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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Griffeth-Pendley House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 2198 Cove Road
city, town Jasper (X) vicinity of
county Pickens code GA 227
state Georgia code GA zip code 30143

not for publication

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

buildings	3	0
sites	0	0
structures	2	0
objects	0	0
total	5	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

W. Ray Luce
Signature of certifying official

2-25-08
Date

for W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property () meets () does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson R. Beall 4.16-08

determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, explain:

see continuation sheet

for
Keeper of the National Register Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/SUBSTINENCE: agricultural outbuilding

Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

OTHER: log dogtrot

Materials:

foundation	STONE
walls	WOOD: weatherboard WOOD: log ASPHALT
roof	METAL
other	N/A

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Located in north Georgia, Pickens County is a largely rural county that is rapidly experiencing commercial and residential growth. The Griffeth-Pendley House is located in a rural, agricultural area of Pickens County approximately five miles from Jasper, the county seat.

Built in 1877, the house is a one-story, hewn-log dogtrot with two unequal-sized rooms separated by an open breezeway (photographs 1-4). Circa 1905, one room was added to the rear of the living room and a wall was added to the living room to create an additional bedroom (photographs 6 and 7). The roof is a side-gable metal roof and the house sits on large stone piers. There is one exterior-end stone chimney. Circa 1905, the log house was sided with vertical rough-cut planking and in 1938-1939 the planking was covered with asphalt siding (photograph 5). There is a full-width, shed-roof porch that was constructed in 1941 (photograph 8). The interior of the house retains its historic floor plan (photographs 10-12). The wood floors are original and modern paneling covers the walls. The kitchen retains its plaster ceiling. The kitchen has an antique cook stove and the bedroom/living room retains its hearth and mantle. Also on the property are the 1877 saddle-notch log barn with a shed addition (photographs 13-16), the 1877 privy (photograph 17), and the 1877 well with a 1948 well house (photograph 7). The landscape surrounding the house is an open space with hardwood trees and the surrounding land is wooded.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

FULL DESCRIPTION

NOTE: The following description was prepared by William Blankenship, consultant, Fort Mountain Preservation Services, and edited by Gretchen Brock, National Register Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division. "Griffeth-Pendley House," Historic Property Information Form, May 2, 2005. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Griffeth-Pendley House is a one-story dogtrot house located in a historically rural landscape. The dogtrot house has two single-pen rooms separated by a large open space covered by the overall roof structure. The two main rooms of the house are not the same size. An addition to the rear of the house was built c.1905 by the Thomas Pendley family and functions as an extra bedroom. The first of the two main rooms is approximately fourteen feet square (Room 1) and functions as the kitchen (historically and currently). The second room is larger—fourteen-by-twenty feet—and functions as the living area of the house. This room (Room 2) consists of one large room and a much smaller room, used currently for storage (Room 3). The fourth room is the latest addition to the house, constructed c.1905, and is utilized as a storage room. The room is seven-by-fourteen feet (Room 4).

The Griffeth-Pendley House is constructed of hewn logs. The logs are a species of hardwood, possibly oak, and have shrunk little since the construction of the house. Logs were taken from a local source (most probably the property itself) and hewn square. The hewn logs were then fitted together using a rabbeting technique, then reinforced with spikes driven into the joining surfaces (square notching). Remains of log chinking is evident in some locations; however, most of the chinking in the house appears to be missing. The logs were covered by vertical rough-cut planking, c.1905, by Thomas Pendley, a later owner of the property. In 1938-1939, the planking was covered by asphalt shingles. The asphalt material enhanced the insulation for the house and was applied in long sheets then nailed to the underlying planking.

At the point that the square structural logs terminate and the build-up of the gable begins, material changes to rough-cut horizontal clapboards. These clapboards are set in a lap-siding configuration. The lower portion of the walls are covered with an asphalt siding material.

The house has large stone piers that are placed at various places along the bottom log of the building. The piers are a mixture of granite and marble, both of which are plentiful in the area. The house has a side-gable roof sheathed with tin roofing. This tin roof was installed in 1941, according to the property owner, who helped with its construction. The original roofing material was wood shingles.

Windows are double-hung with four-over-four panes; additionally, in the c.1905 addition, casement windows with four-panes are set in the south façade, for a total of six windows in the entire building. The house has one chimney in the living room (Room 2), built of stone and mortar. The upper 1/8th of the chimney was repaired in 1999. A vent pipe is located in the kitchen and is associated with the kitchen woodstove, present in the house since the 1930s.

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Section 7--Description

The c.1905 addition (Room 4) sits on level with the house to the rear of the living room. Entry is gained from the inside or outside (vertical plank door in south façade). The walls are balloon framing, set on stone piers. The roof is a shed roof, sheathed in tin. The exterior walls are covered with the same asphalt siding as the rest of the house.

The front porch was added in 1941. The porch has a shed roof that is supported by four-by-four posts, spaced evenly across the porch, and a wood plank floor.

The Griffeth-Pendley House retains its original dogtrot floor plan and its historic interior finishes. The kitchen (Room 1) is located on the east side of the house, is fourteen-by-fourteen foot square, and has two entrances. The first entrance is located on the front façade of the building and the second entrance leads into the dogtrot part of the house. There is one window in this room, facing east. The room is still furnished and utilized as a kitchen. Interior walls are sheathed in modern wood paneling. The ceiling is the original plaster ceiling. Throughout the house, the original wood floors remain intact.

The living room (Room 2) historically and currently functions as the living room and a bedroom. The room is fourteen-by-twenty feet, and in 1905, the room was subdivided to create a new six-by-fourteen foot space for use as a bedroom (Room 3 on the floor plan). The large fireplace and hearth are located in the living room. The hearthstone appears to be granite. There are three doors in the room: the first is the front (north façade) entrance, leading from the porch; the second door leads to Room 3; and a third leads to the rear addition. The walls are covered with modern wood paneling and the ceiling is covered with a cardboard-composite material.

The rear addition was constructed c.1905 by Thomas Pendley for use as a bedroom. The room is now used as storage. The north wall of the room is the original hewn log structure of the original house. The remaining walls were built on a balloon frame and covered with wood planks. The floors are made of the same planking material, sanded smooth. There are two doors in the room, one leading to the living room and the other leading to the backyard.

There are two extant historic outbuildings on the property. To the east of the house is the log barn with a half-story loft built in 1877. The barn has two cribs, both currently used for storage. The logs do not appear to have ever been chinked. The logs were stripped of bark, cut to length, and the barn was built using the saddle-notch joints. The roof of the building is tin. According to the property owner, this tin roof replaced a wood shingle roof in 1941. The barn sits on granite stones, though parts of the barn are resting directly on the ground. A shed addition sheathed in split log planking is on the east façade of the building. There are two entrances to the barn building, one in the main barn and another to the shed addition. The window to the half-story loft was used for hay and other crops in need of storage. The shed addition is used for tool storage; possibly its historical function was as a chicken coop.

A distance behind the house is the log privy, believed by the property owners to have been constructed at the time the original house was built in 1877. The privy is constructed of split logs set in a vertical fashion and is a single-hole privy. Hand-split logs (cut with an adze) are aligned vertically and shaved on the corners to make a relatively vertical line. The roof is covered with tin set atop

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rough-cut lumber.

There are also two extant historic structures on the property. Directly behind the house is the well and well house. The well dates to the construction of the house in 1877 and is still in use today. In 1948, Verner (Vernie) Griffeth built the well house and a marble enclosure around the well to keep rain from washing materials into the well.

The Griffeth House is set on the lower part of a gentle slope, which extends from its highest point on the north boundary of the property to its lowest point at the southernmost boundary of the nominated area. The immediate area surrounding the property has remained rural.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance:

1877, c.1905, 1948

Significant Dates:

1877—construction of the log dogtrot house

c.1905—rear addition

1948—date of construction of well house and last updates to the house

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Griffeth-Pendley House is significant in the area of architecture as an excellent and intact rare example of a late 19th-century log, dogtrot house. The house is a rare example of a dogtrot that retains its open passage between the two rooms and has essentially remained unchanged since 1905. Out of 82,678 historic resources in the statewide *Georgia Historic Resources Survey*, there are only 156 dogtrot houses, an indication of the rarity of extant examples of this house type. According to the statewide historic context *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Setting*, the dogtrot is a distinctive house type with an open passageway between two rooms. A dogtrot is usually one room deep, has a gabled roof and exterior end chimneys. Most dogtrot houses in Georgia were built in the 1840s and 1850s.

The Griffeth-Pendley House is being nominated at the state level of significance as an excellent and intact example of a late 19th-century log, dogtrot house, which retains its original open passage, historic materials, and historic floorplan.

National Register Criteria

The Griffeth-Pendley House meets National Register Criterion C as an excellent and intact example of a late 19th-century log, dogtrot house.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the construction of the house in 1877 and includes the major historical additions to the house and property.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The three contributing buildings are the 1877 dogtrot house, 1877 log barn, and 1887 privy. The two contributing structures are the 1877 well and 1948 well house. There are no noncontributing resources on the property.

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Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following developmental history was prepared by William Blankenship, consultant, Fort Mountain Preservation Services. "Griffeth-Pendley House," Historic Property Information Form, May 2, 2005. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Prehistory and Cherokee Occupation

Lands associated with the Griffeth-Pendley House were previously inhabited by pre-Columbian cultures, which have left signs of their occupation of the land in Pickens County and the surrounding region, most notably, in nearby Bartow County, through their construction of burial mounds. These pre-Columbian groups were aware of marble deposits in present-day Pickens County; artifacts carved of the soft marble common in southern Pickens County have been located in the aforementioned burial mounds. Additionally, rock mounds have been located in several parts of Pickens County, including present-day Grassy Knob Militia District, in which the Griffeth-Pendley House is located.¹

By 1740, Cherokee and Creek groups were fighting for control of the Long Swamp Valley, in southern Pickens County. These conflicts weakened the respective groups, and whites began to encroach on the area, despite being forbidden by white state authorities to do so. By this time, however, the Cherokees were well ensconced in southern Pickens County. Accounts of the area by a Cherokee named Sonti, given in 1835, offers much about the lives of Native Americans before and after whites arrived in the county, looking mostly for trade and cheap land.²

After battles in 1775 and 1776 that pushed Creek groups into South Georgia, the Cherokees, now in nominal control of the Long Swamp Valley, began to see an influx of whites into the area. These whites were mostly concerned with the possibilities of commerce with Native Americans and the availability of cheap land. The Cherokees recognized white intentions, but misgauged the extent white settlement would affect affairs in the area. By the time Cherokee leaders realized the extent of white influence in the area, it was too late to dislodge whites without a full-scale war, which Cherokee leaders recognized would decimate Native American presence in the area.³

Resultant of concerns about the influx of whites into the area coupled with concerns of plans to wrest land from the Cherokees after the Revolution, the Cherokees allied themselves with the British during the Revolutionary War. White settlements were attacked, with tacit approval from British commanders in the region. Later, after the American victory against the British, this decision would

1 Russell, Margaret C. "Big Canoe Rock Mounds," (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Laboratory of Archaeology, 1972), Archaeological Survey.

2 Mooney, James. *Myths of the Cherokee and Sacred Formulas of the Cherokees* (Nashville: Charles & Randy Elder, 1982), Reprint.

3 Green, Michael D. *The Politics of Indian Removal: Creek Government and Society in Crisis* (Lincoln, NE: The University of Nebraska Press, 1982), 22.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

come back to haunt the Cherokees. After a battle in 1793 between state militia troops and Cherokees, and the resultant defeat of the Cherokees by these forces, Cherokee villages in the Long Swamp area were either destroyed or abandoned.⁴

By 1805, whites and Cherokees were living in relative peace; the state government had made some efforts to stem the uncontrolled immigration of whites to the area, and Cherokee groups had become dependent on the goods brought into the area by white traders, particularly tools and non-durable goods. It was in 1805 that the Federal Road was constructed through the area. In present-day Pickens County, the Old Federal Road corresponds roughly to roads leading to Tate, GA, about five miles overland from the Griffeth-Pendley House.⁵

The introduction of a road through the area brought in a new round of white settlers, for the most part, there illegally. Cherokees, concerned with the influx and several other issues, decided to side with the British again, during the War of 1812. At the end of the war, white opinion against the Cherokee and other Native-American groups in North and Central Georgia was irrevocably set; political maneuvers were set in place by the Georgia General Assembly to remove the ownership of the land from the Cherokees.

This trend was aggravated by the discovery of gold in the Dahlonega area in 1828. Once the gold was discovered, any efforts to stem white settlement were effectively scuttled by state authorities. In 1829, Georgia legislators passed statutes prohibiting Cherokees from profiting from gold discovered on their lands, and in 1830, the legislature passed the Cherokee Removal Bill, as did the United States Congress. In 1832, the Cherokee Land Lottery was held, distributing lands stretching from present-day Cobb County to the Tennessee border.⁶

Post-1832

William Perrett (1805-?) drew the Land Lot where the Griffeth-Pendley House is located (Land Lot 3, 4th District, 2nd Section). Perrett was from Jones County, in south central Georgia. His family had been in the area for several years, at least since 1820. Perrett himself claimed eligibility in the Cherokee Land Lottery by virtue of his service in the Creek Wars as a militia soldier.⁷

Perrett probably did not occupy the land he drew in the lottery. As did many of his contemporaries who drew land in this fashion, he held on to his holdings in his home county and waited for a buyer.

4 Ibid.

5 Terrell, Charlene. *Wolfscratch Wilderness: A Backward Walk in Time in An Old Georgia Settlement* (Fernandina Beach, FL: Wolfe Publishing, 1994), 62.

6 Scott, Thomas A., ed. *Cornerstones of Georgia History: Documents That Formed the State* (Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1995), 50-53.

7 Smith, James F. *The Cherokee Land Lottery, Containing a Numerical List of the Name of the Fortunate Drawers in Said Lottery with An Engraved Map of Each District* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1838, repr. 1932), 2nd Sect., 4th Dist., 2nd Sec., The United States of America. *The Fourth Census of the United States—Population—Georgia—Jones County* (Located at Internet Website: ftp.rootsweb.com), 133, & The United States of America. *The Fifty Census of the United States—Population—Georgia—Jones County* (Located at Internet Website: ftp.rootsweb.com), 458.

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In the interim, Perrett purchased another plot of land in Covington County, Alabama, and moved there in 1837, where his family became farmers of note.⁸

While Perrett was extending his landholdings elsewhere, Samuel Tate was expanding his property holdings in Cherokee County (Pickens County was formerly part of Cherokee County; Pickens was established in 1853). Tate (1797-1866) was the first generation of Tates to reside in the area. Born in Lumpkin County, he and his large family moved to Harnageville (former name of Tate, GA) in 1832. First, Tate purchased the Harnageville Tavern (located on the present-day site of the Tate Mansion along with remnants of the Old Federal Road), which he operated for several years. At the same time, Tate noticed that the land in southern Pickens County had extensive marble deposits of high quality. In the mid-1830s, Tate began to mine these deposits on a limited basis, dependent on current technology to wrest the marble from the ground.⁹

Tate began to purchase lands all over southern Pickens County, possibly to exploit the mineral resources, or to leave to his children to be developed later. None of Tate's holdings in the Grassy Knob District were farmed; what farming Tate did carry out took place on his land holdings closer to Harnageville.¹⁰

Land Lot 3 in the 4th District was purchased by Samuel Tate. By the time he purchased the property, William Perrett had already established a farm in Covington County, Alabama, just across the Georgia border. The land sale was probably initiated by Samuel Tate—the Tate family in Pickens County was never shy about approaching landowners to persuade them to sell property. Not known is if Perrett traveled to the area to sign the transfer papers, or if Tate had attorneys handle the sale. Whatever the case, Perrett sold the 160 acres of Land Lot 3 to Tate in 1839.¹¹

As mentioned, Tate did not develop the property for agriculture. Neither did he attempt to mine the mineral resources on the property, although, he certainly knew there was marble under the hills on the southern part of the property, if he surveyed it before purchasing the property. Marble outcroppings are visible on the hillsides of the southern section of the land lot, and on every lot surrounding, so Tate probably purchased the land for future mining development.

In 1843, however, Tate sold the entire land lot to Caleb Griffeth, II. The following is pure speculation, but there might be several reasons that Tate sold the land, even knowing its industrial potential. First among the reasons was a familial relationship between Tate and Griffeth. Caleb Griffeth, II (1806-1868) was a first cousin to Sam Tate—their families had intermingled during the previous generation living in Lumpkin and Franklin counties. Tate's mother was a Griffeth, the sister of Caleb Griffeth's father, Caleb, Sr. (1769-1857). The elder Griffeth had migrated to Georgia in the 1810s, from Massachusetts, by way of North Carolina. Two of his brothers had fought (and died) for the

8 The United States of America. *The Sixth Census of the United States—Population—Alabama—Covington County* (Located at Internet Website: ftp.rootsweb.com).

9 Tate, Luke. *History of Pickens County* (Atlanta: M.W. Brown, 1935), 16-52.

10 Ibid.

11 Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court—Real Estate Division. "Deed of Sale," *Pickens County Deed Book "B"*, page 122.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

American side during the Revolution, one at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The other was killed on a privateer. The Griffeth family migrated south with the Tate Family in 1832, soon after the Land Lottery and were farmers in their own right in the region around Harnageville.¹²

A second reason, more practical, is that Tate had nothing to lose in selling the property to anyone he chose—aside from the fact that Griffeth was kin, Tate (like all the Tates involved in the marble industry thereafter) included a clause in land deeds stating that he and his heirs, or any company carrying out the marble industry in the Tate name, were owners of all mineral rights on the property. This clause continues in effect to the present, and has been part of every deed recorded concerning this property or any other property ever owned by the Tate family.¹³

Griffeth did farm the property. He immediately began clearing the land. Census records show this lot was the only land owned by Griffeth in the Grassy Knob District; further, Griffeth's occupation was that of farmer. Griffeth paid \$150 for his Grassy Knob property. Griffeth's farm was profitable; by 1860, his primary crop was corn, being grown on this property and others. His home was located somewhere on the property—family accounts state his property was on nearby Cove Road, in Land Lot 4, which adjoins this lot. Griffeth was prosperous by 1860, at least on paper. He had several hundred acres of corn under cultivation and owned three slaves: two females and one male. One of the female slaves was a house servant. Records do not state whether these slaves were related by blood or marriage.¹⁴

The presence of slaves living on the property brought out an interesting story based on family accounts from preceding Griffeth family generations. The account stated by the current property owner recounts that the site upon which the current house is set was once the site of a slave cabin, burned sometime after the Civil War and before the present house was constructed in 1877. Familial stories additionally recount that the ghost of one of the female slaves on the property still wanders the area just in front of the Griffeth-Pendley House. However, no artifacts connected with the era have been located in the area, including any signs of a previous building or evidence of fire damage.

By the start of the Civil War, Caleb Griffeth II had five children, three of them sons. At the start of the war, Griffeth was 55 years old; his youngest son, Caleb III was seven. Griffeth made an arrangement with his brother, Stephen, that in the event of his death, any lands deeded to his minor children would be held in guardianship by Stephen Griffeth until such time as his minor children reached majority.

The Civil War was hard on Pickens County, though not physically damaging. No battles took place in the county (though 30 miles west of Pickens County, Sherman's army was fighting pitched battles in an ultimately successful attempt to reach Atlanta); however, a different kind of warfare was occurring within the county between persons loyal to the Federal government and those sympathetic to the

12 Unknown Author. "Daniel Griffeth Family" (located at Internet Website www.lds.org), Tate, 17, & United States of America. "Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Censuses of the United States..

13 Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court—Real Estate Division. "Deed of Sale," *Pickens County Deed Book "B,"* page 123.

14 United States of America. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Censuses. Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court—Real Estate Division., & United States of America. "1860 Pickens County, Georgia Slave Schedule" (located at Georgia Archives, Morrow, GA), pg. 98, M563, Reel 140.

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Confederacy. Families were torn apart by guerilla violence during these fights. One family associated with the Grassy Knob District had brothers fighting in three armies, the first in the Confederate Army, the second as a State, or "Home Guard," and the third in the only Union Army Regiment commissioned in the state during the war.¹⁵

Caleb Griffeth, II died in 1868, reportedly due to apoplexy. His health status previous to his death is unknown. Whatever the case, his lands were deeded to his descendants. Each of his sons received 110 acres of property, an even one-third split of all the elder Griffeth's property holdings. The youngest son, as aforementioned, had 110 acres set aside in guardianship status with his uncle Stephen Griffeth.

In 1868, Caleb (known as Cale locally) Griffeth, III (1854-1928) was nearly 14 years of age. Nine years later, Cale Griffeth was deeded his inheritance. Cale Griffeth was twenty-one years of age at this time, and newly married to Winnie Malissa Pendley (1877). By 1880, Griffeth reported in agricultural and population censuses that he lived on the property. This is a change from the 1870 census, where he is listed as living with his uncle. He stated in the agricultural schedule that of the land he owned, 12 acres were tilled and planted, and that the value of his farm was \$510. He owned four cows (which produced 75 pounds of butter), two mules (for plowing), 14 pigs, and 12 chickens. The principal crop produced was Indian corn (all 12 acres planted, producing 300 bushels); he also produced potatoes, and had 60 apple trees planted but not producing fruit at the time of enumeration. By this time as well, he and his wife were the parents of one son, born in 1878.¹⁶

Twelve of 110 acres may not sound impressive in modern times where agriculture is largely mechanized; however, in comparison with other farms in the district, and considering that Griffeth was doing the work himself on land that in all probability was uncleared prior to his ownership, the amount of acreage producing crops is impressive, taking into account comparisons and the fact that Griffeth at the same time was building his home. Farms located within easy walking distance of Griffeth were not producing on a scale approaching the ratio of crops per acre that Griffeth was producing. For example, the Henry Presley farm (approximately one-half mile north of the Griffeth Farm) produced only Indian corn (as did Griffeth); however, it only produced 350 bushels of corn on a lot of 19 prepared acres, all dedicated to corn production.¹⁷

The sheer work involved in running the farm itself was daunting; however, to add on top of the day-to-day farmwork, the building of a house constructed in the style of the Griffeth House must have added much more work to an already busy small farmer. The materials used to build the house make for a good example of the work involved. There are 14 courses of logs making up the exterior walls of the buildings constituting the dogtrot house—these logs, even after 125 years of shrinkage, are on the large side; each log is at least 14 feet long, and has a diameter of 10 to 12 inches. Two to

15 Blankenship, William. "The Second Whiskey Rebellion: Elizabeth Ledford v. the Honest Man's Friends and Protectors, 1889" (Unpublished Thesis: On file at Fort Mountain Preservation Services, Woodstock, GA, 2001), 14-15.

16 United States of America. "The Tenth Census of the United States—Schedule 2—Productions in Agriculture in Grassy Knob District in the County of Pickens, State of Georgia" (located on Microfilm, Pickens County Library, Jasper, Georgia, 1880).

17 Ibid.

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three inches were hewn from two sides of each log; the amount of time spent with an adze to form the straight cuts was labor intensive. Logs had to be winched into place. The length, diameter, and weight of each log would have made manual lifting by one, or even two persons, nearly impossible.

The barn was also labor intensive despite the fact that the logs, in this case, were not hewn. The log courses extend further upward than those of the house sections. A loft was installed in the barn, allowing grasses and other crops to be thrown through an opening cut into the second floor. A barn would have been a necessity. Griffeth, in the 1880 agricultural census stated that hay was being harvested on the farm, probably just before and after corn was planted or harvested, and he had need for the forage in any case, having livestock as he did. He also had to find time to dig a well and build the privy.¹⁸

Griffeth did not expand the farm greatly in the next twenty years. Terrain features of the property made this impractical. This is not to say that he did not profit from the land however. Timber cutting was a large industry in southern Pickens County in the later 19th and early 20th centuries, just behind marble production and the making and selling of illicit whiskey. While the terrain surrounding the nominated portion of the property was unsuitable for any useful agricultural production, it was covered with several varieties of hardwoods, including oak, black walnut, maple, and poplar. Pine was also plentiful, though not in the abundance that the hardwoods were present.

There was one other agricultural enterprise that Griffeth partook in. After harvesting trees on the west/southwest portion of his property, he planted an apple orchard. The financial potential of fruit production in the area was just becoming known, and although Pickens County never approached the profits of fruit production in neighboring Gilmer County, production of apples and peaches was enough to provide some cash money in fall from fruit buyers.

Cale Griffeth over the next 25 years became moderately well to do, at least by Grassy Knob District standards. It appears that what Griffeth did with his profits, rather than investing them back in his farm, was to purchase more land in the district. By 1905, he had become affluent enough to build a new home, approximately 500 yards from the nominated house. The new house was also built of hewn logs; however, it used a greater supply of cut lumber than the first house. The new home was also known as the Griffeth House, and is still extant, standing on the corner of Cove and Grandview Roads (outside of the National Register boundary). Griffeth and his wife lived the remainder of their lives in that home.

It may be that the Griffeth family needed more room, having Cale Griffeth, his wife, Winnie, and six sons: Charlie, Hardy, Dillard, Homer, Elmer, and Vernie (Vernie Griffeth would later repurchase his father's first home from Clemar Fann, in 1947). For whatever reason, Griffeth built the new house and moved his family from the home he built in 1877. In 1905, he sold his original 110 acres to Thomas Monroe Pendley.¹⁹

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court. "Deed of Sale," *Deed Book "R,"* pg. 333.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

Thomas Monroe Pendley (known popularly as "Tommie") was born in 1860, in the Grassy Knob District, near a tributary of Pendley Creek. His father had arrived in Pickens County at the time of the Land Lottery, and purchased a large lot near the aforementioned creek. By 1860, Alfred (1799-1868) was moderately affluent, and took an active interest in county affairs. In 1884, Tommie Pendley married Martha Emiline Coffey, of Coffey Settlement, near the north slope of Sharp Top Mountain.

Thomas Pendley was known in his early years as a whiskey-maker; this occupation soon got him in trouble. In 1887, he and a group of which he was part, committed several arsons in southern Pickens County meant to convince those apt to report illicit whiskey making to federal agents in the area that it would be healthier not to take part in informing on neighbors who were disposed to make whiskey. In 1887, the group (known as the Honest Man's Friends and Protectors), wearing poorly made disguises, burned the home and barns of Niles Ledford. They were identified as the culprits by Elizabeth Ledford, the wife of Niles (Niles Ledford was nowhere near his home when the arsonists visited—he was in Atlanta, informing on area whiskey makers). After being found guilty, Pendley and five others were sentenced to terms in various state prisons, including stints as prison labor at the Dade County Coal Mines. Two of the men died at the mines; one was shot trying to escape, the other died of measles. Tom Pendley survived his stay, and was released early due to an injury that left him with a limp for the remainder of his life.²⁰

Whiskey possibly had less to do with the arsons than with settling old family scores. The Pendley family had supported the Confederacy during the Civil War, while the Ledford family were supporters of the Union side. This was common in Pickens County; a story retold many times recounts how after the vote for secession by state voters, Confederate supporters in Jasper protested to Governor Joseph Brown that Unionists in Jasper refused to allow the Union flag to be removed and replaced by a Confederate version. Brown refused to intervene at the time. Later, a storm tore the flag from its halyard. Relationships between families supporting different causes deteriorated quickly, and guerilla fighting was one result. Union partisans in the county were known to capture Confederate militia or supporters, cut the Achilles' tendons of those captured, and make them crawl miles before executing them by hanging. Confederate partisans would quickly retaliate against those known to participate in such acts, sometimes viciously. Members of the arsonist group were the sons of Confederate veterans, and without fail, those whose houses were burned were Union supporters, their kin, or descendants.²¹

By the 1890s, Tom Pendley had reformed—he was concerned more with supporting his growing family and trying to eke a living out of his properties. Part of Pendley's motivation in purchasing the Griffeth property (aside from the fact that he was Caleb Griffeth's brother-in-law) was to attempt to make an agricultural living in fruit orchards. The presence of orchards on the property may have attracted him to this specific property. In 1905, soon after purchasing the property for \$500, he planted two additional orchards on the property. In addition to the apple trees already on the property, he planted the entire field immediately north of the house in apple trees. He also cleared several acres at the top of the hill immediately west of the house and planted an orchard of peach trees. The placement of the orchards was important. Apple trees needed less protection from frost

²⁰ Blankenship, 4-10; Unknown Author, "Locals," *Pickens County Progress*, (16 May 1889).

²¹ Blankenship, 4-10.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

conditions—thus their placement in the lower field. Peaches are much more susceptible to frost damage, thus their placement at the crest of the west field, where wind conditions would stop frost from forming on the fragile fruit.²²

Pendley had four children, three of which lived to adulthood. Either as a desire to create more private living space in the house, or as a way to simply add more space, Pendley altered the interior and exterior of the house. He added interior walls, creating a six-by-fourteen-foot room in the east room. A second alteration was the construction of an addition on the south façade of the west addition. This space was used as a bedroom. Unknown is whether this room was used as bedroom space for him and Emiline Pendley, or for their children. It could be that the space was intended for the oldest of his children, Daisy Savannah Pendley, who married Clemar Fann in 1906, and according to a daughter of the couple, lived with the Pendley family for several years after their marriage. The third alteration to the house was the addition of the asphalt siding, commonly used as an insulating agent in the early 1900s.²³

Tom Pendley, like his brother-in-law, saw the possession of property as a means to success in the county. By the time of his death in 1935, Pendley had become the largest landowner in the Grassy Knob and Sharp Top Districts of the county, and was commonly referred to as a landlord. This characterization was not in the modern sense of the word, where a landlord refers to a person who owns and rents houses; rather, Tom Pendley was a landowner who rented tenant farms. In addition to his career as a landlord, Pendley was also well known for his ability to fashion fine woodwork. At his death (due to stroke) in 1935, Pendley's coffin was found in his barn; he had finished work on the casket several months before. Descendants of Pendley still possess some of his furniture pieces.²⁴

After the death of Pendley, the various properties he owned were split between his daughters. The 110 acres associated with the Griffeth-Pendley House was deeded to Daisy S. Pendley Fann. Daisy Fann (1889-1941) was married to Clemar Eli Fann (1886-1975). The Fann family had arrived in Pickens County in 1856 from an area near Belvidere, Tennessee, by way of Gilmer County, Georgia. Clemar Fann was the son of a noted farmer in the Sharp Top District of Pickens County, and the grandson of a notorious whiskey maker named John Fann (Fann was arrested by federal officials several times during his lifetime, most notably in the first decade of the 20th century, when he repeatedly managed to have charges dismissed against him by pretending to be *non mentis compos*).²⁵

Clemar Fann was no farmer, however. Fann was a marble worker, and spent much of his time in nearby Marble Hill, working the quarries for both the Georgia Marble Company as well as the Blue Ridge Marble Company. The land during this time was farmed to a lesser extent, however; most of the orchards were destroyed and replaced with cotton fields. It is not known whether the trees were destroyed by blights, or if cotton brought a better price on the market, thus necessitating a change in agricultural land use. For the most part, it was Daisy Fann who operated the agricultural part of the

22 Hoyt Griffeth Interview, conducted by William Blankenship, 2005.

23 Lucille Fann Duggan Interview, conducted by William Blankenship, 2004.

24 Ibid., & Olin W. Fann Interview, conducted by William Blankenship, 2004.

25 Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court. "Deed of Sale," *Deed Book "W,"* pg. 229, & Blankenship, 14-15.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

operation, while Clemar Fann worked the marble fields. With the exception of the initial plowing, Daisy Fann usually planted, raised, and harvested the cotton with the help of her children and neighbors.²⁶

By 1936, the Fann family moved to Marble Hill full time, although they did retain ownership of the land, and did farm the property. The house was occupied by Emiline Pendley, who lived in the house until her death in 1947. The Fann family continued their social lives in the area, traveling several miles by wagon on Sundays to attend church at the Sharp Top Baptist Church. Additionally, as mentioned, they continued to raise crops on the land. In 1941, Daisy Fann died after a long illness (dementia, according to her family), and Clemar Fann received sole ownership of the property.²⁷

Soon after the death of Daisy Fann, Clemar Fann verbally promised to sell the property to Vernie Griffeth (son of Caleb Griffeth, III), as soon as the land cleared probate. Fann, who like his father-in-law, had several hundred acres of land in the district, was busy at this time dispersing his large holdings between his four surviving children and other relatives. However, in the case of the Griffeth-Pendley House, the probate court ruled that since Daisy Fann had died intestate, the land should be auctioned at the courthouse. Vernie Griffeth still purchased the land (1948), but at a substantially higher sum than what Clemar Fann had stated to him earlier, due to active bidding at the auction. Griffeth paid just over \$1,700 for the property, including the 110-acre plot his father had received in guardianship in 1877.²⁸

By 1948, the house had undergone another major alteration. Due to heavy deterioration in the roof structure by 1941, the original wood shingles were torn off the house and replaced with tin sheeting. Additionally, the front porch was added at this time, as was electrical service. In 1948, Vernie Griffeth (1893-1982) and his wife, Fannie (nee, Wigington) moved into the house. Living there with them was his son, Hoyt Griffeth, the current property owner. The Hoyt Griffeths relocated, however, to Cobb County in the 1950s and lived there for several years before returning to the property and building a modern ranch home on the eastern edge of the property boundary. This building is not included in the nominated portion of the parcel. During the time that the Griffeths lived in Cobb County, the house and land were rented to different occupants, until the Griffeths moved back to the property. At present, Arnold Hoyt Griffeth, Jr., resides in the home and has made some small, inconsequential alterations to the interior of the home, most notably, the installation of ceiling fans for cooling, and the installation of a television satellite receiver, bolted to the southwest corner of the building. Overall the Griffeth-Pendley House retains a high degree of historic integrity.

26 Lucille Fann Duggan & Hoyt Griffeth Interviews.

27 Ibid.

28 Ibid., & Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court. "Deed of Sale," *Deed Book "BB,"* pg. 71.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Primary Sources: National Documents

United States of America. "Population Censuses of the United States—Georgia—Pickens County—Grassy Knob District," Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, located on Microfilm at various locations, 1820-1930.

Above citation includes all population censuses consulted; different counties and state census records were consulted, including Pickens, Early, Cherokee, Fulton, Gwinnett, Forsythe, and Newton Counties. Population censuses from states other than Georgia were consulted, including Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, New York, Massachusetts, and South Carolina. Microfilm was the medium of print in all cases, and several locations of this microfilm were visited, including the Pickens County Library, the Cobb County Library in Marietta, and the Georgia State Archives in Morrow. For purposes of convenience, all population censuses are combined in this single citation. Footnote references in historic narrative do cite specific references to these censuses.

United States of America. "Census of the United States—Agriculture Schedule—Georgia—Pickens County—Grassy Knob District," Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau, located on Microfilm at various locations, 1860-1880.

Above citation includes all agricultural schedules consulted. Various districts within Pickens County were consulted, including Grassy Knob, Sharp Top, Town, and Dug Road Districts. Microfilm was located at the Georgia State Archives in Morrow, GA. Where cited in the historical narrative, individual schedules are notated in the footnotes.

United States of America. "1860 U.S. Census, Slave Schedule, Pickens County, Georgia," Located at Internet Website <http://www.woodward-geiger.com>.

Primary Sources: State Documents

Georgia Adjutant General's Office. "Joe Brown Census: Militia Enrollment List, 1864," *Militia Enrollment Lists*, Milledgeville, GA: The Georgia State Archives, located at Internet Website <http://woodward-geiger.com>

This document is a listing of men in Pickens County, available for military services as state militia during the Civil War. The listing contains names, district locations, exemptions, and number of horses owned by the persons listed.

Georgia Adjutant & Inspector General's Office: Commissary Department. "Salt Book, Vol 1, 1862-1864, *Pickens County, Georgia Families Supplied Salt by Governor Joe Brown, 16 December 1862*, Milledgeville, GA: The Georgia State Archives, located at Internet Website <http://woodward-geiger.com>.

This document is a listing of Confederate wives and widows receiving salt distributed by Governor Joe Brown during the Civil War. Two salt distributions were conducted by Brown during the war.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Georgia Department of Revenue—Property Tax Division. "County Property Tax Digests—Cherokee County, 1849, located at Pickens County Library, Record Group 24, Sub. Group "C."

Primary Sources: Local Documents

Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court—Probate Division. "Estate Records," Jasper, GA: Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court, 1832-1982.

Probate records for various persons associated with the Griffeth Property and others were consulted; all records consulted are included in the above single citation.

Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court—Real Estate Division. "Deed Books," Jasper, GA: Pickens County Clerk of Superior Court, 1832-2005.

Deed of sales were consulted for various persons associated with the Griffeth Property and others. All records consulted are included in the above citation. Individual citations may be located in the footnote sections of the historical narrative portion of the HPIF.

Pickens County Tax Assessor. "Pickens County Georgia: Map: 43," Aerial Photography, 2001.

Pickens County Tax Assessor. "Tax Digest, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004," Jasper, GA.

Woodward-Geiger, Linda. "Index to the 1903 Henley Map, Pickens County, GA," located at <http://woodward-geiger.com>., undated.

Books

Green, Michael D. & Perdue Theda. *The Cherokee Removal: A Brief History with Documents*. Boston: Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press, 1995.

Scott, Thomas A., ed. *Cornerstones of Georgia History: Documents that Formed the State*. Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1995.

Smith, James F. *The Cherokee Land Lottery, Containing a Numerical List of the Names of the Fortunate Drawers in Said Lottery, with an Engraved Map of Each District*. New York: Harper and Brothers, 1838; reprinted in 1932.

Interviews

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

Interview with Olin Fann. Conducted at Jasper, GA, 2004, by William Blankenship.

Interview with Lucille Fann Duggan. Conducted at Cartersville, GA, 2004, by William Blankenship.

Interview with Hoyt Griffeth, Sr. Conducted at Jasper, GA, 2004-2005, by William Blankenship.

Secondary Sources: Books

Davis, Robert Scott, Jr. *Pickens Past: A Photographic History of Pickens County, GA*. Fernandina Beach, FL: Wolfe Publishing, 1995.

Green, Michael D. *The Politics of Indian Removal: Creek Government and Society in Crisis*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1982.

Mooney, James. *Myths of the Cherokee and Sacred Formulas of the Cherokees*. Nashville: Charles & Randy Elder, reprinted 1982.

Tate, Luke. *The History of Pickens County*. Atlanta: M.W. Brown, 1935.

Terrell, Charlene. *Wolfscratch Wilderness: A Backward Walk in Time in an Old Georgia Settlement*. Fernandina Beach, FL: Wolfe Publishing, 1994.

Newspaper Articles

Various Editors. *The Pickens Progress*, Jasper, GA, Various Dates of Publication.

Various cutting were taken from microfilmed copies of the Pickens County Progress, on file at the Pickens County Library Research Room. Dates collected include: 1887-1889, 1902, 1928, 1935, 1941, 1948-49, 1975, and 1982. Collected clippings include family mentions and obituaries.

Unpublished Thesis

Blankenship, William. "The Second Whiskey Rebellion: Elizabeth Ledford v. the Honest Man's Friends and Protectors—1889." Unpublished; on file at Fort Mountain Preservation Services, Woodstock, GA, 2001.

This thesis concerned the whiskey wars that occurred in Pickens County, GA during the 1880s and resultant attempts by state and federal authorities to apprehend members of a local vigilante group operating in the county.

Russell, Margaret C. "Big Canoe Rock Mounds." Athens, GA: University of Georgia Laboratory of Archaeology, 1972.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 9—Major Bibliographic References

This thesis outlined and described efforts to identify the makers of rock cairns and mounds in the Long Swamp Valley of Pickens County, Georgia.

Internet Websites

Pendley, Sam, Jr. "Pendley and Allied Families," located at <ftp.rootsweb.com>.

Unknown Author(s). "Griffith/Griffeth Family Genealogy," located at <ftp.rootsweb.com>.

Unknown Author/Submitter. "Griffeth Family," located at <http://www.lds.org>.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued
date issued:
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Approximately 10 acres.

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A)	16	739680	3816696
B)	16	739656	3816389
C)	16	739494	3816536

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached tax map drawn to scale with a heavy, black line.

Boundary Justification

The National Register boundary includes the land historically associated with the Griffeth-Pendley House and outbuildings and its historic setting.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Gretchen A. Brock/National Register Coordinator
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 34 Peachtree Street, Suite 1600
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** January 15, 2008
e-mail gretchen.brock@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) () not applicable

name/title William Blankenship
organization Fort Mountain Preservation Services
mailing address 307 Cardinal Drive
city or town Woodstock **state** Georgia **zip code** 30188
telephone (678) 357-1723
e-mail fortmtn@mindspring.com

- () **property owner**
- (X) **consultant**
- () **regional development center preservation planner**
- () **other:**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Arnold Hoyt Griffeth
organization (if applicable) N/A
mailing address 2198 Cove Road
city or town Jasper **state** Georgia **zip code** 30143
e-mail (optional) N/A

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Name of Property: Griffeth-Pendley House
City or Vicinity: Jasper vicinity
County: Pickens
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: April 2006

Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 17

1. Front façade; photographer facing south.
2. Front façade; photographer facing south.
3. Front and east facades; photographer facing southwest.
4. East façade; photographer facing west.
5. East façade; photographer facing west.
6. West façade; photographer facing northeast.
7. Rear (south) façade and well house; photographer facing north.
8. Detail of front porch; photographer facing southeast.
9. Detail of open dogtrot; photographer facing south.
10. Interior, kitchen (room 1); photographer facing southeast.
11. Interior, living room (room 2); photographer facing southwest.
12. Interior, living room (room 2); photographer facing northwest.
13. Barn and setting; photographer facing west.
14. Barn and setting; photographer facing north.
15. Barn; photographer facing north.
16. Interior of barn; photographer facing north.

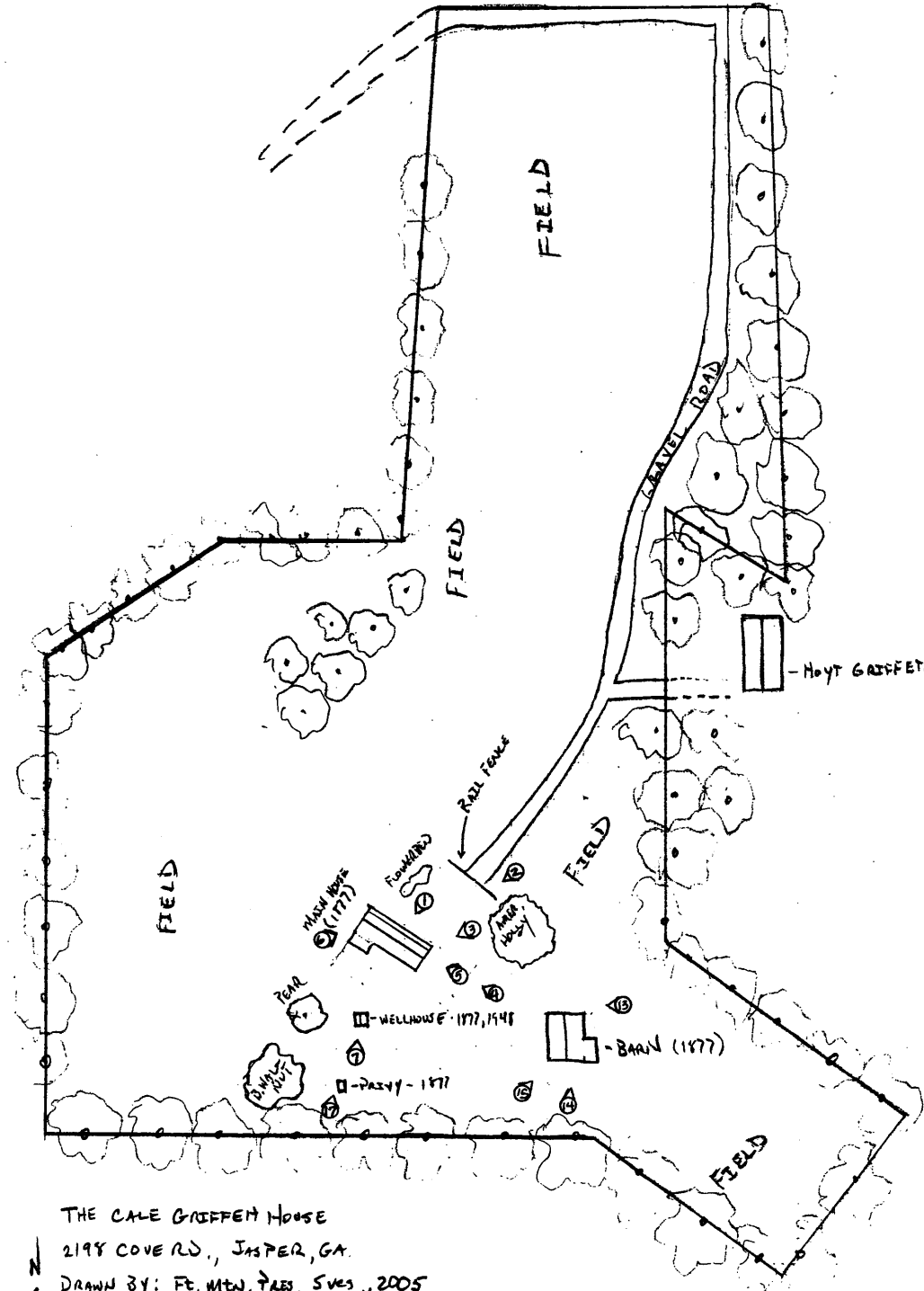
National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

17. Privy and setting; photographer facing north.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)

- BRADLEY HOUSE (c.1910) OUTSIDE BOUNDS








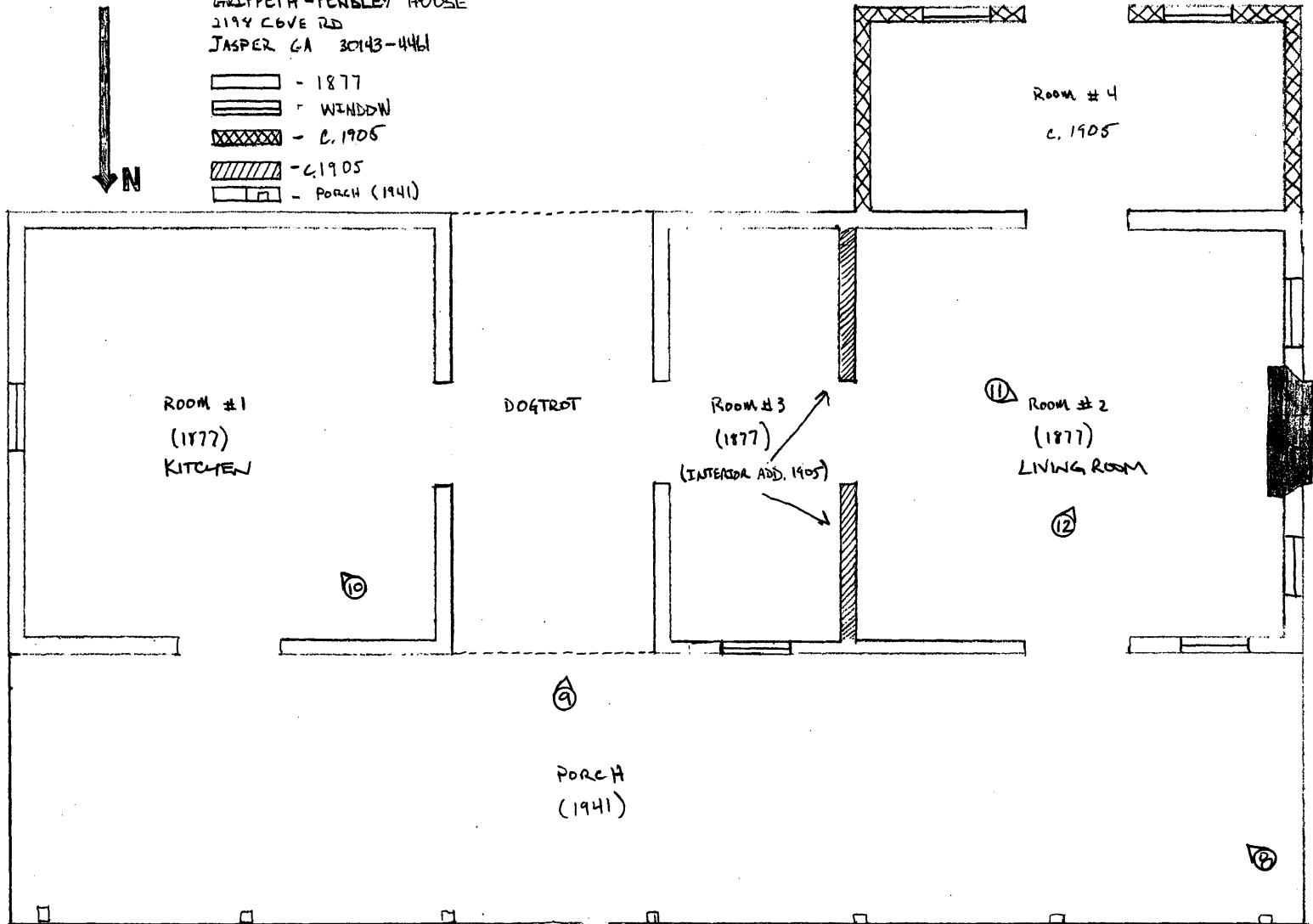
- Hoyt GRIFFETH HOUSE (1967 - outside BOUNDS)

THE CALE GRIFFETH HOUSE
 2198 COVE RD., JASPER, GA.
 DRAWN BY: FR. MCH, TABS. SVCS., 2005

GRIFFETH-PENDLEY HOUSE
PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
SITE PLAN
 NORTH: ↑
 SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
 PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: ↻
 SOURCE: FORT MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION SERVICES

GRIFFETH-PENDLEY HOUSE
2194 COVE RD
JASPER GA 30143-4461

-  - 1877
-  - WINDOW
-  - c. 1905
-  - c. 1905
-  - PORCH (1941)



PREPARED BY:
FORT MOUNTAIN PRES. SVCS.



**GRIFFETH-PENDLEY HOUSE
PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
FLOOR PLAN**

NORTH: 

SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: 

SOURCE: FORT MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION SERVICES

GRIFFETH-PENDLEY HOUSE
PICKENS COUNTY, GEORGIA
NATIONAL REGISTER MAP
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY: 
NORTH: 
SCALE: 1" = 400'
SOURCE: PICKENS CO. TAX MAP 43, 2001

SEE

