

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only  
received MAY 27 1982  
date entered JUN 28 1982

1. Name

historic William D. Phillips Log Cabin

and/or common

2. Location GA 54

street & number Georgia Highway 54, just east of Troup Co. Line and Interstate 185 N/A not for publication

city, town Hogansville Me  vicinity of ~~congressional district~~ 3rd

state Georgia code 013 county Meriwether code 199

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. L. Deck Stapleton

street & number 108 E. Trinity

city, town Durham N/A vicinity of state North Carolina 27701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Meriwether County Courthouse

city, town Greenville state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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

The William D. Phillips Log Cabin is a 1½ story log cabin with a one story rear addition sitting on its original location on level ground in rural Meriwether County.

The log cabin proper is built of square-sectioned hand-hewn logs with dovetail notching at the corners. Most of the logs are original with only a few replacements. The logs have been chinked with a mortar that has been shaped to shed water. The cabin rests on rock corner piers. The front doorway has had a pediment stoop added in recent years that has no relationship to any previous exterior ornamentation. The remaining fieldstone chimney has been partially rebuilt with brick on its upper half, and its original base was repaired at the lower level. The shed rooms at the rear are framed in wood and sheathed with board and batten siding.

The first floor consists of two rooms in the log cabin portion. The enclosed stairway to the second floor is in the west room. The east room is used as a living room and has the fireplace in it. Directly behind the living room is a bedroom in the shed addition. The other shed rooms on the northwest corner of the house hold the kitchen and bathroom.

The living room is paneled in a board and batten siding with a "fence post" cornice resembling wooden stalagmites between the paneling and an exposed log beam in the ceiling. The ceiling is also paneled between the exposed log beam rafters. The fireplace has a simple mantle with unfluted posts. There are windows on either side of the fireplace and on the front facade wall. These 6/6 double hung windows appear to be original. The upstairs consists of one room. The ends of the floor joists are exposed at the second floor level of the front facade.

The shed rooms are additions to the log cabin. They are built on original sills. The roof is new, by necessity, the old one having deteriorated and collapsed. There is weatherboarding inside each of the end gables. The owner does not feel the upstairs room's flooring, exterior weatherboarding, or upstairs windows are original. Some of the downstairs flooring was definitely replaced as well as some of the interior wall siding. As mentioned, the front portico or stoop was added. Tradition indicates at one time a shed room was on the front of the house.

The grounds are heavily forested with no outbuildings. A slightly raised earthen mound to the north of the log cabin is thought to be the location of the original kitchen, but no investigation has been made of this mound.

Although this log cabin sits within a heavily forested, rural setting, it is only a short distance from Georgia Highway 54 and within a half mile of Interstate Highway 185, making a dramatic contrast between the old and the new. The house is visible from the Highway 54.

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in August, 1980 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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** c. 1830 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The William D. Phillips Log Cabin is significant in architecture and exploration and settlement. Architecturally, it is significant as an example of a rare surviving log cabin with intact materials and details of craftsmanship that exemplify the type of building that was often built on the frontier by pioneers. In exploration and settlement the cabin is significant as an expression of the last westward migration within the current boundaries of Georgia following the Land Lottery of 1827. These areas of significance support the property's eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

The Phillips Log Cabin is architecturally significant because it exemplifies the features of frontier architecture and life from the 1830's. The log cabin sits in its original location within a rural setting similar to that encountered by the original settlers. The cabin is built of logs in the typical rectangular style of log cabins with 1½ stories and a gable roof. Fieldstones were used for the chimney, some of which survive in the base. The cabin also rests on masonry piers. The entire cabin exemplifies hand craftsmanship with rough hand-hewn beams notched together. This type of architecture was followed even from the first buildings in many frontier towns, as shown in Basil Hall's drawing of nearby Columbus, settled in 1828, just after the area was opened. The use of nearby materials was the essential feature. Many builders soon erected larger, more substantial homes on the same property. Log cabins are rare in Georgia because they were built in haste and as temporary quarters on the frontier without expectations of long habitation. This cabin is thus rare for surviving after most other similar cabins were lost.

The 1827 Land Lottery opened this county and others nearby for settlement, and within a year or so settlers were pouring in from Georgia's eastern lands. William D. Phillips (1768-1849) moved with his young family from Wilkes County to Jasper County around 1818 and from there to Troup and Meriwether in the early 1830's. In 1796 he had married Mary Spratlin and they had nine children; in 1830 in Morgan County he married Martha Ozmond and had two more. It is believed he brought only his young, second family, to this house. Phillips became a successful farmer or planter on this land and later the house passed to his son, John Hanson Phillips (1810-1890), who also ran a blacksmith shop across the road from this house for over thirty years. He in turn left it to his son John Gaines Phillips who sold it in 1899 and moved to Texas. The house remained in family hands although rented and sometimes vacant until it was sold to Mrs. D. E. Pinkston (Martha Ware) who restored it and deeded it to the present owner, her grandson.

The Phillips Log Cabin exemplifies the role of many Georgia families who moved westward from county to county as new land was obtained from the Indians and opened for settlement until they reached a certain point, where, perhaps because of their age or the better soil, or whatever, they finally settled for good. This area, opened for settlement in 1827, was Georgia's last western frontier, and the Phillips log cabin represents the type of pioneer architecture associated with this frontier.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Research and draft nomination form by L. Deck Stapleton including information from the Phillips Family HHistory, Book 2.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Approximately 3 acres

Quadrangle name Grantville, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	6	6	9	9	4	7	0	3	6	7	1	0	9	4	1	0
Zone		Easting						Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting						Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is all that the current owner owns and is marked on the accompanying plat map by a heavy black line.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code  county  code

state N/A code  county  code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth H. Thomas Jr., Historian

Historic Preservation Section

organization Department of Natural Resources

date May 10, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street

telephone 404/656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia 30334

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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 Elizabeth A. Lyon  
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

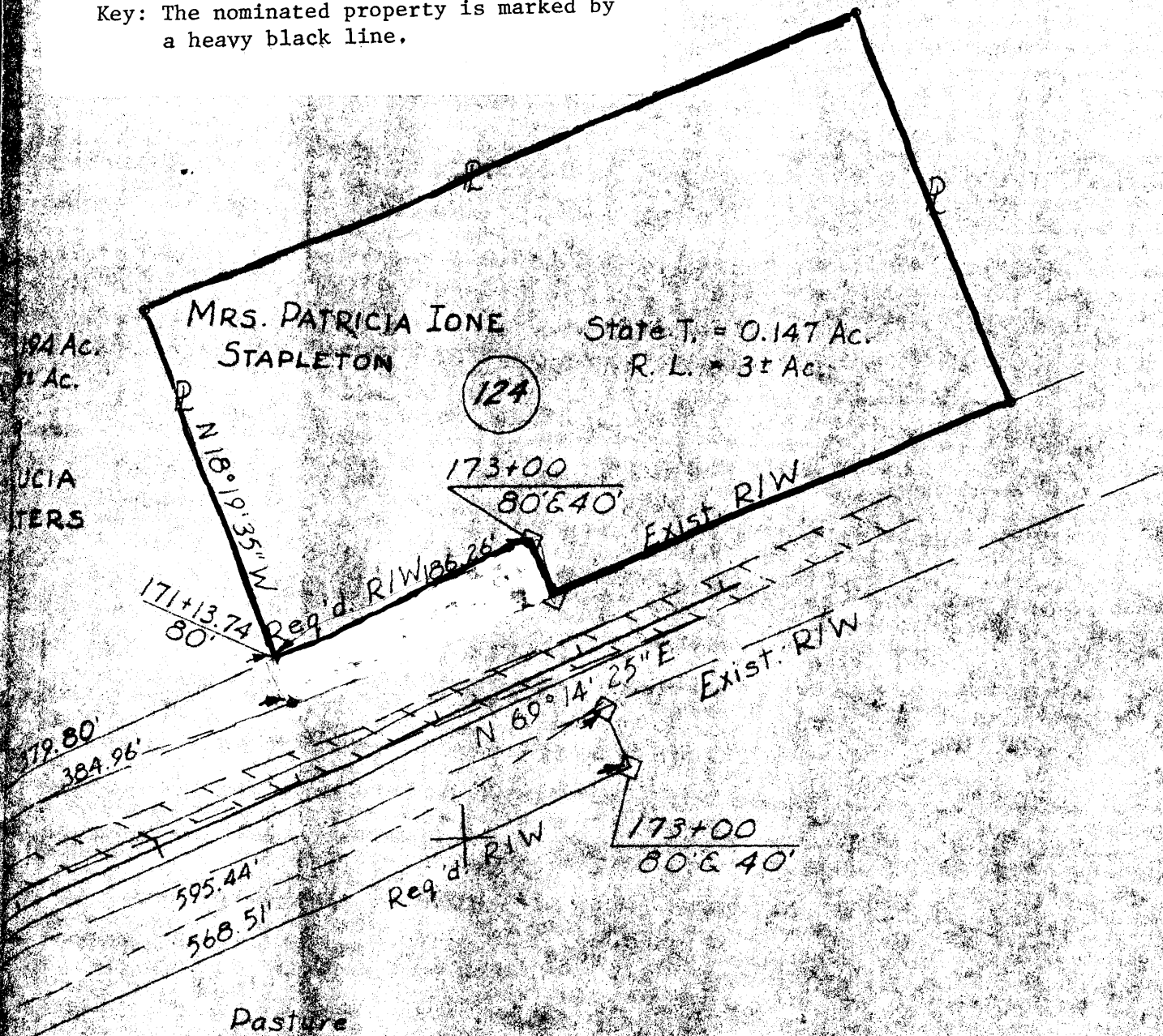
date 5/13/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	Entered in the
<u>Alvius Byars</u>	National Register
Keeper of the National Register	date <u>6/28/82</u>
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

SKETCH MAP  
 WILLIAM D. PHILLIPS LOG CABIN  
 Meriwether County, Georgia

Scale: 1" = 100'  
 Source: Department of Transportation Plat  
 Date: ca. 1978

Key: The nominated property is marked by  
 a heavy black line.



194 Ac.  
 11 Ac.  
 UCIA  
 TERS

MRS. PATRICIA IONE  
 STAPLETON  
 State T. = 0.147 Ac.  
 R. L. = 3± Ac.

124

173+00  
 80' & 40'

171+13.74  
 80'

179.80'  
 384.96'

595.44'  
 568.51'

Req'd. RIW

173+00  
 80' & 40'

Pasture

123

L.L. 123  
 Wm. H. & Marilyn Dodson

State T. = 1.036 Ac.  
 R. R. = 22± Ac.

S.R. 100  
 P.I. Sta. 12+50.96  
 $\Delta = 44^\circ 39' 56''$  Rt.  
 $D = 20^\circ 00'$   
 T = 117.68'