

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instruction in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Wigle, Abraham & Mary, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 34050 Belts Drive not for publication

city or town Harrisburg vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97116

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility 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 x meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide x locally.

James Hamrick
Signature of certifying official/Title /Deputy SHPO

March 13, 2003
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
Action

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of 5/1/03

Wigle House
Name of Property

Linn, Oregon
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many as apply)

- private
- public - local
- public - state
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	2	buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
1	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th CENTURY: Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: stone, concrete
walls: horizontal lapped boards,
T-1-11, wood shingles
roof: composition shingles
Other: _____

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

See continuation sheets.

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SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Abraham and Mary Wigle House is an excellent and well-preserved example of the local use of the Gothic Revival style of architecture. Constructed in c.1860, it is distinguished by its centered front-facing gable, recessed porch and recessed balcony. Its design and construction is attributed to Abraham Wigle, who had training as a carpenter and experience building houses. In addition to being a distinctive example of the style, it clearly represents residential architecture associated with early settlement in this area of rural Linn County.

SETTING

The Abraham and Mary Wigle House is located on the south side of Belts Drive in southern rural Linn County, Oregon. This area of the Willamette Valley is farmland, primarily planted in grass seed. To the east of the house are the Cascade foothills; the I-5 freeway is located about 1½ miles to the west. Indian Head, the most notable geophysical feature in the area, is northeast of the house about one mile; Bond Butte can be seen to the northwest. Tree-lined Tub Run Creek is south of the house. The Wigle family cemetery is located northeast of the house across Belts Drives. The house faces east and has a wonderful view of the foothills across the farm fields. The nearest neighbor is across Belts Drive to the north; the next nearest neighbor is a mile away.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

The Wigle House is “T” shaped with a 1½ story, side gabled front portion and a single-story rear ell. The front elevation is distinguished by a centered, gabled wall dormer, beneath which is a recessed balcony. A recessed porch marks the front entrance and a back, “L” shaped porch (now enclosed) wraps into the northwest corner of the house where the ell connects to the main volume. A small entry porch projects from the south elevation.

The house sits on a foundation primarily of stone piers. A few of the stones have been replaced with concrete footings, although the replaced stones have been left lying beneath the house. The south porch (a later addition) has concrete footings. The floor framing consists of a system of girders and joists on heavy sills and posts. The walls of the house are balloon framed with the exception of three of the stair walls, which use a plan wall system. The roofing system consists of rafters and ceiling joists resting on the top plate of the wall framing.

In addition to the house, there is a small pump house located south of the house and a 1950s-era garage/shed southeast of the house. A newer garage/shed (c.1990s) is located south of the house. The yard includes a variety of trees, including apple, plum, hickory and black walnut, all planted during the Wigle family ownership. A catalpa tree near the garage was planted in the 1940s.

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EXTERIOR FEATURES

The house is currently covered with a combination of siding materials. It was originally sided with horizontally lapped clapboards, which are still intact beneath the secondary sidings. In the 1940s or 1950s, the main volume of the house was sided over with heavy wood shingles on the east and north sides. When the back porch was enclosed and the south porch added to enclose the side entrance, the south side of the main volume, the rear ell, and the porch enclosures were covered with T-1-11 siding. At the time of this writing, the secondary siding has been removed from most of the main volume of the house as part of the beginning rehabilitation process. The remaining secondary siding will also be removed and the original clapboards, which appear to be in relatively good condition, will be repaired and repainted. The foundation is currently skirted with T-1-11. A new appropriate skirting will be installed during the rehabilitation process.

The roof is covered with composition shingles installed in the 1990s, following a chimney fire that damaged the roof, an interior wall upstairs, and resulted in the removal of the chimneys. Plywood sheathing was added over the original skip sheathing to allow for installation of the current shingles. The roof on the south side porch is currently covered with rolled roofing that is in poor condition.

The original windows in the house are four-over-four double hung wood sash. Aluminum framed storm windows have been installed on the exterior of the windows to protect them from deterioration and add some degree of insulation. Aluminum sliders were installed in the enclosed rear porch and the south porch. A one-over-one double hung wood sash window has also been installed in the kitchen above the sink (south wall, west end of room). Interior framing of the wall indicates that the original window at this location was a tall, narrow window. It is probable that the original window was moved from this location to the front entrance, on the south side of the door (photos taken in the late 1940s or early 1950s do not show a window on this side of the door and the window that is located there now matches the remaining windows in the kitchen) perhaps when the kitchen was plumbed for a sink, which was installed on the exterior wall necessitating the removal of the original window and the installation of a shorter one.

Some of the original doors are extant, including the door to the hired hand's room, which provided direct access to that room from the front porch without having to enter the house through the parlor. All the doors had three-light transoms, some of which are intact.

Most of the original exterior trim and moldings are intact. A wide frieze with simple moldings is located beneath the eaves. The corner boards and simple caps are intact, with the original siding, beneath the secondary siding. The fascia boards are intact, except for a small section on the west eave (south end). Windows and doors have decorative cap moldings that are original.

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The two original turned posts at the front porch have been removed, but remain on site. They are in a somewhat deteriorated condition, but may be repairable. Rehabilitation plans include their re-installation, either with the repaired originals or with like-kind replacements. A portion of the floor boards on the front porch has been replaced, most likely a repair needed as a result of weather-caused deterioration. The pilasters with cap moldings at the sides of the porch are intact. The upper recessed balcony is also intact, with only slight damage to one of the elements of the jigsawed balustrade. The balustrade and railing cap are attached to the house walls with half-posts topped by urns. The original back porch (now enclosed) retains the decorative frieze beneath the eave of the roof. It is not known what the original posts were like or if they may have been used as part of the framing for the enclosure.

The pump house, which is a small rectangular shaped structure, is covered with standing seam metal. The 1950s garage is in poor condition and has begun to fall over. It is not known at this time if it will be saved or allowed to collapse. The wooden structure has a wide opening on the east elevation and a small pedestrian door on the west elevation. Much of the south wall is missing. The wood has weathered so that most of the paint is gone and the wood is bare.

INTERIOR FEATURES

The Wigle House retains most of its original layout and finishes. On the first floor of the main volume of the house is a parlor centered between the side rooms. The rooms on the north side of the parlor include a small bedroom and a bathroom (converted from a former bedroom). There is one long bedroom on the south side of the parlor where a wall was removed between a small bedroom and the hired hand's room to create a larger space. The staircase separates the parlor from the south side room. The rear ell of the house is located on the west side of the main volume and includes the kitchen (with dining area), a pantry, the enclosed back porch (which now serves as a laundry and storage), and the small south porch. Two additional bedrooms, a common sitting room, and the balcony are located upstairs above the parlor and downstairs bedrooms (see floorplan).

The walls throughout the house consist of flush-mounted horizontal fir boards on the balloon framing. The boards are about 3½ inches in width. The only exception to this wall surfacing are the three stair walls, which are of plank construction (the boards are mounted vertically); the upstairs wall between the sitting room and the north bedroom (partially reconstructed with sheet rock following the fire); the bathroom (partially covered with plywood and Formica); the back porch enclosure (a combination of horizontally lapped boards and vertically set beadboard); and the south porch (covered with beadboard). All of the walls are painted, except for the interior of the closets, which retain their unfinished rough wood. None of the walls appear to have ever been papered or covered with muslin.

Twelve-inch baseboards are located throughout the house. Those in the parlor, bedrooms, and sitting room are topped by quarter-round trim. Those in the kitchen and pantry do not have trim.

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The floors throughout the house are tongue-and-groove fir flooring, some of which have simply been painted. The floor in the parlor has been covered with square asbestos cement tiles that are worn and chipped in some places. The kitchen floor has been covered twice, first with linoleum and later with sheets of a composite board, such as Masonite. This floor is also worn and deteriorated. The bathroom floor has been covered with more recent vinyl flooring. The enclosed back porch floors have been covered with plywood sheeting.

Fir boards are also used for the ceiling throughout the house, with the exception of the south porch, which has a beadboard ceiling. All the ceilings have been painted. None of the early ceiling fixtures remain; the only ceiling fixture in the house at this time is the fan/light located in the parlor.

All of the original four-over-four double hung windows retain their decorative molding and narrow muntins. Much of the glass is original. The doors include a number of original four-panel doors, some with the original rimlock hardware and glass knobs. All the doors originally had three-light transoms; many are still intact, although a few have either been replaced with wood panels or completely removed.

The enclosed stair consists of a straight-run stair with three winders at each end. The north wall is the balloon framed wall; the other three walls are of plank construction. The stairway is narrow – only about 2½ feet wide. The risers and treads are solid pieces of fir.

There are two fireplaces, one in the parlor and one in the kitchen. Chimneys for both have been removed. The firebox in the parlor fireplace was rebuilt following the 1990s fire and is now outfitted for a wood stove. The kitchen fireplace has been partially bricked in and covered over with narrow horizontal boards. The mantels of each fireplace are intact and consist of simply detailed, curvilinear pieces of solid wood. They appear to have several coats of paint. Located on each side (east and west) of the parlor fireplace, inserted into the wall, are small cabinets with shelves. The original recessed panel doors are intact, although some of the hardware is missing.

There are built-in shelves and cabinets in the pantry, which also houses the waterheater. A cupboard with shelving has also been installed in the kitchen. A small corner china cabinet is located in the southeast corner of the kitchen. It appears that these built-in features were probably added in the 1940s or 1950s. The bathroom also has built-in cabinets along the east wall, presumably added when the room was converted to a bathroom.

ALTERATIONS

Alterations to the house have been minimal given its age. As was typical of houses from the 19th century, the kitchen was “modernized” and a bedroom converted to a bathroom when indoor plumbing was installed. In the case of the Wigle House, this included the relocation of an original kitchen window to the front elevation as well.

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The wall between the hired hand's room and the south bedroom was removed at some point (date unknown) to create a larger bedroom. The upstairs wall between the sitting room and north bedroom has been partially rebuilt with sheetrock following the fire, which destroyed the board walls at this location.

The brick chimneys have been removed, the firebox in the parlor rebuilt, and the firebox in the kitchen partially filled in.

Two turned posts were removed from the front porch (date unknown), although they remain on site and either will be repaired or replaced in-kind and returned to the porch.

The back porch was enclosed and a small side entry porch on the south side of the house was added, presumably at about the same time. The date of these alterations is not determined, although a 1950s-era photo showing the south side of the house does not include the small porch. It is possible that these changes were made as late as the 1970s.

The old garage/shed was constructed in the 1950s, but currently is in a deteriorated state. A new garage/shed was constructed in the 1990s. The pump house was constructed when the plumbing was installed; the date of its subsequent sheathing with metal siding is unknown.

OWNER'S PLAN FOR REHABILITATION

The current owner is working with SHPO staff to develop a rehabilitation plan that is sensitive to the historic resource. She will be taking advantage of the tax benefits, and therefore, the rehabilitation will be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Wigle House
Name of Property

Linn, Oregon
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing).

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Architecture _____
 Early Settlement _____

Period of Significance
 c. 1860-1910 _____

Significant Dates
 c. 1860 _____

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B removed from its original location
- C a birthplace or grave
- D a cemetery
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance Within the past 50 years

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder
 Abraham Wigle _____

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing the form on one or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheets

- Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) has been requested
 - 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
- Name of repository: _____

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

INTRODUCTION

The Abraham and Mary Wigle House is a well-preserved, distinctive example of rural Gothic Revival architecture in Linn County. A local interpretation of the style, the house exhibits several features associated with the style while retaining unique detail. As one of only seven remaining examples of the centered front-facing gable version of the style in the county, it is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C for local significance. The house is also eligible for listing under Criterion A for its association with early development of new settlements and communities in Linn County.

THE GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE IN RURAL LINN COUNTY

A revival of the Gothic style began in England in 1749 and quickly grew into a movement that featured picturesque country houses. The first documented house in the Gothic Revival style in America was designed in 1832 by Alexander Jackson Davis, the first American architect to promote Gothic Revival residential buildings. His 1837 book, *Rural Residences*, the first plan book published in this country, was dominated by Gothic Revival designs. His design ideas were adopted by his friend Andrew Jackson Downing, who became the popularizer of the style, with his pattern books *Cottage Residences* (1842) and *The Architecture of County Houses* (1850).¹

According to *Architecture Oregon Style* by Rosalind Clark, the Gothic Revival style was introduced in Oregon in the 1850s. Initially it appeared looking much like Downing's designs, which included vertical board and batten siding, multipane windows, at least one arch-shaped window with decorative crown molding, steeply pitched gable roofs, and substantial and often decoratively detailed chimneys. By the 1860s, however, the local use of the style was departing from some of Downing's designs. The use of horizontal lapped siding came into favor and windows were typically four-over-four double hung sash. Many of the houses had symmetrical front facades with a centered front-facing gable and wall dormer, often with an upper floor balcony located directly above the front porch. Decorative detailing, sometimes referred to as "gingerbread," often adorned the porch and balcony. A number of houses included arch-shaped doors and windows in the front-facing gable; main entrances were often graced with sidelights and/or transoms.²

The style further evolved into what is sometimes called Vernacular Gothic Revival. From the 1870s through the 1890s, a vernacular house form known as the "Western Farmhouse" was adapted to several styles, including

¹ McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American House* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989), 200.

² Clark, Rosalind. *Architecture Oregon Style* (Portland: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983), 46.

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Gothic Revival. The “Western Farmhouse” is characterized by the arrangement of rectangular volumes to form a “T” or an “L” shape and sometimes is described simply as a “front facing gable with side wing” or a “side facing gable with rear ell.” Other variations on the theme also existed. Philip Dole (Professor Emeritus, University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts) explains in his article “Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley” (in *Space, Style and Structure*, Volume 1):

The term “Western Farmhouse” designates that extensive group of rather plain rural homes built throughout the 1870-1890 period in the Willamette Valley which do not comfortably fit within any national stylistic architectural vogue.... The buildings achieve individuality and exhibit some unique detail. As a group they express, as they reasonably should, interest in utility at reasonable costs – a comfortable home.³

The ways in which the “Western Farmhouse” most often displayed elements of the Gothic Revival style was in the ornamentation, including the application of jigsawn bargeboards, brackets and porch trim.

In Linn County, there is evidence that the Gothic Revival style appeared as early as about 1860. The style was used until around 1900. The earliest examples in the county are of the centered front-facing gable variety. They tend to include a porch and a balcony. Later examples (1870s and 1880s) of the style locally tend to be variations of the “Western Farmhouse.” Of the nine rural Linn County examples of the centered front-facing gable variety surveyed for the Statewide Inventory of Historic Resources in 1982 and 1983, only seven survive (in various states of condition). There are only fifteen remaining examples of the “Western Farmhouse” variety identified in rural Linn County. All other examples of this style are located within the towns and cities in the county.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The **Abraham and Mary Wigle House**, constructed in c.1860, is an excellent example of the centered front-facing gable Gothic Revival style. The side-gabled main volume of the house is 1½ stories; the rear ell is one story. The front elevation is symmetrical and is distinguished by the gabled wall dormer, which houses a recessed balcony above the front porch. The balcony is adorned with a decorative jigsawn balustrade. A transom accentuates the main entry door, which is flanked by four-over-four double hung windows. Like windows are located throughout the house. A wide frieze beneath the eaves further exemplifies the style. Although the house was sided with secondary siding in the 1950s and 1970s, the original horizontal lapped board siding and corner boards are intact beneath the secondary siding, which – at the time of this writing – is in

³ Dole, Philip. “Farmhouses and Barns of the Willamette Valley,” in *Space, Style and Structure* (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, Volume 1, 1974), 231.

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the process of being removed. The original corbelled chimneys have been removed. The interior of the house retains most of its original layout and finishes and is in relatively good condition.

The **James and Rebecca Hassler House**, located on E. Lacombe Road in the Larwood vicinity, is another example of a 1½ story, side-gabled house with a centered front-facing gable. It may have been constructed in the early 1860s. The front gable projects slightly from the main volume of the house and covers a lower porch and upper balcony. It appears that the porch posts and railing have been altered or replaced. The windows, which are one-over-one double hung sash, would indicate a later date of construction or the replacement of the windows at some point in time. The integrity of the interior is unknown at this time.

The **James Garrett House**, located on Blueberry Road southeast of Peoria, is very similar to the Hassler House with its projecting front gable covering the porch and balcony. This house was built in 1868. It has undergone a number of alterations, including substantial additions to the rear, the construction of a large wrap-around porch, and more recently, the installation of vinyl siding and the replacement of some windows with vinyl windows. Although the integrity of the house has been compromised, the owners maintain it in good condition.

The **Charles Grimes House**, constructed in 1866, is another example of the centered front-facing gable form. The porch and balcony of this house, however, project from the gabled portion; the balcony is not covered but provides the covering for the first story porch. The balcony balustrade is jigsawn. Some of the windows are four-over-four double hung, although a large picture window with multiple lights (of the early 1900 vintage) was installed on the front elevation. The house, which is located on N. Coburg Road southeast of Harrisburg, appears to have been vacant for some time and is in a deteriorated state.

The **Thomas J. Cooper House**, located on Seefeld Drive southwest of Brownsville, is a similar example of the style. The upper balcony provides the covering for the porch; the balcony balustrade has been removed. The balcony door, which is centered in the gable, is adorned with a triangular window above, giving it the “flavor” of a Gothic lancet window. The windows are four-over-four double hung sash. The house retains much of its historic integrity and is in fair condition. The house, which was constructed in the 1870s, is located almost exactly five miles north of the Wigle House.

The **Louis Zuhlsdorf House**, built in c.1870, is another example of the centered front-facing gable form. The porch of the house, however, has been changed to a full-width hipped roof porch that spans the front elevation. The upper balcony has been removed; although the lancet shaped door remains. A large picture window has been installed on the front elevation. The house is located on Kamph Road east of Albany. It is in good condition.

The only rural Linn County house of the Gothic Revival style that is listed on the National Register is the **Joseph and Barbara Maurer House** near Lebanon. Although it was constructed in 1894, it is an excellent example of the centered front-facing gable form and is adorned with a lancet window in the gable above the

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small front porch, decorative crown moldings over the two-over-two windows, and scissor trusses in the side gable ends. The house retains a high degree of historic integrity and is maintained in excellent condition.

THE WIGLE FAMILY AND SETTLEMENT IN LINN COUNTY

Euro-American settlement in what would become Linn County began in the mid-1840s when John Packwood settled near the present town of Scio and John Crabtree and his family settled on land adjacent to Packwood in 1845. Linn County, which stretches from the Willamette River in the valley to the Cascades ridgeline, was officially created in December 1847 by the Provisional Government. Prior to Euro-American settlement, the land was occupied by the Calapooia Indians.

The 1850 census showed 173 families living in Linn County. A number of settlements had begun to develop by then including Lebanon, Brownsville, Oakville, Albany and Harrisburg. When the Wigle family arrived in south Linn County in 1852, the population of nearby Harrisburg was about 100. Like other early immigrants in the Willamette Valley, the Wigles settled near the foothills on the valley floor. Securing donation land claims near each other, the Wigle family members settled in an area that is approximately seven miles northeast of Harrisburg and eight miles southwest of Brownsville.

Abraham Wigle was born in Adams County, Illinois on March 4, 1830. In October 1848 he married Mary M. Daugherty, who was born and raised in Jonesboro, Illinois. While in Illinois, Abraham worked as a carpenter (a trade he learned by working with an uncle) and a school teacher. In 1852, Abraham's father, Jacob Wigle, decided to move to Oregon so "that his children might secure homes and all settle near him."⁴ Jacob and his wife, Nancy Hunsaker, had seven children: Abraham was the eldest, followed by Catherine (married to Guilford Barnard), Peter (who married Nancy Ford), Mary (who married Francis Marion Kizer), John L. (who married Eliza White), Margaret and Anna. In addition to Jacob and Nancy and all of their children, the family migration included Abraham's uncles John and George and their families. Abraham's family at that time included his wife, Mary, and one son, Jacob D. (born 1849). Apparently most of the relatives settled near each other in the area east of Harrisburg, as there is documentation that Donation Land Claims were secured in 1853 by Jacob, John and Abraham Wigle, as well as by Guilford Barnard.

According to writings by Abraham's brother John, Abraham and his brother Peter built a house for Abraham's family on his land claim, when they first arrived in the area.⁵ Abraham's land claim was located east of the other family members and was situated in part in the foothills. Abraham and Mary's second child, Lorenzo G., was born in 1855 while the family resided at this location (Lorenzo died at the age of 11 in 1866). After

⁴ Haskin, Leslie L. "Reminiscences of A Pioneer by A.J. Wigle, 1899." (Brownsville, Oregon Library: The Leslie Haskin Papers, Vol. 8, 1939).

⁵ Haskin, Leslie L. "Reminiscences of Crossing the Plains and Early Settlement in Oregon by John L. Wigle." (Brownsville, Oregon Library: The Leslie Haskin Papers, Vol. 8, 1939).

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farming this land for half a dozen years, Abraham and Mary sold the land claim and in 1859 purchased a 45-acre parcel directly north of his father's land and direction west of his uncle John's land. It is on this property that the nominated house stands. Abraham and Mary's third child, Margaret May, was born in 1859.

The Abraham and Mary Wigle House was built in c.1860. Its construction is attributed to Abraham, who was trained in carpentry and who had previous experience building houses. It is probable that his extended family members helped him with the actual construction. Although Abraham continued to farm, he also taught school at the Diamond Hill School, the first school in this immediate area (reportedly a number of the Wigles taught at this schoolhouse over the years).⁶

In 1869, the year his and Mary's last child, Ralph Guy, was born, Abraham entered the ministry of the Universalist church and organized the first Universalist church west of the Rocky Mountains. In July 1871, he was ordained in the ministry by the Rev. D.I. Mandell of Massachusetts. In 1875, with the assistance of Rev. E.A. McAllister and Rev. Abiel Morrison, Abraham organized the first Oregon Universalists' State Convention, which met near the Wigle's house. Abraham was elected secretary of the State Convention, a position he held for a number of years. Abraham was well-known throughout the area, "possessing the friendship and confidence of all."⁷

In 1871, Abraham purchased part of his uncle's land from his aunt Catherine and expanded his farm. In 1893, Abraham and Mary transferred the title of the 121+ acres to their youngest son, but retained a 2.8125-acre parcel on which the house sits. In 1895, they transferred the farmland to the east (the portion that was once part of his uncle's DLC) to their daughter Margaret. At that time, they also transferred title of the house with its 2.8 acres to Ralph, but retained a life lease on the property. Abraham died at his home in 1905. After Mary died in 1910, Ralph sold the property. Both Abraham and Mary are buried in the Wigle Cemetery north of their land.

SUBSEQUENT OWNERSHIP

On November 17, 1910 Ralph Wigle sold the house and some surrounding land to Annie W. and C.C. Riley, who in turn sold it a week later on November 26 to A.S. and Emma Nanney. The Nanney's owned the house until 1919 when they sold it to Basil and Edna V. Cozad. The Cozads owned the property for only a few short years, selling it to William e. VanMeter in 1922. Apparently Mr. VanMeter lost the property (probably due to unpaid back taxes) during the Great Depression, as the deed records indicate that the Travellers Insurance Company purchased the property from the county in 1937.

⁶ Haskin, Leslie L. "Reminiscences of Crossing the Plains and Early Settlement in Oregon by John L. Wigle." (Brownsville, Oregon Library: The Leslie Haskin Papers, Vol. 8, 1939).

⁷ Williams, Edgar. *Illustrated Historical Atlas Map, Marion and Linn Counties, Oregon* (San Francisco: Edgar Williams & Co., 1878), 58.

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In 1940, Harold M. and Dorothy M. Stevenson (grandparents of the current owner) purchased the property prior to Harold's departure for World War II (from which he did not return). Dorothy remarried to a man named Orb Lowell and although they did not live in the Wigle House, Lowell's son and daughter-in-law, Jimmy (Dorothy's stepson) and Phyllis, lived in the house from the early 1940s until 1960. From 1960 until 1994 the house was occupied by tenants, Jess and Veneta Price. The Prices paid \$25 per month for the first 25 years and raised a family of nine children in the house. In 1971, the current owner's mother, Lenora Carolyn Stevenson Wood, inherited the property; the current owner, Amanda M. Wood Kingsley, inherited it from her mother in 1989. After the Prices deaths in 1993, the Kingsleys lived there briefly while doing some repairs. The house was again rented to a tenant who lived there until earlier this year. It is currently vacant while the Kingsleys do the rehabilitation work.

SUMMARY

Built in c.1860, the Abraham and Mary Wigle House is a well-preserved and outstanding example of the Gothic Revival style of architecture in the centered front-facing gable vein. It is distinct in its recessed lower porch and upper balcony and embodies the characteristics associated with the local use of the style. It is also representative of the homes built by early immigrants during the settlement period in southern Linn County. As one of the last remaining examples of this style of architecture dating to the 1860s settlement of this area in rural Linn County, it is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criteria A and C.

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Amnuaywattana, Parima. *Analysis and Rehabilitation of the Abraham Wigle House, Harrisburg, Oregon*. Eugene, OR: University of Oregon Terminal Project, Historic Preservation Program, 2001.

Carley, Rachel. *The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1994.

Clark, Rosalind. *Architecture Oregon Style*. Portland, OR: Professional Book Center, Inc., 1983.

Linn County Survey of Historic Resources (1982-1983).

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1989.

Mullen, Floyd. *The Land of Linn*. Lebanon, OR: Dalton's Printing, 1971.

National Register nomination for *Maurer, Joseph and Barbara, House* (1996).

National Register nomination for *Wigle, Jacob and Maranda K., Farmstead* (1992).

Vaughan, Thomas, ed. *Space, Style and Structure: Building in Northwest American*. Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society, 1974.

Wigle House
Name of Property

Linn, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 2.0

UMT References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 10 498100 4905142
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____

4 _____

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michelle L. Dennis, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization _____ date November 2002

street & number 2691 Jackson Street telephone 541-343-6652

city or town Eugene state OR zip code 97405

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation sheets

Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name Amanda Wood Kingsley

street & number 526 Thunder Road telephone 306-379-9191

city or town Port Townsend state WA zip code 98368

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated area is located in Section 2 of Township 15 South, Range 3 West of the Willamette Meridian, in Linn County, Oregon, and is legally identified as a portion of Tax Lot 200 at this location.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated area, a total of 2.8125 acres, includes the acreage associated with the house and outbuildings as conveyed to Ralph Guy Wigle from his parents, Abraham and Mary Wigle, in 1895. The resources currently located on the acreage include the c.1860 Wigle House, the mid-20th century pump house and garage, and the late 1990s garage/shop building.

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PHOTOS

The following information applies to all photographs:

- Name of Property: Wigle, Abraham and Mary, House
Address of Property: 34050 Belts Drive, Harrisburg Vicinity
- County and State: Linn County, Oregon
- Location of original negatives: Amanda Kingsley, 526 Thunder Rd., Port Townsend, WA 98368

Information specific to each photo is below:

Photo #1: Front (east) elevation
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

Photo #2: South and west elevations
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

Photo #3: North elevation
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

Photo #4: Porch enclosure (northwest corner of house)
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002

Photo #5: Front porch (east elevation)
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

Photo #6: Front parlor, taken from front door looking toward kitchen
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

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- Photo #7: Front parlor, looking north, bathroom through left door, bedroom through right door
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002
- Photo #8: Close-up of bedroom on northeast side of parlor
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002
- Photo #9: Close-up of bedroom on south side of parlor
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002
- Photo #10: Kitchen, taken from front parlor
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002
- Photo #11: Stairs from parlor to upper floor
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002
- Photo #12: Center room of 2nd floor looking south – doors from left to right: to balcony, to south bedroom, to stairwell, to storage beneath the eaves
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002
- Photo #13: Center room of 2nd floor looking north, north bedroom through doorway
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002
- Photo #14: Close-up of balcony rail
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002
- Photo #15: Enclosure of original back porch (northwest corner of house)
Photographer: Liz Carter
Date: September 2002

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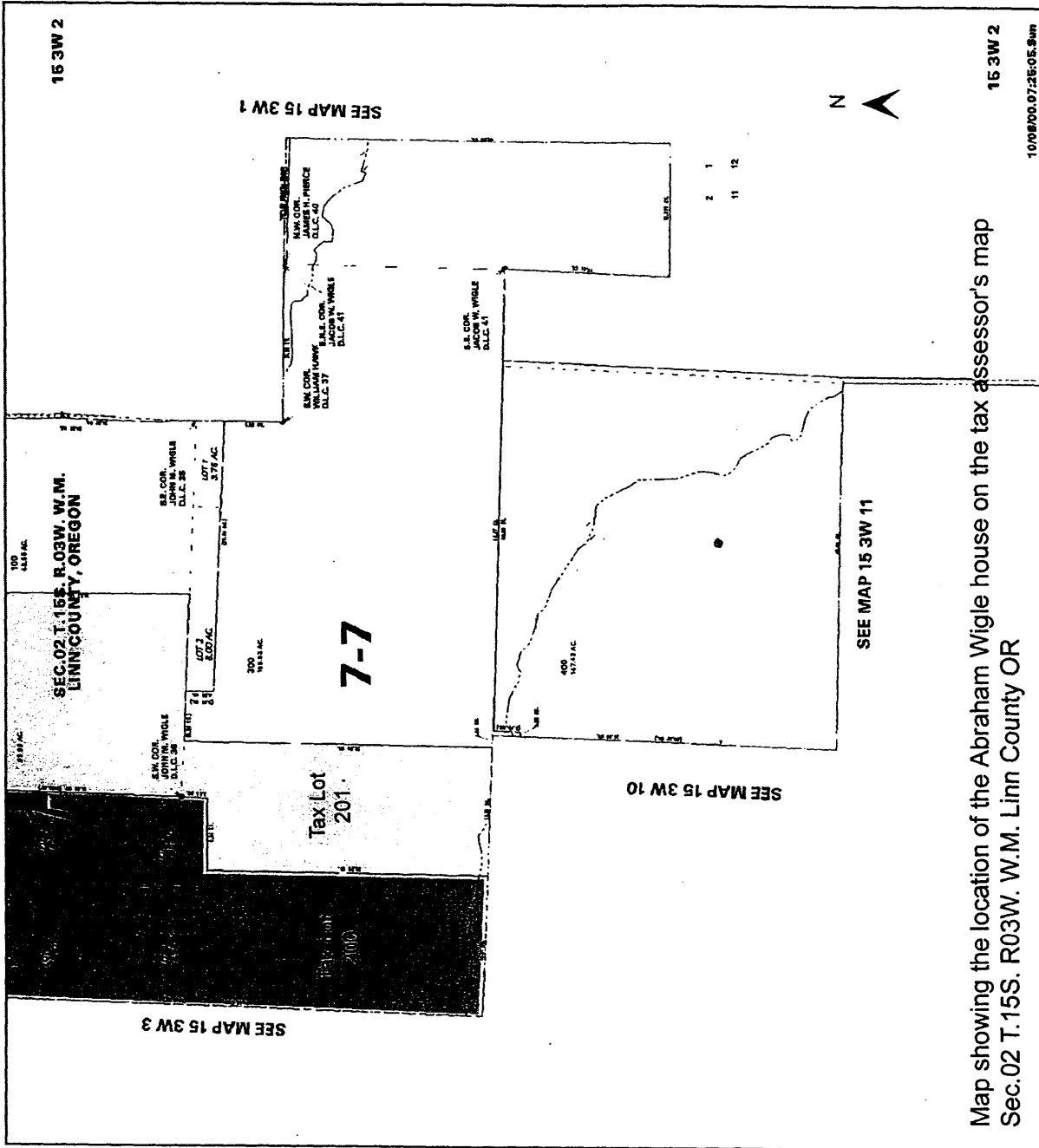
Photo #16: Small entry porch (south side of house, off kitchen)
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002

Photo #17: View of house, garage (original), pump house, looking north from the new garage/studio
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002

Photo #18: Garage (original)
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002

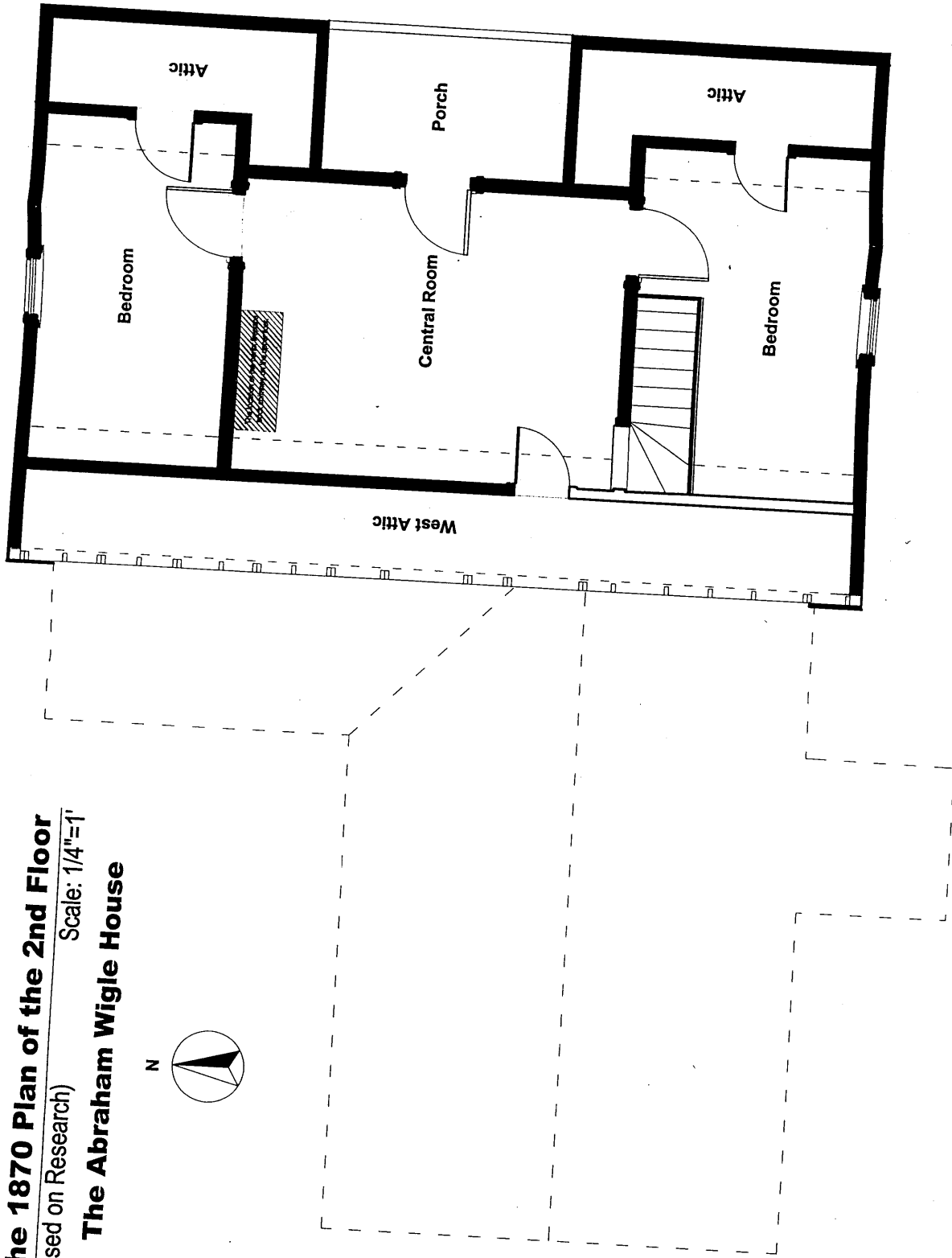
Photo #19: Pump house
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002

Photo #20: Garage/studio (new)
Photographer: Michelle Dennis
Date: July 2002



Map showing the location of the Abraham Wigle house on the tax assessor's map
 Sec.02 T.15S. R03W. W.M. Linn County OR

The 1870 Plan of the 2nd Floor
(Based on Research) Scale: 1/4"=1'
The Abraham Wigle House

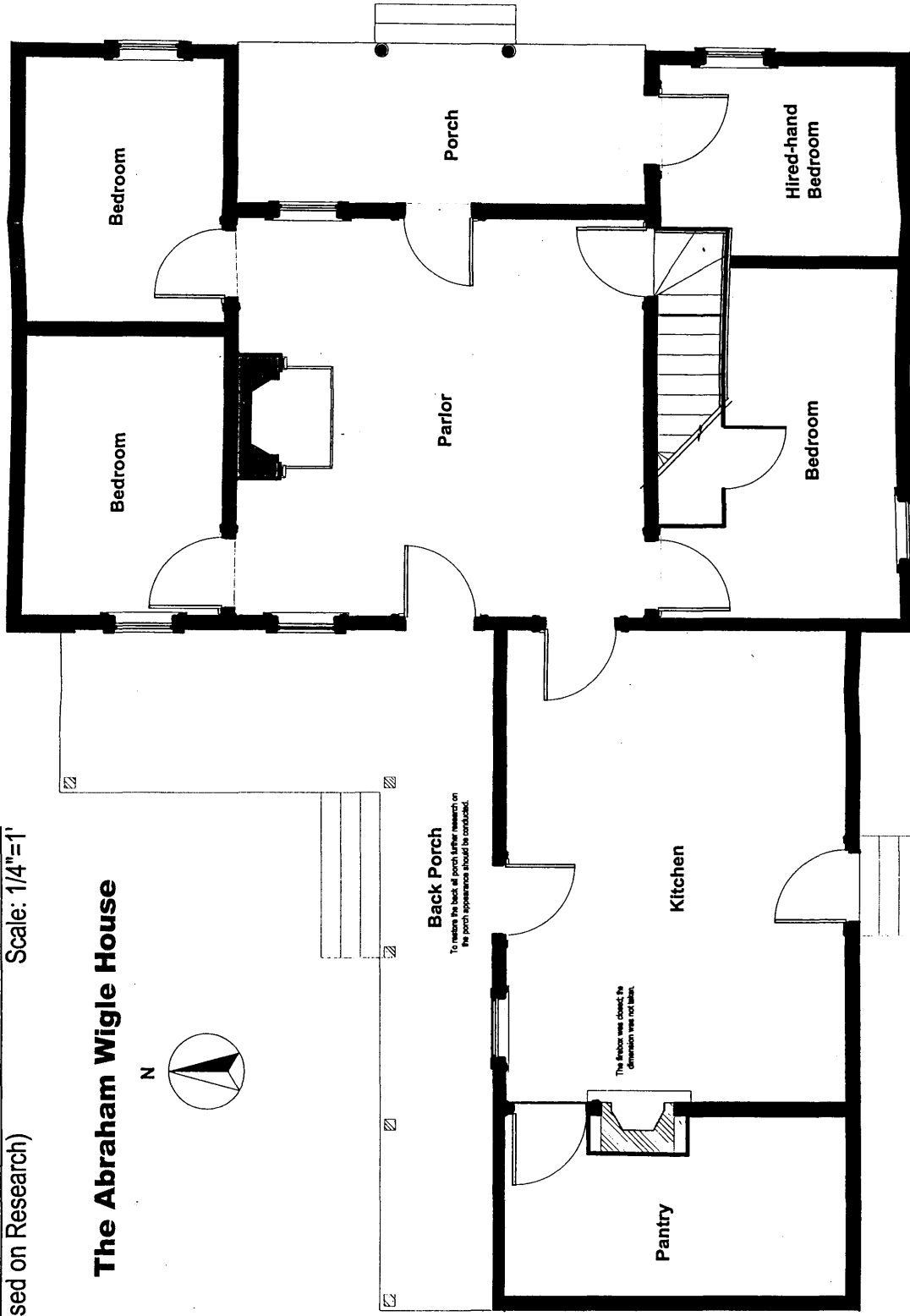
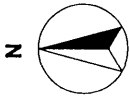


The 1870 Plan of the 1st Floor

(Based on Research)

Scale: 1/4"=1'

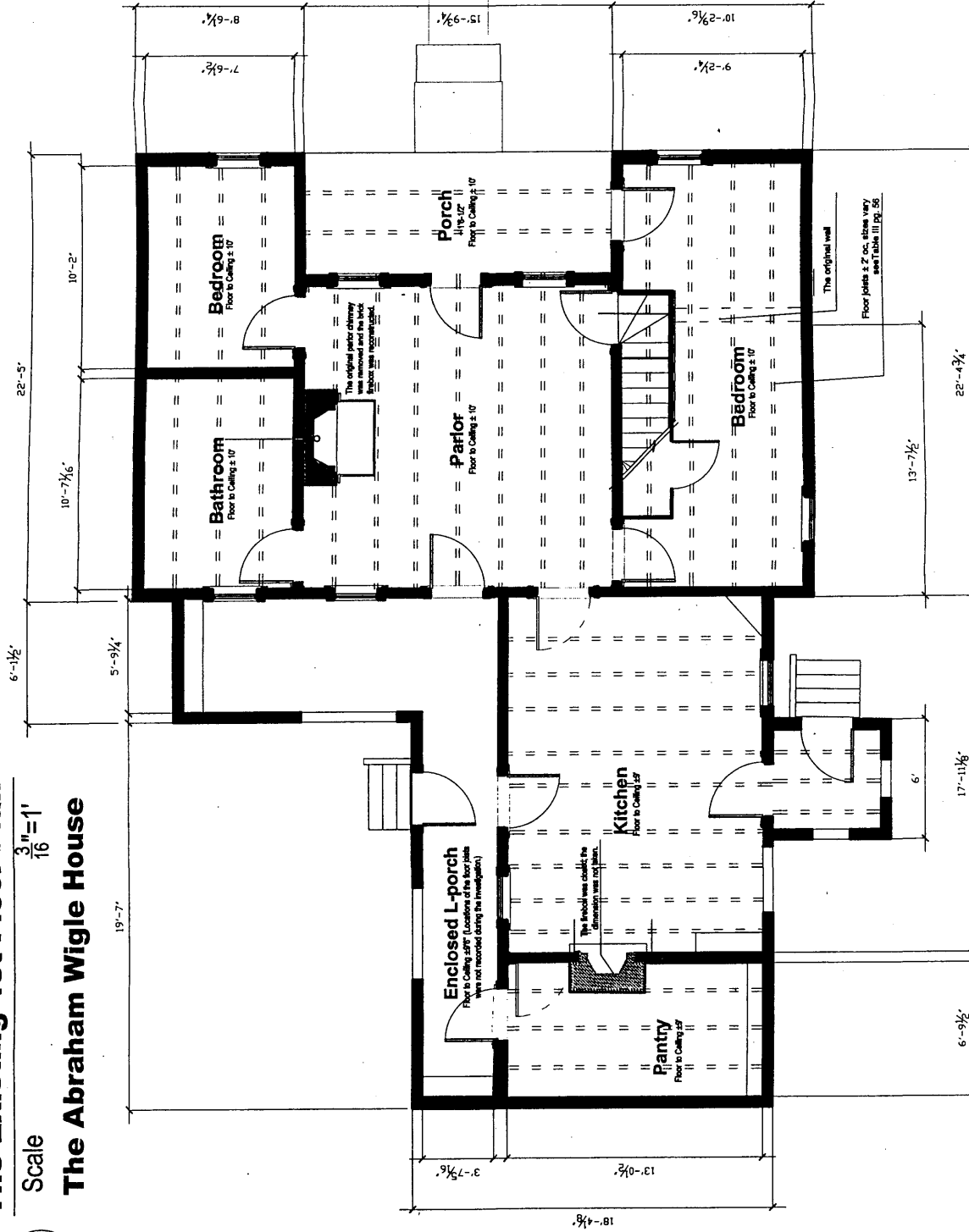
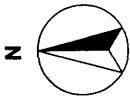
The Abraham Wigle House



The Existing 1st Floor Plan

Scale
 $\frac{3}{16}'' = 1'$

The Abraham Wigle House



The Existing 2nd Floor Plan

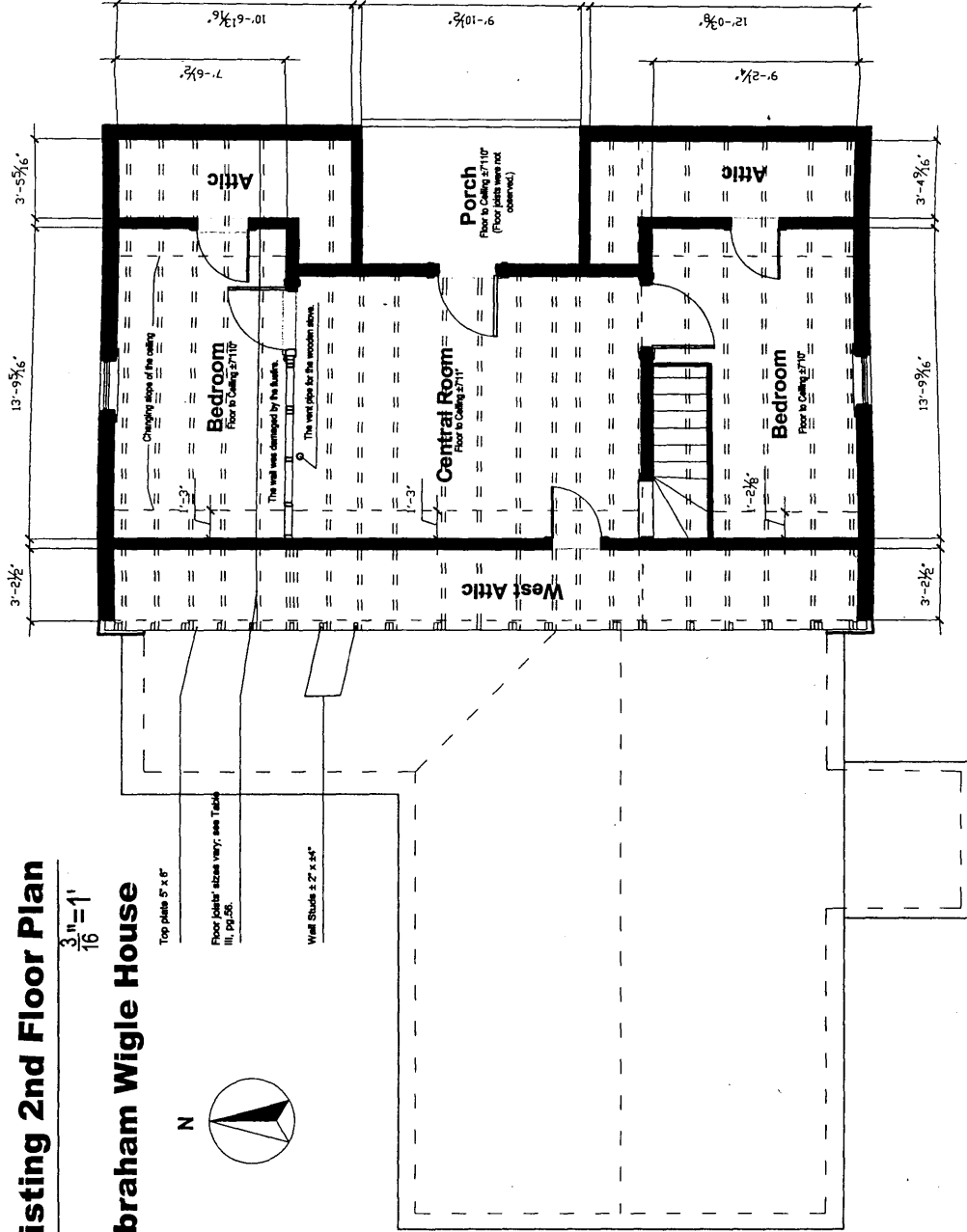
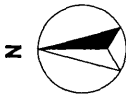
Scale $\frac{3/16"}{1'} = 1'$

The Abraham Wigle House

Top plate 5" x 6"

Floor joists sizes vary; see Table III, pp. 25.

Wall Studs 4" x 4"

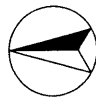


The Existing Foundation Plan

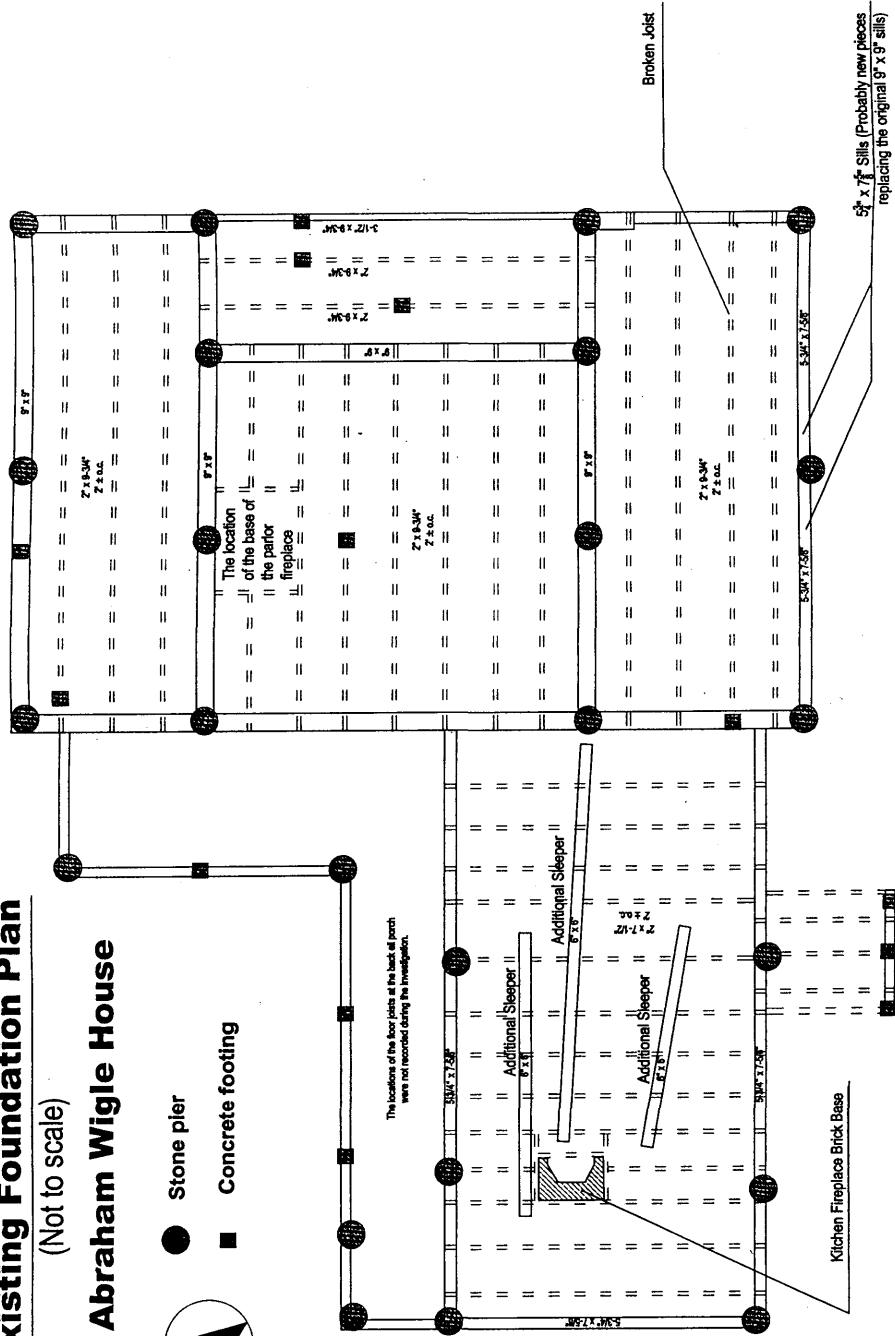
(Not to scale)

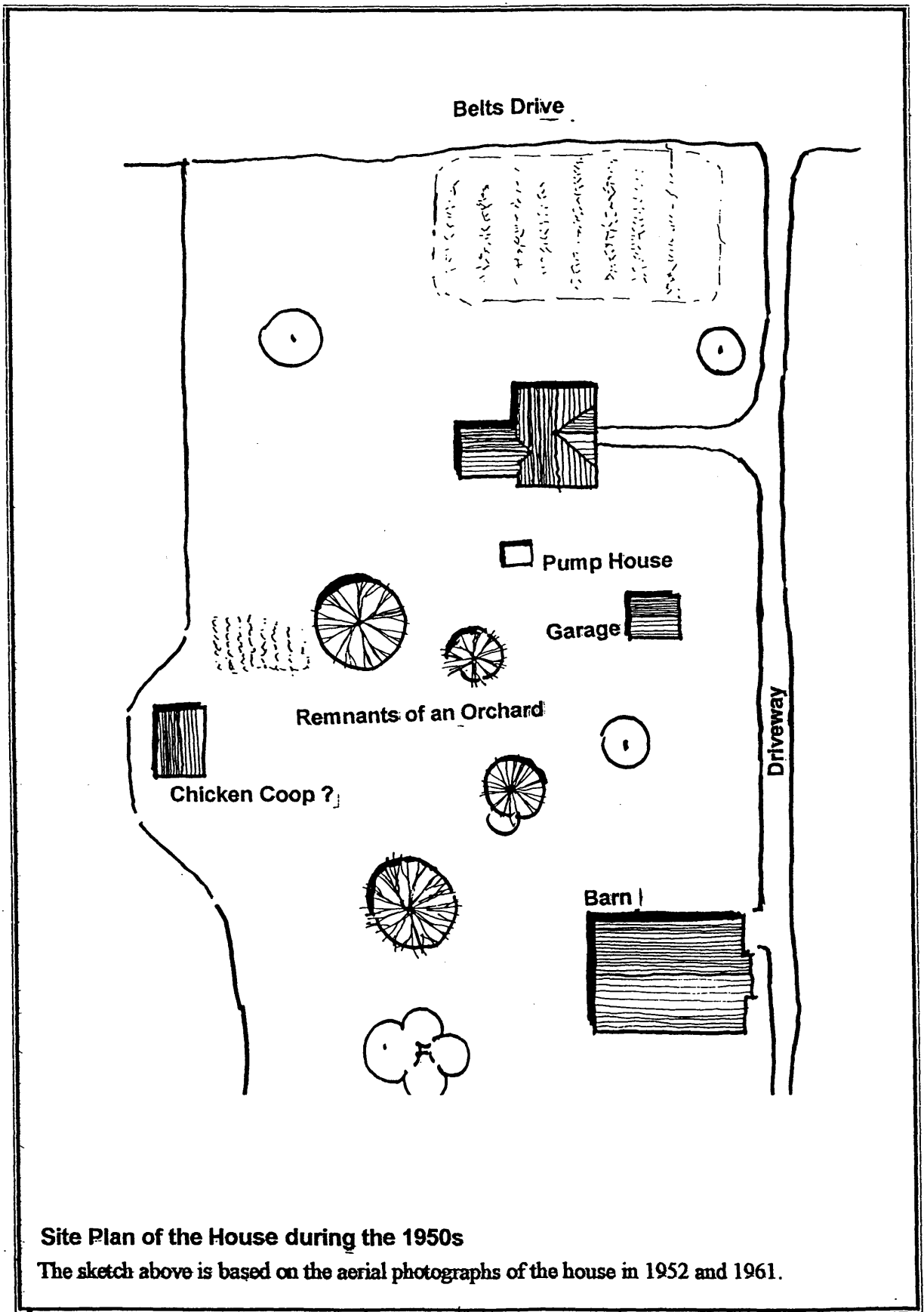
The Abraham Wigle House

N



- Stone pier
- Concrete footing

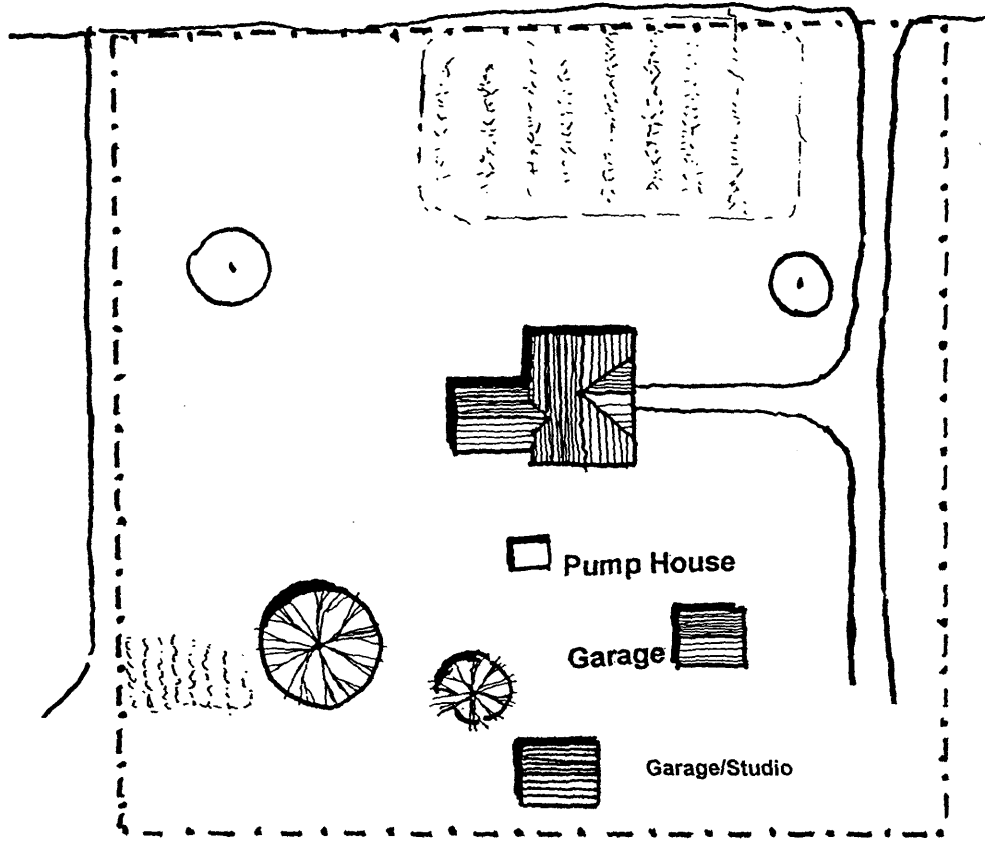




Site Plan of the House during the 1950s

The sketch above is based on the aerial photographs of the house in 1952 and 1961.

Belts Drive



Site Plan of the Property 2002
Area included in nomination indicated by dotted line