the back halls was left open, but in 1952 a double door was added here. The house was raised and foundation pillars straightened and strengthened. The original brick pillars remain but we have not been able to examine for remains of the original oak blocks. A new shingle roof was laid. Plastered walls were papered and plank walls were left unchanged. One of the brick-masons was a Mr. Warbritton, who lived and worked in Woodlawn, Texas, in later years.

In 1928 the house was damaged by a fallen tree during a tornado but no changes were made during the repair process except that the shingle roof was replaced by a metal roof.



Although probably not completely finished, the Wright house was habitable by 1849 because the youngest child, Edith Florence Wright, was born in this house on June 25, 1849. (2) I remember this beloved great aunt well, but the information about the place of her birth came to me from my mother, Lucy Ross Wright Coleman. The home was first called "Florence Dale" in honor of this child but the name did not stick and was changed to "Locust Grove," the name by which it is still known.

In 1952 repairs were made to the house but the basic architecture was unchanged. On all sides of the house the weatherboarding was removed and replaced flat to accommodate the asbestos siding which was added. Weatherboarding was left on the two front galleries and on the porch on the south, off the kitchen and small family dining room (the two rooms which were pulled up and joined to the house in 1908). Plumbing, electricity, and butane gas lines were installed and two bathrooms built: one in the west end of the vestibule called "the little hall" and the other added in the southwest corner of the "big hall" (originally the open court, which was enclosed in 1908). A garage was added as an extension of the kitchen on the south-east side, from which one reaches the back porch by steps leading from the garage. The family dining room was converted into a kitchen-family dining room. The metal roof was replaced by a composition roof. Mr. G. W. Cook of Marshall started this work in the fall of 1952 and did most of the work; it was completed by Mr. E. G. Hortman of Marshall in April 1953. The brickmasons working on this project were a son and grandson of the Mr. Warbritton who did the masonry work in 1908.

*Eudora Coleman Hodges*

Eudora Coleman Hodges  
Great granddaughter of the original  
owner - Alpheus Billings Wright

See page 193 of Harrison County Heritage Sketch and Cookbook

Statistics:

1. Alpheus Billings Wright was born January 2, 1799, in Virginia.  
He died December 16, 1869, in Jonesville, Harrison County, Texas, at his home, Locust Grove
2. His wife, Lucy Benefield Taylor, was born June 8, 1808, in North Carolina, and died January 21, 1888, in Jonesville, Harrison County, Texas, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. C. C. Hart.

A. B. Wright was one of the large plantation owners of his community during the pre-Civil War and Civil War period. He was a man of considerable influence in the community, where he was highly regarded for his integrity and his ability, as well as for his interest in community affairs and progress. He was a charter member of the Concord Masonic Lodge, known as Lodge No. 77, which was organized in the Concord community (later called Jonesville), Harrison County. This fact is shown in the records of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Waco, Texas. These records show that A. B. Wright was a charter member, Senior Warden - charter dated January 24, 1851.

During the Civil War period, A. B. Wright was a member of the local militia, as documented in various newspapers of the period, showing appointment of militiamen, officers, and so on.

A. B. Wright was a Baptist but it is not known whether he was a member of the church or not, but it is the understanding of his descendants that he was. His wife was a member of the Baptist Church.

During the fall of 1886, as I had some time at my disposal, I undertook to get up a record of my family not only the Wright branch, but the other side as well.

When I commenced I did not know of a single relative that I could claim on the side of my Grandfather Wright that I have been able to find out. I have recorded in this book and trust it will prove of as much interest to my family, as it has given me pleasure in writing it.

The figures in the space to the right refer to other pages for additional information.

Fort Worth, Texas.  
Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 1887

Very truly  
Earl E. Wright

Introductory page to the book on Wright ancestry written by Eugene Earl Wright, grandson of the progenitor of this line in Harrison County, Texas. He normally signed his name "E. E. Wright" but used the name "Earl" - this is probably why he signed this introduction with his middle name first.

6 Alpheus Billings Wright, fourth child of William and Elizabeth Wright was born in Warren Co. Va. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 1799. He spent some time as a young man in Frederickburg, Va. where he learned the weavers trade. He was a member of the Masonic lodge of that place. He moved from Va. to Todd Co. Ky. (near Trenton) where he married Miss Lucy Benefield Taylor.

They had seven children six girls and one boy, all of whom were born in Todd Co. Ky. except the youngest who was born in Harrison Co. Texas to which state they moved in 1847.

A.B. Wright was a farmer, and lived about four miles North of Jonesville, a station on the Texas and Pacific R.R. about three miles from the Louisiana state line. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and the Concord Lodge of Masons. He was named after the Captain of the vessel on which his father was born at sea.

He died of apoplexy on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 1869. He and Lucy B. Taylor were married on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1834. His wife is still living, and lives on a portion of the old place in Harrison Co. (The place having been divided among the

Locust Grove

REGISTRAR  
MAY 09 1978

History

1847 - A. B. Wright of ~~Jennings~~ ~~Warren~~ ~~Co.~~ ~~VA~~ ~~to~~ ~~a~~ ~~community~~ ~~in~~ ~~SE~~ ~~Harrison~~ ~~Co.~~ ~~which~~ ~~became~~ ~~Jonesville~~ ~~in~~ ~~1849.~~ Wright purchased 640 acres.  
The land was about 12 miles E of Marshall & 2-3 miles NE of the old Jonesville location.

2-st frame hs

Kitchen & laundry in a separate 2-rm. subldg

Wright  
develop.

Slave cabins (SW of hs), orchard to E,  
mule-powered gin to S, 2-st barn to SSW.

1908 - kitchen joined to house on east &  
now used as kitchen & storeroom.

The <sup>country</sup> yard in U-shaped was enclosed

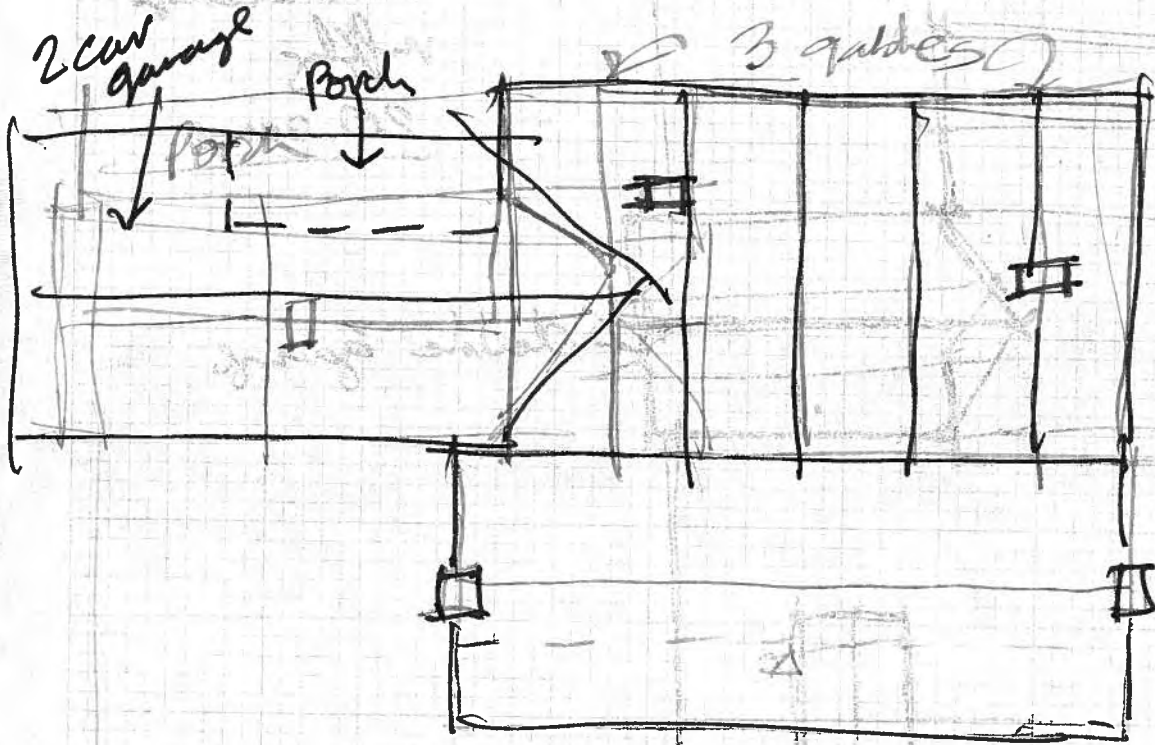
House was built c. 1849 because youngest child  
& in June 1849 was born in hs.

1854

Alpheus Billings Wright b. in Warren Co., VA in 1799  
moved from here to Todd Co., KY where he married in 18:  
They had 7 children all of which were born in Ky,  
except the last which was born in Harrison Co.  
Wright died 1869. In 1886 his wife was  
still living in house, but land had been

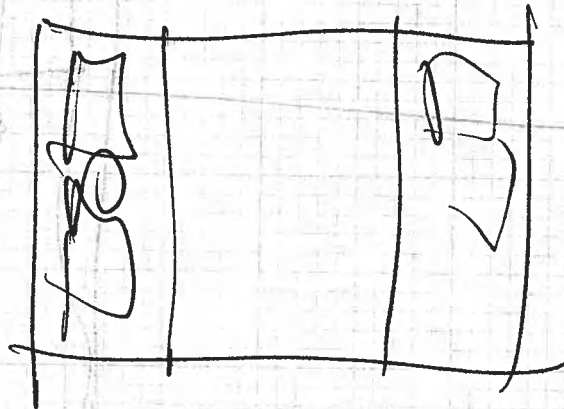
# LOCUST GROVE

Location just past  
cutoff



2-story frame

6/6 windows pediment & subblinds



H-3

BARN

LOCUS GROVE

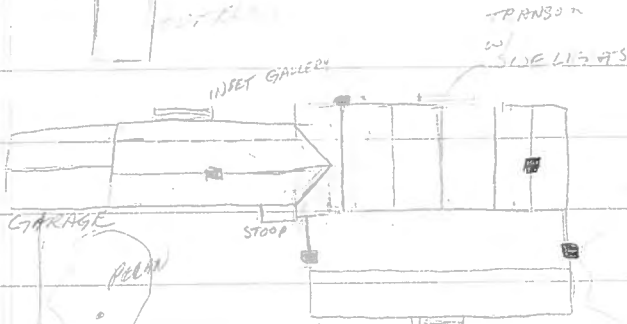
3. Inter 1998+134

.8 off 134



NR

5



TRANSOM w/ SIDE LIGHTS FRONT ELEV ABOVE / BELOW

RAISED 2 STY FRAME

ASBESTOS SIDE

1 STY ELEV w/ ADDITIONS

WHITE FRAME FENCE

ALLE

CREPE MYRTLE

CEDAR



QUANTRILL'S RAID ON CATALPA GROVE  
HIS ONLY KNOWN HARRISON COUNTY RAID

As far as I can determine there has been no knowledge of a raid in Harrison County, Texas, during the Civil War period by the infamous William Clark Quantrill (a.k.a. Charles W. Quantrell). I found none of record in the numerous historical publications and records on the movements of Quantrill, and the Harrison County Historical Museum has no record of a raid in the county.

But - there was one and the circumstances were related to me and to other members of my family by the person who was the victim, Mrs. Rebecca B. Haywood Hinton (widow of William Rosser Hinton), my father's aunt-by-marriage who spent the last 18 or 19 years in our home, Locust Grove, Jonesville, Texas. During my childhood and even into my teen years I spent many hours at Aunt Beck's feet, literally, listening to the outpouring of her remarkable memories of her native North Carolina and of eastern Harrison County, her beloved home since her early years. The relating of Quantrill's raid on her plantation always left me awed, but so thankful that my dear Aunt Beck was not harmed. In my young mind, Quantrill was an ogre, a terrible and frightening person, and I could hardly believe in the miracle by which Aunt Beck and her children escaped unharmed.

I do not recall whether the event came while my great uncle Billy Hinton was in the Confederate Army or whether it was after his death, which came in 1864 at his home, Catalpa Grove, in the P. Daugherty headright survey, about five or six miles northwest of the original site of Jonesville, and one mile beyond Locust Grove, the A. B. Wright place, on the old Shreveport-Marshall-Jefferson stagecoach road. Since this was the only known appearance of Quantrill in Harrison County, Texas, I surmise it was in 1863 or 1864, after Quantrill's stay for a time in Grayson County near Sherman, Texas.

Aunt Beck told us that Quantrill and his men appeared on her premises while she was there alone with little Will, Sid, and Albert. Quantrill politely but firmly told her he wanted all the corn - demanded nothing else. Having no choice in the matter and concerned primarily about the safety of her children and herself, she showed him the well-stocked corn crib and went back into the house to be with her children and reassure them. Quantrill's men removed the crib doors for easier access to the corn and raked or scraped all of it into their supply wagons, leaving not one ear. Then, showing rare consideration, they replaced the doors, thanked Aunt Beck, and went on their way eastward - actually more southeastward - stopping at the Hinton spring to water their horses before going on to their destination.

Where they went from there I do not know, probably on to Louisiana. The next plantation on this road was Locust Grove, home of the A. B.



Wright family, but Quantrill and his men did not stop there. His reason for not doing so lies buried with him in Kentucky, where he was killed in June 1865.

*Eudora Coleman Hodges  
21 October 1986  
10243 San Juan  
Dallas, Texas 75228*

Sources: Oral history related to me by the principal in this situation, Mrs. Rebecca B. Haywood Hinton, Jonesville, Texas, Harrison County; data on Quantrill from page 423, Vol. 2, The Handbook of Texas, Walter Prescott Webb and H. Bailey Carroll.

cc: Texas-Dallas History Dept.  
Dallas Public Library

Harrison County Historical Museum  
Marshall, Texas

Tom W. Vaughan  
Jonesville, Texas

*Dr. Harwood Perry Hinton  
Tucson, Ariz.*

*Mrs. Barbara Knox, Editor*

*Footprints  
Fort Worth, Texas*

*J. R. Fehrenbach*

# More on Quantrill's raiders



**A.C. GREENE**

**TEXAS SKETCHES**

A recent Texas Sketch about William Clarke Quantrill's Civil War sojourn in Texas has brought additional stories of the famous guerrilla.

Skipper Steely, in his Red River Valley history *Forty Seven Years*, quotes a letter written at the time (perhaps not reliable) that states that "Quantrill's Legion," as late as May 15, 1865, "came down upon the (Federal) troops at Fort Towson Prairie (and) the Federals were so surprised they stampeded, leaving 16 dead, 600 cavalry horses, saddles, sabres . . . and an assortment of guns." Mr. Steely notes that this may have been a mere remnant of the band, as Mr. Quantrill himself had been mortally wounded on May 10 in Kentucky.

Eudorn Coleman Hodges of Dallas writes, "Regardless of the common idea that Quantrill never invaded Harrison County, Texas, he did for a very brief raid (in 1863 or '64) at one home Catalpa Grove, the farm of my father's aunt, Mrs. Rebecca Haywood Hinton, near Jonesville.

"Quantrill and his men appeared on Aunt Beck's premises while she was alone with three young sons (Uncle Billy, who died in 1864, was either in the Confederate Army or was already dead). Quantrill politely but firmly demanded all her corn, nothing else. Having no choice, she showed him the well-stocked corn crib and went back into

the house to be with the children.

"Quantrill's men removed the crib doors for easier access to the corn and raked or scraped all of it into their supply wagons, leaving not one ear. Then, showing rare consideration, they replaced the doors, thanked Aunt Beck, and went on their way, stopping at the Hinton spring to water their horses before going on to their destination."

Jay Patterson of Dallas disagrees with what he calls traditional history, reporting: "Quantrill did not die in Kentucky in prison. Another prisoner named McCoy died. Quantrill switched places with him, and McCoy was buried as Quantrill. Quantrill then assumed the name McCoy and headed south. On his way he spent time with a Methodist bishop, was converted and lived the rest of his life as William Clarke McCoy, a strong Christian and my great-grandfather. W.C. McCoy settled at Gunter'sville, Ala., and became an elder and respected leader in the Methodist church there."

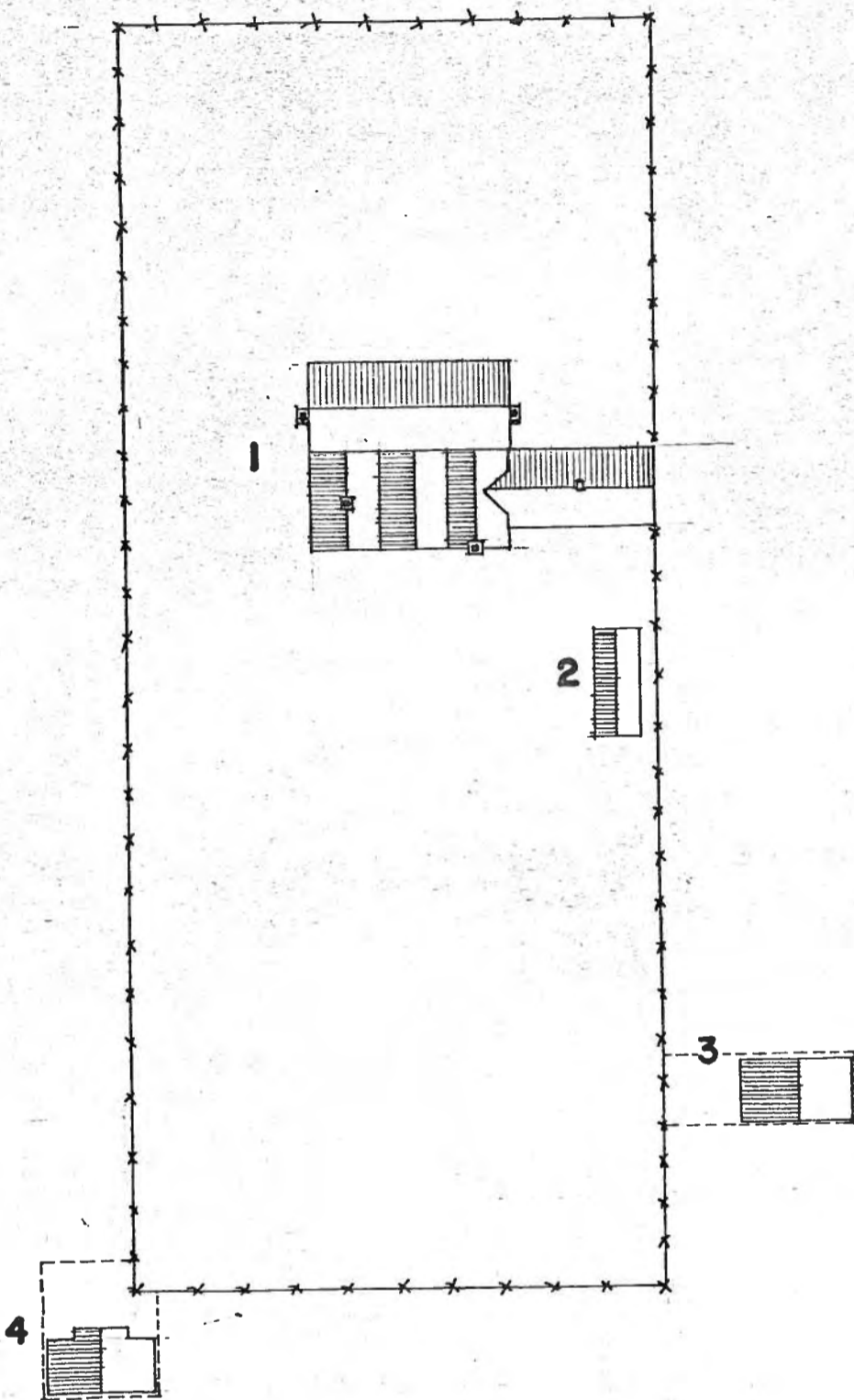
A 1981 publication by J.M. Patterson, father of the Dallas man, mentions "coincidences, in addition to the name similarity, fueled rumors" that W.C. McCoy was really William Clarke Quantrill. "My Uncle Jon, who was a lawyer, got interested enough to investigate, but his findings were inconclusive," Mr. Patterson said.

A.C. Greene of Dallas is coordinating director of the Center for Texas Studies at the University of North Texas and a regular contributor to Viewpoints.

*Dallas Morning News, Friday, January 20, 1989  
 re: Pat McKenna & N.P. Smith's Nancy Ruff.*



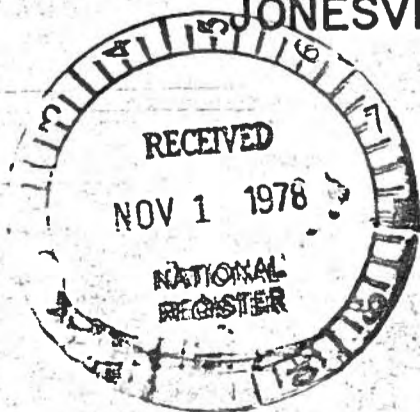
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 Paul Kolatt/The Dallas Morning News



LOCUST GROVE  
 JONESVILLE, HARRISON COUNTY,  
 TEXAS

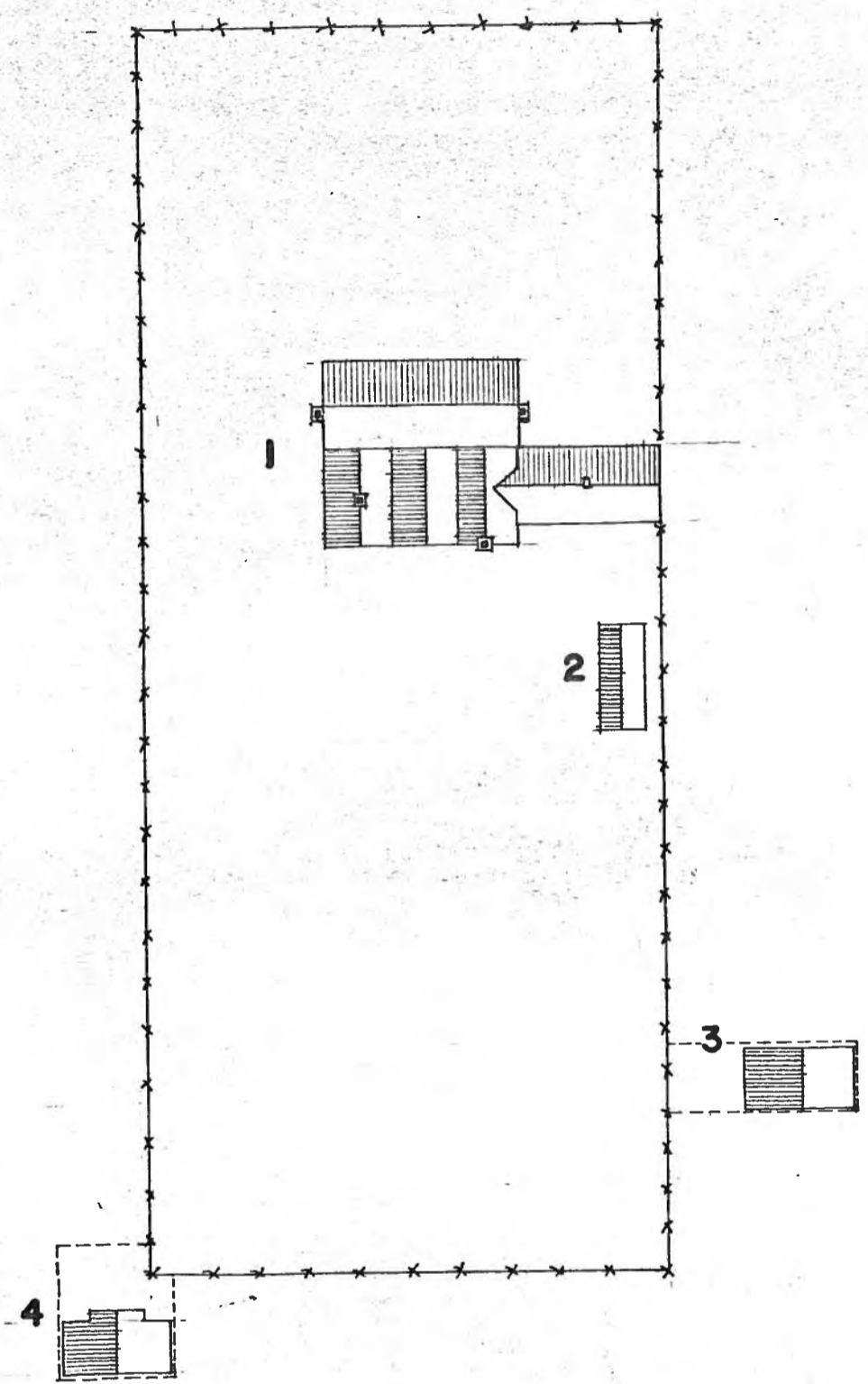
**KEY**

- Main House
- Slaves Quarters
- Barn
- Log Cabin



scale: 1"=40'





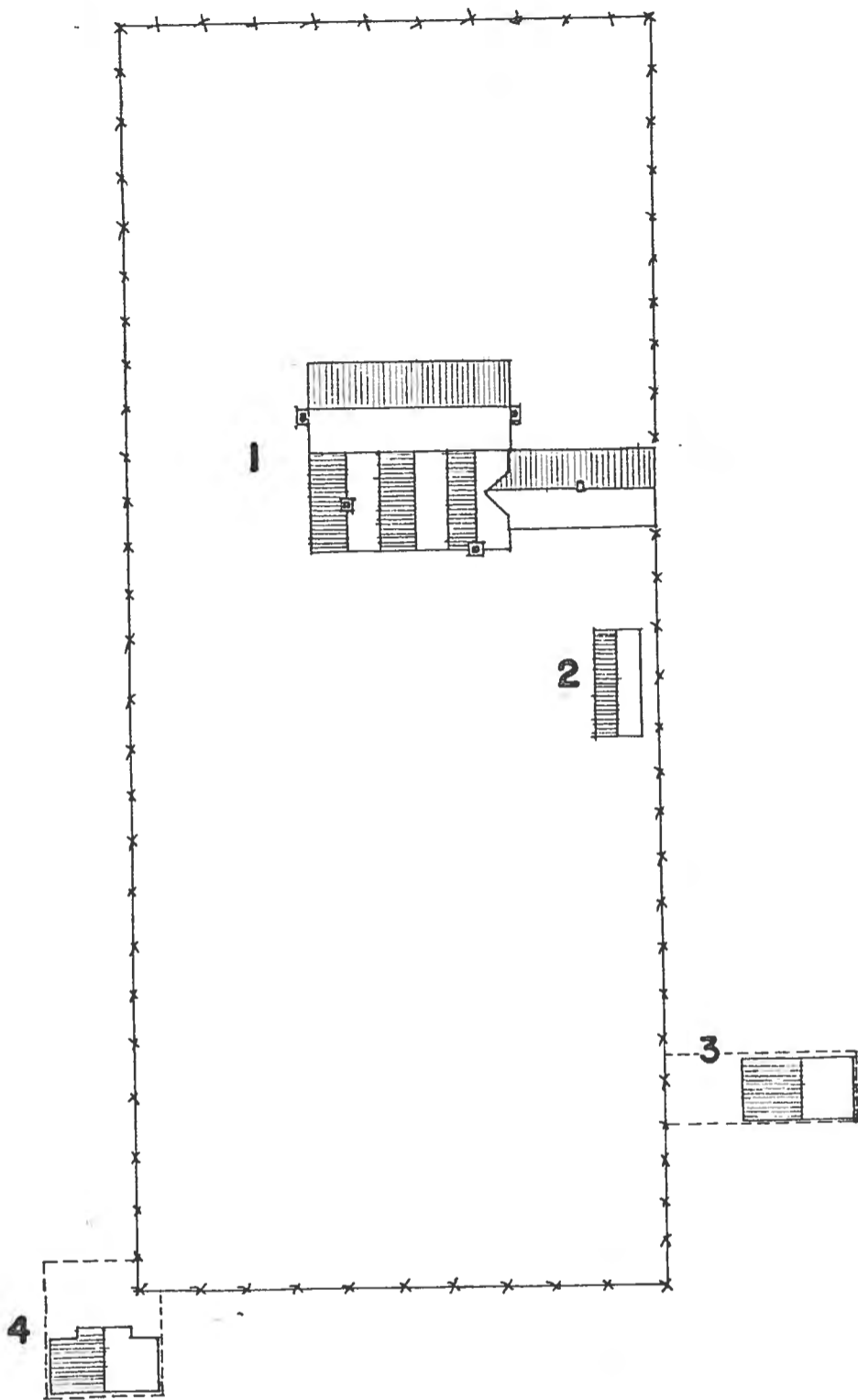
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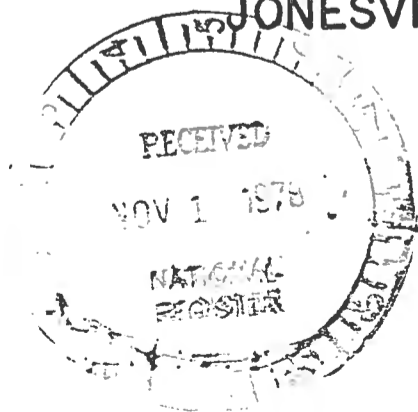


# LOCUST GROVE

JONESVILLE, HARRISON COUNTY,  
TEXAS

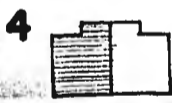
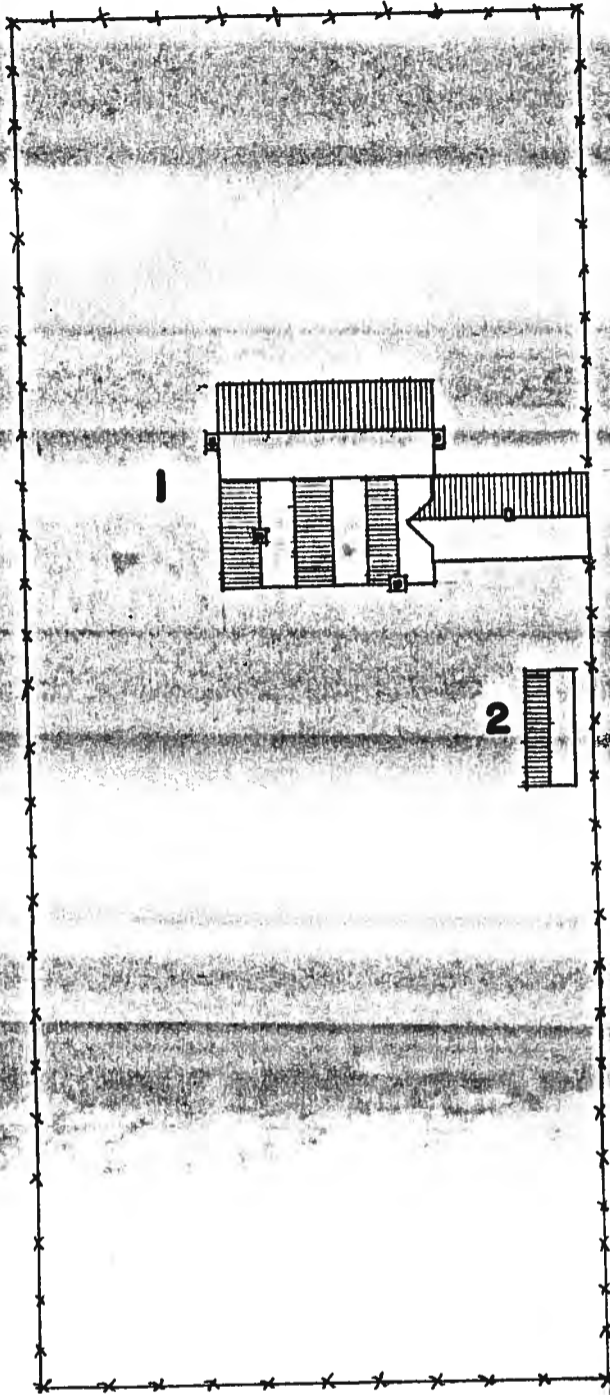
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**LOCUST GROVE**  
**JONESVILLE, HARRISON COUNTY,**  
**TEXAS**

KEY	
1	Main House
2	Slaves Quarters
3	Barn
4	Log Cabin

no scale

