

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 13 1978
DATE ENTERED	NOV 21 1978

**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 Winter Quarters

AND/OR COMMON Winter Quarters

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER La. Hwy. 608, six miles east of Newellton, on Lake St. Joseph

CITY, TOWN Newellton _NOT FOR PUBLICATION

STATE Louisiana VICINITY OF 5th - B. F. O'Neal

CODE 22 COUNTY Tensas CODE 107

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 State of Louisiana, Office of Parks

STREET & NUMBER P. O. Box 44426

CITY, TOWN Baton Rouge STATE Louisiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Tensas Parish Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN St. Joseph STATE Louisiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Louisiana Historic Sites Survey

DATE 1978 _FEDERAL STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN Baton Rouge STATE Louisiana

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Winter Quarters plantation house is situated behind La. Rt. 608, which runs along the south shore of Lake St. Joseph

The plantation has lost all its outbuildings. All that remains is the house and 6.7 acres of land. The nominated 6.7 acres is set between two modern houses, with a caretaker's house trailer to the rear and the lake shore to the front. Despite the loss the plantation house conveys a sense of its time and place because:

1. It is still set amid open farmland.
2. It retains a strong relationship with the lake, which was the historic means of access to the plantation property.

The house began in about 1803 with three rooms along the front which were raised about three feet above two rear cabinets and a gallery. In about 1830 three larger rooms were added along the front along with front and side galleries. In about 1850 a wide hall and four large high ceiling rooms were built to the east. Two of the rooms in the 1803 section have been cut through to connect with the hall. Open balconies were built front and rear and set behind free standing colonnades which rose from the ground level to the eaves.

A billiard room and two bedrooms were installed in the attic above the 1850 section. Shortly after this a semi-octagonal bay was added in the northeast corner.

The one and a half story cypress frame house is raised approximately six feet above grade on brick piers. Timbers are circular sawn in the 1850 section, with pitsawn timber in the older sections.

The large rambling house is essentially unpretentious. Although there are many high style elements in the house, they are used without regard to unity or consistency and they are often brazenly juxtaposed to crude and rustic elements. For example:

1. The front and rear columns are well developed with molded capitals but they rise to the eaves without any entablature.
2. The east facade is a comparatively minor facade and yet it is elaborately treated with Italianate brackets and pediments, which appear nowhere else in the house.
3. The rooms in the 1850 portion are grand and they feature fine classical molding around the doors and windows. But the mantels are crude and the ceiling beams are exposed. Moreover there are no consistent wall surfaces, some being vertical board, some being plaster.

The only modern replacement is a floor in the 1803 portion, east cabinet.

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 checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Haller Nutt

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Winter Quarters is significant due to its architecture and to its association with Dr. Haller Nutt. Because of its size, its rambling, inconsistent quality, and its seemingly deliberate unpretentiousness, Winter Quarters represents a comfortable rural plantation life style. It is the country house counterpart to the in town mansions of Natchez. It also represents the plantation, a rural source of wealth, without which the well known lifestyle of nineteenth century Natchez could not have existed. In addition, Winter Quarters is one of the largest and most elaborate residences in Tensas Parish, representing three periods of construction.

Winter Quarters is also significant in the history of southern agriculture - due to its association with Dr. Haller Nutt (1816-1864), a planter who had extensive holdings in both Louisiana and Mississippi. Nutt and his family resided at Winter Quarters much of the time during the 1850's and early 1860's, the last fifteen years of his life. Throughout this period, which included the time when he was directing the construction of the famous Longwood in Natchez, a sizable portion of Nutt's holdings consisted of two plantations in Tensas Parish - Winter Quarters and the one adjacent to it, which was known as Evergreen.

Haller Nutt was the son of Dr. Rush Nutt, a physician who settled in Greenville, Mississippi in 1806 and about a decade later moved to some land he purchased near the present town of Rodney, Mississippi, where he became a prominent planter. Rodney is right across the Mississippi River from Tensas Parish. Rush Nutt won fame for his experiments with cotton hybrids, developing the popular "Petit Gulf" strain in 1833. His son Haller Nutt continued seed breeding and produced a successful strain known as "Egypto-Mexican" in 1841. In addition, the father and son also worked together to make some improvements on the cotton gin.¹

Haller Nutt was raised as a planter's son and received a good education, which included some time at the University of Virginia and completion of the requirements for a medical doctor's degree at Kentucky Medical School in Louisville. It is, however, not certain that he ever practiced medicine. He was something of a scholar, frequently writing articles for periodicals, usually on the subjects of agriculture, geology, medicine, and religion. For a time he also served as a justice of the peace in Tensas Parish and as a member of the police jury.²

It is not known when Nutt's connection with Tensas Parish began. Certainly by the late 1840's and perhaps earlier, he was working Evergreen

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Census of 1860. Tensas Parish, Louisiana: Population Schedule; Slave Schedule. Interview with Jack Hilbun, caretaker of Winter Quarters, 5 May 1978.
 James, D. Clayton, Antebellum Natchez. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 1968.
 Logan, Marie T. Mississippi-Louisiana Border Country. Baton Rouge: Claitor's Publishing Co., 1970.
 Nutt, Merle C. The Nutt Family Through the Years. Phoenix: Published by the author, 1973.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (cont'd)

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 6.7 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____ QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	6 7 3 8 1 0	3 5 4 3 7 7 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION
 The property is bounded by a rectangle of approximately 350' by approximately 630'.

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 Joyce Hilbun (Guide for Winter Quarters) Revised by John Easterly and Jonathan Fricker

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE 1978

STREET & NUMBER Route 1 Box 91 TELEPHONE _____

CITY OR TOWN Newellton STATE Louisiana

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 *J. Bernard Sam*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE May 31, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

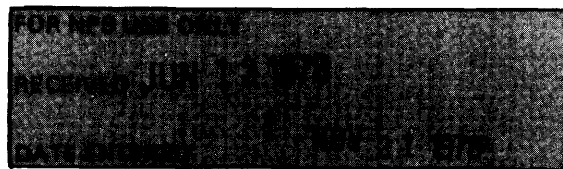
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Charles [Signature] DATE 11-21-78
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Marcella [Signature]* DATE 11-20-78
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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Winter Quarters

CONTINUATION SHEET 1

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

8. Significance (cont'd)

Plantation under a lease arrangement. But his connection with Tensas Parish went back at least to 1840, when he married Julia Augusta Williams at Evergreen, which was her parents' plantation. (Finally in 1857 he purchased the 1731-acre Evergreen from Julia's mother, Caroline Routh Williams.)³

In January, 1850, Haller Nutt bought Winter Quarters from Ann Ogden, paying \$44,650.95 for the 1554-acre tract including the house. Soon afterward he added the third section to the house. The original house was built by Job Routh, the grandfather of Julia Nutt, on an 800-acre tract which he acquired in 1803 through a land grant, one of the last awarded by Louisiana's Spanish government. De Bow's Review (1853) cites Job Routh as the first permanent settler of Tensas Parish and as the man who named Lake St. Joseph.⁴ Ann Ogden, who sold Winter Quarters to Nutt, may have been Julia Nutt's aunt, for some sources say that she was the daughter of Job Routh. In addition, it is often claimed that Ann Ogden was responsible for the construction of the second part of the house around 1830.⁵

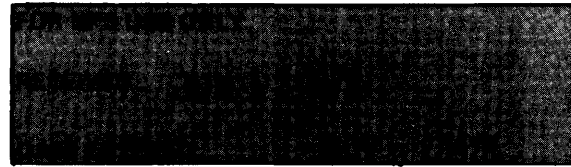
In September, 1850, only a few months after his purchase of Winter Quarters, Nutt bought the property in Natchez on which he was to build Longwood. There was already a house on the property, and from this point until his death in 1864, the family divided its time between Longwood and Winter Quarters.⁶

Economically, Nutt was doing well in the years immediately preceding the war. In 1860 he listed his complete holdings as 800 slaves and 42,947 acres on twenty-one plantations in Mississippi and Louisiana. He figured his net profit from cotton and sugar that year at \$228,320.⁷ Some indication of the role played by Winter Quarters in this fabric of holdings is provided by the Census of 1860. Nutt listed the value of his real estate in Tensas Parish as \$180,000 and the value of his personal estate as \$263,000. He listed about 258 slaves (almost one-third of his total number of slaves) on his plantations of Winter Quarters and Evergreen. (The figure 258 is approximate due to the difficulty of reading this page of the census.)⁸

In 1864 Haller Nutt died, and around the end of the war the family lost both Winter Quarters and Evergreen, probably relinquishing them to pay the debts of Nutt's estate. The war had a devastating effect on his holdings - his losses on the Louisiana plantations alone were estimated at over a million dollars.⁹ In the century after Nutt's death, Winter Quarters apparently passed through the hands of numerous families until it was purchased in 1965 by E. R. McDonald, who refurbished it and opened it to the public in 1967. In February, 1978, it was purchased by the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism from the heirs of E. R. McDonald.¹⁰

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Winter Quarters

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

NOTES

1. Marie T. Logan, Mississippi-Louisiana Border Country (Baton Rouge: Claitor's Publishing Co., 1970), 41, hereinafter cited as Logan, Border Country; D. Clayton James, Antebellum Natchez (Baton Rouge, LSU Press, 1968), 156, hereinafter cited as James, Natchez; William L. Whitwell, The Heritage of Longwood (Jackson: University Press of Miss., 1975), 22, hereinafter cited as Whitwell, Longwood.
2. Logan, Border Country, 218-219, 226, 290-291.
3. Logan, Border Country, 219, 224, 232-233; Merle C. Nutt, The Nutt Family Through the Years (Phoenix: Published by the author, 1973), 100; hereinafter cited as Nutt, Nutt Family.
4. Logan, Border Country, 229; Nutt, Nutt Family, 98; Whitwell, Longwood, 22; W. B. Price, "The Parish of Tensas," DeBow's Review XIV (May 1853): 432-433.
5. "Tourist Attraction Opens Saturday," Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, 26 Feb. 1967; Laura A. Wooldridge, "Synopsis of Winter Quarters," unpublished typescript in National Register nomination file for Winter Quarters, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
6. Logan, Border Country, 230; Nutt, Nutt Family, 98, 100; Whitwell, Longwood, 22.
7. James, Natchez, 156.
8. 1860 Census, Tensas Parish, Louisiana: Population Schedule, p. 21; Slave Schedule, p. 245.
9. Logan, Border Country, 240; Whitwell, Longwood, 74.
10. "Tourist Attraction Opens Saturday," Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, 26 Feb. 1967; "Winter Quarters - Louisiana's New Purchase," Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, 19 Feb. 1978; Interview with Jack Hilbun, caretaker of Winter Quarters, 5 May 1978.

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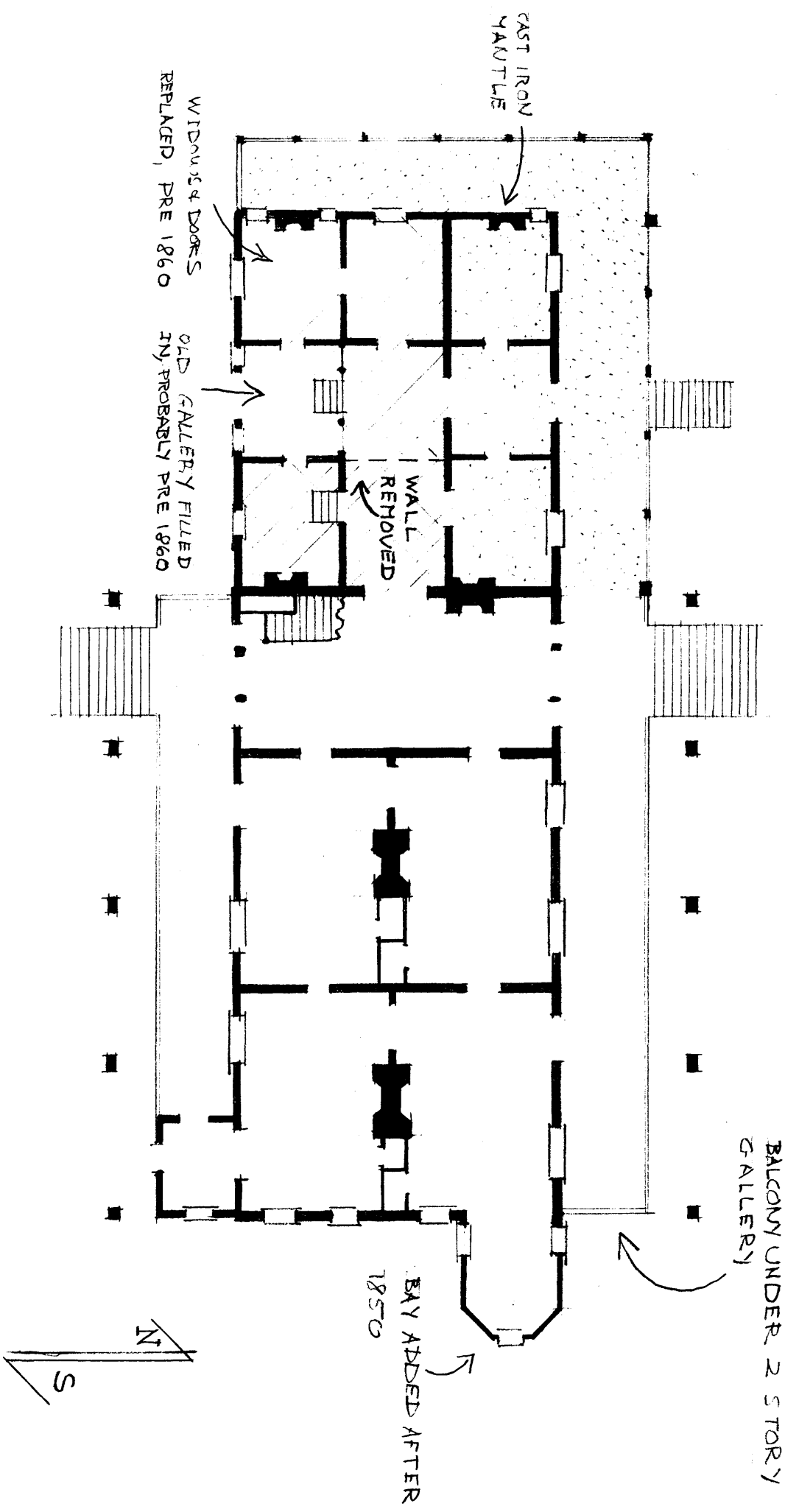
ITEM NUMBER 9




PAGE 2

9. Bibliography (cont'd)

- Price, W. B. "The Parish of Tensas." De Bow's Review XIV (May 1853): 431-436.
- "Tourist Attraction Opens Saturday." Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, 26 Feb. 1967.
- Whitwell, William L. The Heritage of Longwood. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1975.
- "Winter Quarters - Louisiana's New Purchase." Baton Rouge Morning Advocate 19 Feb. 1978.
- Wooldridge, Laura A. "Synopsis of Winter Quarters." Unpublished typescript in National Register nomination file for Winter Quarters, State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

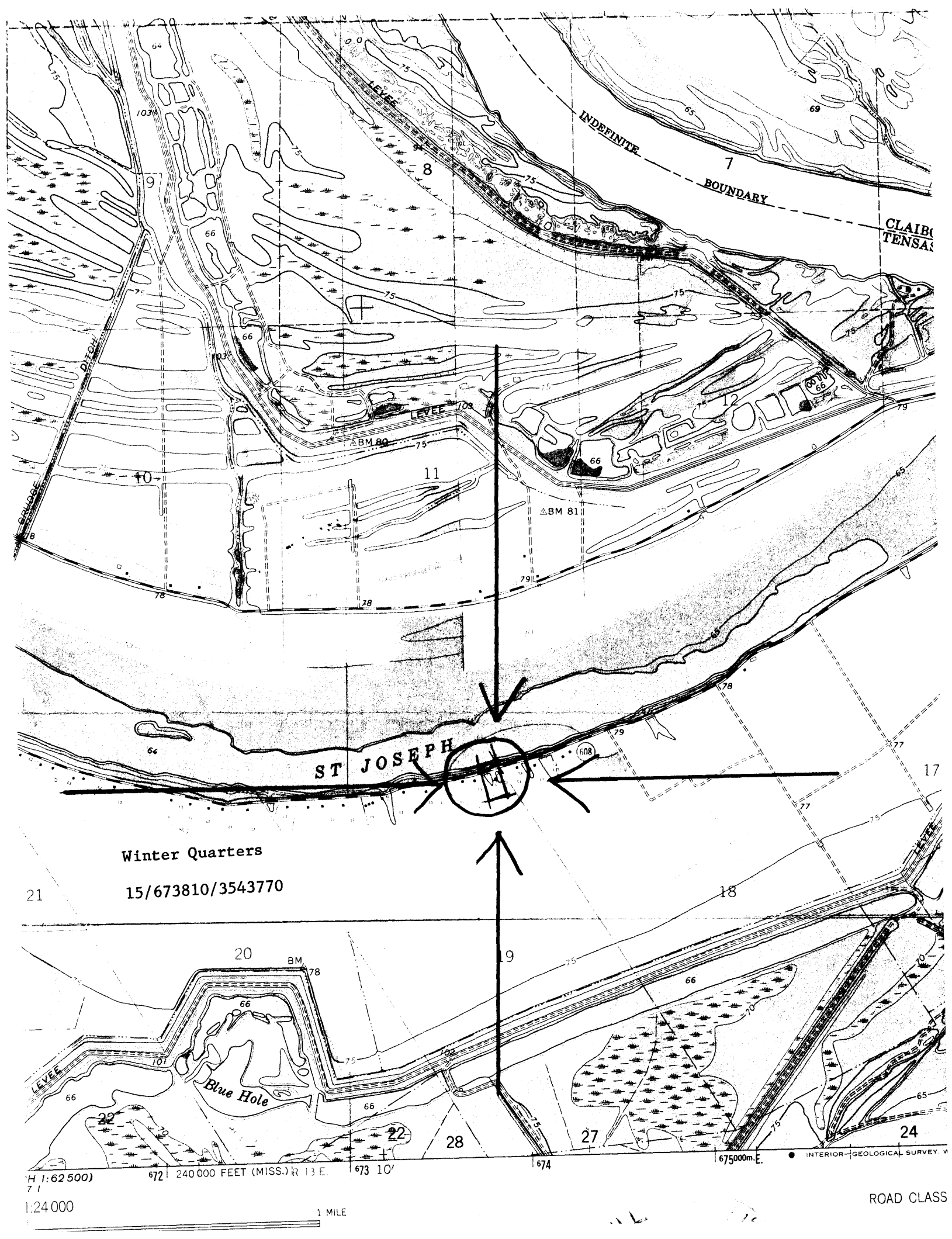
LAKE SIDE OF HOUSE (FRONT)



-  CA 1803
-  CA 1830
-  CA 1850

RECEIVED
 JUN 13 1978
 NATIONAL REGISTER

WINTER QUARTERS
 (NOT TO SCALE)



Winter Quarters

15/673810/3543770

1:24,000

672 240 000 FEET (MISS.) R 13 E. 673 10'

1 MILE

ROAD CLASS